

Soldiers Survive 'Hellfire' Period Atop Old Baldy

SEOUL, Korea (P) — Five American soldiers—wounded, hungry and without a drop of water—lived through 72 hours of hellfire on the rugged Korean hill known as Old Baldy.

When their buddies from the 2nd Division retook the height Sunday after savage in-fighting with Chinese Reds, the five stopped playing dead and crawled or were carried from their battered bunker.

They had huddled in the dilapidated log and earth cave under the earth-shaking pounding of Allied and Communist big guns.

Twelve men had crawled in to the bunker Thursday evening when an assault force of Chinese swarmed over their positions. Seven died in the bunker or may have escaped.

The account of their ordeal was given by Cpl. Ed Berlin, front-line reporter for the Pacific Stars and Stripes, who interviewed the men on the scene.

Time and again during the first night, Berlin said, Chinese soldiers threw grenades into the small enclosure. Just as often, a Red soldier would peer in and open up with a spray of machine-gun bullets. The trapped men fired back at each intruder.

Then the men in the bunker lay behind the bodies of their dead fellows and kept still, hoping the Reds would think them dead too.

One of the survivors, a 22-year-old private first class from New York City, told the Stars and Stripes reporter, "We couldn't have lasted another day but we knew they wouldn't let Old Baldy go. We never lost hope and all of us prayed."

A big master sergeant from California said the men went without food the entire time, although they had plenty of rations.

"We had no water so we were afraid to eat anything," he said. The sergeant also related how the Chinese thought everyone in the bunker was dead.

"Logs and stuff were piled in the doorway and after the last Chinese sprayed us with his burp gun they let us alone, except for their artillery and tanks. We must have gotten at least 150 direct or near hits."

The only food they touched during the 72 hours was a can of grapefruit juice and a couple of oranges. The men cared for their wounds as best they could. The private gave a lieutenant in the bunker a blood transfusion from a bottle.

During that first night the private said, "The Reds came up to the bunker every five or 10 minutes. Each time one of them popped his head in the door we let him have it with our carbines. After that we kept quiet but were constantly being hit by either our own or the Chinese artillery and mortars and tanks. One shell came through the aperture in the bunker, but luckily the air strikes missed us."

"All of us were bloody and I think that's what saved us. We were afraid to fire because we might let them know we were alive. So we just got as low as we could behind the other bodies and sweated it out. We dozed once in awhile, but we couldn't sleep."



FOUND SLAIN — Betty M. Baron (above), 25, of Los Angeles, was found shot to death with Adrian L. Grodnick, 19, son of a wealthy New York manufacturer, in their lavish penthouse in the Flamingo Hotel, Las Vegas, Nev. They apparently were on their honeymoon, although no record of their marriage was found. This picture was made at the time of Miss Baron's graduation from UCLA in 1949.

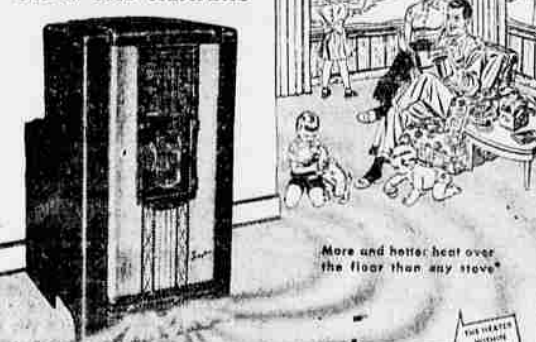
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Deputies Patrol Struck Factory

Fears of Disorder Fail to Materialize

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (P) — Immediate fears of disorder at the struck plant of the Douglas Aircraft Co., failed to materialize Monday as steel-helmeted sheriff's deputies and police watched the tense situation.

A group calling itself the Committee for Union Democracy and claiming 2,500 members had announced there would be a back to work movement. About 175 sheriff's deputies, police and plant guard officers were on hand.

At the regular time for the day shift to report, 100 cars went through the main gate of the plant where 15,000 normally are employed. Guards said this was a few more than had been going through on previous days of the strike.

Approximately 100 pickets yelled "scab" and passed union literature to the car as they went through.

Meanwhile, negotiations remained stalled in the strike of another IAM lodge at the Lockheed Aircraft, plant in Burbank. No further management-union meetings were scheduled. The two strikes have idled 40,000 at the plants.

The IAM is asking wage boosts of 14 cents an hour. Hourly wages at Lockheed before the strike ranged from \$1.15 to \$2.52 an hour. At Douglas the range was \$1.32 to \$2.54.

TRANSPORT ARRIVES

SAN FRANCISCO (P) — The transport Gen. William M. Mitchell arrived Sunday with 1,000 servicemen from Korea. Also aboard were military dependents and government civilian employees.

Survives 'Death' To Celebrate 90th Birthday

ATCHISON, Kas. (P) — W. W. Van Liew, struck by lightning twice and once considered dead for 36 hours, celebrated his 90th birthday anniversary the other day and is spry for a man of his age.

Van Liew was 15 years old when lightning hit him the first time. A doctor pronounced him dead.

The funeral was delayed so his sister could arrive from Ohio or he might have been buried alive. A neighbor woman, viewing the "body," noticed his ears were red and soft. Two physicians were summoned and they discerned a slight heartbeat.

Van Liew was placed in a tub of hot water and he revived slowly from the coma.

He was an adult when the second bolt knocked him unconscious, but he survived again without ill effects.

Lightning Costly

TULSA, Okla. (P) — It was a million-dollar lightning bolt that struck the block-long Coliseum Saturday night.

Flames razed the entertainment center within two hours.

Northern Soft Coal Miners Win Daily Wage Boost of \$1.90

PITTSBURGH (P) — Northern soft coal miners, elated over a new contract which removes all threat of a strike and boosts daily wages to a new high, headed to the pits Monday.

United Mine Workers President John L. Lewis completed the agreement Saturday night with Harry L. Moses, president of the Bituminous (soft) Coal Producers Assn., just a few hours before the 170,000 miners were scheduled to go on strike.

The new pact gives the men a daily pay raise of \$1.90, increasing wages to \$18.25 a day.

It also requires operators to pay into the UMW welfare fund 40 cents for each ton of coal produced. Under the old pact operators were required to pay 30 cents. Miners throughout the Northern soft coal field cheered loud and long when they learned terms of agreement. Many referred to the contract as "Lewis' greatest victory."

Alfred Cavalcante, of Uniontown, Pa., president of the UMW Robena Mine local, largest mine union local in the world, said:

"It's a very good contract. I've notified the men to report to

work as usual on the first shift Monday morning. It's not necessary to call a special meeting of the local."

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