

Freed Hostages Tell Of Bolivian Adventure

By DONALD MAY
 United Press International
 WASHINGTON (UPI)—It was a Bolivian version of the wild west, but the cavalry didn't gallop up in time to rescue the four American hostages. They had to do it themselves in a jeep.

Three of the four cheerfully told President Johnson and newsmen Friday of their 10-day adventure while being held hostage by Communist-led tin miners in the mountains of Bolivia.

Most of their guards were women whom they dubbed "Lady MacBeths." Instead of pistols, the ladies packed dynamite cans and wore black derbies. But like women everywhere, they cried in disappointment when the men refused to do what they wanted — plead for the release of two Communist miners union leaders seized by the Bolivian government.

The three, who were on their way home today, are Bernard Rifkin, of Montclair, N. J., a foreign aid labor adviser; Thomas M. Martin, of New York, of Cadillac, Mich., both U.S. Information Service officers.

Remains In Bolivia
 A fourth, Robert Ferguson, a Peace Corps volunteer from Honolulu, decided to remain in Bolivia with other Peace Corps members rather than return for Christmas.

The men were captured by the miners in an effort to make the Bolivian authorities release labor leaders, Ireneo Pimental and Federico Escobar, who had been arrested earlier on criminal charges.

The adventure began, Martin said, on Dec. 8, after the four had gone to the area of the Catavi and Siglo-Veinte mines, 150 miles south of La Paz, on a project to build schools for the impoverished mining community.

The Americans had finished a dinner with the Dutch manager of one of the mines, Martin recalled, when trucks pulled up outside. About "150 men barged into the house with rifles and pistols" to arrest the Dutchman, he said.

Companions Seized
 Martin said one of the armed men recognized him as a U.S. official and began "shouting" to this effect, and in a moment Martin and his companions also were seized.

Seventeen other hostages—Bolivians and other nationals were also taken prisoner.

Martin said the Americans were taken to the library of the union hall at the Siglo-Veinte mine. The library had a "fair collection of books," Martin said, but there were many large photographs "of life in Russia and Czechoslovakia."

A short time later, Martin said, a Bolivian senator named Arturo Crespo, who is also the boss of the nearby Catavi mine, arrived "in a rather intoxicated state." Dramatically, Crespo announced that if the miners were going to kill the Americans they would have to kill him too.

"Rifkin replied, 'who's talking about killing people,'" Martin said. He said Sen. Crespo continued alleged efforts in behalf of the Americans but it appeared what he really wanted "was for us to be his captives down at Catavi."

During their 10 days in captivity, the hostages said, they were guarded by a group of women led by the wives of Pimental and Escobar.

The hostages said they were threatened only indirectly. Statements were made that the Bolivian army was approaching and that if there were a fight, everyone "might be killed."

The captors, particularly the lady guards, were incensed that the U.S. government would not order the hostages to give in to the demands for statements urging the release of Pimental and Escobar.

At one point, Martin said, "the Lady MacBeths" cried on my shoulder, asking how the U.S. government could be so cruel."

Meanwhile, diplomatic efforts by the U.S. government, other countries, the Red Cross, the Roman Catholic Church, and labor groups were going on to effect a release.

Martin said the captives listened to two miners' assemblies discuss terms for letting them go. But the talks seemed inconclusive, and at one point, on Monday, Dec. 16, after 10 days of confinement, Rifkin simply announced, "That's enough of this, let's get out of here."

All put on their coats and marched out behind Rifkin. No one stopped them.

The guards had told them they were "protecting" them from the people outside. "But when we went through the door, the people cheered us," Martin said. The guards apparently felt it was too late to intervene.

Then came what Martin called "sort of like a wild west" ride in a caravan of jeeps and other vehicles toward the nearby town of Oruro.

Rifkin told newsmen that the people in this area of Bolivia live very poorly. The miners' take-home pay is less than five dollars a month. Some 70 per cent suffer from silicosis or tuberculosis. Even under government operation the mines are a losing business.

The hostages said only a small corps of mine leaders were Communists. They said nine-tenths of the mine union membership voted to set them free, but the "handful of Communists" were able to maneuver the situation so that they remained hostages.



HOSTAGES GREETED—President Johnson is shown greeting three of four Americans who were held hostage by Bolivian tin miners. They were greeted at the White House. Seated, left to right, are Michael Kristula, Cadillac, Mich.; Bernard Rifkin, Montclair, N.J.; and Thomas Martin, Bronx, N.Y. Standing are Paul Rifkin, Rifkin's son; President Johnson; Mrs. Rifkin; Mrs. Kristula; and in front of her, her 7-year-old daughter, Michele. (UPI)

Signing of Columbia River Power Pact Seen In Month

By MICHAEL GILLAN
 United Press International
 OTTAWA (UPI) — External Affairs Minister Paul Martin said Friday he expects the protocol containing a firm price for the sale of Columbia River downstream power benefits to the United States will be signed within a month.

Martin told reporters after an all-day meeting with U.S. and British Columbia officials he would expect it to be signed before Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson visits President Johnson Jan. 22.

Negotiations Near End
 The final agreement appeared to bring near to conclusion the drawn-out and difficult negotiations over the price British Columbia will receive from the sale of power to the United States generated by dams in the West Coast province.

The external affairs minister, who spoke for all parties at a news conference, said the three parties gave consideration to draft documents prepared since they met a week ago in the Canadian capital.

"These documents were designed to facilitate the arrangements for the sale of Canadian downstream benefits and for financing the development of the Columbia," he said.

"We will not be engaged in revising these documents, which are necessarily voluminous because they deal with a complicated problem. These will be submitted to our governments at an early date."

No details of the areas of agreement reached Friday were revealed, but further meetings were scheduled for next week—apparently to draft the necessary documents. The three parties will then meet in Washington about Jan. 9.

The adventure began, Martin said, on Dec. 8, after the four had gone to the area of the Catavi and Siglo-Veinte mines, 150 miles south of La Paz, on a project to build schools for the impoverished mining community.

Blind Man Finds Federal Judge Has Christmas Spirit

DETROIT (UPI) — The thought of Christmas without food and warm clothing for his pregnant wife was too much for Walter R. Sain, a 42-year-old blind man.

He showed Federal Judge Wade Mc Cree a tin cup Friday and said, "I tried standing on street corners to get a few cents but the police kept moving me on."

Sain and his wife LeWanda, 19, who is six months pregnant, plotted to rob a bank. The attempt was a crude one.

They picked one of the busiest and best guarded banks in Detroit.

Sain and his wife walked up to tell Stanley Mc Hale of the Detroit Bank and Trust Company's main office in the heart of downtown Detroit and handed him a scrawled note. It read in part:

"This man is truly blind. We got his wife in the car. Do not press the alarm. There are four of us, two in the bank and two are outside the bank."

The note demanded \$50.

Mc Hale, however, pressed the alarm and the guard took the couple into custody. The Federal Bureau of Investigation said apparently no one else was involved in the holdup attempt.

The couple was questioned extensively by the FBI and taken before Mc Cree for arraignment.

Sain told the judge, "I was desperate. Our wedding rings are in layaway and so is a coat for LeWanda. She also needs more winter clothes and we're almost out of food."

"I didn't have a gun and all I asked for was not more than \$50," Sain said.

Sain, who has been blind since he was 18, said he received only \$103 a month from the Aid to the Blind Association and had been turned down for welfare. He said he paid \$60 a month rent. Authorities said he had no shoes, only overshoes, when arrested.

"Can I depend on you both to be back here Jan. 15 for examination?" Mc Cree asked. After they agreed to set personal bond at \$1,000 and released them so they could "go home for Christmas."

Mc Cree asked Sain what moved him to the holdup attempt.

"What can a man do when everyone says 'no' to him?" Sain explained.

"There are other solutions and we'll talk about them when you come back," Mc Cree said. "In the meantime here's a little something to tide you over Christmas at least."

The judge handed the couple an envelope containing \$85 which had been collected from the judge and his staff.

There were tears, then, from Sain and his wife. Mc Cree cried, too.

LBJ Ranch House Will Be Checked

JOHNSON CITY, Tex. (UPI) — Before jolly old St. Nick will be allowed to descend the LBJ ranch house chimney, there will be a security check by Secret Service men. The same applies to all holiday visitors at the Texas White House.

Otherwise, Christmas at the ranch will follow the customary pattern.

There will be church services; lots of relatives, gaiety, decorations, feasting and the inevitable politics.

Cowboy-butler James Davis already has scouted the LBJ ranch for the perfect five-foot cedar Christmas tree.

The President, Mrs. Johnson and their two daughters, Lucy, 16, and Lynda, 19, will help decorate it with "dime store" hulk and tinsel. "Like everybody's else, just the usual assortment of colored lights, bulbs and icicles," Davis said.

Four stockings will be hung on the mantle of the roaring fireplace, labeled "Lynda," "Lucy," "Mother," and "Father."

Lady Bird Johnson, as usual will wrap a red cloth around the nose of a mounted deer head in the hall and the dusty old trophy will become "Rudolph" for the holidays.

On Christmas Eve, when many uncles, aunts, cousins and old friends gather, the presents will be opened.

Cub Scouts Present Tree to Local Home

Ernest Hinkle, leader of Cub Scout Pack 8, Medford, presented a seven-foot Christmas tree, many presents and candies and fruits to the Jackson County Juvenile Detention Home last week, according to Lawrence Tweedy, juvenile supervisor.

Each of the 38 boys made their presentations in person.

"A fine example of community service was displayed by Cub Pack 8 and a special mention should be given to Ernest Hinkle, the pack leader, and to the den leaders, Mrs. Ernest Hinkle, Mrs. Ray Huson, Mrs. Ray Hooper, and Mrs. Janet Griffith for their thoughtfulness and ingenuity," Tweedy commented.

Indian Office Opens In Washington State

HOQUIAM (UPI) — The Bureau of Indian Affairs has opened an office here to provide social welfare services and employment assistance for Indians.

The facility, under direction of the Washington Indian Agency, is an extension of services to the Indian communities in the Olympic Peninsula.

Drug Firm Accused Of Keeping Some Evidence Secret

WASHINGTON (UPI) — One of the nation's oldest major drug firms was accused by a federal grand jury Friday of keeping secret laboratory evidence that a new drug may have caused serious damage to research animals.

A 12-count indictment was returned here against the William S. Merrell Co., a division of Richardson-Merrell Inc. of New York. It charged that when the company asked for government approval of the drug "Mer-29," it failed to include damaging results from tests on animals.

The indictment said false reports about damage to the eyes, ovaries and bloodstreams of monkeys, rats and dogs used in testing the drug were given to the Food & Drug Administration (FDA). It said the firm concealed the fact that several rats died before experiments were completed.

The drug was on the market for 22 months and had been prescribed by doctors for about 400,000 heart patients. It was withdrawn from sale by the company in April, 1962 under strong pressure from the FDA.

Harmful Effects
 During the last three months, suits totaling more than \$25 million have been brought against the firm alleging that the drug, also known as triparanol, had resulted in various harmful side effects.

R.H. Marschall, president of the parent firm, commenting on the indictment, denied any intent to deceive the government and said he was confident a "fair appraisal" would vindicate the company.

The Merrell division, founded in 1929, was a prime distributor of the controversial drug thalidomide — suspected of causing deformities in babies when used by expectant mothers.

An FDA spokesman said a 1962 law passed after the thalidomide scare would have prevented the Mer-29 episode. He said the FDA now has a closer check on clinical investigations of drugs under the new law.

Developed Cataracts
 Dr. John O. Nestor, an FDA investigator, recommended in November, 1961, that Mer-29 be banned after four patients developed cataracts. The FDA did not act immediately because there was no real evidence at that time that the cataracts were drug-induced.

It did, however, require the firm to issue a warning letter to doctors telling of harmful side effects such as cataracts, hair loss and other changes. The product was used for another four and one-half months before enough evidence was found to justify its withdrawal.

The indictment charged the firm plotted to deceive federal investigators who asked about reports of injuries to test animals.

Richardson-Merrell also was named in the indictment along with three scientists who worked for the Merrell division: Harold W. Werner, William M. King, and Evert F. Van Maanen.

Micro-Film Reader OK'd for Library

The Public Library of Medford and Jackson County will soon be able to offer the public back files of newspapers, including the Medford Mail Tribune and the New York Times, in condensed micro-film editions.

A micro-film reader for the library was approved for purchase by the Board of Trustees at the December meeting.

At present only limited years of these newspapers are available.

Thousands of newspapers, magazines, books, documents and other records are available on micro-film, the library board pointed out. The ownership of a reader will make possible a program of purchasing micro-film copies of newspapers and periodicals. The first purchase will be the micro-film edition of the Medford Mail Tribune which is micro-filmed by the University of Oregon.

The micro-filming process is the filming of papers at a reduction in size which is often the ratio of 1 to 17. This shrinking process enables libraries which are pressed for space, as the local library is, to expand services which would otherwise be impossible.

Milwaukie Council Fires Patrolman

MILWAUKIE (UPI) — The Milwaukie City Council dismissed patrolman Richard A. Garrett from the police force here Friday night.

He was allowed to remain as radio operator for the police department until Feb. 1, when his employment will be terminated.

Dismissal was recommended by City Manager Max Thompson following his investigation into charges of insubordination made against Garrett by Police Chief Frank Brittingham.

Olson-Lawyer High Bidder for Timber

Olson-Lawyer, Inc., Medford, was high bidder last week for 3,029,000 board feet of National Forest timber in the Hop Creek Select area, Prospect Ranger District, Rogue River National Forest.

Forest Supervisor C. E. Brown reported the high bid totaled \$51,179.70, compared to the Forest Service appraised price of \$32,640.30.

Next high bidder was Fir-Ply Inc., White City.

Timber in the unit consisted of 2,240,000 board feet of Douglas fir bid at \$18.20 per thousand board feet, 390,000 board feet of sugar pine, ponderosa pine, and western white pine bid at \$13.70 per thousand board feet, 270,000 board feet of white fir and other species bid at \$7.69 per thousand board feet, and 150,000 board feet of incense cedar bid at \$1.70 per thousand board feet.

Be modern with MOEN

NEW KITCHEN FAUCET

HER ALL-YEAR GIFT!

Valley Plumbing, Inc.
 865 Stewart Avenue
 Phone 773-3102

Animal-To-Man Transplant May Have Succeeded

DENVER (UPI) — A 40-year-old patient at Colorado General Hospital had hopes Saturday of becoming the second man in medical history to survive the transplant of an animal's kidneys to his body.

The unusual operation was performed Friday and the man, who was not identified, was reported in "satisfactory" condition Saturday. The kidneys of a baboon were inserted in his body to replace his own diseased kidneys.

The operation came three days after announcement at New Orleans of the successful transplant of a chimpanzee's kidneys to a man. That operation was performed Nov. 5 but not revealed until Tuesday. Doctors at Charity Hospital in New Orleans said their patient had recovered sufficiently to go home for Christmas.

In the only other known animal-to-human transplant, a woman received the kidneys of a rhesus monkey Oct. 8 but they ceased to function and had to be removed. She died two days later.

Development of this technique, called a heterograft, is significant because if animal organs can be used for transplants, the problem of finding suitable donors for such operations will be removed.

Colorado General declined to reveal much about Friday's operation and said it would not do so for several days. A spokesman said the team of surgeons who performed the operation wanted the publicity on it to be "conservative."

FOR SALE—RENT OR LEASE

The price of this very well constructed home has been reduced to \$13,900. It has 3BR, 1 1/2 bath, w/w carpeting, drapes, everything you want in a home. For more information call us.

Sunland REAL ESTATE
 24 MYRTLE 772-2552

13 Wanted To Rent
 DAILY farm on 17 acres...
 WANTED: house, 5 rooms...
 WANTED TO LEASE - 475 sq. ft. office space...
 14 Business Opportunities
 Two 2 room...
 23 Household Goods
 DAILY American...
 24 Miscellaneous For Sale
 TRIPLE seat...
 LARGE...
 EXPENSIVE...
 250 Apples
 bushel of small Grimes Golden apples...
 JOE MUNTZ'S...
 511 S. Riverside
 Ph. 779-2411

SELL TOMORROW with a WANT AD TODAY!

DIAL 772-6141

LAST MINUTE SHOPPING

Put One of These Around Your Tree!

1901 SERENITY
 A custom built 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Many comfortable features such as wall-to-wall carpets, family room and built-in kitchen—and the location in BROOKHURST is tops.

3496 HOLLYWOOD PIONEER SUBDIVISION
 An excellent family home in a real good area. Has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 fireplaces and a wonderful patio and yard for your summer enjoyment.

2030 MELODY LANE
 A real buy for the bargain hunter. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, entry hall, built-in kitchen. Priced over \$1,000 under appraisal. You can't miss on this one.

DORAN REAL ESTATE
 Local and International Traders
 Club
 MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE
 We Buy, Build, Sell and Trade

511 S. Riverside
 Ph. 779-2411

FREE APPLES
 bushel of small Grimes Golden apples free with purchase of 1 bushel of McIntosh apples at \$1 per bushel, this week only.

JOE MUNTZ'S TIDWELL ORCHARD
 3 miles E. of Union on Rt. 35 next to Milburn's Cello Station. 372-0547

250 Apples
 bushel of small Grimes Golden apples...
 McIntosh...
 Red Delicious...
 Gala...
 Honeycrisp...
 Pink Lady...
 Golden Delicious...
 Braeburn...
 Fuji...
 Granny Smith...
 Jonathon...
 Liberty...
 Red Rome...
 Staygreen...
 Tropicana...
 Winesap...
 Zestar!...
 250 Apples...
 bushel of small Grimes Golden apples...
 McIntosh...
 Red Delicious...
 Gala...
 Honeycrisp...
 Pink Lady...
 Golden Delicious...
 Braeburn...
 Fuji...
 Granny Smith...
 Jonathon...
 Liberty...
 Red Rome...
 Staygreen...
 Tropicana...
 Winesap...
 Zestar!...