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Pueblo 2nd Lead

By RICHARD E. MEYER

Associated Press Writer

CORONADO, Calif. AP - The skipper of the USS Pueblo burst into tears while listening to a tale of torture today and was helped to his feet by his attorney and taken for an auto ride to regain his composure.

Cdr. Lloyd M. Bucher began sobbing convulsively in his seat after a Mexican-American crewman from the intelligence ship told of being tortured by North Korean captors because they thought he was a South Korean spy.

The attorney, E. Miles Harvey, returned without Bucher and said the skipper would not be back in court for the rest of the day.

"He'll be all right," Harvey said. "He just needs to be away from here awhile and I've gotten him away."

It was the second time the 41-year-old officer broke into tears during a six-week court of inquiry into the capture of the Pueblo and the conduct of its men during 11 months of imprisonment.

The first time was when Bucher told about mental torture severe enough to wring a spying confession from him and bring him to his knees saying:

"I love you Rose. I love you Rose."

His wife Rose heard that testimony and cried along with her husband. But she wasn't present today when Bucher broke down after hearing Storekeeper E.C. Ramon Rosales, 20, testify.

"Were you able to practice your religion?" Capt. William Newsome, counsel for the court, asked Rosales.

"Not openly," said Rosales. "We practiced it behind our backs."

With this, Bucher's fists clinched on the green felt cloth covering his courtroom table. He fought for control. But a tear ran down his nose.

"What do you think was the main thing that got you through the 11 months?" asked an admiral on the court.

"Faith in God and my country and the decisions of my commanding officer," said Rosales.

Bucher's head sagged almost to the table top between his arms and he sobbed. Harvey grasped his right arm and whispered to him. Then they left.

Earlier, the 5-foot-7, dark-haired Rosales was asked if he got worse treatment in prison because of his nationality.

"They thought I was a South Korean spy," he said. "They beat me up and kept asking me if I was a South Korean or a Filipino . . . they kept punching me in the face . . . punching and kicking me all over my body. When I said I was an American they proceeded to punch me again."

Earlier, another crewman testified: "All of the beating we all took didn't hurt us half as much as the fact that when we were pleading for help we got no assistance from the largest navy in the world."

"Nobody." 2nd graf Lead A212LA

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Lead Pueblo

Pueblo Lead A032

By RICHARD E. MEYER

Associated Press Writer

CORONADO, Calif. AP - "All of the beating we all took," a Pueblo crewman said today, "didn't hurt us half as much as the fact that when we were pleading for help we got no assistance from the largest navy in the world."

"Nobody showed up," said Communications Technician 1.C. Don E. Bailey, 39, Portland, Ore., regarded as the crewman best trained in the arts of survival, evasion, resistance against captors and escape.

"This hurt me more than any beating I took."

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Repeating 3rd and 4th grafs A212 Coronado Lead Pueblo:
escape.

"This hurts me more than any beating I took."

His testimony before a court of inquiry investigating the intelligence ship's capture and the imprisonment of its crew was received in silence by the five-admiral panel.

Bailey went 5th graf
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his testimony before a court of inquiry investigating the intelligence ship's capture and the imprisonment of its crew was received in silence by the five-admiral panel.

Bailey went on to praise the ship's skipper, Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher "for a real fine job."

There was another period of silence. Then the court's president, Vice Adm. Harold G. Bowen Jr., said softly, "Thank you, Bailey."

A veteran of 16 years in the Navy and 3 1/2 years in the Army, Bailey asked the Navy to give all military men the training he received in survival skills.

He said that despite beatings, kickings and death threats from his captors, he never contributed anything to their information about himself or his job on the Pueblo.

"Did you possess so much classified information," asked Bucher's attorney, E. Miles Harvey, "that if they had obtained all of it, it would have been extremely detrimental to the security of the United States?"

"Definitely," Bailey replied. "Yes, sir."

Bailey, a highly trained intelligence specialist, was the first Pueblo crewman to testify that he received resistance training at the Navy's Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) School.

He said he tried to explain to other crewmen during captivity what he learned in SERE school.

He said he lost eight pounds in week-long SERE training and 25 pounds in 11 months in prison, but added that living conditions in prison were better than in the school.

Communications Technician 1.C. Michael Barrett, 31, of Kalamazoo, Mich., testified Thursday that the North Koreans apparently failed to realize the full value of a highly trained intelligence specialists they captured.

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Pueblo 200

By RICHARD E. MAYER

Associated Press Writer

CORONADO, Calif. AP - North Koreans apparently failed to realize the full value of the highly trained intelligence specialists they captured on the USS Pueblo, a crewman says.

"A lot of communications technicians weren't interrogated at all," Communication Technician 1.C. Michael Barrett, 31, of Kalamazoo, Mich., told a Navy court of inquiry Thursday.

"It would have seemed they would have known they had a wonderful source of information in you," said Rear Adm. Edward Grimm, a member of the court. "Why didn't they beat you more?"

"I don't know," Barrett replied. "It surprised me very much . . . that's why I think they really weren't aware of what they had."

A little more than a third of the intelligence ship's 83-member crew were communications technicians.

Barrett said it seemed to him the North Koreans "didn't really know what they were after," judging by the questions they asked him.

Several more crewmen told Thursday of their experiences in "The Gypsy Tea Room," the name the Pueblo crew gave a 12-by-15-foot room where men were taken, offered liquor and asked to accept a visitor sympathetic to communism when they returned to the United States.

All the crewmen said they either refused, or agreed to accept such a visitor with the intention of turning him over to the FBI.

Court resumes noon EST.
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