

**Story of "Spies" In Colorado River
Canyon Probed by Bureau Rangers**

Boy Scouts Tell Tale of "Little Brown Men"

Fired Shots at Boys, They Tell Boulder Officers Today

Boulder City rangers and army officials today were investigating a fantastic tale told by Boy Scouts which, if verified would bring the war to the very doorstep of Las Vegas and Boulder dam.

It is a story of "spies," whose purported hideout in a cave several miles below Boulder dam was discovered by the Scouts Saturday afternoon. The youths claim they were fired upon as they came upon the "brown men," whom the boys stated they believed were Mexicans.

Leave Saturday

The youths left Boulder City Saturday afternoon with William F. Colley, Camp Sibert soldier, who is a mail orderly there and is Scoutmaster for the troop. They planned to hike to Hot Springs, about seven miles below the dam spend Saturday night there, and return Sunday afternoon.

When the Scouts failed to return last night, searching parties set out for them, and planes went aloft this morning to continue the search.

By 1 o'clock this afternoon 16 of the boys had returned to camp, telling their story of being bottled up in a canyon, after the "brown men" had fired upon them, and Colley had returned the fire from his .45 revolver, saving only one shell. One youth told that a bullet had been fired through a canteen he carried.

Aid Is Asked

The boys who were back brought word from Colley to send aid to them to search for their purported assailants.

They maintained that they were not lost but failed to return on schedule because of their harrowing experience with the mysterious "brown men."

Bureau of reclamation rangers said they were unable to verify the story told by the boys, until rangers sent out this morning returned from the scene and make their report. Until then it cannot be said definitely whether there is a spy ring below the dam or whether the boys were engaging in a wartime version of "cops and robbers."

Bob Painter and John Dettillio started the search for the missing

party last night at midnight. The latter returned to Boulder City for further help, and Painter succeeded in contacting the Scout party about 3 o'clock this morning by calling to them and reached them two hours later, making his way around a mountain and up a canyon.

Two planes and a boat were sent out in the search this morning. One plane carried Dave Laughery and Bill Pike and the other had Jack Rencher and Warren Flynn. Leo Dunbar set out in a boat down the Colorado river below the dam.

Rencher and Flynn sighted the youths at 10 o'clock this morning just above Dry Falls. Automobiles were sent out as far as possible to bring in the Scouts.

A party of rangers went to the scene to investigate the reports of the "brown men," and up to press time they had not returned, and the story of the boys could not be verified until their return.