

- SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT -

OF: Pvt. Albin L. Knudson

CASE:  
VICTIMS:

Accidental death.  
Basili Begush, John Boring, Andrew Stenpanic, Howard May,  
Gilbert Mohney, Stephen Jaconski, Ross Hollobaugh,  
and George Vogel.

ACCUSED:  
SUSPECTS:  
PLACE:

None  
None

Grove Twp., Cameron County, Pa.  
October 19th, 1938.

DATE:

PREMISE: Having been ordered by the Commanding Officer Troop "D" S-1, Pennsylvania Motor Police, Lieut. Andrew J. Hudock to proceed to Sinnemahoning, Cameron County, Pa. for the purpose of continuing the investigation of the above case, I left station at 8.00 A.M. November 5th, 1938 by way of Troop car #024-3-56 and arrived at destination at 9:00 A.M. the same date.

Officer interviewed Lawrence Dexter of Sinnemahoning, Pa., as to his whereabouts on the night of October 18th, 1938 and he stated as near as he can remember he was at Sinnemahoning, Pa. Early that evening he had been there and then he had gone home. He stated that he was not called out on the Jerry Tun Fire but the following day when he reported for work on a W.P.A. Project at Driftwood, Pa., his crew was sent to Jerry Run to patrol fire line, working on this job until 5:00 P.M. Officer checked Dexter's car while at his home and found it to be a Chevrolet Sedan, 1931 model, painted green.

Officer checked around Sinnemahoning and Driftwood, Pa., for a car with an auxiliary driving light below the head lights as described by Mrs. Margaret Connor, and the only car having a light of this kind was a 1929 De Sota Coupe owned by Gesse Smith, age 20 years, of Driftwood, Pa. The auxiliary light on this car was out of order and has been for a long time. Gesse Smith bears a good reputation and is a part time employe of the Penn'a. Department of Highways.

Officer checked a report received by Pvt. William King that a burnt candle and gasoline container had been found at the scene of the Pepper Hill fire. This report made by George Agliardo. Pvt. Knudson learned from Forest Fire Inspector John Gschwendtner that no candle had been found but a blow torch had been picked up by a member of G.C.C. camp #86. This blow torch had been carried by Foreman Gilbert Mohney (deceased) and had been used for the purpose of setting back-fires.

Officer went over the case with District Forester Charles Baer and he stated as all leads had been run down it was his opinion that nothing was to be gained by continuing the investigation at the present time as he felt no one would advance any information as long as the Coroner's inquest was in session. No doubt this inquest will continue for some time. It was agreed with Mr. Baer that if he should receive any additional information about the fire he would take the matter up with Pvt. King.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBIN L. KNUDSON  
Pvt., Troop "D" S-1, P.M.P.

Mileage:  
Dismounted.....2  
Troop auto #024-3-56.....70  
Total.....72

Time of leaving.....8.00 A.M.  
Time of return.....7.00 P.M.

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CASE: Accidental death  
VICTIMS: Basil Bogush, John Boring, Andrew Stephanie, Howard May  
          Gilbert Mohney, Stephen Jaconski, Ross Hollibaugh & George Vogel  
ACCUSED: None  
SUSPECTS: None  
PLACE: Grove Twp., Cameron County, Pa.  
DATE: October 19th, 1938.

PREAMBLE: Having been ordered by the Commanding Officer,  
Troop "D" S-1, Pennsylvania Motor Police, Lieut. Andrew J.  
Hudock to return to the Mercer - substation after having  
assisted in the investigation of the above case. I left  
Temporium, Pa. at 9:00 A.M. November 6th, 1938 by way of Troop  
automobile #024-3-56 and arrived at destination at 3:00 P.M.  
same date.

Pvt. Knudson called Troop "D" S-1, Headquarters at Butler, Pa.  
and reported to Sgt. W. J. Price the arrangement with District  
Forester Charles Baer for Pvt. King to continue the in-  
vestigation, and then proceeded to the Mercer - substation.

Respectfully submitted,

ALBIN L. KNUDSON  
Pvt. Troop "D" S-1, P.M.P.

Mileage:  
Dismounted..... 2      Left Temporium..... 9:00 A.M.  
Troop auto #024-3-56..... 149      Arrived at Mercer..... 3:00 P.M.  
Total..... 151