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The Lincoln Star (Lincoln, Nebraska) · Fri, Jan 31, 1958 · Page 1
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NEBRASKA: Snow across state Friday; heavy snow warning extreme east, 3 to 6 inches ending Friday night; colder Friday night; partly cloudy Saturday; highs Friday 20s north and east to 30s southwest.

THE LINCOLN STAR

Fire 2-2222 | Telephone 2-1234 | Police 2-2841

FIFTY-SIXTH YEAR No. 186 | LINCOLN, NEB., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 31, 1958 | SEVEN CENTS

COLVERT SLAYING ADMITTED

Starkweather Being Returned Here

—'Only The Beginning'—

Space-Age Bases Voted

Senate Passes $549,570,000 Bill Starting New Launching Sites, SAC Projects

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Thursday rushed through a bill authorizing $549,570,000 for space age defense bases. Sen. Jackson (D-Wash) declared "the American people should realize this is only the beginning of a very large defense authorization program."

The legislation would permit an immediate start on new launching sites for ballistic missiles, greater dispersal facilities for planes of the Strategic Air Command (SAC) and similar construction projects.

Coming up behind the authorization bill is an emergency $1,410,000,000 defense appropriations measure. This will provide the actual money for the construction work as well as funds for a bigger missile program and more atomic submarines.

The $549,570,000 bill, passed by voice vote, now goes back to the House, which passed it several weeks ago, for action on several changes made by the Senate. The amount of money authorized is not in dispute.

Only nine senators were on the floor at the time the bill was passed.

One change would permit the Secretary of the Air Force to shift locations of the proposed SAC bases and give him limited authority to transfer up to 15 per cent of certain funds.

'Vital Target'

Sen. Stennis (D-Miss), floor manager for the bill, criticized the locations planned for some of the bases because he said they were close to large populations or industrial areas. He said one proposed base already is "a vital strategic target" and that adding a SAC squadron there would be "doubling the attractiveness of the installation as a target."

Another change made by the Senate was to strike out a House rider which would authorize the Secretary of Defense to set up his new Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA). Stennis said the rider was not germane to a construction bill.

The emergency authorization and appropriation bills would give an extra spurt of speed to the missile program in advance of the regular defense budget for the fiscal year starting July 1.

The Senate Appropriations Committee completed closed-door hearings on the appropriations measure Thursday and scheduled a vote for 10 a.m. (EST) Friday.

One of the last witnesses before the committee was Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, deputy chief of the Air Force, who was reported to have called again for a stepup in production of B-52 bombers, long-range jet planes.

There is no provision for increased B-52 production in the emergency bill. Senators said, however, that LeMay and other Air Force witnesses supported the legislation as far as it went.

Sen. Jackson (D-Wash) also urged a bomber buildup as one of the things "we need to do immediately to stay alive."

In a Senate speech generally critical of the administration's defense efforts, Jackson said production of the new B-58 medium bomber should be stepped up. The supersonic B-58 is made by Convair at Fort Worth, Tex.

Cops Find Two Children Penned In Trailer Cages

YAKIMA, Wash. (AP) — A tip from a television repairman led police to a makeshift trailer house, where officers found two children penned in cage-like beds.

Deputy Sheriff Jack Runyon, who found the children, said their parents locked them and a younger child in the beds at night. He said the mother, Ruth J. Mott, 38, also told him she often put the children in the beds to get them out of the way when she had work to do in the cramped trailer.

Delicious . . . Anytime

Klein's tasty, fresh baked goods and pastries. 821 So. 11th. Open everyday 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.—Adv.

Two Dead, Pair Hurt At Omaha

Impact Sends Car Through 3 Fences

OMAHA (AP) — Two persons were fatally injured and two others hospitalized as the result of a car crash just west of Omaha Thursday evening.

The dead were Ernest Pavel, 40, of Omaha, and Jerry Suey, 20, of Gretna.

Injured were Harold Peterson, 24, of Omaha and Don Rasmussen, 19, of Gretna.

The State Safety Patrol said the crash occurred at the 132nd and Pacific streets intersection with an impact that sent one car through three fences.

The two deaths brought to 19 the number of traffic fatalities in Nebraska this year, twice as many as on this date a year ago.

Snowfall May Hit 6 Inches

Eastern Nebraska is expected to receive three to six inches of snow by Friday evening, according to the Weather Bureau's heavy snow warning for the area.

Central and western Nebraska were slated to receive lighter snow from the storm which began Thursday night.

Weather officials warned that the near-freezing temperatures predicted for Friday combined with the continuing snowfall is likely to result in hazardous driving conditions.

Slippery

A coating of ice beneath the accumulating snowfall resulted in very slippery streets and highways in some sections of the state Thursday night.

Temperatures were expected to drop Friday night with slowly decreasing cloudiness and winds beginning Saturday.

The state high of 55 was recorded at Imperial Thursday, while Omaha had the low of 16.

Lincoln's high was 34, its low 22.

Canaveral Worker Is Suspended

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla (AP) — An aircraft worker connected with the Atlas missile test program has been suspended for two weeks without pay for "loose talk," the Air Force disclosed Thursday.

The Air Force also said other cases of suspected security violations involving employes of various missile contractors are being reviewed.

Lt. Col Sam Bruno, security officer at the missle test center, said all contractors involved in missile testing have increased their program for security education and security indoctrination.

The Pleasant Way . . .

to take your vitamins & minerals . . . Meadow Gold HI-Vitamin Milk . . . loaded with good health! At your store or at your door.—Adv.

Starkweather (right) led to car by Karnopp for return to Nebraska.

Council Members Back Police

By VIRGIL FALLOON
Star Staff Writer

Comments of City Council members, who met Thursday afternoon concerning the handling of "Case #B99553," summed up to a vote of confidence for the Lincoln Police Department.

"B99553" began last Saturday, 9:25 p.m., as a complaint that relatives had been refused entrance to a 924 Belmont residence.

After some two days treatment as a "more or less routine" complaint, the case was to gain later prominence as "the most shocking series of murders in Nebraska history."

In opening remarks, Mayor Bennett Martin said he called the special meeting to "make available the facts and reports of the investigating officers to the Council and the public."

Meeting with the Council were Safety and Welfare Director Emmett Junge and Police Chief Joe Carroll.

Reports Given Out

Copies of reports by the investigating officers were distributed to

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 4.)

Wyoming Officers Congratulated

Converse County Sheriff Earl Heflin of Douglas, Wyo., received Thursday the following telegram from Walter W. White, publisher of The Lincoln Star:

"I humbly offer to you and your men my sincere thanks for doing a job at which our police force proved inadequate. Our community owes you a real debt of gratitude."

The congratulatory wire referred to the capture of Charles Starkweather by the Wyoming officers.

The Weather

NEBRASKA: Heavy snow warning in extreme east Friday with accumulations of three to six inches; colder Friday with scattered light snow west and central; decreasing cloudiness west and mostly cloudy east Friday with occasional snow flurries extreme east Friday night; colder Friday night; partly cloudy Saturday; Friday highs 20s north and east to 30s southwest.

KANSAS: Considerable cloudiness Friday and Friday night with scattered light snow northwest; turning colder east with snow flurries ending east Friday night; colder Friday night; highs Friday 30 north to 45 extreme southeast.

Lincoln Temperatures

1:30 a.m. (Thur)	27	2:30 p.m.	33
2:30 a.m.	26	3:30 p.m.	34
3:30 a.m.	25	4:30 p.m.	34
4:30 a.m.	24	5:30 p.m.	32
5:30 a.m.	23	6:30 p.m.	32
6:30 a.m.	22	7:30 p.m.	32
7:30 a.m.	23	8:30 p.m.	32
8:30 a.m.	25	9:30 p.m.	32
9:30 a.m.	29	10:30 p.m.	32
10:30 a.m.	30	11:30 p.m.	33
11:30 a.m.	32	12:30 a.m. (Fri)	31
12:30 p.m.	33	1:30 a.m.	31
1:30 p.m.	34	2:30 a.m.	30

High temperature one year ago 33; low 18.
Sun rises 7:20 a.m.; sets 5:43 p.m.
Moon rises 2:15 p.m.; sets 4:13 a.m.
Normal January precipitation .82 inches.
Total January precipitation to date 1.08 inches.
Total 1958 precipitation to date 1.08 inches.

Nebraska Temperatures

	H	L		H	L
Lincoln	34	22	Imperial	55	17
Airport	35	18	Sidney	54	18
Norfolk	32	17	Scottsbluff	49	22
Grand Island	38	19	Chadron	38	17
North Platte	45	20	Omaha	30	16

Temperatures Elsewhere

	H	L		H	L
Atlanta	53	30	Los Angeles	65	53
Bismarck	18	10	Memphis	58	39
Boston	43	36	Miami	68	51
Chicago	27	21	Milwaukee	27	20
Cincinnati	42	22	Mpls-St. Paul	29	13
Cleveland	35	26	Moline	25	17
Denver	55	30	New Orleans	64	40
Des Moines	28	18	New York	44	35
Detroit	31	26	San Diego	65	54
Fargo	15	6	San Francisco	59	48
Fort Worth	66	35	Seattle	46	37
Indianapolis	35	20	Tampa	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jacksonville	57	39	Washington	46	34
Kansas City	40	33	Winnipeg	10	-4

Relatives Meet Victims' Son

Michael Ward, 14, is greeted at Lincoln airport by aunts Mrs. Gilbert Reynolds (back to camera) and Mrs. Phil Sidles and uncle Carl Olson. (Star Photo.)

Michael Ward Comes Home —Still In A State Of Shock

Michael Ward, 14-year-old son of murder victims Mr. and Mrs. C. Laurer Ward, arrived at Lincoln airport Thursday afternoon "still in a state of shock."

He was greeted by close relatives and hurried off to the home of an aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Sidles. Michael, who attends Choate School in Wallingford, Conn., was accompanied by the Rev. David Gracey.

"The boy took the flight well," the Rev. Mr. Gracey said, "but he is in a state of shock since the impact hasn't yet hit him."

The Rev. Mr. Gracey, who is pastor of St. Paul Episcopal Church in Waterbury, Conn., was pastor of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Lincoln from 1948-56.

Mr. Ward was a vestryman at Holy Trinity.

Youth's Oral Confession Solves Dec. 1 Murder

Admission Comes During Trip Back; Fugitives Held For Night At Gering

Robert Colvert

GERING, Neb.—Nineteen-year-old Charles Starkweather of Lincoln, who admittedly shot, knifed and clubbed 10 victims to death on a murderous rampage which ended Wednesday, orally confessed his eleventh slaying Thursday night, the Dec. 1 killing of Lincoln service station attendant Robert Colvert, Lancaster County Sheriff Merle Karnopp said.

Karnopp said the youth admitted all 11 murders while en route from Douglas, Wyo., to Gering, where he and his 14-year-old companion, Caril Fugate, are being held overnight.

Karnopp quoted Starkweather as saying, "I always wanted to be a criminal but not this big a one." The sheriff said the youth told him he "wasn't mad at anyone," but just wanted to "be somebody."

The youth showed no sign of remorse during the trip, Karnopp said.

The sheriff said Starkweather talked freely and cool as a cucumber as they rode in the back seat of one of the two cars making up the caravan.

"I have never seen a more vicious mad killer who could talk so cool and collected," said Karnopp.

Starkweather, he said, declared he had a hatred that just built up inside himself.

Karnopp said Starkweather had little to say about Caril except that she had no part in the slayings.

Bent On Robbery

The Lincoln law officer said Starkweather, in relating the Lincoln filling station attendant slaying, declared he hadn't meant to kill anybody when he entered the station bent on robbery.

Starkweather said he forced the attendant, Robert Colvert, into a car at gun point and drove into the country.

Karnopp said Starkweather related he was wearing a handkerchief over his face and that Colvert grabbed for it and Starkweather killed him.

Karnopp said he asked Starkweather why the three members of Caril's family, Marion Bartlett, his wife, Velda, and their two-year old daughter had been killed and Starkweather replied he "argued with Bartlett." Beyond that Starkweather would say little, Karnopp stated.

Only Handcuffs

The red-headed youth was bound only in handcuffs during the trip. Miss Fugate was not handcuffed.

At the Scotts Bluff County jail Karnopp asked Starkweather if he was tired and wanted to get a good sleep. He said Starkweather replied "I slept like a log last night."

Starkweather had a meal of scrambled eggs and bacon before he went to bed Thursday night.

A doctor was called in to see if Caril needed any medical attention and she, too, had a meal of eggs and bacon.

The pony-tailed 14-year-old was given a sedative by a Gering physician and lodged in a separate—and less sturdy—cell.

First Slaying

Starkweather's 11th confession Thursday night—that of what was the first of his ugly admitted slayings—apparently closed the lid on the investigation into the Colvert case.

The 21-year-old attendant had been on night duty at the Crest Service Station on Cornhusker Highway.

Information had been developed this week that Starkweather borrowed the shotgun of his brother, Rodney, several days before Colvert's death and returned the weapon a day or so afterwards, according to Lincoln officials.

Also, it has been disclosed that the redhead was acquainted with Colvert and "had slept a number of times at the service station."

Colvert's body was found on a county road north of Lincoln Dec. 1. He had been shot in the head and robbed of some $160 in station receipts.

His expectant wife was among the survivors.

Today's Chuckle

Notice on plant bulletin board: "Please don't miss any more days from work. We can afford it, but the government can't afford the loss of the deduction from your pay check."

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.

★ ★ ★ ★

Pair On Way Home To Trial

By DEL HARDING
Star Staff Writer

DOUGLAS, Wyo.—Accused mass murderer Charles Starkweather and girl friend Caril Fugate left Wyoming by separate cars Thursday evening for Nebraska and eventual trial for first degree murder.

Converse County Attorney William Dixon had waived his jurisdiction over the couple a few hours earlier.

The youths, accompanied by law officials from Nebraska and Wyoming, arrived in Gering Thursday evening for an overnight stopover at the Scotts Bluff County Jail.

The accused slayers are to arrive in Lincoln late Friday afternoon.

Lancaster County Sheriff Merle Karnopp said on arrival in Lincoln Starkweather will be taken directly to the Nebraska State Penitentiary for safekeeping.

He said Caril will probably be held in the county detention home.

The 14-year-old girl, who both youths claim was not a willing participant in the slayings, will still face murder charges, Lancaster County Attorney Elmer Scheele indicated Thursday night.

Flew In

Six Lancaster County lawmen had flown into Casper, Wyo., about noon Thursday in an Air National Guard C-47. After conferences, Converse County authorities decided to waive their right to hold Starkweather, who is charged in Douglas with the murder of a 34-year-old Great Falls, Mont., salesman, Merle Collison.

Karnopp and Scheele then arranged to have Douglas sheriff's deputies drive Starkweather and Caril to Lincoln after the couple had said they did not wish to fly.

Karnopp, Safety Patrol Capt. Harold Smith, Patrol Sgt. Gerald Tesch and a Douglas deputy took Starkweather in one car and Lincoln Police Detective Lt. Robert Henninger, Converse County Sheriff Earl Heflin and his wife accompanied the 14-year-old girl in the other car.

Sheriff Karnopp's wife will meet the motoring party at Gering Friday morning and will accompany Caril to Lincoln. The Converse County Sheriff and his wife will return to Wyoming from Gering.

Starkweather, 19, smoking a cigarette and looking sullen, was escorted to the car here amid the flash of dozens of flash bulbs and surrounded by about 30 newsmen from throughout the country. A woman correspondent of the London Mirror had even flown in from New York to cover his capture.

Hair Pinned Up

Caril left the jail wearing lipstick, her hair pinned up and wearing black slacks, a red short-sleeved blouse and a gray car coat. She had cried off and on most of Thursday in her cell here but appeared calm as she was led to the car which will take her back to Nebraska to face a first degree murder charge along with Starkweather.

Both Caril and Starkweather have told Wyoming authorities that she had no part in the killings. She claims to have been held hostage by Starkweather since Jan. 21st.

She told lawmen here that she witnessed the 10 killings Starkweather is alleged to have committed in the past weeks.

The flame-haired former garbage collector will be placed on trial for his life in once-quiet Lincoln which had been transformed with bloody abandon this week into a shocked and terrified community.

Starkweather has orally admitted the series of 10 heinous slayings to Lincoln authorities and an 11th slaying Dec. 1, officials said.

Sheriff Heflin said he has obtained a hand-written statement from Starkweather "about as long as a rope." He refused to elaborate on its contents.

Charge Drop 'Not Likely'

"It is not likely the charge will be dropped against the girl," Scheele said. He also indicated that a federal charge of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution may be lodged against Starkweather, as well as the murder charge.

Karnopp and Henninger conferred with Starkweather and it was believed that they will attain a written statement from him concerning the series of murders.

Starkweather and his 14-year-old companion have thus far been specifically charged with murder in the slaying of 16-year-old Carol King, Bennet high school junior, whose body was found in an abandoned storm cellar some three miles east of Bennet late Tuesday afternoon.

Her body was found alongside that of her companion, Robert Jensen, 17, of Bennet only a few hours after officials discovered the slain body of 70-year-old bachelor farmer August Meyer near Bennet.

Detective Lt. Henninger conferred with Starkweather for two hours and 25 minutes Thursday morning. Henninger reported Starkweather gave him verbal admissions to the 10 slayings which occurred in the past week and that he indicated he also was involved in the Colvert case.

Henninger reported, however, that Starkweather firmly denied sexually attacking Carol King.

Henninger reported Starkweather backs up the earlier statement of his girlfriend, Caril Fugate, that he killed Caril's mother, stepfather and two-year-old half-sister, Jan. 21. Henninger said this conflicts with Lincoln police information as to the time of their death.

Starkweather went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Lauer Ward of 2843 So. 24th early Tuesday morning, Henninger said. He apparently spent the day in the home and killed Ward when he came home from work. When he admittedly killed Ward's wife and housekeeper Lillian Fencl, was not clear, Henninger said.

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