Search For 3 Lost Scouts Called Off

2 Tiny Clues Uncovered On Icy Mt. Baldy

Sheriff, Army Pull Workers Off Mountain Until 5-Foot Snow Drifts On Peak Melt

By DON CARSON

More than 400 men left the Santa Rita Mountains empty-handed last night as a giant search for three lost Boy Scouts was all but abandoned.

Remaining behind was a force of eight official searchers and two possible clues as to the boys—Mike Early, N. Michael Lahno, 13, and David Greenberg, 12—all local leges.

Early yesterday morning—just 400 yards from the safety of the ranger cabin near the summit of the mountain—two unknown searchers discovered that the boys might have been overwhelmed in their quest for warmth during a howling blizzard on Nov. 13.

The fire-making tools were found. Two switch-blades above the last of the four trail markings. The belief left was by the three youngsters.

Today Range Deputy Guy Hill, who assisted Sheriff James Clark during the eighth-night search, will lead seven other men back to the switch-blades for a closer inspection of the area.

Riding with Hill was the 4,201-foot peak will be Gen. Frank Warran and B. C. Ridley. They will be joined by Parks Engineer Arnold Keeler and Levi Jackson and Ranger Jack Anderson. Two other rangers are expected to meet the group at the top.

Known search groups go-
ing into the area will include the fathers of two of the boys—Bruce Lahno and John Early—David Greenberg said he would return to his job.

Patapsco Tower Mike Ringrave will not return today because of a cattle shipment. He will climb the rugged slopes again to-morrow.

A group of Modern Canyon residents also plan to continue the search tonight if the boys have been found. This contingent includes Matt Schkoker, owner of the Sierra Rita Lodge, Art Williams, Jack Anderson and Les Jackson.

There are a few dangerous and difficult inaccessible points in that mountain,” Schkoker said. “We have the area and we’ll be able to lower a man by rope into some of the undesirable areas.”

Yesterday’s warm sun continued to melt the heavy snow from the sides of the mountain. The steep canyons and gorges are covered by drifts five feet.

“If the weather stays good,” Sheriff Clark, “we’ll come back with 10 men when the snow melts.

“Right now, though,” he explained, “there’s no reason to continue such a gigantic hunt.”

A special mass for the welfare of the three boys was said late yesterday.