

Trio Still Lost In Santa Ritas

(Continued from Page One)

men — volunteer searchers from Tucson — violated a cardinal rule by becoming separated.

"I told those men to stick together and they did just the opposite," Clark said.

Clark held out a brief hope that the boys — after three days and four night of sub-freezing temperatures — might still be alive.

"If they didn't panic they might have made it to a cave or mine shaft," said Clark. "After all we haven't searched all those mines and caves."

Ralph Burgess returned to the mountain yesterday and attempted — with deputies — to retrace the missing boys' trail. Deputy John Walker said the youth was hesitant and confused to just where he last saw the others or in what direction they were traveling.

Today the searchers plan to cover much of the same territory as yesterday, concentrating on the remaining mines and caves.

If the boys are found they will

be in that area beneath the west face of Mt. Baldy in or above the timber line, is the general consensus of the searchers.

Deputies said that if the boys were overtaken by darkness while still on the peak they probably sought the quickest way down and used the twinkling lights of cabins in Madera Canyon as a guide.

The area is very steep and rocky and is most difficult to climb in daylight. In the dark, with rain or snow falling, it would be almost impossible.

Last night the searchers were somber. A few spoke of miracles but most of the men kept their thoughts to themselves.