

Kraft State Bank Robbery

By: Scott Hoiby

“PUT YOUR HANDS IN THE AIR!” Yelled the sheriff, “Ike” Harmon. Charles Harmon (Not related to “Ike” Harmon), and Tommy Holden, the two criminals had escaped the police from the bank robbery in Menomonie, Wi 8 months prior. There was four, but tragedy happens. “THERE ON THE RUN, GO GET THEM,” yelled Ike. The two robbers had gone to Kansas City, Missouri to escape from the police. They were on a golf course before the police showed up. They knew that they would eventually be caught, but they didn’t think it would be like this.

It was only eight months ago that the four rolled up about a block from the bank. They had been planning the robbery for months. Planning the escape route. What would happen in case of emergency. Everything. They stepped out of the car and walked toward the bank, well everyone except for Frank Webber. He was the getaway driver. Possibly the most important person. Without a getaway driver. How do you get away? The other three, Charles Harmon, Who is the leader of the group, walks in front, with his cowboy hat and boots that he always wears, Tommy Holden, The first ever most wanted. This isn’t his first rodeo, he is notoriously known around the USA for hijacking trains, and robbing banks, and Francis Keating, There’s really nothing special about him, Besides the fact that he was Holden’s partner hijacking the trains, and robbing the bank. The four walked toward the bank.

“You guys ready?” Charlie asked Tommy and Francis.

“You bet I am,” Tommy said.

Trying to sound like he had a southern accent. Once they finally got to the bank they barged through the door.

“Everybody, on the ground now!,” Yelled Francis.

All three of them with their tommy guns ready to fire. Tommy went into the vault to grab the cash, while Francis and Charles stayed back, keeping everyone on the ground. While the three were robbing the bank, Frank was rolling the car up across from the bank facing Lake Menomin. Tommy was able to steal about 90,000 dollars, which in today's world is about 1.4 million dollars. The bank's guard, Vermin Townsend, was told that if there was ever a bank robbery, to pull the alarm so that the police came, and head to the roof. He did just that. He pulled the alarm, and headed upstairs to the roof to get a clear shot at the robbers.

The four headed out of the bank and toward the car to get away as fast as possible. But Harmon got pierced in the neck by a bullet. But he didn’t die. Mrs. Schafer and William R. Kraft, who got shot in the left shoulder, were used as bodyguards. Mrs. Schafer then tripped on the curb, but the robbers didn’t waste their time to pick her up,

they just left her there and continued moving forward. They sprinted to the car that was ready to go when they got in.

“Why’d you gotta shoot the guy?!” Charlie yelled at Francis as the four were running to the car.

“He looked like he was a guard, and I didn’t want anyone to get in our way,” Francis responded.

“YOU THOUGHT A GUY WEARING A SUIT AND TIE WAS A GUARD!?!?!?!?” Yelled Tommy. “Ya why?” Francis asked. “If we both get out of this alive, Imma kill you,” Charlie mumbled under his breath. They got into the car and started to drive. Francis put Kraft in the back window so that he would take any bullet fired at them. Police cars chased after them, but the robbers had a good lead on them. A restaurant owner, Windfield Kern, shot through the glass of his restaurant at the robbers. Along with an employee from the local farmers store. Webber responded with a load of bullets from his machine gun back at the civilians.

“HARMON, TAKE THE WHEEL!!” yelled Webber.

Then, Webber got shot in the eye. He didn’t die right away because of all the adrenaline in him at the moment, but he did die later on highway 12. They pushed the bodies of Kraft and Webber into an abandoned farm, and continued to drive away. Harmon had been suffering from his neck getting hit with a bullet this entire time, until he finally died. Tommy and Francis pushed him into some nearby bushes. “Man, he looks like that one guy on that one train that we hijacked that one time,” Francis said. “I totally know what you're talking about,” Tommy says sarcastically as he rolls his eyes. The two hopped back into the car and continued on their way. They put flat-headed nails on the road in case the police kept on following them.

Tommy and Francis went south to Kansas City, Missouri. The Police had been collecting clues for the past 8 months before they finally figured out where they were. “Get in the car, we know where they are.” Ike said to one of his officers. “Where are they?” Asked the officer. “Kansas City.”

Ike told all of his officers in his station and they headed to Kansas City, Missouri. Ike and the rest of his officers headed to Kansas City. They got there 8 hours later.

“PUT YOUR HAND UP!!!” Ike yelled, aiming his handgun at the robbers. Tommy and Francis were golfing on a golf course before the police had arrived. They sprinted to their car to try and drive away. They always had their guns on them in case the police caught them. “THERE ON THE RUN, GO GET THEM!!!” Yelled one of the officers. “GO TO THE CAR, THEY DON'T KNOW WHICH CAR WE USE!” Tommy yelled to Francis as they were running toward their Cadillac 16 they had bought with the stolen cash. “I’ll go after them, the rest of you get in your cars and chase after them if they get in there cars, GO, GO, GO!!!” Ike yelled. Ike goes sprinting after the two robbers. Tommy and Francis have a good lead, but Ike is catching up fast. Ike fires a bullet and Tommy, barely misses.

The other police were blocking the roads so the robbers couldn't escape with their car. Ike was only about 3 yards away from Tommy and Francis. He fired another shot, but he tripped on a rock as he was about to shoot, so the bullet went right into the air. But it didn't matter because the police that blocked the road, had captured the robbers anyway.

The following months had many trials to make sure that the two that they had captured were the two they were looking for.

Works Cited

JD. "LINCOLN MODEL L." *ClassicLincolns.com - Everything Lincoln From Aviator To*

Zephyr!, www.classiclincolns.com/model/modell/index.htm.

"Kraft State Bank Robbers Burial." *Dunn County Potter's Field*,

www.dunncopottersfield.com/kraft-state-bank-robbers-burial.html.