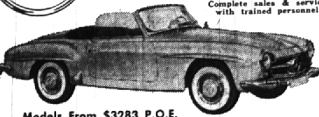


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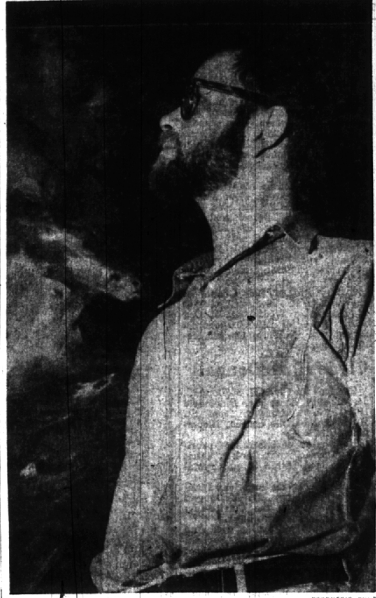
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John Lorence looks at one of his paintings.

Artist Draws Up Plans For an Exciting Life

By JULIE CANDLER Staff Writer

He went to Iran as an Army corporal. When he got back, the Shah sent him a gift. Unusual things like that keep happening to John Lorence, and they probably always will. Long ago the bearded young aristocrat shunned the conventional businessman's existence and began a serious study of art.

Instead of surveying accounts, reproductions of the emblem in Iranian silver. An Iranian visitor on a VIP tour of Cranbrook saw John working on them, suggested he send one to the Shah. "I sent it as a token of friendship between the artists and craftsmen of Iran and those of the United States," said John. Then came the thank-you from the minister of the court, replying for the Shah—"the king wouldn't reply personally."

WITH THE note came a handsome silver cigarette case, decorated with a replica of the Shah's crown. John showed his royal gift with pride. He seemed proud, too, when he said the court minister told him that the Shah remembered Corporal Lorence. "But," he reflected, "I guess that's because I was the first enlisted man ever to have gone into the court."

BUT HIS greatest love is art history. He likes the weathered, rotting art objects that archaeologists have discovered. He calls their smooth surfaces and broken-off portions "abstraction by the diffusion of nature." He has almost 2,000 slides on "Tracing Art Through Archaeology." He did the photography in Europe and the Middle East during his three years with the U. S. Army.

That was when he visited the Shah of Iran. He told the story recently as he sat in a lobby of the Cranbrook dormitories. HE WORE a well-cut Navy blazer and khaki pants. A pleasant grin emerged frequently amidst the curly brown beard which he says "just grew and I liked it." (He decries a bearded label for bearded men, cites the Edwardian era, when everybody wore them.) He told his story well, choosing words as colorful as the oils in his huge paintings. Uncle Sam first sent him to France in 1955. Army brass made a clerk-typist of the 5'10" private from Cleveland Heights, O.

"ALL OF a sudden they discovered this guy has had five years of art school!" said John. So Private Lorence, who by then had studied at Western Reserve university, Parsons and Cambridge schools of design, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology's architecture department, became an engineering corps illustrator. He later spent a year and a half in Iran, illustrating classified documents involving defenses and "hypothetical offenses" for that nation. His was a special military and administrative advisory group to the Iranian ministry of war. He "had an audience with the Shah"—an entitled man doesn't "meet" the Shah—when his commanding officer took him and his military charts to the court. JOHN remembers a gracious, "quite small" man, who speaks fluent English and French. "I think he was a very pleasant person," recalls John. "I have a certain sense of wonder about things like that... I was only a corporal." Before he came back to the United States and Cranbrook, John designed a large imperial banner for a military plane. The Shah was to take a field trip in the plane with the American group's commanding officer. "The plane had to bear the monogram of the king, for protocol reasons," John explained. THE BANNER bore the emblem which the Shah wears on his shoulders. Back at Cranbrook's metalmith studio last year, John made small

34 Tribes Answered Drums Along Rouge

Thirty-four Indian Guide tribes from the Birmingham YMCA held a large-scale pow wow in the Derby gymnasium last week. Three hundred and fifty braves from Walled Lake to North Adams attended this "heap big" Longhouse.

Highlight of the evening were authentic Indian dances performed by the Wushte-Nong Indian Dancers from Ann Arbor.

THREE HUNDRED SQUAWS, tans, and papposes from north of the Shawanese country to the Cherokee lands bordering the Great Smoky Mountains came to observe the warriors in action, a spokesman said.

The mighty Iriquois tribe sponsored the Crow Moon Pow Wow. George Sinko, chief of the Iriquois, was assisted by Mel Banfield and Al Harwood, who are former chiefs of the tribe. Other members of the tribe who assisted were Graham Benedict and Bill Kelly. Dr. Richard Galpin led singing.

Ed Sewell, federation chief, acted as master of ceremonies. Totem poles, drums, arrows, pictures, and deer skins were in evidence as tribal projects made during past

ated with a replica of the Shah's crown. John showed his royal gift with pride. He seemed proud, too, when he said the court minister told him that the Shah remembered Corporal Lorence.

"But," he reflected, "I guess that's because I was the first enlisted man ever to have gone into the court."

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