

Michener Tells Exploits of "Kandy Bar Kid"

By JAMES A. MICHENER
 WITH U. S. FIRST MARINE DIVISION IN KOREA — Every once in a while you meet a man whose extraordinary bravery astounds you. But high on anybody's list would have to be an amazing Marine called the Kandy Bar Kid.

Twenty-three-year old Lyle Lewis of Tacoma, Wash., is phenomenal, even for the Marines. He apparently has no nerves, no fear, and no need of sleep. More than 40 times in the last two months he has penetrated Communist lines to a depth of more than two miles, has scouted their positions for periods of up to 40 consecutive hours, and has wandered back to his own lines to report on what the enemy was up to.

He has been ambushed by the

Chinese five times, has engaged them in pointblank night battles eight or nine times, has lived through several artillery barrages of enormous concentration, has been wounded once and went back behind enemy lines three days after the shrapnel was removed from his leg.

Lewis looks the part. Six-foot-two, slouch-hipped, blue-eyed, he is quite thin and looks like a fast-shooting cowboy in a B-movie. He has a snaggy crop of red hair that looks as if mice nested in it and an incredible moustache that wanders all over his face like a lost forest.

He has developed such great skill in penetrating enemy mine fields, cutting barbed wire, probing entrenched positions and lying low among enemy elements that he has revolutionized marine procedures in his sector.

I saw him the other night as he started a probe which would take him more than two miles into the heart of what his commanding officer termed "unusually heavily fortified positions." Lewis was dressed in dirty fatigues, helmet and armor-proof vest. His face was smeared with black paint and he carried hand grenades and a sub-machine gun. He was a lethal character, headed for one of the toughest jobs a man could get.

He would penetrate enemy mine fields, climb to the top of a Communist-held hill well inside enemy lines and personally blow up a troublesome machine-gun bunker. He grinned through his camouflage and said, "I feel better about this job since the rain started. You can move quieter." He set out through an Asiatic cloudburst and

within 10 yards the paint was streaming down his face, his ankles were sogging in mud, and he disappeared into the darkness. His buddies call him the one-man army.

Therefore his nickname, the Kandy Bar Kid, comes as a surprise. This deadly fighter has a special trick he uses when it is absolutely vital that he get up-to-date information. He goes deep inside the enemy positions, finds some natural camouflage and hugs the earth as day breaks. There he lies, in the blazing sun, all through the daylight hours watching enemy dispositions.

As the second night begins he usually moves forward in an attempt to take a prisoner or wreck some installation. Thirty-six hours later he struggles back to his own line. On such trips he takes with him one cup of water and three candy bars.

A friend says, "give Lewis three candy bars and a sub-machine gun and he'll invade Hell." His commander, Lt. Col. Gerald Russell of Georgetown, R. I., reports, "the only limit to Lewis' courage is my order that he can't go more than three miles inland. He's incredible."

Lewis is no dead-end killer. He comes from a good family, is married and has three kids. He speaks softly but enjoys a good bust with the boys. When you get to know him he has a rich Irish humor.

"When I started those raids a lot of men volunteered to go along and we had luck at first. But

when we got shot up a couple of times and came home carrying Chinese lead some of the heroes got real shook."

One of the men who now goes out with him says, "you've heard of Gung Ho, Marine for real tough guy. Well, Lewis is both Colonel Gung and Major Ho."

Five nights out of six he penetrates enemy territory. When he comes back at 4 o'clock in the morning dawn, he stands his normal watch along the line. He sleeps for about six hours and in the afternoon takes his place in the ordinary routine of digging trenches and doing heavy work around his company. He puts in an 18-hour day, 10 of them under the most extreme danger. In civilian life he held a union card.

In the 57 days Lewis has been doing this work he has never had a hot meal, had one bath.

I saw him this morning when he returned from his mission against the machine-gun bunker. He was dripping sweat, covered with mud, his face an ugly smear. His moustache looked as if he had borrowed it from a wounded walrus. "Got the bunker," he said briefly and slogged off to bed.

Later in the day he was digging a trench and then he goes out again, for a 3-hour stretch in the mud by night and the cruel, blazing sun by day. With him goes what he considers a normal ration for such work: Three candy bars.

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Young Husband Murders Wife and Four Children

BRIDGEPORT, Wash. (AP) — Four small children and their young mother were slain as they prepared to leave for church services early Sunday and police arrested the father, who Chief Lyle Prothro said admitted killing his family because "the minister said God is a square shooter."

Being held in connection with the multiple slaying that left the modest family home on the outskirts of this North Central Washington community a bloody shambles was Matthias Swearson, 27, a laborer.

Dead were his 25-year-old wife, Joyce, and the couple's four children, Kay, 4, Peggy, 3, Karen, 2, and Matthias, six months. Some had been shot, the others' throats had been slashed.

Prothro quoted Swearson as saying: "The Lord told me to take their lives and that I would join them later."

Swearson, bloody from self-inflicted wounds and naked to the waist, was arrested as he drove toward town in the family station wagon. He told arresting officers he was going to church.

Frank C. Page, a neighbor and fellow worker on the Chief Joseph Dam construction project on the Columbia river near here, said the slayings occurred about 8:30 p.m.

Page said he heard shooting and screams and looking toward the Swearsons' home, saw Swearson, naked to the waist throw into the yard what he thought was a large doll.

A few moments later, Page said, the carpenter threw a second object into the yard, then ran to the yard and killed the family dog with a butcher knife.

The bodies of two of the children were found nearby.

Page and Jim King, another neighbor, called the sheriff. They said Swearson emerged from the house a short time later, climbed into his car and started for Bridgeport, three miles up the Columbia River.

Prothro, alerted by the sheriff, stopped the Swearson car about a mile south of the town. Swearson admitted to arrest without a struggle, crawled into the police car and was taken first to the Bridgeport hospital and then to the city jail.

Prothro said Swearson was treated at the hospital for a bullet wound in the head, a knife wound in the chest and a knife wound in the throat.

The chief said Swearson told him he had tried to shoot himself with the bullet in the sun and that he didn't work "I tried to cut my throat. Then I put the knife against my chest and tried to fall on it on the floor. Then I decided to go to church."

The Swearsons came here 18 months ago from Towner, N. D.

Woman Falls From Plane

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The door of a Pan American Airlines Stratocruiser blew open in flight Sunday and the sudden draft sucked an American-born woman out of her seat and to her death in the Atlantic ocean 12,000 feet below.

The victim was identified as Mrs. Marie Elizabeth Westbrook Capellaro, daughter of Mrs. Beattie Macchris of Los Angeles, Calif., and wife of Emilio Capellaro, a banker of Rome, Italy.

She was accompanying Capellaro on a business trip.

In Los Angeles, a spokesman for the woman's family said her mother knew she had planned to marry Capellaro but did not know the ceremony had taken place. He said the woman talked by telephone with her mother on Saturday and "did not say anything at that time about being married. I am sure she would have told her mother if she were."

He identified the victim as the widow of U. S. Air Force Col. Robert B. Westbrook, who was shot down during World War II.

The plane door blew off shortly after the takeoff from Rio de Janeiro, when the aircraft was 27 miles out on a flight to Montevideo, Uruguay.

Passengers and crew members said they did not see the woman disappear. Capellaro, sitting next to her, said he was smoking and not looking in her direction.

The woman's seat, next to a window and just forward of the door, was twisted and part of the cloth lining the ceiling of the cabin was ripped off.

The plane returned to Rio and three Brazilian Air Force planes were sent to search the area of the disappearance.

To All Mankind

Geo. N. Taylor

Next door and to all the world tell it that God had a Son who died for their sins. Tell them and then God comes in. By the Holy Spirit he bears down until they know they are lost and only Judgement Day and Eternal Hell ahead. To escape, let them receive Christ into their hearts as their only Lord and Savior. At that God blows out the record of their sins and gives them Eternal Life.

Then comes power to overcome old sins and such strength and peace in time of trouble as this world can never give. No man can go on to glory with sins written against him. But the blood of Jesus Christ washes clean the page smeared with sin. God's wish is that you should be saved. See Romans 5:2. Tell someone how to be saved and put that one on your prayer list.

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Wenger Admits Killing Charge

ASTORIA (AP) — Sheriff Paul Kearney said Sunday that Ward Wenger, 20, had admitted the slaying of his foster mother, Mrs. Marie Wenger, 47, here last July 10.

Kearney and Joseph Cooney, juvenile officer, arrived in Astoria with Wenger and the sheriff dictated a statement he said Wenger made on the trip from Paris, Tex. The statement was turned over to the district attorney's office.

In it, Kearney said, Wenger, charged with first degree murder, told him he waited behind a door for his foster mother to come home, then attacked her with a hammer. Kearney said the youth was "all mixed up" and could give no clear motive for his actions.

Kearney quoted Wenger as saying he took from his foster mother a purse \$20 he had paid her in room rent. The remainder of the \$35 he had when he left Astoria in his foster mother's car he had earned at a flour mill, he said.

Wenger was arrested in Clarksburg, Tex., after an automobile accident. He telephoned Astoria to ask his insurance agent to pay the repair bill. The agent notified police and Wenger was arrested.

He was jailed at Paris. Kearney drove the Wenger car back.

Woman Falls From Plane

PORTLAND (AP) — Striking CIO United Automobile Workers were to vote here Monday on a proposed settlement of their contract dispute with the International Harvester Co.

See Calhoun's MIRRORS for any room in the home! 237 E. Main.

WURLITZER A magnificent piano. Many lovely styles and finishes to choose from. LOUIS R. MANN PIANO CO. 120 No. 7th

Woman Dies As Chute Fails

BUDD LAKE, N. J. (AP) — A pretty mother, her parachute failing to open, plunged 2,500 feet to her death Sunday in an initiation for a parachuting club formed by her husband.

It was a scene of confusion and near-hysteria as 24-year-old Mrs. Dorothy Berard of Harrison tumbled from the small plane, clawed desperately at the parachute and finally fell in a cabbage patch.

"I killed her. I killed her," sobbed her grief-stricken husband, Joseph, who organized the Sky Divers Club, a parachuting-for- fun group. He collapsed when she fell.

About 700 spectators at the initiation exercises at Budd Lake airport shrieked and shouted for the woman to pull the ripcord as she hurtled to the ground. Many women fainted.

Just before Mrs. Berard, mother of a four-month-old daughter, went up, her husband defended refusing to let her make the jump because of a series of minor mishaps earlier.

But she reassured him by saying, "don't worry, honey, I'll be all right."

Berard is an ex-paratrooper with 74 jumps to his credit.

He made the first jump of the day and suffered bruises about the head.

A few minutes later, a small plane used by other club members crashed, but no one was hurt.

Then Mrs. Sarah Hazelett of Union jumped and was knocked unconscious when she hit her head while landing. Mrs. Berard's fatal plunge climaxed the series of accidents.

Said one of the members: "this ends the club forever."

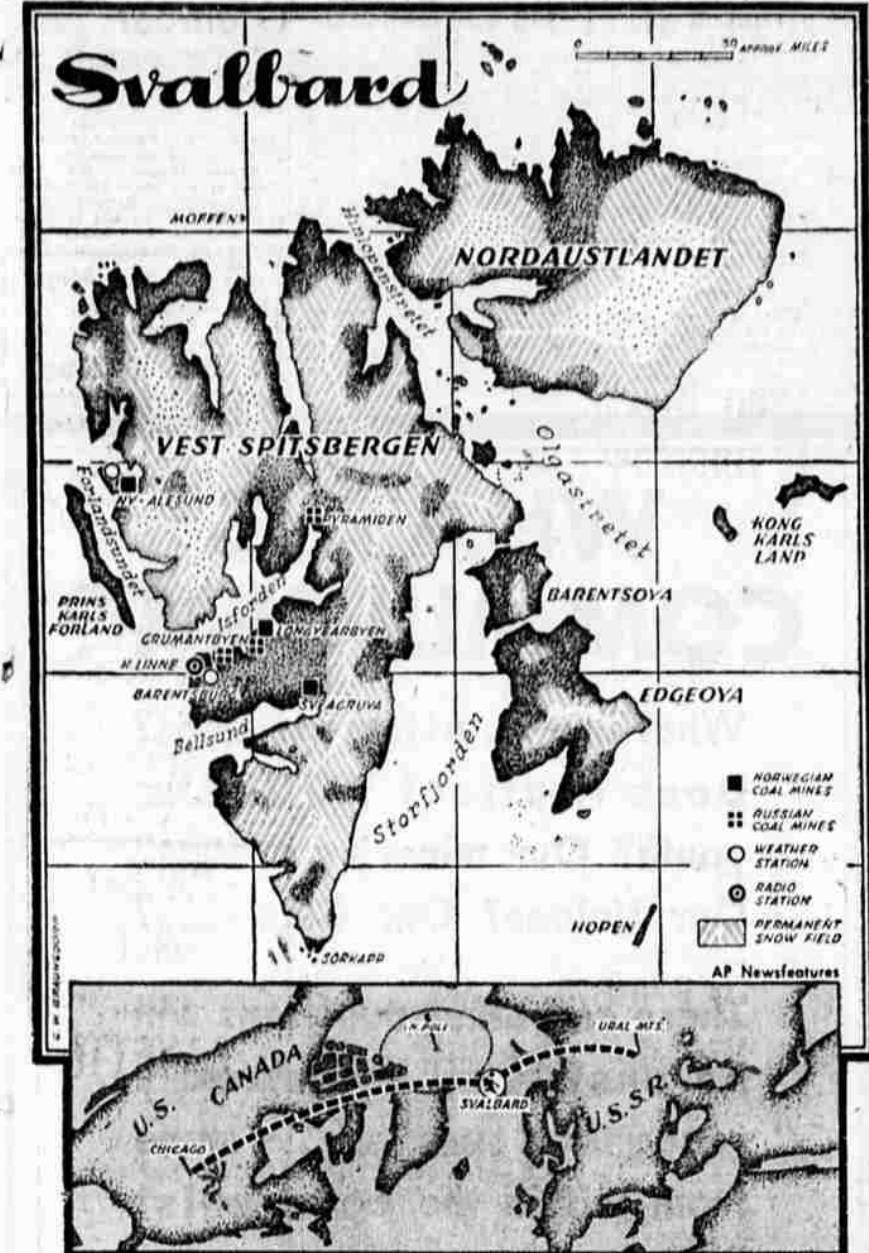
Wenger Admits Killing Charge

VOTE SCHEDULED

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Svalbard Called Strategic Spot In Air Routes Over The Arctic Ocean

A tiny group of far northern islands, almost unheard from for 30 years except briefly during World War II, is coming into new focus as East-West tension mounts.

The islands are the Svalbard group, formerly known as Spitsbergen. They are owned by Norway and lie some 500 miles due north of Norway in the Arctic Ocean.

Svalbard held little interest for anyone until around 1870, when Norway, Sweden and Russia began to put forth claims to it. There was several international conferences aimed at settling ownership, but nothing was accomplished until after World War I. Then title was bestowed on Norway.

An odd feature of the treaty was that subjects of all the powers signing it were given equal rights with Norwegians in the islands. The signatory powers were Great Britain and its dominions, France, Italy, the U.S., Japan, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, Germany and Russia signed later.

So far the Russians are the only ones to exercise the rights granted them under the treaty.

Dr. Lawrence M. Sommers, assistant professor of geography at Michigan State College, in an article in the magazine Scientific Monthly says there are two reasons for Russian interest.

One Soviet interest, says Dr. Sommers, is coal, which is also mined by the Norwegians. The Russians ship 100,000 to 125,000 tons a year back to Russia according to Norwegian reports.

This seems trifling in view of Russia's domestic coal production of 200 to 225 million tons a year. Dr. Sommers suggests a far more important interest in Svalbard's location on the Arctic air route from east to west.

"Soviet interest in the area," he writes in Scientific Monthly, "is evidenced by several unsuccessful attempts to sign a joint defense pact with Norway. Bases on Svalbard would lessen the Arctic air route distance between Sverdlovsk in the Ural mountains and Chicago, for example, by one fourth."

Government aviation experts in Washington say they know of no place in the mountainous islands suitable for air bases. There is not so much as a landing strip there now. There is air mail service, but the mail is dropped by parachute.

Dr. Sommers says, however, that there are limited but sufficient flat areas on the west and north coast of the group. He says these plains are generally marshy but believes this difficulty can be solved by modern engineering methods.

Specifically, Dr. Sommers says,

there is space around the town of Ny-Alesund, where one of the Norwegian coal mine is located, and on the flat valley floors around Longyearbyen, another Norwegian mine site. Other possibilities, he says, are Hopen Island, to the Southeast of the main group and Mofen Island, off the northern shore of Vest Spitsbergen, the principal island of the group.

The international treaty covering Svalbard prohibits any kind of military installation. Both Russia and Norway now operate radio stations there, and Norway has two weather stations.

Coal production on Svalbard shut down during the war, when the Germans occupied the islands. The Germans made little known effort to get coal back home by burning most of the mining and shipping installations and many other buildings.

By 1949 the Russians had returned nearly 2,500 persons to Svalbard, about twice as many as the Norwegians. There is a Russian consul at Pyramiden. Dr. Sommers says relations between the Russians and Norwegians are friendly.

Norway gets about 400,000 tons of coal a year from Svalbard, about a fourth of its requirements, all of which are imported. There is little activity other than mining on any of the islands—some hunting and trapping, a little whaling, no lumbering or farming. Fishing varies with conditions in the ocean, good some years, bad others. Some other minerals, gypsum, asbestos and iron ore particularly, have been found but not in important quantities. The climate is rigorous.

Woman Dies As Chute Fails

POW Deadlock Still Holds

MUNSAN, Korea (AP) — United Nations and Communist staff officers discussed minor wording differences in the Korean armistice document Monday but did nothing to solve the deadlock on prisoner exchange.

Prisoner exchange has bogged the plenary sessions, now recessed until Aug. 3.

The staff officers were in almost complete agreement on the first 50 paragraphs of the proposed armistice agreement.

The staff officers will meet again Tuesday at Pannunjom.

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