

Diamond Smuggling Big Business in African Colony

By CHARLES RIDLEY
United Press Correspondent
Freetown, Sierra Leone—Diamonds literally sprout from the ground in this British West African crown colony.

And where there are diamonds, there is bound to be a smuggling racket.

Diamonds are smuggled out of the country to the tune of about \$42 million each year, and nobody is able to stop it.

The experts say the ready plunder robs the colony of as many rough diamonds as it legally exports every year—enough to sparklers valued at more than \$42 million.

They are scattered on the ground like pebbles, or lie just underneath the surface soil in the bushland, the diamonds of Sierra Leone. They are washed in from outside the colony by five rivers and provide easy pickings for tens of thousands of native farmers.

It is impossible for the Brit-

ish and their native levies to patrol the far-stretching bush so thoroughly that the diamonds can be protected.

When the rivers shrink after the rainy season, customs men use slow-moving planes to spot the main centers of pirate activity. Any bush pilot will tell you how the diamond pickers scurry for cover at the sight of a plane.

But the planes and other patrolling schemes merely serve as a slight harassment to the farmers who merely stoop to reach a diamond bonanza.

Sierra Leone—it got its name, which means "Lion's Head," from the early Portuguese traders—has the added advantage of having a long frontier with Liberia, the easy-customs state that attracts most of the illicit diamonds.

British customs officials say there are bush landing strips just across the border in Liberia where big-time operators keep planes waiting to

whisk the uncut stones far away to lucrative markets.

Smuggling Widespread

But not all the smuggled stones pass through Liberia. Many are smuggled out through Freetown airport, by apparently bona fide travelers.

Only two months ago a Belgian was arrested at the airport with \$112,000 worth of illicit stones on his person. He was a recognized diamond buyer and had legally acquired stones in his suitcase.

The illicit jewels were carried in little bags strapped underneath his armpits.

What happens to the river of illicit diamonds that drains the lifeblood from one of Britain's best-run and least-restive territories in Africa?

The customs men believe the vast majority find their way behind the Iron Curtain, via the Middle East. There, in the Communist states of Eastern Europe, a diamond is worth greatly inflated sums in local currency—and nobody asks its pedigree.

Matches in Bed Kill Mother, Babies

Chicago—Two boys playing with matches in bed caused a fire Friday that killed a mother and two babies and injured three other persons.

The blaze spread swiftly through more than half of 32 apartments in a crowded tenement and drove panic-stricken families to the street. Many had to be rescued by fire-fighters.

Authorities identified the dead as Minnie Grant, 20, her son, Stanley, 1, and her niece, Rochelle, 2 months.

City Fire Attorney Earle Downes said two sons of Mrs. Grant's sister-in-law confessed they had been lighting matches and accidentally started the fire.

"The bed caught fire and flames spread immediately," Downes said.

Tito Warned To Return To Bloc

Belgrade—The Soviet Union has delivered an ultimatum to President Tito demanding that he return to the Communist bloc or face the consequences, it was disclosed today.

Delivery of the note coincided with announcement that Kliment Y. Voroshilov, the Soviet head of state, had "postponed" a visit to Belgrade scheduled for this week end.

The ultimatum was reported to have been delivered by Russian Ambassador Ivan Konstantinovich Zamchevsky last Saturday. It was expected to be followed by economic pressure on Tito.

Soviet sources said the letter came from the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and was addressed directly to Tito, who is vacationing on the island of Brioni.

Voroshilov was to have started his visit Sunday. There was no formal reason given for the eleventh hour postponement, but political sources in Moscow said a technical reason was the continued visit of U.A.R. President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Says Nevada To Grow If Given More Water

San Francisco—A New York City economist declared in the Colorado river suit that Nevada's population will grow from 270,000 to 1,300,000 by the year 2000 if it has enough water.

Eric D. Dodge said Nevada grew faster in the last seven years "than any other state in the union." Its population jumped 66 per cent in that period, he said.

Only lack of water could keep Las Vegas' Clark county from growing from its present population of 115,000 to 600,000 in the next 42 years, he said.

Several States Involved
Dodge testified in the suit as a witness for the state of Nevada, one of several fighting over distribution of Colorado river water. He is an expert of the firm of Tippetts, McCarthy and Stratton.

Under questioning by Special Master Simon H. Rifkind, Dodge admitted that growth rates decline when areas become crowded, but said Nevada's deserts would not have too many people "for some time to come."

Rifkind upheld objections by California attorneys who argued Dodge should not be permitted to testify about in-

TWA Hires First Negro Stewardess

New York—Trans World Airlines announced on Sunday it has hired the first Negro airline stewardess ever employed by an international carrier based in the United States.

TWA said that Margaret Grant, 21, a Hunter College psychology student, will graduate next month and a few days later will enter the airline's hostess training school at Kansas City, Mo.

Miss Grant is the daughter of a registered nurse and a chef at a Saranac Lake hotel. She is the second Negro to be hired as a stewardess by a U.S. airline. The first was employed by Mohawk Airlines last December.

New York Airways, a helicopter line, hired the first Negro pilot employed by a domestic airline.

British Health Service records show yearly payments for auto mileage to a doctor totaling \$4,800 for 64,000 miles of travel, equal to 175 miles a day.

Scientists at Armour Research Foundation have developed glass ribbons, which are expected to provide a better building base than fiber glass.

Gibraltar produces only one thing. Other than serving as a British army and navy garrison, the native population depends almost upon entirely upon fish for export.

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SCREAMING INSULTS at Vice President Richard M. Nixon, mob of Communist-led students creates international incident outside San Marcos University, Lima, Peru. Police made only a half-hearted effort to protect Nixon party. (International Soundphoto)

What Is The Law?

This column is prepared as a public service by the College of Law, Willamette University, Salem, to explain basic legal principles, not to provide legal advice. The reader is cautioned not to apply these cases to his own problems without an attorney's advice, for differing facts may change the outcome.

Who Killed the Camper?

Abe planned to take a trip into the mountains. It would take him a week to reach his objective and a week to return home. During this time he did not expect to see any other person or have access to any food other than what he took with him. Abe had two baskets of food each containing enough to feed him for a week.

Sylvester had a grudge against Abe and planned to kill him in such a way that if his body was found, it would appear to be a case of accidental death in the mountains. Sylvester followed his victim into the mountains and while Abe was asleep on the eighth day put poison in all the remaining food so that any food Abe ate would be fatal.

Similar Plan

Albert, who also had a grudge against Abe, had a plan similar to Sylvester's but he had no idea of the poisoning plot. A few hours after Sylvester poisoned the food, Albert stole it before Abe had a chance to eat it. Abe even-

tually died of starvation in the mountains. The question: Who killed Abe?

The question involves a problem of causation. Before one can be convicted of homicide, it must be established that he caused the death of his victim.

The question is thus not what would have happened but what did happen. If Abe had eaten the poisoned food, he would have died. But Abe died from the lack of food and Albert stole the food. Albert killed Abe.

Mental Gymnastics

What if Albert had been Abe's friend? Perhaps he took the food hoping he would save Abe and hoping that Abe would find other food. Would Albert still be the one who killed Abe? Maybe Abe had detected the poison and had destroyed the food, hoping to find other supplies. Would his eventual death have been a case of suicide?

These are problems which arise and provide mental gymnastics for those who must solve them.

Daughters of UN Envoy Attacked

New York—Police today sought two teen-age girls who attacked and slashed the 16-year-old daughter of Iran's ambassador to the United Nations in a Bronx park.

Frieda Abdo, the daughter of Dr. Djalal Abdo, was walking in the park with her sister, Masti, 12, police said, when she was set upon by two Negro girls. She was cut on the right hand and her dress slashed almost to ribbons.

As their assailants approached, one threw an electric light bulb which exploded near Frieda. One of the girls ordered Frieda to remove her dress. She refused.

The Abdo girls also refused a demand for money. One of the assailants pulled a switchblade knife, slashed Frieda's dress, and fled.



CONGRATULATIONS ARE GIVEN Mrs. Louise Lake, Salt Lake City polio victim, by President Eisenhower as he presents her with trophy as "Handicapped Person of Year" at annual meeting of President's Committee on Employment of Physically Handicapped. (International)

Actor Injured In Auto Collision

Hollywood—Actor Peter Lawford suffered an injured left arm early today in a two-car collision in West Los Angeles, police reported.

Officers booked Aaron Wallace, a Los Angeles man who claimed to be a minister, on suspicion of hit-run felony. They said Wallace was under the influence of alcohol.

Police said witnesses who saw Wallace's car cross the white line and side-swipe Lawford's vehicle chased the suspect, forced him to stop and brought him back to the scene.

Five gallons of gasoline in Canada, imperial measure, equal six gallons in the United States.



From its beginnings this nation has been guided by great ideas.

The men who hammered out the Constitution and the Bill of Rights were thinkers—men of vision—the best educated men of their day. And every major advance in our civilization since that time has come from minds equipped by education to create great ideas and put them into action.

So, at the very core of our progress is the college classroom. It is there that the imagination of young men and women gains the intellectual discipline that turns it to useful thinking. It is there that the great ideas of the future will be born.

That is why the present tasks of our colleges and universities are of vital concern to every American. These institutions are doing their utmost to raise their teaching standards, to meet the steadily rising pressure for enrollment, and provide the healthy educational climate in which great ideas may flourish.

They need the help of all who love freedom, all who hope for continued progress in science, in statesmanship, in the better things of life. And they need it now!

If you want to know what the college crisis means to you, write for a free booklet to: HIGHER EDUCATION, Box 36, Times Square Station, New York 36, New York.



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