

# THE OMAHA GUIDE

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## Moroccan Atrocities

(From The Washington Post)

CASABLANCA — The story of the sack of Oued Zem has already been told — how several thousand Moroccan tribesmen descended on the small town and slaughtered fifty-one Frenchmen and many more of their fellow Arabs but, because its suggests how terrible is the hatred which tortures this country, the story may be worth telling again, as it unfolded before this reporter's eyes.

Last Saturday evening The New York Herald Tribune's able correspondent Barrett McGurn, who had made an expedition into the countryside, brought back reports of very bad trouble in the area of the town of Oued Zem. So this reporter and a friend, Blair Clark, of the Columbia Broadcasting System, set off in a taxi shortly before dawn on Sunday for a look at Oued Zem.

Oued Zem is about ninety miles from Casablanca. McGurn had been ambushed by Moroccans on the same road the day before, and had been very lucky to escape. So at first we had a certain tendency to peer anxiously ahead. But as day broke over the low, rolling hills, such anxieties began to seem silly, and the drive was like a pleasant country excursion.

The countryside in Morocco — the Bled looks ridiculously like a picture postcard depicting the Moroccan countryside. The camels strike appropriate poses against the skyline, and people wander about, among spidery black tents, in more or less biblical costumes. Clark remarked that it looked like a combination of the Bible, the deep South, and the far West, which it did. Then the conversation shifted to such subjects as the difficulties of foreign reporting and the frightful expense of educating children, and before we knew it we were in Oued Zem. As the Arab driver picked his way carefully through the rubble, we fell silent. There was an odd smell in the air, half sweet, half bitter. The small houses on both sides of the street were burnt-out shells, with a wisp of smoke still rising here and there.

On the left was a gas station, built on the American model, with a familiar sign Mobiloil — Mobilgas, and with the familiar red flying horse trademark. But the flying horse had been burned till the paint cracked, and through the open doorway of the burnt-out gas station four or five corpses were visible in a tangled mass.

A little further down the road, there was another corpse, curled up in a sort of ball, so badly scorched that it was impossible to tell to what race it had once belonged. We passed a company of Foreign Legion troops, and got out of the car. A middle-aged French woman with a huge bruise on her arm came trotting round the corner, carrying a squirrel rifle, and sobbing, her face contorted like a baby's.

"Oh, it was terrible," she said, although we had said nothing to her. "It was terrible to hear the children crying. I do not want to die, I do not want to die." A white-haired Frenchman came after her, carrying a shotgun, and muttering half to himself, "Oh, this day I am ashamed to be a Frenchman. That they could not give us arms, and the troops to come so late. And now! Grandval, come see what you have done!"

There were a few scattered shots from somewhere, and a furious young lieutenant ordered us out of Oued Zem on pain of death. We grumbled a little, but we were not really sorry to go. We had seen what there was to be seen, and it was enough.

From a French reporter just outside of Oued Zem, and a railway worker, and a doctor, and others, we learned what had happened — how the surrounding country people had descended on the town in the morning, to burn and kill.

We learned details which scarcely bear repeating — how the Moroccans had cut the throats of all fifteen children they caught, and of the seven patients in the hospital, French and Arab alike. We learned also how they had cut off the noses and tongues of several men they captured. This sounds unlikely, but it is true.

Later, we stopped at a hospital on the way to Casablanca, to inquire after two wounded French newspaper men. One of the men of Oued Zem was there, his face all swathed in bandages, and no bump where the nose should have been.

We learned other details which do not bear repeating at all. But the above sufficiently suggest how hot and terrible the hatred of the Moroccans for the French must be. There was clearly an element of pure primitive savagery in what happened — the bellies of the rabbits which were kept in the hospital garden were slit, and the pigeons in the pigeon coop were decapitated. But primitive savagery cannot be the whole explanation. There must also be a wolfish hatred unimaginable and inexplicable to the Western mind.

At any rate, as we rode back to Casablanca through the rolling, sunny countryside, we agreed that it seemed somehow to have lost its peaceful, picture postcard look. We also agreed that what we had seen might have the most terrible consequences.

It was impossible even for an outsider to walk through the streets of ravaged Oued Zem without feeling an instinctive desire for revenge. It would be natural for the French to respond to this instinct, and it may even be inevitable. But, alas, revenge begets revenge in an unending cycle.

(Stewart Alsop in The New York Herald Tribune)

## News From Around Nebraska

A meeting of forty men who have connections with various northeast Nebraska Rural Electric Districts met last week at West Point to discuss the construction of a new power plant which would generate approximately 50,000 kilowatts of energy. The West Point Republican, reporting on the meeting, stated in last week's issue that the plant would be a steam outfit and would probably be ready for use within two years. It would tie in and supplement plants of this part of the state which are now dependent upon water for their generating.

The summer's dry weather brought action on the idea which had been dormant for some time, The Republican stated.

Another steam plant, of 100,000 kilowatt capacity is to be built seven miles southeast of Lexington, according to plans which have just been made.

According to the Public Mirror, printed at Arapahoe, one of the ideas back of the new steam plants is to provide generating facilities for current which can get along with less water, especially in the dry summers such as is being experienced this year. The plant would be fueled with natural gas, according to present plans.

A farmer near Taylor, Nebraska, in the Ord area, has been haled into court and fined for pumping water for irrigation purposes from the Calamus river. That stream is part of the Loup basin which the Loup River Public Power Co. is seeking to retain for generating purposes. The case was the first of its kind in the long struggle for control of the river's water.

Concordia college at Seward is looking forward to the largest enrollment in history, according to the Seward Independent. Present indications are that enrollment will reach 407, which is an all-time record high. Nearly a hundred men and women are being housed at off-campus locations because of shortage of dormitory space on the campus.

A brand new GMC pickup which had been driven but forty miles, was made a tangled mass of rubbish at Central City last week when a Union Pacific streamliner struck it square amidships and sent pieces flying in all directions.

The truck belonged to an Albion car dealer who was taking it out to show to a prospect. The dealer slowed down at the crossing and the tight motor stalled on the tracks. Noting the train coming, the dealer jumped out.

Two barrels of fuel in the truck caught fire and set the train engine on fire, also, and the Central City Fire Department was called to put out the blaze.

Several of the wheels of the truck were found as far away as two blocks, according to the Central City NonPareil and hub caps were picked up a block away in the opposite direction.

A farmer near Ainsworth is using bales of hay to form the sides of an "above the ground" silo. He has built thick rows of baled hay into walls to form three sides of a trench silo. The walls have been lined with a water-proof paper and chopped corn ensilage is being filled into the middle. The result is an ensilage storage bin which is level with the ground and will not fill with surface water.

According to the Ainsworth Star-Journal which showed a picture of the idea, the farmer plans to feed the bales of hay at about the same rate he will feed the silage. By spring both the silage and the hay will be gone.

Round hay bales, set four tiers wide, form the walls of the silo.

An oil test well near OshKosh is more than a mile in depth, the Garden County News reported last week. The well is one of the deepest in that part of the state—and at the time the News reported on the situation the well was also about the driest.

The Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce, through the News-Blade, has laid claim to the distinction of being the only town in the world with a round bean house. Now, just what could be the benefits of such a distinction, no one can say at this time, but the fact is true, nevertheless.

A year ago, a railroad roundhouse there was offered for sale and a bean-growing association purchased the building for storage purposes. The roundhouse serves the purpose very well and is complete with trackage right up to its many doors.

## Omaha U Scene Of Activity

Activity around the University of Omaha campus picked up September 8 and 9 as freshmen and transfer students came out to the

campus for their entrance exams. On the 12, 13, and 14 the frosh took physical examinations. The next day they will meet President Milo Bail and the six academic deans at the first general assembly.

Faculty members returning from summer vacation got together for the first time on the 12th and 13th.

## NNBL Planning For A Houston Convention

NNBL TO HOLD CONVENTION IN HOUSTON, TEXAS OCT. 5-7  
Houston, Texas — The Houston Negro Chamber of Commerce is making final plans for the 1955 annual convention of the National Negro Business League to be held in Houston, October 5-7.

According to Roscoe Cavitt, NNBL secretary and executive director of the Houston chamber, plans for the early October meetings include workshops and educational programs and a series of social functions to be held at Texas Southern University, Prairie View A. and M. College and at other locations in Houston.

A highlight of the sessions will be a post-convention goodwill tour to Mexico City and other points of interest in the Republic of Mexico. Further information about the goodwill trip may be obtained through Roscoe Cavitt, Houston Negro Chamber of Com-

merce, Houston, Texas, through which reservations for the tour may be secured.

Dr. S. J. Cullum president of the Houston chamber, announces that the convention sessions for October 5 and 6 will be held at Texas Southern University in Houston, while the meetings for October 7 will be moved to Prairie View A. and M. College, Prairie View, Texas. A number of well known experts in business will address the convention.

Last week Horace Sudduth, Cincinnati banker, real estate man and hotel owner, who is president of the NNBL, visited in Houston for planning sessions with the local committee headed by J. H. Jemison. Mr. Sudduth expressed the opinion that the Houston meetings will represent a high-point in the more than half century of the business league.

Night school registration will be held the 21st and 22nd from 4:30 to 8:00 with classes starting the 22nd.

Because of the large increase in enrollment this year as evidenced by the number of new students who have already taken entrance exams during the summer, registration for both day and night classes will be in the Fieldhouse.

Things have been humming in the Fieldhouse since August 29 when 55 candidates checked out for football gear. The Indians will meet Emporia State Teachers in the first home game September 17 at 2 p.m. in the OU stadium. The following week they meet Morningside College of Sioux City. On September 30 they play their first game away with Washburn University at Topeka, Kansas.

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## Gloria Stops With \$16,000

Baltimore, Md.—Millions of television viewers in America applauded Baltimore's little Gloria Lockerman, on Tuesday night (August 30) when she decided to take the \$16,000 that she had won on "The \$64,000 Question" show, and not try to win more.

The modest, but confident and smiling, 12 year old girl, who is a Sunday School pupil in her grandfather's church decided that she "would rather go away and be Gloria the undefeated champion, than Gloria the girl who lost."

Last Spring the brilliant petite Negro ninth grade pupil (she was in the eighth grade then in the Booker T. Washington Junior High School) won her way to Maryland's annual spelling championship, but lost out in the national finals in Washington a week later.

The climax word for the \$8,000 cash prize was the 28-letter word "antidisestablishmentarianism." She hurdled the

sentence, "The belligerent astigmatic anthropologist annihilated innumerable chrysanthemums," the week before to win the \$16,000 award.

The girl will net about \$11,600, after federal incomes taxes, according to best estimates. She received \$500. to use as she wishes, and the Master of Ceremonies Hal Marsh said the rest of the money will be put in a

trust fund for her education. Gloria has lived with her grandparents, Rev. and Mrs. V. T. Keys most of her life. Her parents are divorced. The Rev. Mr. Keys, Gloria's grandfather, in addition to his duties as pastor of the Orchard Street Methodist Church, is secretary of the Board of Managers of the N. M. Carroll Home for the Aged in Baltimore.

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## "Peter Pan Always Makes A Hit"

... says *Tom Alston*  
Omaha's Star First Baseman.

"I love good food. That's why I pick Peter Pan Bread whenever I'm in Omaha. I know that polka dot wrap means fresher, better-tasting bread... a bread packed with extra strength and energy. All my friends rate Peter Pan at the top of the league, too. How about you — don't you want fresher bread?"



PICK **Peter Pan** IN THE POLKA DOT WRAP



Tom Alston is a Navy veteran with a college degree. This 25-year-old slugger bats left but throws right-handed. He broke into professional baseball in 1952 with Porterville, California, and went to San Diego in the middle of the season. Alston joined the St. Louis Cardinals in 1954.