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4 Say They Gave Tips in December Linking Starkweather to Colvert Case

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Authorities—Youth Not Questioned Until Capture

EXTRA

By DELBERT SNODGRASS and LEO SCHERER
Journal Staff Writers

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At least four Lincolnites say they gave law enforcement officials the name of Charles Starkweather and the description of his car early in December in connection with the Dec. 1 killing of Robert Colvert.

However, both Lincoln police and Lancaster County law officials say Starkweather was never questioned until apprehended in Wyoming by Wyoming law officials.

Mrs. Katherine Kamp, owner of the Clothing Re-sale and Gift Shop at 319 No. 12th, said that she called the Lincoln police on Dec. 2, 1957, asked to have a detective come over and gave him the description of Starkweather and his strange way of paying his bill in her store.

Her story is this:

Starkweather, a customer for at least two years, came in on Dec. 2 and purchased $9.55 in clothing, his biggest bill since starting to do business in the store.

Starkweather, she said, never before bought anything of much value. Usually the items were socks, undershorts and other minor things.

He asked the women if he could pay his bill in change. Mrs. Kamp said yes because she needed the change.

Starkweather paid the $9.55 in bills, quarters, nickles and dimes. Mrs. Kamp said that she didn't know his name although he had bought in the store for a long period of time.

The young couple bought gas for the 1949 black Ford and also rifle and shotgun shells at the Tate's Service Station south of Lincoln on U.S. 77 at about 1 p.m. Monday. A shotgun was seen in the car by the station attendant.

"The detective, I don't know his name, came into the store and I gave him a complete description of the boy, even the part about his broken glasses," she said.

"The detective was awful nice and asked me if I would know the youth if he brought over some pictures of possible suspects."

'Brought 3 Pictures'

"He brought over three different pictures, but none of them were the boy."

Mrs. Camp said the detective that visited her definitely was not Victor Wright or Lt. Robert Henzinger.

She could not identify pictures of the detectives who normally work the day shift, but said she could tell who it was if she saw him in person.

Other detectives on the day shift included Ben Fischer, Clarence Schwarz and Lt. Joe Harbaugh.

"I didn't hear again from the police but when I saw the picture of Starkweather this week in the newspaper I went back to the station.

Mrs. Kamp commented that Starkweather didn't seem out of the ordinary when he was in the store on Dec. 2.

"The thing that wasn't ordinary was how the boy paid his whole bill in that silver," she said.

Mrs. Kamp said she knew the Bartlett family pretty well because they used to do business in her store.

"I hemmed a dress recently for Mrs. Bartlett, but just let it out after the killing," she said sorrowfully.

"The family used to have their little baby, Betty Jean, (one of the victims), come over and kiss me good-bye when they left.

"I saw Caril (Fugate) come in with the family a few times and she seemed like a nice girl."

Mrs. Robert Colvert said she didn't know Starkweather and that her husband hadn't mentioned his name to her.

Vernon Dopp, manager of the service station where Colvert was employed, said that Robert McCling, a former employe, and Donald Anderson, an employe of the Lancaster Farm Service Co., which is across the street from the station, both provided descriptions of the youth to sheriff's deputies after the Colvert murder.

Dopp said that McCling told him that Starkweather had "hung around" the station during the late shift but nobody had encouraged him.

Continued on Page 2

Robert Colvert

Ford Starkweather drove to Bennet reported after Colvert death.

Lincoln Evening Journal

CITY EDITION ★ ★ ★ and Nebraska State Journal ★ ★ ★ CITY EDITION

FOUNDED IN 1867 — 91st Year No. 27 — LINCOLN 1, NEBRASKA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1958 — 3 SEVEN CENTS

Starkweather Details Murder Spree

Killer, Caril on Route Back to Slaying Scenes

Youth Avers Preference for Chair Over Wyoming's Gas Chamber

GERING (UP)—Accused killer Charles Starkweather has admitted murdering 11 persons in two states because of a "hatred that built up in me," authorities said.

"Since I was a child I wanted to be an outlaw, but I didn't want it to go this far," the 19-year-old Lincolnite told authorities.

Sheriff Merle Karnopp said Starkweather made the statements during their trip by car from Douglas, Wyo., to Gering.

Jurisdiction Waived

Earlier, Wyoming officials surrendered jurisdiction over Starkweather and his 14-year-old sweetheart, Caril Fugate, for prosecution in Nebraska.

Starkweather, a stocky, red-haired gunman, was captured Wednesday after a high speed chase near Douglas shortly after a traveling salesman had been killed.

Starkweather, and his teenage girl companion, Caril Fugate, left Gering at 10:10 a.m. (CST) Friday for a 430-mile automobile trip to Lincoln, where the pair will face **formal murder charges.**

Starkweather, still wearing the blood-stained shirt he had on when captured Wednesday near Douglas, Wyo., and wearing glasses was handcuffed and was wearing a heavy restraining belt, which kept his arms low.

The fugitives were in separate cars, each with three officers. One car was driven by a Lancaster County deputy sheriff, the other by Leo Knutson of the Patrol's criminal division in Scottsbluff. The Fugate girl was attended by Mrs. Merle Karnopp, wife of the Lancaster County sheriff.

All the officers wore from Nebraska. The Douglas contingent of authorities who captured and

Continued on Page 2

Police Manpower Lack Cited

Police Chief Joseph Carroll has said repeatedly that the Lincoln police force is seriously hampered from carrying out the duties required for a city the size of Lincoln because of the lack of manpower and huge turnover of the commissioned officers.

According to police statistics the department now has 95 commissioned officers compared to the authorized strength of 95 as allowed by a budget set by the city council.

The most recent Uniform Crime Reports published by the FBI says that cities the size of Lincoln have 1.9 police officers to every thousand persons according to national average, which means that if Lincoln were average the city would have 245 police officers compared to the present force less than half that size.

The National Safety Council said that Lincoln needed at least 80 more police officers.

According to Carroll's earlier statements, the shortage of men is not the department's only manpower problem, "because inadequate salaries make a police service training program necessary to be carried on all the year around, our service time to the public is cut down seriously."

Carroll has said that one experienced officer is worth two recruits and the police have worked with inexperienced men in many instances where they could not efficiently perform their duties.

Killer Gets Exercise at North Platte

NORTH PLATTE—Accused slayer Charles R. Starkweather said he did not force 14-year-old Caril Ann Fugate to accompany him during the time in which he says he killed 10 persons.

He said he was with her at the Marion Bartlett home last week end when relatives tried to enter the house but he added that he "didn't hold a gun on her or tell her what to say."

Starkweather, whose address was 425 N. 16th, said "she could have got away but didn't try" during their trip from Lincoln to Douglas, Wyo.

The Weather

Lincoln: Partly cloudy to fair through Saturday. Colder Friday night with low near 10. Fair to cold Saturday with high near 30.

LINCOLN TEMPERATURES

Official U.S. Weather Bureau Readings

4:00 a.m.	14	3:00 p.m.	32
5:00 a.m.	13	4:00 p.m.	32
6:00 a.m.	13	5:00 p.m.	31
7:00 a.m.	13	6:00 p.m.	31
8:00 a.m.	13	7:00 p.m.	30
9:00 a.m.	14	8:00 p.m.	29
10:00 a.m.	15	9:00 p.m.	28
11:00 a.m.	18	10:00 p.m.	27
12:00 noon (CST)	21	11:00 p.m.	26
1:00 p.m.	25	12:00 m.	26
2:00 p.m.	29	1:00 a.m.	25
3:00 p.m.	30	2:00 a.m.	25

High temperature a year ago 35, low 18. Record 7:01 p.m. sunrise, 5:30 p.m. sunset today. Sunset tomorrow, 5:31 p.m. Wind velocity at noon, 11 m.p.h. from north.

Relative humidity at 12:00 p.m. 84 per cent.

Precipitation: This month to date, 1.19 inches; normal to date, .98 of an inch. Total year to date, 1.19 inches; normal to date, .98 of an inch.

Snowfall: This month to date, 7 inches; winter season to date, 30.5 inches.

Roads Slick From Snow

Only Eastern Nebraska Affected

Lincoln Precipitation

24 hours at noon Friday

City ..... .89 Air Base ..... .17

Snow fell over a wide area of Nebraska Friday, causing treacherous highway conditions in the Lincoln, Omaha and Norfolk areas.

The State Safety Patrol reported at noon Friday that highways east of York were still ice-covered and dangerous. West of York, roads were generally normal, with most snow and ice off the roads.

Heavy at Norfolk

Heaviest snowfall was recorded in the Norfolk area, where more than four inches fell. Omaha had a little over three inches and Valentine reported two.

Three inches were on the ground at the Lincoln Air Force Base, while only one inch fell in the city.

Winds increased driving difficulty. Gusts up to 35 mph were reported in Sidney and Beatrice, and gusts over 30 mph were recorded throughout the state.

The snow packed heavy moisture. Norfolk's four inches accounted for one-third of an inch. The air base had 17 with its three inches of snowfall.

Mercury to Fall

A cold front followed the snow as it diminished Friday afternoon. Temperatures will fall to the teens Friday night, with highs in the 30s predicted for Saturday.

More snow may fall Saturday in Nebraska, but it will be scattered and light, according to the Weather Bureau.

Valentine and Norfolk shared the state overnight low of 14, while Imperial had Thursday's state high of 57. Lincoln had a Thursday high of 36. The mercury dropped to 17 early Friday morning.

BARTLETT FUNERAL—Relatives of the Bartlett family gather around the caskets at funeral services Friday for Mr. and Mrs. Marion Bartlett and their daughter two-year-old Betty Jean. Shown are (left foreground) Mrs. Robert Von Busch, daughter of Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Patsy Street, mother of Mrs. Bartlett with handkerchief to her face.

Minister Ponders at Rites

In Murders, 'Are We All to Blame?'

"It is a blot of shame on the history of Lincoln."

This was the Rev. George Kuhn speaking of the 19 killings at the funeral of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Bartlett and their daughter Betty Jean, Friday.

Calling the murders committed in the Lincoln area during the past week as the "greatest and most ruthless in the history of Lancaster County and probably the nation," the Rev. Mr. Kuhn said that "we must all share in the grief and pain and sorrow, and must unitedly pray that our community shall never see the day of such tragic occurrences again."

Posing a question to the schools, churches, community and Starkweather's parents, the Rev. Mr. Kuhn asked, "have we met our responsibilities?"

"The great question to me as a minister," the Rev. Mr. Kuhn said, "is the one posed by the parents of Charles Starkweather, when they said 'We can't understand how he could do it.'"

The Rev. Mr. Kuhn said the answer to the question is a "mystery for everyone of us and is beyond our comprehension."

"I would say to the parents," the minister continued, "that they should consider if it wouldn't have been wiser to take their child and train him in the way of the Lord instead of training him to be a sharpshooter that boasts he could hit the head of his prey every time?"

Following the short funeral service the two coffins, one containing the body of Mr. Bartlett, the other of Mrs. Bartlett and Betty Jean, were buried in the snow-covered ground in Wyuka Cemetery.

Funerals of other murder victims held Friday were the 2 p.m. services for Lillian Fencl, 34, the C. Lauer Wards' maid at the Erickson Funeral Home in Wahoo.

The funeral of Carol King, 16, and Robert Jensen, 17, was held at the Bennet Community Church at 2 p.m. The funeral of August Meyer, 70, was held at the Trinity Lutheran Church near Walton at 3 p.m.

The funeral of C. Lauer Ward, 48, and his wife, Clara Ward will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Preparing Number 3?

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some officials reported the Russians are about ready to put a third, bigger Soviet earth satellite into orbit.

These authorities said, however, that it may be a test of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

It appeared to indicate one or both of these possibilities:

1. The United States is seeking to take the edge off any Soviet announcement of a successful launching.

2. It may be involved in a bit of psychological warfare. If the Soviets fail to announce the firing of a missile within a few days, it could be called a failure similar to those which have plagued the American satellite program.

Your Income Tax

Page 6

★ Where Now in U.S. Education? ★

Lower Grades Pitch Into Science, Too

Since the Russians sent the first satellite aloft, many Americans have wondered whether our own educational system was adequate. The AP found signs of grass roots attention to science on the lower level.

By CHARLES L. STAFFORD
AP Newfeatures Writer

Blissfully unaware, the parents in the auditorium of a Salt Lake City school watched an incident in a peaceful revolution.

It was an ordinary occasion, the annual play by the sixth grade of Franklin School. They expected the ordinary thing—Columbus discovering America, or perhaps Christmas in foreign lands.

The parents were startled when they heard the boom of a rocket blast-off. Then faintly, on the waves of an imaginary radio, they heard their children's voices. The youngsters announced proudly that they were on their way to the moon.

Tuning in on the trip on "interplanetary television," the parents laughed at the boy who had forgotten his magnetic shoes and kept hitting the ceiling of the space ship. They saw their children demonstrate the weakness of moon gravity by jumping over mountains. They learned that temperatures on the moon range from 200 degrees during the day to 200 below at night.

Change Is Begun

This imaginary moon trip was a clue to a revolution which promises to alter the course of American education.

A nationwide survey of teachers, principals and administrators found that the art of teaching science is being given new birth.

A gentle swell in educational circles for a half decade, the new emphasis on test tube and triangle, physical theory and the atom became a nationwide tidal wave in the weeks after the Russians launched the first man-made satellite.

At the national and state levels, educators are talking of plans and studies. But in cities and individual schools—as in Salt Lake City's Franklin School—the change has begun.

Thirteen hundred miles southeast of Salt Lake City, Miss Smith performs a simple experiment for her first grade in a San Angelo, Tex. school. Some how she got through teachers' college without exposure to a single science course.

Teachers

But she doesn't fumble. She works on a "science table" where the needed equipment has been placed in proper order. Carefully detailed cards lead her through the experiment.

This is the San Angelo plan for whetting the science appetite of the youngest student while aiding the teacher with his scientific limitations.

In the high school at Melbourne, Fla., talented students labor to learn among residue from the scene of a failure. The science laboratory is equipped with surplus equipment from the missile test center at nearby Cape Canaveral. It was there the United States failed Dec. 6 to launch a satellite.

Continued on Page 10

Martin Promises

Thorough Investigation

Mayor Martin said he had asked for a report in writing from Chief of Police Joe Carroll and Safety Director Emmert Jonge on the Colvert murder police work.

Mayor Martin announced that in addition to this report that there would be a thorough investigation of the police handling of all of these murders by the City.

'Police Work Review To Continue'–Mayor

More Reports to Be Studied; Martin Not Offering Criticism

Continued investigation of Lincoln police activities in the handling of the Starkweather murders was promised Friday by Mayor Bennett Martin.

Martin said reports would continue to be given the City Council when Lancaster County and Lincoln law enforcement officers return to Lincoln.

"We will continue to make available all information concerning the case to the council," he said.

After a special session of the mayor and the council in which the activities of Lincoln police in the Starkweather case were reviewed, Martin said, however, he felt the department should not be criticized.

The mayor said he believed the reports of the returning law enforcement officials, now bringing Starkweather back to Lincoln, might provide a clearer picture of the investigation.

The first three reports given the council were:

1. Details of the first investigation of the house at 924 Belmont (Bartlett home) by police officials at 9:25 p.m. Saturday.

2. Capt. Harbaugh's report on a complaint by Robert Von Busch.

3. A report by Detectives George Hansen and Ben Fischer on their Monday morning investigation of the Bartlett home.

Questions still being asked in the series of murders include:

—Why didn't police find the bodies in Belmont Saturday?

—Were all complaints of the families involved fully investigated?

—Could the senseless killings have been ended at just three?

—Why were no physical roadblocks (barricades) set between Lincoln and Bennet after three bodies were discovered nea Bennet Tuesday?

—Why were Starkweather and Miss Fugate able to travel nearly the length of the state after a nationwide alarm?

—Why were the wanted pair always several hours ahead of law enforcement agencies?

Letters of appreciation were sent by the mayor to the FBI, sheriffs from 16 counties, four chiefs of police, the National Guard, the Nebraska Safety Patrol, Penitentiary guards and University of Nebraska police. All took an active part in the search for Starkweather.

'Bank Robbery' Story Checked

Lincoln police have traced all available leads in connection with Caril Fugate's statement that several boys were in the Bartlett home planning a bank robbery after the family had been killed.

Chief of Police Joseph Carroll said all the known associates of Starkweather have been checked as to their whereabouts and activities on the days when Starkweather and three other youths allegedly plotted to rob a Lincoln bank using the Bartlett home as "headquarters."

Carroll added that it has not been established whether or not the story given by Caril is true.

The 14-year-old girl told authorities that the three boys who were planning the bank robbery with Starkweather "chickened out."

After the boys left the Bartlett home, Caril told the authorities, she was left alone in the house with Starkweather.

Police say that they are awaiting further information before they continue the investigation of the bank plot.

Police Report On Belmont Trip

Page 14

Officials Comment On 'Tips'

Others Give Views On Police Probe

Here is comment from city police and county officials on the questions raised concerning the Robert Colvert investigation:

Police Chief Joe Carroll, commenting on the alleged clothing store incident and Starkweather's purchase, said:

"I have been double checking on this and as yet am unable to find an earlier report than the one I got yesterday (Thursday)."

"The name Starkweather was never mentioned in these earlier records.

In regard to the description of the black Ford that was reportedly given to the police:

"Our officers were given a description of this car."

Lancaster County Merle Karnopp was bringing Starkweather back to Lincoln from Scottsbluff Friday morning and was not available for comment.

Karnopp was not expected to arrive in Lincoln until about 6 p.m.

Leslie C. Hasson, chief deputy sheriff: "All the information on leads (in the Colvert slaying) that we received and checked out is in the hands of the sheriff and county attorney."

Hasson said he "never heard" of Starkweather until after the triple slaying of the Marion Bartlett family in Lincoln.

Hasson also said a pickup order had been issued at one time for a black Ford with its tail light out, but added he did not recall details of the case.

Dahlberg Bros. Auto Repair Service at 4140 So. 14th, where the Starkweather car is being held, said the right rear tail light isn't broken out.

Hasson said he had "nothing to say in that regard" when asked if sheriff's deputies have complained of low pay or long working hours. This has long been a major criticism from Lincoln police officers and firemen.

Other persons pointed out that some 22 persons were questioned in connection with Colvert's killing and that many of that number were given lie detector tests.

Sheriff Karnopp made a public appeal shortly after the killing for anyone having any information on persons known to frequent the Crest station to report to law officials.

Chief Dep. Co. Atty. Dale Fahrnbruch said Starkweather's name had not been mentioned "to my knowledge."

All employes and former employes at the Crest service station, as well as most of the people in the station's area, were interviewed about the Colvert case, he said.

"I can't say at this time," the deputy continued, if a car identical to Starkweather's was included in the group of those checked."

Fahrenbruch said Donald Anders-

Continued on Page 2

Pastor Recovering

TOBIAS — The Rev. Edward Beckley, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church south of Tobias, is reported recovering favorably at his home after collapsing in his pulpit during a service.

Inside You'll Find

Comics ..... 18 Sports 11, 12
Deaths ..... 14 Statistics 14
Editorial ..... 4 Theaters 13
Lincoln ..... 2, 7 Want Ads 15-17
Markets ..... 14 Wire 3, 8, 9, 10
Mere Mention 3 Women 6
Nebraska ..... 5 What To Do 3
Radio 5

Ice Cream Special!

Cherry Streak—½ gal. 89c. It's fresher when you serve it 'Cause it's fresher when you buy it at Wendelin Baking Co., 1430 South. Open daily, 7 a.m.-10 p.m.—Adv.

Say Folks Disney's

"Old Yeller" is now at your State Theater, it's great entertainment for entire family.—Adv.

At Hovland-Swanson

Last day to save during our pre-inventory sale! We'll take inventory Sunday of all of our remaining fall stock—Saturday is your last day to save on Coats, Dresses, Accessories, All terifically priced. Sportswear separates now $6 and $8. Children's wear, lingerie and shoes ½ price. Saturday! Last Day! At Hovlands.—Adv.

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