

COLLISION *L/I. - (Aldo Fisher) Thurn. Nov. 26 - '64.*

The collision of the "Shalom" and the "Dagali" off the New Jersey coast - is sure to be one of the memorable disasters of the sea. For one thing, there's a sunken ship - with many lives lost. Secondly, the circumstances - are so incongruous.

The Israeli luxury liner - on its maiden cruise to the Caribbean. Clearing New York harbor - with six hundred passenger ~~s~~ bound for a vacation in the sun. Running through - a heavy fog. And smashing into - the Norwegian freighter.

The impact, so tremendous - that the liner cut the freighter in half. The stern of the "Dagali" - went down like a stone. The bow stayed afloat - with survivors clinging to it.

The "Shalom" suffered a gash - in her bow. She managed to limp back to port. A sad ~~s~~ ending of the holiday cruise - for passengers and crew. But not so sad as the fate of - the freighter. Which - is gone. Along

*with - nineteen crewmen. Leaving twenty four who were
picked up by the "Shalom", the liner "Santa Paula" - and
the cutters and helicopters of the Coast Guard.*

CONGO

The air drop of Belgian paratroopers on Paulis in the Congo - saved three hundred hostages. But they arrived too late - for twenty others. The twenty were beaten to death - and thrown into a tributary of the Congo river. Thrown - to the crocodiles. Among them, an American missionary - Joseph Tucker of ~~Port~~ Portland, Oregon. He had been in the Congo - only four months.

One of the more fortunate prisoners in Paulis - a Belgian doctor, ^{who} ~~he~~ was spared during the massacre - because a number of rebels needed medical attention. Treatment for cuts, bruises - and gunshot wounds.

SOVIETS

That letter from the Soviet delegate to the Security Council of the U N - is being shrugged off by Western diplomats. The language of the letter - is rather strong. Accusing Belgium, Britain and America - of "crude colonialism" in the Congo. Of - "a flagrant act of armed interference" - and so on.

But Ambassador Fedorenko does not request - a meeting of the Security Council. Hence, the opinion that this is just another propaganda maneuver - by the Russians. Who, it is believed - are compelled to use strong words, if only to take the play - away from the Chinese Reds. Moscow, fearful of competition from Peking - in Africa.

BELGIANS FOLLOW SOVIETS

Actually, the Soviet note received an answer - before it arrived. Belgian Ambassador Loridan, informing the Secretary General - that the Stanleyville operation is over. The "humanitarian action" to save the hostages - generally a success. In spite of more atrocities - by the rebels.

The Belgian Ambassador to the U N points out that if there had been any hesitation in attacking the rebels - then the dead might be counted in the hundreds, instead of the dozens. He estimates the number of those rescued - at around two thousand. And reports - no more large groups of hostages still in the hands of the rebels.

Hence, the Belgian promise - to pull out tomorrow. Leaving the troops of the Congolese Army - to maintain order. Mission - completed.

TAYLOR

The phrase that is going around Washington tonight - "expansion of the war". The possibility of revising our strategy in South Viet Nam - to include air attacks on targets in North Viet Nam.

We've been hearing that discussion - for some time. But there is a note of urgency at the moment - because of Maxwell Taylor's return. Our Ambassador to Saigon, arriving home - to report to the President.

General Taylor said during his stop in Honolulu - that "expansion of the war" is not the specific reason for his return. He's here to discuss, as he puts it - "many variables". Everything from combat helicopters - to Vietnamese morale.

Still, a lot of observers in our national capital predict - that "expansion of the war" will have top priority when Maxwell Taylor visits the White House. And the opinion seems to be gaining ground that some kind of operation against North Viet Nam may be agreed on - before the Ambassador goes back to Saigon. =

MAJOR

Major Stanley Hobbs of San Jose, California, has been saved by - his army record. The Major, an eighteen year veteran - who holds three Bronze Stars and three Purple Hearts. A record so good - that he is being allowed to remain in uniform.

You can judge what this means - from the case against Major Hobbs. A court martial finding him guilty - on a narcotics charge. Explicitly - trying to smuggle opium from Thailand into South Viet Nam. Fifty pounds of opium, found in his baggage - at the Saigon airport.

The sentence of the court martial in Okinawa - reprimand, three thousand dollar fine, and no promotion for at least five years. The sentence could have been - dishonorable discharge and five years in jail.

Yes, it's lucky for the Major - that he ran up such a good army record over the past eighteen years. That's what's bailing him out now.

WILDLIFE

The latest report from the Interior Department - concerns some fifty species of wildlife in this country. The point being, that all fifty will soon be extinct - unless we do something.

The most famous species - the whooping crane. Of which only thirty - are known to have survived. The California Condor - our largest bird that flies - perhaps fifty of them remain - where there used to be thousands. The black-footed ferret - is vanishing from the prairies. The Ivory-billed Woodpecker - from the Southeast.

The Interior Department wants - action now. Beginning with the preservation of - the natural habitat of each species. For example, the nesting places of - the California Condor.

MARS

A rocket stands on a launch pad at Cape Kennedy - with its nose pointed toward Mars. Not literally! Blast-off tomorrow morning will not be directly at the red planet of our solar system. Mariner Four First will head toward - an empty part of the sky. The point of its rendez-vous with Mars - nine months from now.

There is much excitement at Cape Kennedy - because this may be the last opportunity. If Mariner Four fails - as Mariner -Three did three weeks ago - Mars will move out of range until Nineteen Sixty-Six.

Dick - Tomorrow , a rocket will be on it's way to Mars - they hope.

MISSILE

The Sheriff of Mineral County, Colorado - is pessimistic about finding the "lost missile". Sheriff Harry Larson, admitting that the deep snow in the Rockies - may hold up the search until spring.

The ten thousand pound ~~pe~~ Pershing Missile, ~~was~~ fired from a test site - at El Paso, Texas, ~~it~~ was supposed to land on the White Sands missile range - in New Mexico.

But it veered off course - and headed for Colorado.

Apparently landing in Mineral County - near the ^{old mining} town of Creede.

Rugged - mountains. ~~Thin~~ Thick - forests.

And snow drifts - eleven feet deep. No wonder it may ^{stay right} ~~not~~ ~~be~~ ~~found~~ ~~any~~ ~~wherever~~ it is, until spring - that wayward Pershing Missile.