

Grand Jury Expected To Indict Soldier For Brutal Shooting

Ray Alan Barber Held In Heppner Jail; Confesses Crime

Ray Alan Barber, 17 year-old soldier who was AWOL from Fort Lewis, Washington is in the Morrow county jail at Heppner accused of the brutal murder of a motorist who had given him a ride. The victim was Anthony Peter Ripp, 38, a former carpenter and welder at McNary dam who had spent the last three weeks at his former home, Woodland, Wash., and was returning to Westland to again accept employment at the dam.

According to police reports now in the hands of Bradley D. Fancher, Morrow county district attorney, and also included in a signed confession to officers by Barber, Ripp was shot 8 times while driving along the highway between Boardman and Ordinance last Friday afternoon.

Early stories of the murder stated that the gun, a 32 calibre revolver belonged to Ripp but Fancher stated that further questioning of Barber established that the gun was in the possession of Barber at all times. The gun had belonged to Barber's step-father, a resident of Hillsboro, Oregon, and he had taken it with him on his return to Fort Lewis recently, following a leave from the base.

Police reports show that Barber had gone AWOL from Fort Lewis Thursday night and had reached The Dalles some time Friday where he admitted buying a box of shells to fit the gun. He was given a ride in the back of an eastbound truck and it was in the truck that he loaded the gun, according to Fancher.

Ripp saw the soldier in the truck and according to Barber's statements, motioned for him to get out and ride with him. Barber was in uniform. Barber's confession states that he shot Ripp while driving along the highway and that Ripp either jumped from, or fell out of the car while it was moving. Barber stopped the car, reloaded the gun and then returned to the body where he fired three or four more shots into the body which was lying on the pavement. It was at this time that he went through Ripp's pockets taking his valuables and his wristwatch.

Police reports continue that he returned to the car and while he was trying to start it two cars approached. The first, driven by Robert Apperson, employee of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company stopped and Apperson investigated the body on the pavement, the second car driven by Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Simpson of Walla Walla slowed down and upon seeing the body drove on to Ordinance where they called the state police office in Pendleton. Apperson drove on to Boardman where he too, reported the shooting.

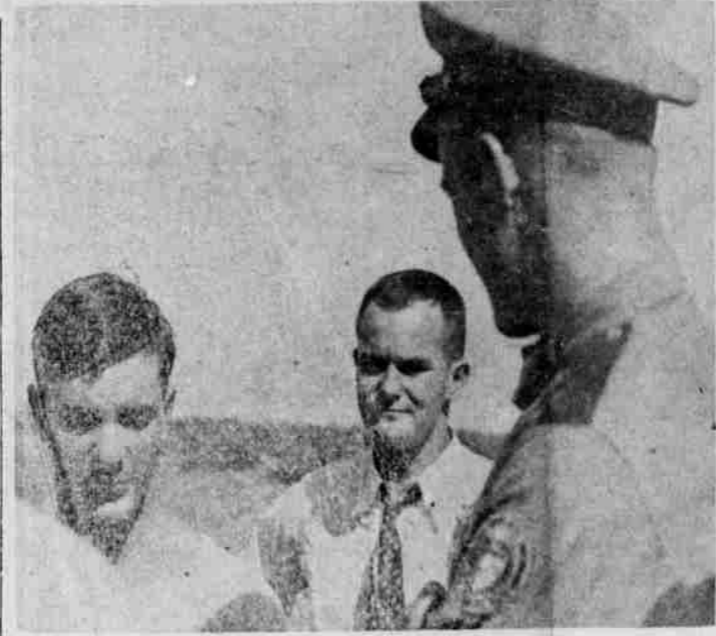
Fancher stated that reports indicate that Barber left the highway on foot, when the car would not start, heading for the railroad tracks. He was carrying a duffel bag which he dropped shortly along with items of clothing he was wearing and the articles he had taken from Ripp's pockets. He later returned to the highway, apparently in search of a ride, where he was arrested by state officer George D. Harris of Pendleton.

Victim's Possessions Taken
Ripp's wristwatch was broken, apparently when he fell from the car, and had stopped at 2:18 leading police to believe that was the time of the shooting.

An information has been filed here by P. W. Mahoney, acting district attorney in the absence of Fancher, who was on his way to Portland at the time of the crime. He was stopped in The Dalles by police and returned to Arlington where he took Barber's confession, before the accused man was brought on to Heppner and lodged in jail.

Fancher stated that the Grand Jury has been called and he expects them to meet the first of the week to establish the charge to be filed against Barber. He also stated that Army officials have turned over prosecution to the county but will provide Barber counsel if he desires. The case will be heard by W. C. Perry, circuit judge for Morrow and Umatilla counties.

Barber had been married about three months, and according to police reports he had been in trouble twice while he lived in Hillsboro. His father is dead and he had been living in a foster home where he had been assigned by the Hillsboro court for a previous offense. He had joined the army last December.



Ray Alan Barber, left, is shown shortly after his capture near Boardman last Friday following the fatal shooting of Anthony Peter Ripp. Shown with his Umatilla county district attorney George H. Corey and an unidentified state police officer. First reports were phoned to Pendleton and it was not known whether the crime had been committed in Umatilla or Morrow county. Prosecution, however, will take place at Heppner and will be handled by Morrow county district attorney Bradley D. Fancher. (East Oregonian Photo)

Rainfall During Past Quarter Below Normal

Rainfall in Gilliam, Morrow and Sherman counties was only 82% of normal during the three months period April-May-June according to information released by the U. S. Weather Bureau this week.

Precipitation totaled 2.16 inches. The average for the past 20 years is 2.64 inches. Cloud seeders operated during every favorable situation through out the period according to Ernest Kirsch, Corresponding Secretary of Tri-County Weather Research.

It was the second driest April-May-June during the past ten years, Kirsch said. Only 1949 was drier.

Under the contract which Tri-County Weather Research has with Dr. Krick's rainmakers, no additional payments will be required for the April-May-June period. Dr. Krick could have collected \$13,330.00 if rainfall had been doubled normal and other contract provisions met.

The Tri-County contract expired June 30. Farmers in the area paid Krick a total of \$23,512.64 for the cloud seeding program. An initial payment of \$15,000 was supplemented by additional bonus payments totaling \$8,512.64. Bonus payments were earned when rainfall in the area was 185% normal during the October-November-December period and 135% normal during the January-February-March period.

Directors of Tri-County Weather Research are planning meetings in August to consider another year's program. They will meet August 24 with the Oregon Wheat Commission and R. T. Beaumont, OSC Meteorologist. Beaumont is evaluating the program.

Another meeting is planned August 29 with Dr. Krick to get his version of the success of the program.



MISS NANCY RANDS, BOARDMAN

Wheat Continues to Roll; Average Yield Reported High

A check of elevators in this section of the county Wednesday showed a continuing flow of grain was coming in from ranchers but that storage and shipping facilities were still able to handle all the hauling with a minimum of delay.

Miss Darlene Wayne, clerk at the Morrow County Grain Growers Lexington station reported that they had continued to average over 49,000 bushels a day for the past week and that 28 cars had been shipped from there on Tuesday and Wednesday. It was reported that excellent cooperation by the railroad has made possible the heavy shipments.

Officials at the Lexington plant reported that the McNabb station will be full by this Friday night and that grain trucks will be diverted to the lone elevator. It was also stated that they were afraid for awhile that it would be necessary to dump on

Think It's Been Hot? -It Has!

A check of your thermometer most any day this week would have proved that Old Sol was really bearing down... or maybe you could tell without looking!

Anyway, the Gazette Times official thermometer, while it may be small and not officially Ok'd by the government weather bureau, worked up quite a sweat of its own and came up with these unofficial, but undoubtedly correct figures:

Sunday	102
Monday	102
Tuesday	99
Wednesday	91

the ground but storage apparently will be adequate.

Don Bennett, clerk at the Heppner station of the Grain Growers reported Wednesday that they received 62,287 bushels to date with 20 cars shipped. Available storage here amounted to about 200,000 bushels at the time. He stated that the Heppner station was receiving about 10,000 bushels a day.

Reports from various ranchers over the area show a continuing high yield per acre of fall seeded grain. Leonard Carlson reported 200 acres harvested with an average yield of 37 bushels; the Mankin and Bunch operation reported one field averaged 38 bushels; and other reports from the Lexington told of one operator who finished harvesting Wednesday with an average of 34 1/2 bushels of Rex wheat for 400 acres, and another grower of Turkey Red stated that his 33 bushel average was for 1100 acres.

Many other reports have been heard substantiating stories that without question Morrow county is headed for the largest wheat crop in its history.

New Ice Cream Store to Open Saturday

Another new enterprise will open Saturday in Heppner as Steve and Deloris Aalberg of the Heppner Bakery announce the grand opening of their Rich Maid ice cream department in the bakery.

Installation of necessary machinery and freezers was completed early this week and a full stock of from 12 to 14 flavors of ice cream, and the popular Polar Freeze will be available by opening day.

Aalberg stated that on Saturday free cones will be waiting all visitors. Plans call for the carrying of specialty items also, such as ice cream cakes, pies etc. Factory representative making the equipment installation was Everett C. Jones, who was born in Heppner and spent his early years here.

Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Bailey spent the week end in Monument with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Johnson and family.

Fire Blackens 100 Acres of Grain Near Ione

Fire Monday afternoon destroyed between 50 and 100 acres of wheat on the Ray Heimbigner ranch west of Ione. It started in a field that was being harvested, but the cause was unknown.

The lone fire truck was called to the scene and over 250 men joined in the fight along with five tractors from neighboring ranches. Besides the loss of wheat, the fire burned an old grain elevator and the power line leaving the Heimbigners and the Lloyd Rice homes without electricity. The fire burned through stubble and cheat grass, and on the Rice ranch it burned up to the machine shop, but it was saved.

Before being controlled at about 5 o'clock the flames jumped the road in one place and burned some stubble on the Charles Carlson property.

The field burned was yielding over 30 bushels to the acre, and though Heimbigners reported the wheat was insured, it did not cover the actual loss. The destroyed elevator was not insured.

The lone fire siren sounded again Monday evening and firemen found two small fires were burning on the bombing field north of town. Lightning was blamed for this call.

Morrow County Hunters and Anglers Will Meet Monday

The Morrow County Hunters and Anglers will meet Monday, July 30 at 8 p.m. announced Mrs. Paul Brown, secretary. The raven, crow and magpie contest sponsored by the organization will end on July 30 and prizes will be awarded that evening.

Mrs. Brown will send out cards telling the meeting place. Refreshments will be served and sound movies will be shown on Canada, Alaska and Yosemite. Everyone interested is asked to come.

Ownership of Local Hardware Changes

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Kenagy have gone to Waldport where they will operate a moorage and several motor boats during the remainder of the summer having secured this business in a trade of their hardware store in Heppner to Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Andresen who have arrived from Waldport and will operate the Marshall-Wells store on N. Main street.

Heppner Star-Gazer Returns from Meeting

T. P. Maher, Heppner, returned Tuesday from Victoria, B. C. where he attended the northwest regional convention of the Astronomical League held in that city last Friday and Saturday.

The meeting was held in conjunction with the Royal Astronomical Society meeting and the program included a trip to the Dominion Astrophysical observatory near Victoria which is equipped with a 73 inch telescope, which at the time of its installation, was the largest in the world.

Maher has been a member of the Portland Astronomical Society for 10 years. He reported many other Oregonians were present.

The Parade of Royalty-

First Princess Dance To Honor Nancy Rands

With the arrival of Fair and Rodeo time in Morrow county also comes a parade of lovely girls... the girls who have been chosen by their respective communities to reign over the four days of festivities.

First of the five princesses to be honored by a dance this Saturday night at the fair pavilion, is Nancy Rands representing Boardman. She is one of three blondes in this year's royal court. She is the daughter of mayor and Mrs. R. B. Rands of Boardman and was sponsored in the contest by the Boardman Tillicum Jr. Women's club.

4 with blue eyes to go with her light hair. She is a senior at Boardman high school where she is president of the Girl's Athletic club and is very active in 4-H club work.

She likes to ride and will be seen in the parade and on the field on her father's horse, Snip. Her hobbies include swimming and the piano.

Nancy was first presented to the public at last Saturday's Kick-Off dance, along with other members of the court, by John Ernsdorff, master of ceremonies for the evening. She will be seen again this Saturday at the pavilion.

C of C Brochure on Heppner Due Soon

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce's new advertising brochure is off the press and will be available for distribution within a short time announced J. R. Huffman president of the organization.

Members attending Monday's meeting were shown a complete copy of the pamphlet which was sent to him by Jim Barratt, Corvallis, who has been overseeing the publication. Everyone expressed satisfaction with the folder and felt that it will answer a long-felt need by the community and county for an adequate advertising piece.

The brochure gives a complete, yet brief, description of Heppner and Morrow county showing and describing the major industries, businesses and recreation areas. It is well filled with new pictures of many points of interest throughout the county and is intended to be used for answering requests received by the chamber and other county organizations and businesses for information about the area. It is expected that most stores will make them available to the public without charge as soon as they are received and can be distributed.

Change in Heppner Mail Departure Set For September

A technical change in the present mail service will be installed September 1 1951 under present proposals set forth by the Post Office Department. In line with a present nation-wide program to terminate contracts with railroads and set up Star Route Service where ever advantageous to the Government the Department is calling for proposals from prospective bidders on the 58 mile run from Arlington to Heppner.

Under the new set up mail will leave Heppner via the contractor's truck promptly at 6:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday at 12:00 Noon Saturday, and on Sundays and Holidays there will be no lay over time at Heppner, the contractor returning to Arlington immediately after delivery of mail scheduled for an 8:00 a.m. arrival at Heppner.

Repeated surveys by the Postal Transportation Service, have shown that the volume of mail arriving at the Arlington terminal from Heppner and other points in the valley on Sunday evenings and the evenings of holidays, does not warrant the additional cost contingent upon holding the contractor's truck over from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., or a later hour.

Mr. Flory District Superintendent of the Postal Transportation Service, Portland, Oregon, concurred to the above schedule for Sunday Service, after vigorous protest from the local Postmaster, it being Mr. Flory's original intention to eliminate Sunday and Holiday Service entirely.

Gordon Coles Joins Gazette Times Staff

Gordon Coles has joined the staff of the Gazette Times as a linotype operator and printer. He had been working in California before coming to Eastern Oregon.

He moved his wife and three small children to Heppner last Sunday from Hermiston, where they had been staying with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Coles until they found a permanent position.

STREET PATCHING JOB COMPLETED

City superintendent Victor Groshens reports that his crew has completed nearly two weeks work of patching street paving in Heppner. All streets are again in good condition with all potholes filled.

GRASS FIRE CALLS HEPPNER FIREMEN

City firemen were called Tuesday evening to combat a grass fire on property adjoining the swimming pool. There was no damage.

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

OUT PATIENTS—Mrs. Betty Sue Canada, Spray; Mrs. Bill Rowell, Ione; Mrs. Roy Leathers, Kimberly; Kenneth Keeling, Heppner; Mrs. Ida Reid, Heppner; Mrs. Antona Bonner, Kinzua.

MEDICAL—Mrs. Ovelia Henson, Spray, dismissed; Mr. Ed Kelly, Heppner, dismissed; Mr. Carl Linn, Ione; Mrs. Susie Hughes, Heppner; Mr. Joe Hendrix, Kinzua, dismissed; Mr. Harry Munkers, Heppner.

SURGICAL — Mr. Bill Olson, Heppner, dismissed.

MINOR SURGERY — Miss Sandra Harshman, Hardman, dismissed.
NEW ARRIVALS — To Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bloodworth, Lexington, a baby boy born July 21. Mother and baby have been dismissed.

wer a long-felt need by the community and county for an adequate advertising piece.

The chamber laid plans to send copies of the brochure to other chambers of commerce throughout the state and to other points where they may gain a wider circulation.

An expression of thanks was extended to Mrs. Tom Wilson who wrote the brochure and also to Judge Garnet Barratt and Jim Barratt for the assistance they have given in providing the necessary information and pictures.

The completed pamphlet brings into the results of over three years of discussion and planning by the group to give Heppner and the county a complete advertising piece.

Lightning Storm Causes But One Small Forest Fire

The Heppner office of the United States Forest Service reported Wednesday that only one fire was reported during the dry lightning storm which passed over the county Monday, night, July 23.

Madison Butte lookout first reported the blaze at 10:45 p.m. on Gilman Flat. A crew from Tupper Guard station cross checked the location from Red Hill lookout, which is unmanned and Ken Keeling and Walter Ray were dispatched from the local office on Tuesday morning. They had the fire under control by about 10:30. Frank Derk and Phil Smith followed later and stayed during the night on mop up operations. The blaze was confined to about one acre of grass and trees.

Forest service officers expressed thanks to Carl Cox, rancher in the area, for the assistance given them.

Wayne W. West district ranger reported this fire was the only one in the Heppner district but that Walla Walla and Dale districts were called on to fight several fires some of which required the help of logging and mill crews to combat.

West stated that burning conditions were extremely critical in the woods and urged travellers to use the utmost caution when in the mountains.

Local WAF Woman Here on Furlough

Gladys Erwin captain in the Women's Air Force has been here visiting her brother Harold Erwin of Heppner.

Captain Erwin has been overseas for 38 months and has been stationed in Nagoya Japan in the headquarters of the 5th air corp 314th air division of the 8th army. She has been doing administrative work.

She is on a 15 day leave before being assigned to Fort Meyers, Va., near Washington D. C. She attended schools in both Heppner and Ione.

TO LEAVE SOON FOR STAY IN ENGLAND

Walter Luckman, former Heppner resident and pioneer in this area will sail Aug. 4 from New York on the liner Queen Mary for his native England.

Luckman plans to spend at least a year visiting relatives and friends that he hasn't seen in many years. He came to Heppner in 1903, and for the last year has been living in Portland.

Visiting at the W. O. Dix home from Friday till Monday were Mr. Dix's two sisters, Mrs. von Appen of La Center, Washington and Mrs. George Miller of Portland.