

UP Man Tells Experience in Being Captured in Costa Rica

Poorly Trained Patrol Grabbed By Rebel Units

Editor's Note: John Abney, veteran United Press photographer and picture bureau manager in Mexico City, was captured by rebel forces in the fighting in Costa Rica on Saturday. In the following dispatch, he tells of his narrow escape from death and of his meeting with Teodoro Picardo, 27, the West Point-trained rebel commander. Abney's dispatch was filed from Managua, Nicaragua, where he arrived last night.

By JOHN ABNEY
United Press Correspondent
Managua, Nicaragua — (U.P.) — You can taste fear when you are waiting for oncoming destruction. It is dry and it makes your throat swell no matter how often you swallow.

We felt that fear Saturday afternoon while waiting with a poorly trained government patrol for a rebel tank to come in sight along the Inter-American highway that bisects the Costa Rican jungles.

It began at 2 p.m. when a government patrol of 16 men armed with rifles and submachine guns set out from Santa Rosa with me and three other correspondents, George Skadding of Life, Phil Payne of Time and Paul Sance of NBC-TV.

Looked Deadly
We moved about three miles from the government's advance outpost, then set up an ambush near a big clearing where there were scattered trees and high grass. The patrol leader waved to us and we fell flat, waiting. We heard what we thought was a tank coming toward us.

I dropped behind a bushy clump 20 yards from the road and watched them coming. It was a half track loaded with green-uniformed soldiers wearing U.S. helmets. They had a deadly look about them.

It was then I felt the fear. As the truck moved even with us, three men of our badly trained and badly placed patrol began firing into the rebels who poured over the sides of the half track and scrambled to positions along the road. The fight was on.

From the direction of the rebel firing we knew they had dispersed with efficiency and were working on us from both sides. Heavy explosions from grenades shook the ground while the chatter of machineguns and rifles a few yards away deafened us.

Bullets Cut Grass
The rebel fire began cutting the top of the grass and knocking twigs from my bush and I snaked another 25 feet to the rear.

It kept up for a solid hour—the high-pitched chatter of the submachineguns, the sounds of mortars, the deep coughing of rifles and the slow hammering of .50 caliber machineguns. At the end mortar shells were falling with jolts as the rebels methodically covered the whole area.

Suddenly it stopped. I looked at my watch and it was an hour since it began. It was now 3:45. I began to feel movements in the high grass, the quick running steps as the rebels came stopping now and then to listen.

I rolled on my back, held by cameras and waited. A sub-machinegun and helmet with tufts of camouflage grass on it appeared all at once and then a rebel. He was a businesslike kid who waited hawklike while I told him I was a correspondent.

Taken Captive
He marched me hands up to the road where they took my papers and cameras and put me with the rest of the correspondents lying face up in a ditch, our hands over our head.

While other rebels combed the area for more prisoners our guards kept machineguns on us. Across the road they collected their own casualties. We pleaded for our cameras to get pictures but to no avail.

A 21-year-old lieutenant named Pacheco was leading the rebels.

His men were grim and mad at the ambush and thought we were members of the Caribbean Legion in the forces of Costa Rican President Jose Figueres. They wanted to shoot us on the spot. But their young lieutenant told them to tie our hands behind us and they marched us down the road to their lines.

We waited until almost dark when I heard a voice say "Hello, John, I wondered if it was you. They told me some newsmen were captured."

The voice was that of a friend of mine from Mexico, an exile from Costa Rica named Manuel Caballero. He talked to the officers and a few minutes later our hands were ordered untied.

1,200 Mothers Await Annual Polio March; Coverage Areas Told

Approximately 1,200 mothers in Medford have completed plans to march against polio for one hour on Monday, Jan. 31. It will be the annual Mothers March, set from 7 to 8 p.m.

Mrs. Lew Miles, chairman, said the entire city, including several of the surrounding rural areas, has been broken down into 45 sections with a captain assigned to each section. Captains, in turn, have assigned mothers to cover each block in the area during the appointed hour.

The Mothers March will be by invitation only, with a burning porch light or candle in the window indicating the occupant wishes to be called up to contribute to the fight against polio. Apartment house dwellers and those in hotel rooms may signify their willingness to join by hanging a shoe or tying a handkerchief on a door knob. No calls will be made where the invitation is not out, Mrs. Miles pointed out.

Coverage Areas Listed
Area to be covered by the marching mothers was described by Mrs. Miles. Roughly, it includes the following:

Pacific highway north to Beall lane, Merriman rd. to Table Rock rd., to the airport rd. and Biddle rd. to the Crater Lake highway, Ross lane to KMED and back on Sage rd. to McAn-

draws rd., Cherry st., Lozier lane, Oakgrove rd., Casino rd., Perrydale ave., and roads within that area between Bellingier rd. and Jacksonville highway, the area between Myers lane, including King's highway, South Peach st., all of Orchard Home dr., Thomas rd. extending to Jacksonville-Phoenix highway, Barnett rd. to North Phoenix rd., including Ellendale dr., South Modoc ave. and Murphy lane, Spring st. to Modoc ave. including Eastover Tr. and Country Club Estates, Biddle rd. to Morrow rd., Corona ave. to Crater Lake highway and Delta Waters rd., and the Grandview Market area.

Chairman Confident

Expressing concern over reports that the March of Dimes campaign is lagging behind previous years for the first time in county history, Mrs. Miles said she was confident the people of Medford would not let the mothers down and said she felt her portion of the month-long fund-raising campaign would pass previous marks.



CAUTIONED—Senate GOP Leader William Knowland of California tells newsmen he sees no conflict between himself and the President after a White House briefing on new Red China-Nationalist China fighting. Knowland called efforts of Dag Hammarskjold to free flyers from Red China a failure. The President urged patience and cautioned against impetuous words while there is still a chance.

National Rose Garden Aim Of Society in Washington

Washington—(U.P.)—A Washington garden club wants Congress to establish a 27-acre national rose garden here comparable in splendor to the capital's famed cherry blossoms.

The Pontiac Rose Society proposes that the garden encircle the famous reflecting pool in Potomac Park between the Lincoln and Washington monuments.

There would be display areas for the yearly first award and all-American rose selections, another for the prima donnas of the rose world and also a "glamour garden" featuring beautiful varieties of roses. More plants would line the reflecting pool. Outside the display area would be stately gardens of shrub and old-fashioned roses.

There is one thorny problem to be removed before this rosy vision can become a reality, however—much of the land is now occupied by "temporary" government buildings.

What to Do?
These squat, grey "tempo" sprang up during World War II in areas which always had been earmarked for lawn and landscaping. The rose-lovers insist that now is the time to prune out the unsightly buildings.

Albert E. West, chairman of the society's West Potomac committee, said:

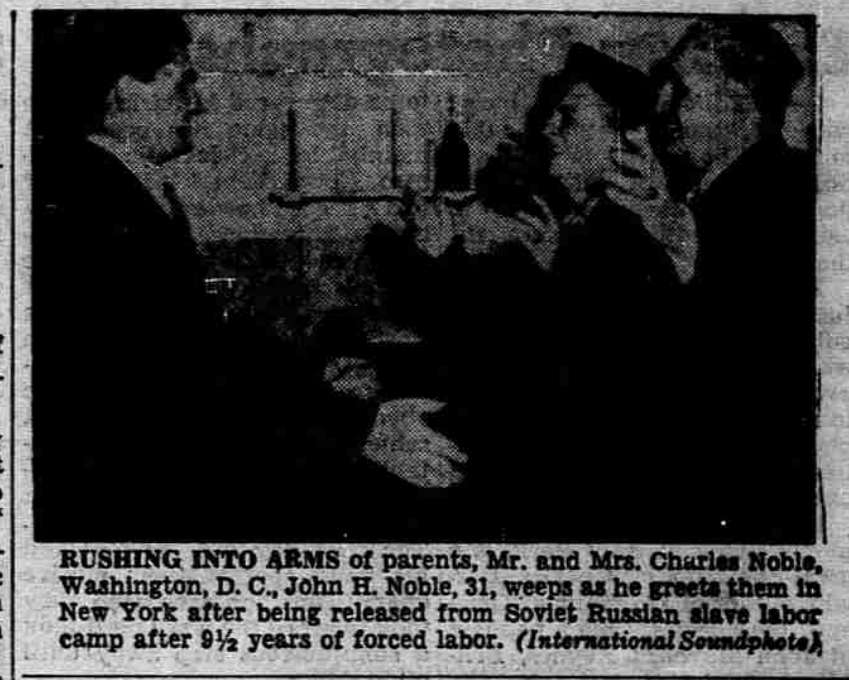
"We should get rid of the ugly 'tempo.' It's a shame we don't have a national rose garden to compare with those in Europe."

The committee held a symbolic ceremony in West Potomac Park Dec. 4 to plant a "golden masterpiece," a new hybrid tea rose.

"This was a token planting," West said. "We have to be the salesmen for the garden."

The capital has been without a national rose garden since 1949. The old Potomac rose garden had to give way to a new bridge spanning the Potomac river. For nine years, National Capital Parks has had plans for the garden as soon as the "tempo" are uprooted. But first, Congress must appropriate the funds and secure office facilities for the temporary buildings' present occupants.

NO RESPECT
Muskegon, Mich. — (U.P.) — Thieves broke into a place and took a box containing \$32. It was the entire capital of the North Muskegon Junior Police Lodge.



HOUSE of MYSTERY

WHERE THE STEREOAMIC PHOTO ORIGINATED

North of Gold Hill AT THE OREGON VORTEX Open Throughout The Year

ANY SNAPSHOT TAKEN WITHIN THE VORTEX WILL PRODUCE A 3D PICTURE. TEST IT!

Winter Hours—9 to 5
Under Founder's Management Since 1930

Pear Growers Here Schedule Meetings Monday, Tuesday

Meetings of Jackson county pear growers and stone fruit growers are scheduled for next week, according to Don Berry, county agent for horticulture.

Pear growers will meet Monday at the Central Point Grange hall starting at 1:15 p.m.

Speakers on the program are D. D. Evans, assistant professor of soils, Oregon State college; Henry Hartman, head of the horticulture department, OSC; L. G. Gentner, entomologist for the Southern Oregon branch experiment station; Harry O'Reilly, plant pathology specialist, OSC; and Berry.

Demonstration Set
A demonstration of the use of wood products in orchard heaters will be given at 3:45 p.m. by Stan Corder, of the forest products laboratory at Corvallis.

The meeting of stone fruit growers will be held Tuesday, starting at 1:15 p.m. at the Phoenix Grange hall. Speakers will be Higdon, O'Reilly, Hartman, Gentner, Evans, and Corder, who also will present the orchard heating demonstration at the Tuesday meeting.

AUTOMOTIVE UN
New London, Conn. — (U.P.) — Thomas J. Ford, employed by the Nash Garage, drove his Chevrolet into an Oldsmobile and a Renault.

"You're lucky as hell to be alive," Manuel told us.

In the morning we met Capt. Teodoro Picardo, the 27-year-old West Pointer commanding the rebels, at his headquarters and Lt. Claudio Fonseca, the second in command.

"You boys are lucky," Picardo said. "You were born again yesterday afternoon in Costa Rica."

GOLD ARROW Stamps

—ANNOUNCE—
Arrow Laundry & Dry Cleaners
520 S. Riverside

are joining the other progressive merchants in this vicinity in issuing . . .

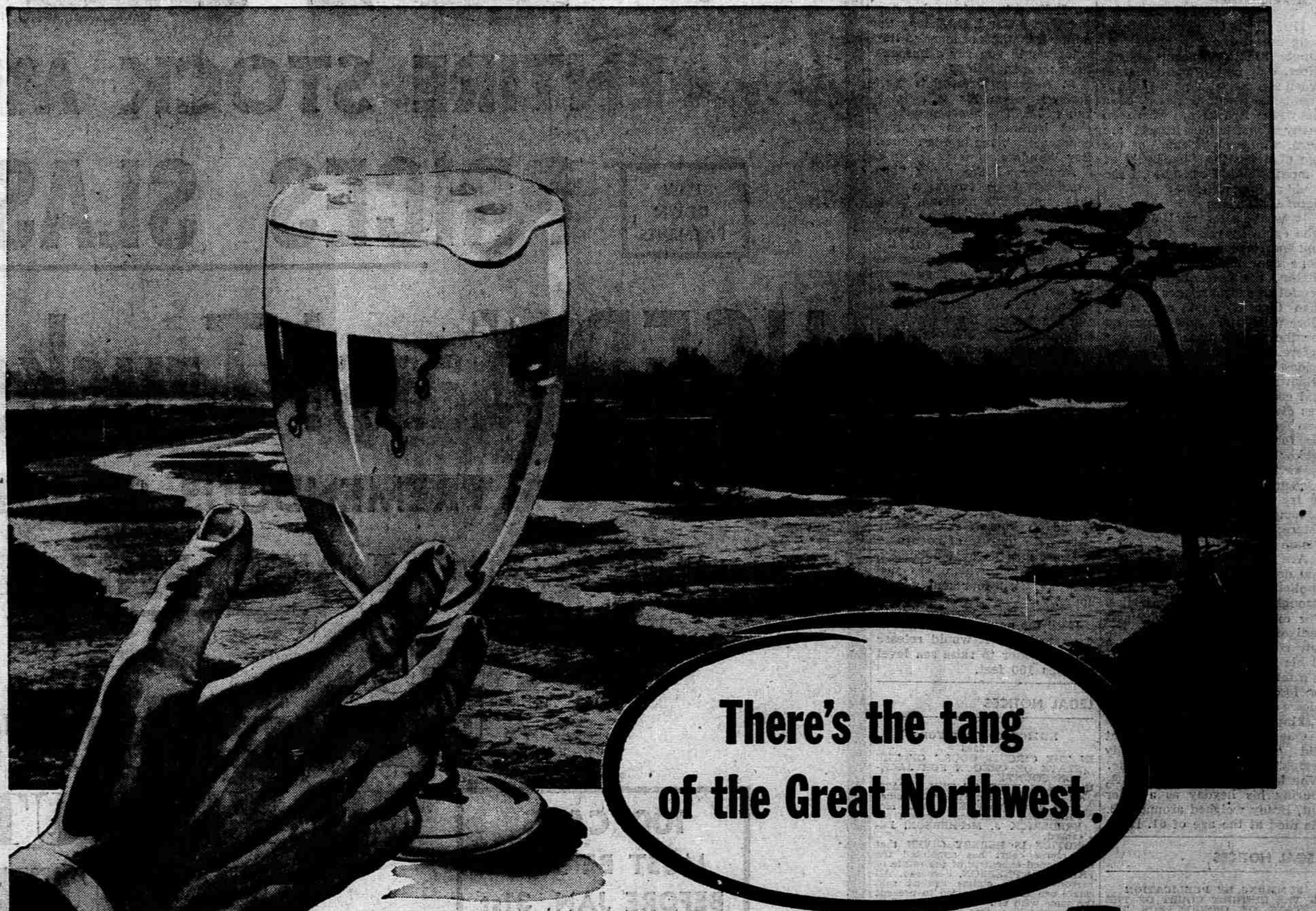
GOLD ARROW STAMPS

Double Stamps Given Until Feb. 5 on all work at the ARROW LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANERS

USE READY-MIX CONCRETE

★ Phone 2-5336 or 2-5897

M. C. LININGER & SONS



There's the tang of the Great Northwest.

... in this wonderful beer with the **Velvet Tang!**

One glass will show you why Heidelberg is winning new friends by the thousands!

Look long enough at this picture—put yourself into the scene—and you can almost feel the breeze. A breeze you can find only here in the Great Northwest... velvety to the touch yet zesty with the tang of cedar and spruce, pine and the sea.

It is this same combination of velvety smoothness and

zesty tang that is winning thousands in the Pacific Northwest to Heidelberg Beer. This wonderful combination for your enjoyment is called "The Velvet Tang"—and it's exclusive with Heidelberg.

You recognize it instantly because Heidelberg is so smooth and easy going down—yet so thorough in quenching your thirst. And that flavor... ah, that flavor... it just can't be copied.

Because the Velvet Tang is so right for Northwest tastes... because those who try it continue to buy it... thousands are switching to Heidelberg every month! Just try one glass of Heidelberg... see if it isn't the finest beer you ever tasted!



Have a Heidelberg TODAY!

In popular stubby bottles, jumbo quart bottles, cans. At your favorite tavern, grocery or beverage store.

On draught at your favorite tavern.



Heidelberg

BRAND BEER

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO VISIT OUR BREWERY IN TACOMA MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 10:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.