

L.J. - P. & G. Tues. Feb. 19-52.

Tonight, off the storm-beaten coast of Massachusetts,

thirteen sailors are still on the stern of the broken tanker,

Fort Mercer. They are there - of their own free will.

Today, the Coast Guard took off twenty-five, in a thriller of

rescue. But, the brave thirteen elected to stay with what's

left of their ship - hoping that the fragment of the wreck

will be towed into port.

This is the latest in a two-fold epic - in which two

tankers, only twenty-five miles apart, broke in two - battered

by the howling storm, torn apart by waves that ran sixty feet

high.

Last night, the Coast Guard saved thirty-two sailors

from the tanker Pendleton. ~~Today came the turn of the Fort~~

~~Mercer - the bow and stern of which had parted company.~~

~~First, the Coast Guard took four sailors off the drifting bow.~~

~~But lives were lost - fifteen, in the wreck of the tanker.~~

~~Which left thirty-three huddling on the shattered stern,~~

~~exhausted, half frozen.~~

Today - the storm still blowing. While other Coast Guard craft ~~was~~ stood by, the cutter East Wind maneuvered into position to drift life-rafts across the churning sea, to the fragment of what had once been ^{the other tanker, the Fort Mercer} ~~a ship~~. First, they shot lines across to the survivors, perched on the wreck - and they hauled in the rafts. Then they climbed down rope ladders. Some jumped into the sea, and swam to the rafts. Within minutes, they were all taken off by the East Wind - given food and warmth.

But thirteen of them would not leave, and are still sticking - not to their ship, but to what's left of it. →

ADD SUBSTITUTE RESCUE

Here is more about it:- The stranded crew men are keeping up steam for light and heat aboard the cracked stern of the ship. However, bad weather is reported tonight with the hulk utterly helpless in the huge seas.

KOREA - TRUCE

Tempers ran high at Panmunjom today - over the question of seating Soviet Russia as a member of the Neutral Inspection Committee. The Allies stood fast on their rejection of Russia. The Communists countered with charges that the U.N. is stalling again.

It sounds as though everything is back to normal at Panmunjom - following yesterday's progress.

LUCKY SHOT

The most surprised hero in Korea tonight must be -

Captain Douglas Cole of Littleton, New Hampshire. Captain Cole,

pilot of a reconnaissance plane, was sent up this morning to hunt

out a cleverly concealed Chinese rocket site, dug in behind a

lofty summit - out of artillery reach. His orders - to mark the

rocket platform with a smoke-shell for our fighter bombers.

Over the area, Captain Cole flew around waiting for the enemy

to reveal himself by launching a "Ripple" of thirty rockets

into the U.N. lines from his secret hide-out.

When the Chinese opened up, Captain Cole was waiting -

ready to swoop down with that phosphorus marker shell. High

above the fighter bombers, loaded up with Napalm, circled for

the kill. However, it seems to have been Captain Cole's lucky

day. That first marker shell was a bull's eye - skidding right

into ^a ~~the~~ huge dump[^] of enemy rockets. With a blinding flash the

whole hillside disintegrated - the deafening explosions rocking

Captain Cole ^{up there in his} ~~in the tiny~~ spotter plane, ^{from which he had} ~~that~~ fired that lucky

shot.

FLYING SAUCERS

And now we'll all have to say - it had to come.

(Just inevitable - flying saucers in Korea. The crews of two B-29 bombers, flying on a mission, report - the soaring discs.)

One Super-fortress was over Wonsan, at about midnight - when the weird objects appeared. They^{are} described as bright orange in color, and sending off flashes of bluish light - discs about three feet in diameter. The saucers flew parallel to the plane for about five minutes. ^{So} say members of the crew.

The other Super-fortress was over Sunchon, not so far away from Wonsan, same night, same time. Flying saucers - behaving about the same. Moving along parallel to the bomber - for about a minute.

(All of which sounds mighty like ~~xxx~~ ^{the Q & -} balls that American pilots reported in the Second World War - mysterious bright objects flying alongside a plane at night. Which, after investigation, turned out to be a myth - imagination. The Air Force has been saying the same thing about the flying saucer epidemic these past few years - mass hysteria,

~~or hoaxes, or such things as balloons or meteors.~~ Today, in Tokyo, Air Force officers declared that the appearance of soaring discs in Korea might be an optic illusion - just the imagination of airmen working overtime, fatigued.

But, just the same, Air Force Headquarters in Washington announces - that a full scale investigation has been ordered - of this latest mystery - flying saucers in Korea.

NIEMOELLER

At New York today - arrived Pastor Martin Niemoeller, the German churchman who made a trip to Moscow recently. A German submarine commander in the First World War, he was a leader in German Protestant opposition to Hitler. Since then, he has had to deal with church conditions in the Red Zone of Germany.

During a six day stay in Moscow last month, he conferred with ecclesiastics of the old Russian Orthodox Church- which continues to exist under Communism.

"I went to Moscow with a twofold purpose," declared Pastor Niemoeller today. "I wanted to find out first - if the churches there are really Christian churches or merely instruments of propaganda. And secondly - to find out if the Patriarch of the Orthodox Church has been ordered to make his people into good Bolsheviks."

So what's the answer? "I should be quite happy," says the Pastor, "if I should be such a good Christian as the people I saw in many Russian churches there."

He says he brought back many copies of sermons preached in Russian churches, under the rule of Stalin - and they will be translated and published soon. Should make interesting reading.

The Armed Services Committee of the House presents its majority report on Universal Military Training. They say it might save the country thirteen billion dollars a year and make it possible for our present military strength to be cut from three million, seven hundred thousand, to a figure of two million. However, there is some dispute about this amongst Committee members, one of whom says that "the figure is preposterous."

TANKERS

Here's testimony in the investigation of the maritime doings of former Congressman Casey of Massachusetts - who went into the business of buying and selling wartime government tankers, surplus property. They say his firm put up an original investment of a Hundred Thousand dollars, and made a net profit of more than Three million.

Today the statement was that the Casey firm was offered a "present" of four-hundred-and-fifty-thousand dollars, in the purchase of three surplus tankers. A company financed by Nationalist China wanted to get them - after having previously applied to the Government, and failed.

The charge is that, in the Casey operations, there was an under-cover violation of the law - which forbids the transfer of surplus ships to foreign companies, without express permission. Former Congressman Casey denies hotly that there was anything illegal about it.

The Company owned by Nationalist China brings in the name of Newbold Morris, now the head of President Truman's house-cleaning drive against corruption in government. He played a leading part in the organization of the Chinese-owned corporation in the tanker business - Newbold Morris declaring that he was trying to help the Chinese Nationalist government, hard pressed in its fight against the Chinese Reds.

Another interesting name in the case is that of the University of Chicago. Which invested Fifteen thousand dollars in the Casey tanker operations, and three years later sold out its interest for - Four-hundred-and-twenty thousand! Not bad, professor, not bad!

(Congress gives the White House a turn-down -- in the question of conferring authority on House-cleaner Newbold Morris. President Truman had asked that Morris, investigating corruption in government, be authorized - to grant immunity. Which is a method often used - a witness immune from prosecution - if he gives important evidence in ^a ~~the~~ case.)

But the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives answers - no!) Today the Committee rejected the proposal - unanimously! (~~Congressman Frank Chelf~~ of Kentucky said: "Any one who is not guilty, doesn't need immunity. Anyone who is, shouldn't have it.")

There will be further consideration of another White House recommendation - that Newbold Morris be given the right to subpoena witnesses.)

POLITICS

(General MacArthur is at it still, busily withdrawing from primaries.) And - having trouble doing it. He pulled out of Pennsylvania and Minnesota - sending the necessary letters.

But - forgot to sign the one to Minnesota. (~~So, at St. Paul,~~ the local Secretary of State, Mike Holm, received the document of withdrawal in due form. Except - no signature. He called the General's headquarters in New York, and was told - the letter was genuine all right. Whereupon, the document was ~~accepted - but, just to make sure,~~ MacArthur sent another copy today. Signing it - this time.

So that would seem to be that - but it isn't. At St. Paul, there was a fast counter-move - by Edward Slettedahl, Chairman of the Minnesota "Fighters for MacArthur." He put himself into the primary, as a "favorite son." That is, he'll throw the delegates ~~■~~ he wins, if any, to General Douglas MacArthur at the Republican National Convention.

Here's the latest; ~~a flash bulletin.~~ Salem, Oregon - the name of Douglas MacArthur was entered today in the

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Oregon presidential national primary. Too bad, General, but it means another strategic retreat.

Governor Warren of California announces that he will enter the Wisconsin primary - against Taft and Stassen.

DOOLITTLE

From Washington:- Lt. General James H.

Doolittle, leader of the famous bombing raid on Tokyo, former head of the Eighth Air Force in Europe, perhaps best known of all American airmen, will head a Special Commission to look into airport safety near big cities. The investigation follows the air crashes at Elizabeth, New Jersey.

PYRAMID

In Mexico today a light plane tore through a group of American sightseers on top of the huge Aztec "Pyramid of the Sun" at San Juan Teotihuacan. The plane, piloted by a student, ricocheted off the top of the thousand year old pyramid killing the wife of an American Embassy official and injuring two other tourists. The pilot came through unscathed.

MAYOR

Boyne City, Michigan, has a glum, disillusioned Mayor who has just about lost his faith in everything. His Honor, Mayor Harry Tompkins, has reason indeed to lament the irony of destiny. He lost the election - that's the incredible, sardonic part of it.

The only reason there was any contest at all - was because Mayor Tompkins had a high sense of political duty. In the last three elections, nobody ran against him, no competition. Which, thought His Honor - was not a healthy political condition. ~~So~~ This time it looked like the same thing all over again, but the Mayor said no, somebody would have to run against him. Even - if he had to nominate an opponent, himself. He did - selecting a business rival, Sam Arbuckle. Sam didn't want to run for mayor, just to ease the political conscience of Harry Tompkins. But His Honor circulated nominating petitions, and put Sam on the ballot - and Sam was a candidate, in spite of himself.

So that was the election, and today the vote stands -

three hundred and eighty-four for Arbuckle, and two hundred and thirty-four for Tompkins.

Talk about the irony of fate! (~~Well, at Boyne City,~~

~~Tompkins is talking about it. "I'm all through," he growled today, in sour disgust. "Just call me ex-Mayor. That's what I get for trying to drum up interest in civic affairs."~~

~~Sam ^{is} ~~was~~ not ^{so} ~~was~~ cheerful about it, either. He says:~~

~~"I guess I'll have to roll up my sleeves and go to work."~~

All of which is a champion political oddity in this political year.

OLYMPICS

About the only Norwegian word we know in this country is - skol! So, let's shout it - as a cheer for Hjalmar ^{the skater} Andersen, who today completed the prodigy of winning three Olympic medals in three successive days. Never been done before, and, he broke two world records doing it.

Today, the twenty-eight year old proprietor of a sports shop at Trondheim won the ten thousand meter speed ~~skating~~ ^{skating} championship. Yesterday, he won the fifteen hundred meter event. On Sunday the five thousand meter race. ^P In every case, he was adding points to the Norwegian score - and, tonight, Norway looks like the sure winner of the Winter Olympics of Nineteen Fifty-Two, having ninety-four points right now. ^P Austria comes next, ^{with} fifty-one ~~points~~ ^{points} - an Austrian ^{skier} winning the Men's ~~ski~~ Slalom today. The United States, thirty-four and a half points - the Americans having scored another goose egg today. They didn't win a point - although Dick Button is halfway ahead in the Men's Figure-Skating Event. He gave a dazzling performance - and, at the halfway mark, looks like a likely winner.

Here's the latest. An American victory tonight, at hockey. The U.S. team has won four straight games, and is unbeaten, defeating Switzerland, eight to two - in the game played tonight.

to shout about
But the honors go to Norway - and the mighty speed

skating
~~skating~~ triple winner, Hjalmar Andersen. *To that Nelson* ~~and~~ the echo is:-

~~say~~ Hai Hjalmar! - Skol Hjalmar!