



Nairobi Is Center of Big Game Country of Africa, Lange Says

(Editor's note: This is another in a series of articles by Luke Lange, former Medford resident who is on an around the world cruise aboard the freighter, SS Friedland. In today's article he describes how big game hunts in South Africa are conducted.)

By LUKE LANGE
Near Nairobi we went through a large reserve that had lions and elephants, in addition to other game.

While there, we talked to safari guides for big game hunting. One of the main reasons for including Africa on our trip was my desire to go hunting.

Nairobi is the center of the big game country in Africa. The biggest cost of a hunt of

this kind is getting here. Strangely enough, after all these months of travel, I find myself in an area where I could go 20 miles in any direction and kill a lion, rhino, elephant or buffalo, but I didn't want to go. I believe if anyone comes to Africa like I did, to go hunting, go through one or two game reserves, he will get the same reaction.

There are reasons for such a reaction. No. 1, you can't hunt without a guide. No. 2, you use a gun big enough to blow a hole in a tank, with the added protection of a guide, who is an expert shot, standing right behind you with a similar gun in case you miss.

200 Yards From Car

If you want to be real safe, you can drive right up to the animal in your covered four-wheel drive vehicle, and shoot from the car, even though a recent law in Africa states you must be at least 200 yards from a vehicle before shooting game.

A game guide in Nairobi said many clients still shoot

lions from the car, and when they are sure the animal is dead, get out of the car, have their picture taken and are quite proud of the feat.

The safari camp includes beds, canvas bath tub, linen, water filters, and a refrigerator. There are radios for music in the evenings, a lavatory tent and the main sleeping tent with attached veranda. There is a staff of natives consisting of gun bearers, drivers, skinner, cooks, porters, waiters, and a personal servant. When going into the African jungle on a big game hunt, there is the comforting knowledge that in 25 years not one white person has been killed while on one of these licensed safaris.

A 30-06 is used for light game. A .350 Rigby Magnum for medium, and a .475 caliber for the largest animals, which has all the power of a hand grenade.

Waterbuck, coryx, impala, zebra, gazelle, are seen in herds of hundreds. One can park the car and gaze at them like you would a hillside full of cattle. In view of this, I

believe any one who likes to hunt deer, elk and bear in our country would pass up this African hunting safari as too easy.

Don't get the idea I am the type who likes to hunt grizzly bears with a switch. I run from yellow-jackets and bumble bees, but like my friend Mell Younger of Medford, asked me when he heard I was going to Africa to shoot an elephant: "If you are that mad at elephants why don't you go down to the zoo and buy one, cart him up to the city dump and shoot him and forget it?"

From what I have learned here in Africa about big game hunting, his idea hits pretty close to home.

Driving up to a herd in an armored car, jumping out and shooting one or two animals should give you the same thrill as plunking a white face steer in a feed lot. Chances of physical injury would be far greater, say, in a low-ball or hockey game with a group of Oregon loggers, than on a hunting safari in dark Africa.

A game reserve where even the guide has no gun and the same animals are hunted by a tourist armed with a camera is a different story. The reserve guides do not have the same safety record as safari hunters.

Accidents are common, and are not given much publicity. In the reserve near Nairobi a few weeks ago, a bull elephant charged a lorry containing 12 soldiers, rolled it down a mountain, killing two men and hospitalizing the others. Luckily, the elephant did not follow it on down the mountain, and stamp it. Small cars have been rolled over and smashed flat by the big bulls.

Elephants are feared more than anything else in the jungle, and at water holes when a herd shows up, even rhinos and lions leave. The present Queen of Etaland and her husband visited this reserve on their recent trip to Africa. Their guides were furnished large caliber guns, but to my knowledge no one else entering the reserve had been so privileged.

About 10 miles from the reserve, on the way back to Durban and the ship, we spotted a snake crossing the narrow dirt road. I attempted to run over him, but missed; he rose up and struck the fender. It was a large green mamba. When traveling, they will attack anything in their path.

The natives carry sticks when walking in the bush, but many of them still get bitten. None of them have venom kits, and the mamba bite is fatal in a short time. I was going to get out, and kill him, but lost my nerve and let him go.

A few miles out of Durban we passed a native gang working on the road. The next day in the Durban paper an article told about the white overseer of the road gang getting out of his car for an inspection. He left the car door open and when he got back behind the wheel, found a black mamba coiled around the steering rod. He managed to ease out of the car without the snake striking, got a stick and killed it.

BRIDGE FOR CHARITY
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Three Sentenced In Circuit Court

Three men were sentenced in Jackson county circuit court Friday afternoon.

Richard Douglas Bilbee, 203 South Riverside ave., was sentenced to 3½ years in the Oregon State penitentiary for uttering and publishing a false check.

He pleaded guilty Friday to issuing a false check for \$60 to Burk's, 314 East Main st., Medford, on June 18.

Thomas Orville Martt, 21, Salt Lake City, Utah, was sentenced to 2½ years in the Oregon state penitentiary after his probation was revoked. He was originally charged with burglary not in a dwelling involving Bob Kennedy Furniture store, 1603 North Riverside ave., on May 11, 1961.

The probation of James Earl Raines, 19, of Central Point, was revoked and he was sentenced to 2½ years in the Oregon State Correctional institution.

Raines originally was accused of breaking into Seank's Repair Shop, Gold Hill.

Motocyclist Hurt In Traffic Mishap

William Garry Godden, 24, of 210 Table Rock rd., Medford, was reported in good condition at Sacred Heart hospital today following a motorcycle collision Friday afternoon on Griffin Creek rd.

The motorcycle operated by Godden and a car driven by Ronald Paul Gangstee, 17, of 329 West Jackson st., collided on an S curve at the junction of Griffin Creek rd. and the west fork of Griffin Creek rd., state police said.

Godden is being treated for fractures, hospital attendants said. He was taken there by Medford Ambulance service.

STRIKE REPORT

Washington —UPI— The Labor Department reported Sunday that about 440 strikes, involving 195,000 workers, began in May. The department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said approximately one-third of the work stoppages occurred in the construction industry. They brought the total number of workers idled to some 240,000, about three-fifths higher than last year but below the 1960 and 1959 levels.

PHILIP TAKES FALL

Windsor, England —UPI— Prince Philip fell from a pony while playing polo Sunday but threw himself clear and was uninjured in the incident. The pony hurt a leg.

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Extra Big Summer Pattern Catalog—over 106 styles for all sizes, occasions. Send 35c.

Magnuson Introduces Lumber Proposals
Seattle —UPI— Sen. Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) has introduced legislation designed to help the lumber industry regain and expand its domestic markets while looking for new markets.

The bill would provide for a broadened research program to be financed by placing 30 per cent of duties collected on imported forest products in a special fund.

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