

Travelogue: Missoula to Hot Springs and back, May-June 2010

By Edward Campbell

Livingston, MT, June 9 (ECM)--This is not about the particulars for those who are concerned with them are studying this for the wrong reason. Not for some overrated, self indulgent, flated student of anthropology or sociology.

This document cannot be understood by them for the methods of sociology or anthropology cannot comprehend it. It is for those who already have had such experiences. To them the meaning of the content is apparent for there is already something within their own experience to compare the events about which they are now to read. It may be of some use for the historian. And for that reason I included enough of the particulars.

As for those who wish to know the answers as to how two *men* are able to carry through on such an adventure, I have the following to say. First of all it requires cooperation, similar goals. They need to be similar in physical stature and physical capabilities, for a lean man cannot hike with a fat man nor a weak man with a strong one. They must have singularity of purpose,

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once the mission has been agreed upon, each must remain steadfast, intent to follow through to the goal. It requires compromise in decision making, which is frequently based on knowledge and experience. They travellers cannot be afraid to dumpster dive, pick up useful object found alongside the road, or panhandle.



Hobo Ted, Missoula, MT, April 2010.

Therefore, men with near equal experience travel together best. But above all they must have a similar world view, for there is no time for ideological bickering in such undertakings. When there is, each man must understand that he is on his own.

Free to depart when and if he so chooses, to take a different road. Therefore, each man must be capable of taking care of himself should the other man choose to abandon him. A man without the experience to make the trip alone, should not be travelled with.

Enough has been said for the anthropologists, sociologists, and psychiatrists. They have nothing more to learn from this.

But for those who already have had some experience with these undertakings, they may find

some helpful advice and, I should hope, some joy in seeing themselves in these situations.

OUR GOAL: Our goal was to get away from the city, and the oppression that goes along with living in the city, to go hunting and to kill wild turkey, antelope, and bison, to photograph this and publish it, in order to irritate the liberals. Although many goals we set before us were achieved the final aim was not.



Bison in North Dakota off I-94 near the Montana state line, April 2010, on the author's return from New York.

ETHICS: Yellow Hawk is aware that I am a journalist, was aware that I was keeping track of where we were, when we were there, and what we did, and was eager journalism be published about our undertaking.

WHERE WE CAMPED: We camped at East Missoula, we camped at Mill Town Truck Stop, we camped at Drummond, we camped at Rocker, we camped at Deer Lodge, we camped at Three Forks, we camped at Crow Agency, we camped 17 miles west of Crow Agency and 7 miles east of Busby, we camped at Red Shale Camp Ground, we camped at Boradus, we camped at Rapid City and we camped at Hot Springs.

WHERE WE CAUGHT: We walked to Turah, sorted out our gear, lightened our load, and walked. We caught at Clinton, 20 miles east of Missoula, to Drummond, MT where the driver of the car got busted for pot doing 40 in a 35, we cold camped dry, we walked, we caught to Garrison Jct., we walked to Deer Lodge, picking

up a pair of binoculars and some insoles I left by the side of the road during my trip to Yellowstone National Park in March, we camped, we caught to Anaconda where the driver picked up a 12-pack, gave us some beer, and dropped us at Rocker Butte, we walked to Homestake Pass, were we picked up two cans of tuna I left by the side of the road in March on my way to Yellowstone earlier this year, and caught to Three Forks, another incredible ride.

An expert driver picked us up on Homestake Pass east of Butte and at speeds up to 80 mph drove us to Threeforks from Whitehall down Hwy 69 around until it intersects with I-90 at Cardwell, then down MT 359 to Hwy 2 in a loop back to I-90 at Threeforks.

MT 359 passes the Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park, we didn't stop.

Riding in the back of the pick-up under a topper and tumbled back and forth as the drive undertook four-wheel drifts around the sharp turns.

We crashed at Threeforks and walked a few miles and caught out with a Native brother to Billings smoking pot the whole way. Billings is an evil vortex, stay away from Billings. We agreed to walk 5 miles to the intersection of I-90 and I-94.

We agreed to 15min of daylight panhandling at the Truck stops east of town. Yelow Hawk struck out but I caught a \$10 lick in 5 min flat. We bought beer, we drank, we walked and caught with two Native brothers from the Northern Cheyene who said they would take us to Ashland, MT on U.S. 212 east of the reservation where we would be able to pick-up some more beer as both Crow and Cheyene are dry reservations.

But Yellow Hawk for some unexplicable at the time reason decided we should bail at Crow Agency. We camped we cooked, we slept, we walked 24 miles to Busby, MT. The first 17 that day and 7 the next morning, cold camp, as Crow is a dry reservation we had no beer.

Just inside Cheyene where we immediately caught at the Jct. MT 314 to Lame Deer. We got water, we drank coffee, we talked to strangers, we walked and immediately caught again to Ashland. We bought beer, we smoked, we ate, we walked 4 miles to Red Shale Campground. We cooked, we ate, we drank water, tea, and coffee as we had no more beer.

We walked, and we walked and walked some more and caught to Broadus, MT. I bought food EBT.

Yellow Hawk struck out on panhandling: "I have seen even one person I would ask for a quarter," he said after I returned from snipe hunting. The next guy walking by I asked him for .25 who then pulled out his wallet and handed me a \$20.



The authors camp at Missoula, February 13, 2010.

We bought beer, we walked to the Powder River and drank it. Yellow Hawk had a long conversation with the FWP guy about fishing. We picked up our cans and walked out by the Weigh Station and cold camped.

In the morning I went into town to buy more beer and we cooked and ate and drank. I don't recall if we decided to stay two days, but afterwards we walked a whole bunch more miles and caught to Rapid. The dude who dropped us off gave me a bud and we

went and smoked it in a camp just off US 16 heading south out of town.

I was exhausted as you can imagine since it was already Day 11, May 21. Yellow Hawk and and I clashed slightly as he wanted to see relatives and I wanted to panhandle up a beer. We split up. I hitched to Hot Springs the next morning and got the drop on him the next evening, day 13.

Montana is a beautiful place, can't say much about San Fransisco since I haven't livedthere, just passed through.

Sat May 16 Crow Agency MT (Al-Masakin)--

Tuesday May 11 Yellow Hawk and I finished our last pint of vodka in East Missoula, napped, and walked through the night to the Milltown truck stop where we crashed. In the morning, killed our DTs with a couple of beers and set out on the highway I-90, walked to Clinton MT, 20 miles, and crashed for the night.

Day 6 Crow Agency to mile marker 17 on US 212 (17 miles walking)

Day 7 (Monday May 17, 2010): eEarly AM walked 7miles to Jct. MT Hwy 314 and caught out to Lame Deer, MT. The first thing I noticed about Lame Der is that the pepole are all very friendly and immediately ask us where we came from and where we are going to. 3hrs driving to Rapid City. Caught ride to Ashland, MT walked from Ashland to Red Shale Campground in the Custer National forest, approx 5 miles.

We set out walking the folowing day and caught out to Drummond with some cool chicks who smoked us out on some killer weed. Unfortunately in Drummond the women who gave us a ride were stopped for 40 in a 35 and the cop began to talk about searching the car. We were cleard. "There's the road," he said.



Art work by the author April 2010.

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It froze that night ad I was cold, but we traded gear and set out east catching to

Walked Missoula to Clinton 20 Miles

Walked Drummond to Deer Lodge 10 miles

Walked Rocker to Butte 5 miles

Walked Crow Agency to Busby 24 miles

Misc. walking (out of Drummond 3 miles, in and around Bute 5 miles, in and around Billings 5 miles to intersection of I-90 and I-94 5 miles)

Total walking up to Lame Deer = est. 72 miles.

Day 1: Missoula to Milltown

Day 2: Milltown to Clinton, left gear in Turah

Lame Deer to Red Shale Campground = 5 miles
Total = 77 miles walkin

Day 3: Clinton to Butte picked up two cans of tuna fish I left by the side of the road in March

Walked 10 or 15 out of Red Shale and caught to Broadus, MT, walked 10 and bopped into Rapid City, SD.

Day 4: Butte to Threeforks

Day 5: Threeforks to Crow Agency Hot food