

CRASH

L.T.-P.+G. Mon. Feb. 11-52.

Today the great Newark airport was a ghost flying field. Other days, the flights ^{there} averaged two-hundred and sixty-five ⁱⁿ every twenty four hours. This morning, sixty-five airliners, on the ground were allowed to leave, empty. Then, no more. The Newark airport - one great empty space, where nothing happened.

Which of course followed that horror of air disaster last night - in Elizabeth. At least ^{thirty} ~~thirty~~ ^{also} lives lost - the third crash that city has had in several weeks. Once again, an airliner ripped into a place where people lived.

There had been previous demands that the Newark airport be closed down - with its unending ~~xxxx~~ airplane flights over heavily populated areas. This time, action was prompt - and we hear that, if it hadn't been done, people of Elizabeth were prepared to storm the flying field.

During the day, planes that would have used the Newark airport were diverted to LaGuardia Field

and Idlewild on Long Island, and to ~~ix~~ Teterboro, New Jersey. But that only brought protests from those places. At LaGuardia, for example, the planes fly over a teeming residential section - where the people are afraid that disaster might strike them. Thus far, there has been no such mishap, although Newark airport and Elizabeth have had three in rapid succession.

It seems a miracle, that, last night anybody at all survived of the sixty-three persons ~~xxx~~ aboard that ill-fated airliner. The answer is that the plane, in crashing, slid along the top of a four story apartment, and then smashed for a sort of belly landing on the play field of an orphanage just beyond. So some thirty escaped - many critically injured.

~~Five~~ ^{six} lives appear to have been lost in the apartment building.

STATE DEPARTMENT

The State Department announces the dismissal of all charges against a veteran diplomat, Edmund Clubb, head of the office of Chinese affairs. He was examined by the loyalty board, and cleared -- but is retiring after twenty-four years of service.

The story is interesting, Clubb was suspended in June of last year, after being named by former Communist Whittaker Chambers - who stated that he had seen the Far Eastern expert in the office of the Communist Magazine, New Masses. Clubb's reply, under oath, was -- that he had never met Whittaker Chambers.

Then, later, he came back with a diary, which he submitted - pointing to an entry that he had forgotten. ~~He~~ This entry shows that he did visit the office of the New Masses in Nineteen Thirty-Three - and ^{in it he} describes ~~the~~ the Red periodical as a "horrible rag." It gives a description of the Editor of the New Masses, in these words: "A shifty-eyed, ~~unkempt~~ unkempt creature, who nevertheless showed considerable force and direction in asking me about the Red movement in China."

The diary provided the evidence on which
Clubb has been cleared by the loyalty board.

VOICE

The Voice of America is really getting loud, and will echo round the world with a clearer call than ever.

In Washington today, the announcement was made - of two new giant radio transmitters being built. One - at Wilmington, North Carolina. The other - at Seattle, Washington. They will be from ten to twenty thousand times more powerful than any other transmitter in the world, and will beam broadcasts across the entire huge space of Soviet Russia. More important, the monster transmitters will drive their signals through any amount of jamming the Soviets can do.

Right now, the Reds have ^{their own massive} ~~a giant~~ system for blotting out Voice of America programs - which sometimes get through, and sometimes do not. The two new stations, we are told, will be so powerful that even small radio sets, in any part of Russia, will be able to pick them up clearly - and never mind attempts at jamming or interference. From North Carolina on one side, and Seattle on the other, the Voice will go crashing through the radio iron curtain.

KOREA-TRUCE

~~The peace talks seem headed for a long and bitter battle. This hinges around the future of Korea, following a truce. So far~~ ^{Now Korea,} both sides are in agreement about holding a peace conference three months after an armistice. But the Reds ~~are adamant~~ ^{insist that} the whole of ~~the~~ Asia must be included in the talks. The Allies equally insistant - ~~the recommendations must be confined to~~ ^{only} Korea. ~~And so we have another impasse in the battle of words at Pan Mun Jom.~~

~~At today's meeting Vice-Admiral Turner Joy presented the Chinese with a real poser.~~ ^{Up} ~~Up~~ tonow the Reds have insisted that only those nations with troops fighting in Korea can claim seats at the conference table. So Admiral Joy, using the Red's own words, ^{today} presented them with this Chinese puzzle: If Peking claims that its troops are 'volunteers', that there are no regular Chinese troops fighting in Korea, how can China claim a seat at the peace conference? The Chinese delegation was taken aback - sat around the table, sullen, refusing to answer.

As Admiral Joy put it after the meeting:

"They couldn't answer that question -- it was the one choice bit of the day."

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His wife, who is expecting her third child, declared that her husband, a thirty-one year old veteran of World War Two -- was that he expected to be home for Christmas -- but the decision was with the Air Force. She says he understood that pilots could be sent back to the United States unconditionally, after they had shot down their fifth plane -- and he did that weeks ago. He downed nine jets, and three enemy bombers, in a dazzling span of seven days.

KOREA-PLANE

At Lub^{ock}ee~~k~~, Texas, Mrs. Dorris Davis accuses the Air Force ~~of lying~~. She denies the statement that her husband, Major George Davis, had been given a chance to get out of the air war in Korea, but insisted on staying.

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Today's dispatch quotes the Air Force as saying that he - "refused to be rotated home." But this his wife denies, ~~and calls it a lie.~~

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The top level racketeers, the big shots of the underworld, are tougher nuts for the tax collector. They have batteries of expensive lawyers, and better ways of concealment. But they're expected to cough up a quarter of a billion. Legal proceedings, now on or planned, will net that much, it's believed.

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TAX

The government announces a lot of income tax collecting - which will be greeted with cheers. ^{In this case you} ~~Mr.~~ ^{Uncle Sam} ~~whiskers~~, putting the bee on - the underworld.

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ski resort, nineteen lives lost. The resort simply
disappeared under a giant snow-slide.

At another place, thirty skiers were trapped,
but they were gotten out safe - when, today, the
second avalanche came roaring down. The two snow slides
sealing both ends of the valley of Valserai.

All of which is the latest of this year's news
of alpine peril - in Austria, Switzerland, Italy.
Last year, at this time in central Europe, it was the
same story of peril of the snow. High mountains, and
weather haywire. Now repeated.

Today, heavy snowstorms were sweeping the Alps -
drifts of seven feet reported in a mountain town, capi-
tal of the Swiss watch-making industry. Communications
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the avalanche.

As we know, this has been a big year for avalanches
in our own mountains. Nothing like it within memory.
So what do we really know about avalanches? Our top
experts are Monte fixates of the Forestry Service.

AVALANCHE

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In the Austrian Alps, there's a tragic Valley, which tonight is isolated from the world - cutt off by two enormous avalanches. The Valley of Walsertal - where, last night, the first avalanche overwhelmed a ski resort, nineteen lives lost. The resort simply disappeared under a giant snow-slide.

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As we know, this has been a big year for avalanches in our own mountains. Nothing like it within memory. And what do we really know about avalanches? Our two top experts are Monte Atwater of the Forestry Service,

AVALANCHE

who with Felix Koziol spends most of his time in the Wasatch, and Whitney Borland who plays a similar role in Colorado. But there are a number of others. Ed Taylor, head of the National Ski Patrol tells me that careful observations are being made everywhere in our high mountains and that nearly always warnings go out in plenty of time. But, truck drivers, skiers and others, don't always take those warnings seriously.

BOAT

This program likes an adventure story - but here's the complete non-adventure story. In the Barbados today, an eighteen foot sailboat put into port, after a voyage of twenty-seven hundred miles across the Atlantic. Aboard the tiny craft were two Britons, Patrick Ellam and Colin Mudie - and you'd think they'd have a thriller to tell.

They set sail from Falmouth, England, in their sailboat "sopranino", meaning, the Little Soprano. They must like singing. Steering South, they navigated on to the Canary Islands. Then, from the Port of Las Palmas, across the South Atlantic, at sea for twenty-eight days, without any sight of land. ~~But~~ Here's ^{more} ~~the~~ ^{on that} story of the voyage of the Sopranino, as related by ~~me~~ Patrick Ellam:

"Soon after leaving Las Palmas, we ran into the trade winds, and Sopranino sailed herself. For ~~me~~ twenty-one days we did not touch the tiller, just sun-bathed during the ~~me~~ day, and slept in our ~~me~~ bunks at night."

So what kind of adventure story is that -
the Sopranino sailing herself?

Well, the entire salt sea yarn goes the same way. "By the time we arrived at Barbados," Ellam relates, "we had eaten all our fresh food, but we still had canned rations and water for another two weeks. We had a gadget for distilling sea water, but didn't use it."

That seems to be

~~the~~ the complete -- non-adventure story.