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Paratrooper Takes Life

(Continued from Page 1)

Eugene Allbee were placed in charge of the case and went immediately to the cabin, arriving about 6:40 a. m. They found Haworth striding up and down in front of the cabin armed with a loaded .25-caliber Japanese army rifle which he had obtained before his own recent discharge from the army.

The rifle was loaded with split-nosed "dum-dum" bullets which could not have inflicted the small wound in Rice's head, the officers said.

Moved Pistol

Mrs. Haworth told the officers she had received nurse training and thought that Rice might still be alive. In efforts to aid him she had moved the pistol from his lap and it lay on the floor near the chair. The spent cartridge was found about 10 feet to the right, approximately in the place it would have been thrown by the automatic ejection of the pistol.

Rice's hands had been folded in his lap by the time the officers arrived.

Haworth and his wife told them that Rice had been in good spirits and there was no suggestion that he was considering suicide. Later, Mrs. Haworth told the officers an unverified story that Rice had revealed he had a wife in the East but had become involved with an Oakland girl.

Was Despondent

Although Rice's mother was interviewed on the point of his marriage, she was unable to tell officers any relative facts and grew hysterical. It was from his parents, however, it was learned that he had been despondent because he had not been allowed to go overseas with th 508th paratroop infantry regiment, presumably because of weak ankles brought on by repeated parachute jumps.

A note found in Rice's wallet was at first believed to be a suicide message as it read: "Call my mom and dad for me. Rice." But this was later learned to be a note several years old since it gave his mother's name under a previous marriage. She is now Mrs. Blanche Steen of 591 Thirty-fourth street, Oakland.

Worked at Shipyards

Grief-stricken when she came to the sheriff's office this morning, she was unable to aid officers to any great extent in their investigation of her son's death.

Rice and Haworth had both been employed as marine electricians at the Graham shipyards in Oakland. Rice had been living at 5907 Telegraph avenue, Oakland.

Their acquaintanceship extended back only two weeks but he had accompanied Haworth and his wife on their vacation trip to the coast-side cabin.

Suicide Theory

Haworth explained his own possession of the Japanese rifle and a shotgun, found under the single double bed in the cabin, by saying that a deer-hunt had been planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Haworth were to be released late today, said Chief to make an estimate of the loss until they located Hockwald's son, Sigmund Hockwald Jr. in San Francisco. His quick appraisal was that a quantity of liquor, ration books and jewelry had been stolen.

Seek Ration Books

Police teletype advices were to keep a lookout especially for the ration books as a possible clue.

Since Friday, additional Oakland burglaries had been committed and a state-wide hunt has been in progress.

The arrest at Auburn closed the hunt.

Oakland charges of auto theft and burglary will probably take precedence over the Hillsborough burglary, despite the admission made according to Police Lieutenant Wells as the result of the possession of the ration books.

Questioning of the trio will be continued, the police say, in the hopes of clearing the San Mateo and other burglaries.

CHICAGO IN 'GOOD SPOT'

Chicago is situated in the heart of the world's most fertile and prosperous valley, at the natural crossroads between the industrial East and the cotton-growing South.

Deputy Moore who explained that officers are now satisfied that Rice's death was a suicide. They had been held as material witnesses.

The remains of Rice were taken to the Dutra funeral home in Half Moon Bay by Deputy Coroner A. P. Dutra. A post-mortem examination was conducted there by Dr. Stuart Lindsay who said that the bullet had emerged from Rice's head. Officers were unable to find the bullet which apparently left the porch of the cabin without meeting a further obstruction.

Difficulty was experienced by deputies Silverstein and Allbee in fixing the time of death. The Haworths were unable to fix a time closer than "between 2 and 4 a.m."

Dr. LaMotte's call came to authorities at 5:45 and he expressed a belief that Rice had been dead more than two hour at that time.



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