



## Where The Hunt Is Centered

This is the rugged face of Mt. Baldy, 40 miles south of Tucson in the Santa Rita Mountains, where the search for three Tucson Boy Scouts enters its sixth day today. Baldy is laced with huge rock outcroppings and is pitted with gullies and canyons. (Aerial photo by Jack Sheaffer)

### Search For Scouts Enters 6th Day

# Bloodhounds Find Scent That May Lead To Trio

## But Tracker Doesn't Want To Raise Hopes

By DON CARSON

The fate of three Boy Scouts lost Saturday in a snowstorm on the slopes of Mt. Baldy may be learned today.

Bloodhounds, handled by search experts Russ Cone and Tom Cox, yesterday picked up a scent that may solve the riddle of what happened to the young Tucsonans.

The three boys—Mike Early, 16, David Greenberg, 12, and Michael La Noue—were part of a group of six who tried to scale the mountain just before a sudden snowstorm hit. The other three boys tired early in the trip and returned to Madera Canyon.

"I don't want to arouse high hopes," Cone said last night after returning from his search of the rugged Santa Rita Mountain peak some 40 miles southeast of Tucson, "but the dogs did uncover something.

"I don't know how long they worked the smell. You don't think of time in instances such as this. We had to turn back because of darkness."

## Santa Ritas Closed To Hunters

The Santa Rita Mountains, site of an extensive manhunt for three lost Tucson Boy Scouts, has been closed to all hunters indefinitely.

The Arizona Fish and Game Commission made the decision yesterday after learning that the search would enter its sixth day today.

An estimated 400 men are combing the area surrounding the rugged mountains in quest of the Tucson youngsters.

Fear of injury to one of the searchers prompted the decision, an official said.

Today is the first legal day of deer hunting in Southern Arizona.

Site of the discovery, according to Cone, was above the 7,000-foot level and below what is known as Baldy Saddle, a sharp-edged ridge extending north from the 9,432-foot peak.

"It looked as though two horse-

back riders had investigated the general vicinity," the Los Gatos, Calif., tracker said, "but apparently their inspection had not extended too far off the trail.

"The area we are particularly interested in—a side hill and small ridge—looked almost untouched since the snowfall."

Cone and Cox, whose full expenses are paid by the Calo Dog Food Co., plan to return to the location this morning—the sixth day of the search.

"We'll look the area over from the air by helicopter," he said, "and then Tom and I and the two dogs will pack in to the spot by horse."

Cone described the entire area as blanketed by snow.

"It was three feet deep in many places," he said.

Could the boys have fallen from the trail to possible death in a small canyon there?

"Listen," the veteran of 115 such hunts pointed out, "there's not a place on that mountain where a man couldn't fall. I'll bet I fell 100 times during the day."

The dog's discovery ended an otherwise dreary day for an estimated 400 hunters.

Approximately 300 men from Ft. Huachuca's 10th Signal Battalion, led by Col. Hanford Caldwell, approached snow-capped Baldy from the Patagonia (eastern) side of the mountain, while another 35 men from Davis-Moon-

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