"The Quickest Draw in the West":

The Media Legacy of Ed Cantrell

BriAnna Logan
Silver Dollar Saloon 1978
Permission by Sweetwater County Museum
Cops may have seen shooting

Undercover cop shot to death
Permission by Sweetwater County Museum
‘Good God, Ed, why did you...’
**Both of these articles are from the same newspaper, on the same date!**

Permission by Sweetwater County Museum
Slain cop’s gun found in holster

-Star-Tribune, Casper, Wyo.

Monday, July 17, 1978
Rock Springs mood near ‘despair’
Undercover cop Mike Rosa was ready to blow the whistle on corruption in Rock Springs, Wyo. when the town’s director of public safety shot him between the eyes.

Photographs by Tony Korody/Sygma

A TOUGH AND CORRUPT WYOMING MOUNTAIN TOWN IS SHOCKED BY THE DEATH OF A GOOD COP
Daily Rocket-Miner
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901
Dear Mr. Richardson,
Enclosed is a cartoon I would like to request you to consider in lieu of a letter to the editor.

ROCK SPRINGS BURNING?
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, GET OUT!

(s) H. John Anderson 7-78

Permission by Sweetwater County Museum
“The street that made Rock Springs... infamous”
Permission by Sweetwater County Museum
Silver Dollar Saloon 1978, Santa Fe Trails Restaurant 2015
Permission by Sweetwater County Museum and BriAnna Logan
Brenn Hill Album Art “Equine”

Permission by Amazon
But as Rosa reached down for his ankle gun
Cantrell saw the flash through the thunder head sky
He was spittin’ lead before the crash of thunder
A thirty-eight special right between the eyes

And there's a whole lot of holes in Sweetwater County
One lone deputy upheld the law
He was a black-belt in Quan Do Karate
And a master of the old quick draw
He gave ’em hell
Ed Cantrell
Cantrell (left) had been Rosa's hero. "Mike always said if I had trouble to call Ed," Becky says. "I guess he made a mistake."
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