

the nation

# AWOL 36 years; man readjusts

United Press International  
SHADY POINT, Okla. — Pvt. D. B. Benson, who lived in mountainous seclusion for 36 years on the run from military officials, spent his first day in civilization dodging reporters and getting reacquainted with relatives.

Lucas explained that the long missing mountain man would be available for an interview session later. So far, Benson has refused to disclose locations of various hideaways. Some local expert woodsmen expressed skepticism he could have remained concealed for 36 years without them seeing him or being noticed by thousands of hunters who invade the mountains annually.

Only Benson's parents and a few people knew he was living in the mountains and they occasionally provided food and supplies. He said he mostly survived by "eating anything I can," explaining that he shot small game and ate wild fruits and berries.

Benson's nephew, Will Stacy, who convinced the 57-year-old fugitive to surrender, said in an interview that Benson's most recent shelter was a one-room makeshift wooden shack with magazines littered across the dwelling. Although Benson could not read when he entered the service, he said in a brief meeting with reporters Tuesday he had taught himself from old school books taken from a junk pile.

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# Crystal



# gayle

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United Press International  
DES MOINES, Iowa — Iowa's new mandatory bottle deposit law took full effect Wednesday, making disposable beer and soft drink cans a thing of the past.

Pepsi-Cola raised its prices two weeks ago to help offset the costs of operating the program. Sinks said a case of Pepsi now costs 46 cents more, of which 24 cents is for the legislative handling charge and 21 cents is the additional cost of coverage for the business.

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