

P.J. - Sunco. News, Aug. 17, 1937.

Tonight, in the Shanghai tragedy there's one ~~vivid~~ *vivid* ~~feature - the~~ time element. In that horror of fire and death, in a city of three million souls, a question of time intrudes - a problem concerning days and weeks.

Today's Number One news dispatch, from an American point of view, is the ~~headline~~ *headline*: - "American Troops to Shanghai!" ~~They are~~ *U.S.A. - are going.* Fighting men from the ~~United States~~ Today, Secretary of State Hull ~~announced~~ that the government was sending twelve hundred United States marines from San Diego, California. They will embark and sail for Shanghai to protect imperiled Americans there. The Secretary of State said the marines would be on their way across the Pacific in ~~ten days~~ *ten days*, ~~and it would be~~ *Five weeks* before they ~~will~~ *will* march off the gangplank at the war torn city on the China coast. Five weeks - that's the first phase of ~~the~~ *the* time element. But what will be happening in Shanghai in the meantime?

Over there, the slogan is being flung far and wide - "any ship, ~~anywhere~~ anywhere." That applies to Americans. ~~Better~~ *Better* get out of the flaming shell torn ~~city~~ *city*, get out quickly, no matter how - by any ship, going anywhere! There were four

thousand Americans in Shanghai when the shooting began. And ~~they~~ ^{-it been moving} ~~out~~ as fast as possible. By the end of the week more than fourteen hundred of them will be on their way, mostly women and children. That will leave twenty-five hundred odd Americans still in the range of the bursting shells and air bombs. So the slogan resounds - "any ship, anywhere." Meanwhile, the marines ^{to the rescue,} ~~are coming~~ steaming across the Pacific - but it will be five weeks before they get there.

Today, observers are pointing to the previous Shanghai war of some years ago, and noting how long it lasted. How long? Why, five weeks. That's the second phase of the time element. If the present clash lasts that same number of days - the twelve hundred marines from California will get there just as it's all over. And that ^{would} ~~will~~ be ironical. But nobody on the China coast expects any such mockery. They don't expect the present murderous clash to be over in five weeks. They figure it will last much longer, a more deadly and longdrawn out battle. ^{And} They point to the Japanese military moves today.

The Shanghai morning began with havoc from the sky.

Japanese bombing planes raked ^{ing} ~~ed~~ the Chinese part of the City.

Their target was the north station, which the Chinese troops are holding - it's the heart of Shanghai's communication.

High explosive and incendiary bombs fell with bursts of death and flame. The center of ~~the~~ Chinese Shanghai, held by powerful Chinese battalions, was the scene of shattering destruction.

And the sky bombing went on ^{today} over a front of thirty miles.

~~Early today,~~ ^{This morning} the Chinese reported a victory. Their

infantry and machine-gunners threw back ^a ~~the~~ Japanese attack on Chapei, that teaming oriental section devoured by war in the Shanghai battle five years ago, and once again torn by bullets and shells.

But ~~the~~ later reports tell of a sweeping Japanese offensive on all fronts, a battle-line reaching for miles.

The Mikado's troops ~~are~~ ^{from} the Japanese concession of the international city are spreading out, fan-wise, in a great circling movement across the surrounding country. They are driving to flank the hundred thousand crack Chinese troops

defending Shanghai.) Their plan seems to be to march far beyond the city, and isolate it, and even then drive on. Military

observers seem to believe that the broad military plan of the Japanese is to drive their columns deep into central China - as far as Nanking, city of the Nationalist Government. Perhaps they intend to overthrow Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist regime. Perhaps they intend to subjugate all China with one blow instead of merely taking over the five northern provinces.

This evening the scope of battle at ~~Shanghai~~ Shanghai looms to major proportions. It give a dark and deadly promise of being a far larger war than the battle of Shanghai five years ago. That one lasted five weeks. Five months may be a better figure for this one. So there's little change ~~of~~ *of* that irony for the marines, small chance for that mocking prospect. When the twelve hundred land from American warships five weeks from now, they're not likely to find that the war is over.

WATERSPOUT

Any of you who have gone voyaging in the tropics, may have seen that curious and rather romantic phenomenon - a waterspout. Or if you ~~didn't~~^{not}, you ~~surely~~^{we} wanted to see one - waterspouts are so picturesque, so characteristic of the wide spaces of the southern ocean. ~~Expatriates~~ Not particularly dangerous either, you will say. I myself have seen them time and again in the Indian Ocean, the South Atlantic, the Caribbean - everybody rushing to deck to behold that swirling ~~column~~^{column} rising out of the sea, nobody with the slightest apprehension.

Of course, there's many a formidable tale in the legend of the sea, many a waterspout story that tells of violence and destruction. But we think of these ~~as~~^{as} mostly the fables of the ancient mariner, sailors' yarns of the strange and fantastic.

Today, however, the news that comes ~~drifting in~~ drifting in may make us change our minds about waterspouts. It's a dispatch from Italy, from the Adriatic coast, from the ancient and romantic city of Rimini. That's the scene of one of the most famous of love stories - Francesca da Rimini. But today's tale is about a swirling column from the sea to the sky,

a waterspout that ran raging along the coast with an orgy of destructive violence. It hit the beach resorts of Rimini, and ripped hundreds of bathing cabins to shreds. It blasted two villages, knocked down houses and killed four people.

This evening troops of soldiers, dispatched in a hurry, are searching among tons of debris - fearing to find more victims.

Battalions of
~~The Italians~~, telegraph and telephone men, are repairing miles of communication lines, disrupted by the violence of the waterspout.

So maybe there's some truth in those old sailors' yarns, maybe Columbus was right. The old story tells how in the discovery of America he broke waterspouts by shooting at them with cannon.

RESCUE

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Today, far in the north where the midnight sun circles the horizon, they were busy ~~preparing for~~ ^{with} an exploit of rescue. Of all such expeditions, this one is perhaps the most spectacularly difficult and perilous. (This evening the belief ~~is~~ still strong that the Russian North Pole fliers are alive, forced down on an ice floe.) Moscow reports more wireless signals, faint, unintelligible - but they are on the same wave length as that used by the lost aviators. The latest was reported today from Irkutsk in Siberia. Levanevsky and his companions carried supplies and equipment to last them for forty-five days, camping on the ice. So, unless their plane came down in a rending fatal crash, they are likely to be ~~camped~~ ^{right now castaways} on the frozen polar sea - awaiting rescue.

What part of the frozen polar sea? The only indication is the last message received from them while they were in flight, winging on their way. Levanevsky then reported that they had crossed the Pole and were heading south, but were bucking a sixty mile Arctic blizzard - and one of the motors had stopped. That would place them somewhere between the ~~P~~ Pole and the northern

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fringe of Alaska. In other words, somewhere between the rescue flying base at Fairbanks and the Soviet weather observation base at the North Pole, where Russian scientists are in permanent camp on the ice. So that would be the line of rescue operations, from Fairbanks to the North Pole camp. Surely, no previous sky expedition has ever worked along so dramatic a trail. Northern aviators at Fairbanks have already made flights out ^{over} the ~~Polar sea.~~ ~~northern ice.~~ ~~There's no~~ But Thus far their reports are negative - they ^{have} ~~seen~~ seen nothing. But they're keeping on, especially Jimmy Mattern - who is eager to pay his debt of rescue to Levanevsky, the Russian Lindbergh. Three years ago Jimmy, forced down in the ~~Arctic~~ Russian Arctic, was saved by that Soviet flier.

The modern technique of aviation from Fairbanks to the ~~Matter~~ North Pole camp is not the only ~~one~~ that is being employed right now. The ~~more~~ older ways are still useful in the north; Canadian aviators have flown to Eskimo villages, seeking possible word of a plane forced down, ~~in the north~~ They're consulting ^{the} primordial news service of the Arctic, the primitive polar

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telegraph. Tidings fly fast from one village of igloos to another - civilized man can hardly understand it. I recall hearing ~~some~~ strange tales from my old northern friend, Louis Romanet, surnamed "Kabluk^{of} the Eskimo." I've listened to him tell of ~~Eskimo~~^{igloo} news runners journeying afar, spreading word of the latest events. No professional news service, just gossip - a young seal hunter with a hot story arriving in a village, and he's eager to tell it, and is rewarded by suitable whale^{flubber}-and-fish-oil-hospitality. That's the sort of technique ~~which is also being employed~~^{which is now being consulted} in the hunt for the Moscow-to-America North Pole Expedition.

The rescue work will have to hurry, because already in mid-August the polar winter is beginning to close down with the icy darkness and the howling blizzards of the farthest north.

TENNIS

The American Davis Cup team scored another victory today, but this time it wasn't any Wimbledon affair - no defeat of foreign net and racquet experts. It happened at Newport, at the Fifty-Seventh Annual Casino Cup Invitational Tournament, and all the players were Americans. Davis Cup Donald Budge, *now* first ranking player of the ~~United States~~ *world*, beat Henry Daniels of New York - an easy victory. Davis Cup Frankie Parker of Milwaukee hit the ~~slow~~ ball much too hard and ~~de~~ceptively for Bernard Walsh of Maryland. And Davis Cup Gene Mako was too cunning on the court for Marion Reese of Georgia. The Davis Cuppers *just* *in* showed their own *countrymen* ~~continues~~ why they *won* ~~won~~ world honors at Wimbledon.

AIR RACES

Speed and mystery - they're promised in the National Air Races in Cleveland. It ^{is} revealed today that more fast planes than ever before will be entered in the Thompson Trophy Race, which is ^{to be} the Cleveland climax of speed.

And today two mystery planes were entered. One of them ~~is~~ so mysterious we don't know much about it. It ^{is} the entry of Marion McKeen, the veteran air racer of Santa Monica, California. The other, not quite so mysterious, entered by Frank Fuller, ~~built~~ of San Francisco, ~~was~~ built at the ~~Sikorsky~~ ^{Sikorsky} plant. That's the factory which turns out a lot of fast army pursuit ships. Recently, Major ~~Sikorsky~~ ^{Sikorsky} himself flew one of the fastest of his own craft and averaged a speed of three hundred and twenty-one miles an hour. That's a promise for the wings he has built ^{for the} Cleveland ~~races~~, ^{races},

SENATE

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The Senate debate is still going on, At last reports the lawmakers were still in the middle of blasts of vitriolic oratory. You all know the subject of the debate. And you won't ask -- why all the fireworks? Whenever anything concerning the Supreme Court of the United States comes up, cannon crackers go bang and the skyrockets flash high.

Today the Senate considered the appointment of Senator Black of Alabama to the Supreme Court. The attack was led by Senators Burke and Copeland. They did most of the speech-making. Senator Burke paid his tribute to the nominee whom he attacked. "Many of us like and admire his many splendid qualities," he declared. Then he added the inevitable -- "But." He spoke of -- "one side of Senator Black's character." And by that he ~~meant~~ meant the Ku Klux Klan side. The bitterest shafts were directed at the ~~fact~~ ^{story} that Senator Black in his Alabama election courted the support of the hooded knights of the secret order. From this the gentleman from Nebraska drew the inference that the time-honored rule of the Senate to give a quick confirmation to a fellow senator was, in his words -- ~~both~~

"unwise and dangerous."

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But it was Senator Copeland who went to bat the hardest on the Klan issue. He hit a height of explosive oratory when he shouted the following: ~~He says~~ "And I say now ~~from~~ ^{of} the New Deal, that if it must depend upon decisions participated in by members ~~or~~ or supporters of this unAmerican, unChristian, and ~~Ex~~ unGodly organization, the Ku Klux Klan -- it must be apparent to the country that the New Deal is founded in iniquity."

Some malicious observers on the sidelines are remarking that Senator Copeland ~~dash~~ ^{ed} to Washington from his Mayoralty campaign in New York, and that attacks on the Ku Klux Klan are calculated to go well with the voters in the big town.

WALKER

Today Jimmy Walker ^{was} ~~is~~ indignant, as near to wrath and high dudgeon as so ~~xx~~ suave and urbane a chap can be. New York's former Mayor ^{and} ~~is~~ civic ^{ornament} ~~declaration~~ issued a denial as flaming and vehement as a polite Jimmy Walker denial ~~can~~ be. No he was not thinking of a pension. ~~But~~ The very idea of a pension was far from his mind.

During his time as New York's gilded Mayor, Jimmy paid a percentage of his salary into a municipal pension fund. The regulations of that fund provide that ^{if} ~~a~~ former city employee is out of office for five years he loses his pension right. If he leaves the service of the city he must get back on the municipal payroll before the five years are up. Well, Jimmy Walker quit the job of Mayor just five years ago this September first. ^{And} ~~in~~ two ^{more} weeks he would ^{have been} ~~be~~ ineligible for the pension. Ah, but ~~Jimmy~~ Jimmy came in right under the wire ^{today. Just} ~~and~~ given a job on the city Transit Commission. That just saves his pension by a space of fourteen days; ^a ~~the~~ pension ^{of between} ~~will come within~~ twelve and fifteen thousand ^{in ten years more than} ~~100,000.~~ dollars a year. So you can understand how eyebrows were lifted ^{today.} ~~and~~ the tongue of malicious surmise mentioned ^{the} ~~the~~ word - pension.

*Shocked that anyone
should have thought of it.*

But Jimmy denies such a thought was in his mind at all. ~~He~~

A mere \$100,000. His deep

~~concern~~ something else. What? The answer is indicated in a

statement of the Transit Commission, which tells what Jimmy's

Which is: -

job will be. ^AQuote - the coordination of the commission's activities

in connection with projected grade crossing eliminations in New

York City, - unquote. The statement further declares that Jimmy's

quote "ability and familiarity with the subject of grade crossings are

well-established," *end quote. Full stop.*

So you see -- New York's late night-club Mayor, ^{the} witty, the

suave spoken ~~man~~, the perfectly dressed Jimmy Walker -- has a

passion for grade crossings. So let there be an end to the gossip

about pension. And let ^{ere} ~~th~~ be an end to this broadcast. *End quote.*

Full stop And -- SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.