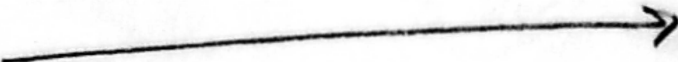


L.T. - R. G. Wednesday, Nov. 9, 1949

LEAD

The news tonight might be - the worst submarine disaster in peacetime history. Except for one thing - a near miracle. In northern waters this afternoon, a United States submarine with eighty-eight officers and men aboard, was rammed by a supply ship, and hit so hard it's amazing that disaster was averted.

U.S. naval forces were holding manoeuvres in the North Atlantic, a hundred and seventy-five miles northeast of Belle Isle Straits - a strip of water between Labrador and Newfoundland. The heaviest kind of weather was running, a fifty mile an hour wind piling up huge seas. The storm so bad, the order was given to stop the war games. But the Tusk, the biggest American submarine, failed to receive the order. And making a mock torpedo attack, the Tusk rose to the surface immediately in front of the supply ship, Alberberan - and was rammed.

The ponderous vessel hit the submarine so hard that the Tusk was knocked completely over. Her superstructure mashed 

and flattened. She would have sunk immediately, except for the fact that, running submerged, everything was tightly closed. It's deep water there, thirteen hundred fathoms of icy Arctic Sea, and any kind of rescue operations would have been impossible - if the Tusk had gone to the bottom. But she's a stoutly built craft and survived the shock - rolling over and righting herself. With her superstructure virtually knocked off, the Tusk was nevertheless able to navigate - and at last reports was proceeding slowly on the surface to the nearest port, five hundred miles away.

STRIKE

Word from Washington is that the government will present an urgent demand to the coal companies and the Union tomorrow - get busy with fast action for a new contract.

~~(Having called a meeting for a renewal of negotiations, Federal Mediator Cyrus Ching will present a deadline - ten days to come to an agreement, or the Government will intervene to prevent a renewal of the strike.)~~

In other words, the Federal Mediation forces are going right ahead with their plans to bring about a settlement - in spite of the surprise move by John L. Lewis. Today, ~~when~~ suddenly, the Mine Union Chief called off the walkout, and told the miners to go back to their jobs, which for the moment, ends a strike that has lasted for fifty-two days, seriously jeopardizing the national supply of coal. But, Lewis warns that the back-to-work order is only temporary, - ~~he presenting~~ a deadline of his own, November Thirtieth. If there isn't a settlement by that time, the strike will be resumed - so says Lewis.

The belief in Washington is that, as a master of surprise tactics, John L. Lewis called the strike off so suddenly today - to forestall federal intervention. The word around the national capital is that the Government was prepared to step in on Monday - so Lewis acted in advance. Another explanation, from the side of the Coal Companies, is that the coal miners were in a rebellious mood - wanted to go back to work, and earn some money for Christmas, ~~for~~ ^{for} that joyful season of mirth and gladness, when father has to have the cash.

In the steel strike, which has largely ended, the news is that the biggest Company of all, has agreed to talk terms with the Union.- Officials of the United States Steel Corporation to have a meeting tomorrow with C.I.O. President Philip Murray, who is also the head of the Steel Workers Union. Three of the great corporations have already come to an agreement on the subject of pensions for the steel workers, and the word in Pittsburgh tonight is ~~xxx~~ that a settlement

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with U.S. Steel is likely to be announced on Friday. That, of course, would virtually bring the strike to an end.

ELECTION

This being the day after election, we have the same old picture - one side cheering the figures, the other side saying they're going right ahead and battle for eventual victory. The Democrats declare the victories they scored indicate the trend of the congressional elections next year, while the Republicans reply they'll just go on with ~~the~~ greater activity to win the congressional battle of Nineteen Fifty. Actually, of course, this off-year election was only a scattering affair, dramatized chiefly by the Senate race in New York - won in resounding style by former Governor Lehman.

In New Jersey, on the other hand, Republican Governor Driscoll scored a striking victory. ~~Among~~ *His* reelection ^{is} ~~which~~ has a special meaning in that it signifies the final elimination of the old-time Frank Hague machine, *Jersey City* ~~of~~ Jersey City. ~~The one-time dictator of Jersey politics was beaten in his own bailiwick in the election last year, and tried to make a come back in the election for Governor~~

The Democratic candidate, backed by Hague, did well enough in the rest of the state, but lost out in Hudson County - the traditional stronghold of the Hague machine. ~~So today~~

Today the seventy-three year old veteran of political leadership announced ^{his retirement} ~~that he was retiring~~ as head of the New Jersey State Democratic Organization, Frank Hague laying down his last remaining vestige of political power.

PHILIPPINE ELECTION

In the distant Philippines, the election count today showed a victory for President Quirino, reelected. He wins by a narrow margin over Jose P. Laurel, who was the head of the puppet regime during the Japanese occupation.

The election is described as one of the most violent on record, with gunfire and bloodshed, all over the island. At least thirty-two deaths have been counted officially, and there's a report in Manila that in one province seventy-eight Mohammedans were massacred in a clash with the police.

CHINA

Something new - in the realm of war, revolution, disloyalty and desertion. Today two Chinese airlines went over to the Communists. We've been hearing how war-lords over there have switched over from the Nationalists to the Reds - But the desertion of airlines - that's modern, real Twentieth Century.

The two Companies, Central Air Transport and C.N.A.C. ^{which} ~~where~~ had been operating under the authority of the Nationalist Government. Today the top officials of the two lines, including the managing director of each one, gathered eleven of their planes, and flew the whole fleet of aircraft to Peking, where the Communists have their capital. They took off from Formosa, pretending to be on their way to Nationalist-held-airfields, but ended up in Communist Peking - one of the planes being a new four motored luxury liner recently imported from the United States.

Eighty other planes of the two airlines are at

Hong Kong, ⁱⁿ British territory, where they are tied up - and would be claimed by the Reds, if the British should recognize Communist China. ~~After all, the two aviation corporations have joined the Communist regime,~~

This leaves the Nationalists in possession of only one airline, the one headed by General Claire Chennault. But the American Commander of the Flying Tigers against the Japanese, is not likely to desert ^{to the Reds} with his fleet of planes - and the Nationalists can count on at least ^{that much air} ~~one group of planes~~ for transportation - ^{as} ~~if~~ their cause continues to decline.

The desertion of the two airlines today gives the Chinese Communists a force of eighty planes with which to back up their advance on the ground - and air raid precautions were ordered today on the island of Formosa, where a remnant of the Nationalist government is maintained by Chiang Kai-shek, the one-time all powerful Generalissimo.

INTRO. TO L.T. JR.

For another angle of international news, let's switch now to my companion during my Tibetan travels. Let's hear a special report from Lowell, Junior, from Washington.

ENGEL

In Chicago today, the seventy-four year old love swindler, Sigmund Engel, was given a sentence of two years in prison. The judge saying, "not less than two, not more than ten." The aged breaker of women's hearts was no jaunty debonair figure in court, ^{today.} He looked glum and bedraggled. He looked his age - that patriarchal Romeo who is estimated to have married fifty women and taken some two million dollars from them. He says: "It was maybe five or six million."

From London, a story that could be told in a tone of solemn fooling, were it not for the fact that thirty persons were injured, eight sent to the hospital, when the horses of the Lord Mayor's coach-of-state ran away. (Except for the many people hurt in the stampede, it certainly could be related as tragi-comedy, because nothing could be more pompous and dignified than the Lord Mayor's coach on official parade. So what could be more uproarious for a helter-skelter, tip-snorting runaway?)

Today, the venerable city of London was installing a new Lord Mayor, with all the ritual and ceremony of the medieval past. Sir George Aylwen, going to turn over the ancient and honorable seals of office to his successor, was riding in the Lord Mayor's coach, brilliant and gleaming, and drawn by a string of ponderous horses - and right in front marched the Royal Air Force band, blaring away with horns and trombones.

Then it happened - the pair of horses in the lead

suddenly shied and bolted, and the Lord Mayor's coach was a runaway. The horses, charging ahead, flattened the Royal Air Force Band^{d,} horns, trombones and all. Then they dashed into the ~~the~~ massed crowd of spectators, scattering them in a wild panic. In the middle of the ~~the~~ commotion, the grooms managed to unhitch the two stampeding horses in front - thereby saving the retiring Lord Mayor in his coach of state from being tossed into heaven knows what kind of upset, and the two rampaging horses were finally got under control.

Whereupon London went ahead with the majestic business of installing a new Lord Mayor - after no end of excitement.

Doesn't that send your pulse a-pounding, Nelson?

URANIUM

Further word about the new discovery of uranium in Utah. The deposit, found by a local miner, is in a hillside, near the town of Marysville, which is just west of the Wassatch range - that wilderness of rugged mountains and red cliffs and canyons, typical of southern Utah. The ore is - autunite, a yellowish crystal - which, chemically, is a phosphate of calcium and uranium. Named after the ~~XXXX~~ French city of Autun, the mineral is described as being richer in uranium than any other, except pitchblend from the famous uranium mines of Bohemia. The strike is the ^(biggest) ~~richest~~ thus far in the United States. - new resources of the radioactive metal, material of atomic energy.