

TODAY'S 2-MINUTE MYSTERY

THE CASE OF THE SLEEPING DEER

By Donald J. Sobol

When Dr. Haledjian reached the scene of the fatal hunting accident, he found Sheriff Monahan already there.

"The dead man is H. Harvey Morton," said the sheriff. "He and his law partner, Bill Johnson, had been afield two hours when the tragedy struck. Johnson states he missed a shot at a buck, and the bullet pierced Morton's left temple."

Haledjian stooped by the body, which lay face downward, about ten feet from a low thicket. One hand still clutched a rifle. The wound, though messy, was clearly visible, as Morton was hatless.

"I guess I was over anxious," Johnson said remorsefully. "Harvey and I hunted together last year, and we bagged our limit by the second day. But we'd gone four days without a shot before we spotted this big buck."

"He was lying asleep in that little thicket," continued Johnson. "It was Harvey's turn — we always agree on who shoots first. I sneaked in closer believing Harvey was right behind me. But he must have crept in on the far side of the thicket."

"Well, the buck sensed us, because suddenly his legs rose and Harvey still didn't fire. The buck was ready to bolt, and I knew I'd have to shoot fast or lose the big fellow. I missed — and hit poor Harvey."

"Didn't Harvey wear a red hunting cap?" asked Haledjian. Johnson looked surprised. "Yes. He must have lost it in the woods somewhere."

Thanking the distraught hunter, Haledjian returned to the sheriff. "I'd check into the firm of Morton and Johnson," he advised. "I've a strong suspicion Johnson had good reason to kill his partner."

Why did Haledjian suspect Johnson?



"The buck was ready to bolt. I knew I'd have to shoot fast. I missed... and hit poor Harvey."

Johnson's story was clearly an invention. He said the buck rose first on his forelegs. Unfortunately for him, a deer gets off the ground by first using its hind legs.

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"A WHOPPER," they'd have told him if Bob Keffer told his friends he'd bought a 60-pound watermelon in Oklahoma during a recent vacation. So he returned with the evidence. Its twin weighed 58 pounds, and it took 15 people to clean it up during a picnic in Wyoming on the return trip. Keffer says some Oklahoma melons go 90 pounds.

BEN-GURION TO REST

JERUSALEM (UPI) — Premier David Ben-Gurion's doctors said today they have ordered him to rest for at least a week even though a checkup showed the 74-year-old Israeli leader was in good condition. He left for an undisclosed destination.

Reds Accuse Asia Nation Of Neutrality Violation

TOKYO (UPI) — Communist ed throughout the summer and clamor grew today against alleged Monday the Reds claimed to have captured "vast" amounts of U. S. military personnel.

One Communist broadcast heard in Tokyo condemned possible United Nations intervention in the former French colony and said the rebels would "fight to the end in defense of their country."

Battles between the Communist-led Pathet Lao Rebels and government forces have been reported.

said Monday Laos had violated its neutrality by bringing in U. S. military personnel.

Tass said a "serious threat of civil war" existed in Laos and that the responsibility for it "lies with the present government of Laos led by Premier Phoui San-anikone."

Tass said the U. S. military was in control of the Laotian army and that "under their direction military preparations are being carried out at high speed on the territory of Laos, such as the construction of airfields and landing strips."

An earlier broadcast by Peiping Radio said U. S. pilots were actively involved in the fighting between government and rebel troops.

In another development, Chinese Communist Foreign Minister Chen Yi issued a statement accusing the United States of exploiting the civil war in Laos to "poison" the international atmosphere.

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