

Capt. McVay Denies Blame for Loss of American Cruiser

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—(AP)—Capt. Charles B. McVay, 3rd, skipper of the ill-fated cruiser Indianapolis, entered a formal plea of innocent to charges of negligence and inefficiency in the loss of the vessel yesterday.

The charges were read to him at his public court-martial and when asked how he pleaded he replied in a firm voice "not guilty."

Asked if he had any admission to make in open court with regard to the charges and specifications, he replied through his counsel, Capt. John P. Cady, that he was commanding officer of the cruiser Indianapolis on July 30, 1945, the date she was sunk and that the ship was en route from Guam to Leyte.

The seven-man court, headed by Rear Admiral Wilder D. Baker, was convened yesterday, but granted the defense a 24-hour postponement to complete preparation of its case after rejecting a defense motion to quash one of the charges.

Defense counsel entered an objection to the charge that Capt. McVay, through "negligence" permitted his ship to be endangered by failing to order the ship to sail a zigzag course, although it was traveling without escort through an area in which enemy submarines might be encountered.

He argued unsuccessfully that the charge "failed to state an offense," but merely "set out a conclusion."

Full Explanation Lacking

Although loss of the heavy cruiser has been officially attributed to "enemy action," there has been no explanation of exactly what caused the disaster. The ship, survivors related, sank in 15 minutes. There were 100 per cent casualties among the ship's 1,196 personnel. Dead and missing totaled 880, and the remainder were injured.

The prosecution introduced testimony today through its first witness that the Indianapolis had been warned of submarine contacts "within 200 miles" of the route the cruiser was instructed to take.

This testimony was given by Lt. Joseph J. Waldron, the convoy routing officer at Guam.

The lieutenant described how the route was devised from Guam to Leyte and a copy of it and intelligence instructions was introduced.

The instructions were that the Indianapolis was to proceed at 15 knots on a special course, plotted out in specific longitudes and latitudes and arrive at Leyte July 31st. The commander was instructed to zigzag at his own discretion.

There were signs of submarines on three different occasions in the vicinity of the route, the report said. It added that several instances of floating mines had been noted "and a sharp lookout should be kept."

Under cross examination Lt. Waldron testified that the question of a destroyer escort for the cruiser was not discussed with her officer. However, he checked with the area commander to inquire if one was available and was informed that one was not needed. He said he was told that a directive from fleet headquarters provided that under conditions then prevailing ships would sail the route without escort.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

DR. CHARLES A. EDWARDS

Do you lie awake at night and worry about all the things that might happen to you? Worry is a form of fear. You are afraid to face the future. Why? Once there were ten who were afraid to go into a land that God had given them. "There are giants in the land," they said. But the two other men, Caleb and Joshua who had gone with them to spy out the land, were unafraid. They knew they could take the land for God was with them. And that is the true secret of living without fear. If God is with you, you can let all your worries go. You can stand firm and unafraid at a time when the world needs men and women who are fearless. "Have not I commanded thee? Be strong, and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." If you trust you will not worry. If you worry you do not trust. Trust in the Lord. And verily thou shalt be cared for.—Amen.

Youth Faces Charge Of Stealing Airplane

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 3.—(AP)—Robert Stiner, 20, of Golden-dale, Wash., has been named in a federal indictment charging transportation of a stolen airplane in interstate commerce.

Stiner, recently arrested in Kenora, Ont., was accused of stealing a plane at Hudson, Wis., and flying it to the vicinity of Duluth, where it crashed in a growth of timber.

Federal authorities said Stiner had fled to Hudson after escaping from military confinement in Chicago.

The indictment, based on an amendment of the Dyer act, was reported to be the first of its kind ever returned. The act provides a penalty, on conviction, of imprisonment up to five years, a \$5,000 fine or both.

Oregon Co-Ops to Meet

PORTLAND, Dec. 4.—(AP)—More than 500 commercial co-operative associations will be represented here Monday at the 24th annual meeting of the Oregon Agricultural Co-operative council.

Paul Carpenter, of Oregon State college is secretary for the group.

Portable Steel Mills
Steel Drag Saws
Steel Pond Saws
Automatic Slashing Saws
Friction Niggers
Cone-type Carriage Feeds
Log Dogs
All Steel Carriages
Saw Mandrels

H. C. Carson

General Machine Work
Ph. 512 Harrisburg, Oregon

VFW Urges Action To Get Materials For Home Building

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 5.—(AP)—A resolution asking the president to create an authority to make available immediately building materials to alleviate the nation's housing shortage was passed at a meeting of national officers of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Louis D. Starr of Portland, Ore., senior vice president, said a survey on the Pacific coast disclosed that a shortage of over 500,000 living units was registered for the section.

Officials of the organization voted to hold the 47th annual convention in Boston from Aug. 25 to Aug. 30.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—(AP)—Contending that "unscrupulous speculators are piling profit on profit at the expense of the home seekers," Rep. Patman (D-Tex.) advocated yesterday creation of a federal housing stabilization office to deal with what he termed a "national crisis."

The Texan said 2,870,000 veterans require immediate housing and said the current treatment of returning servicemen seeking shelter "should be a source of shame and disgrace to this nation."

\$90,000 for Exchange Seat
NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—(AP)—The price of New York Stock Ex-

change memberships rose to the highest level since 1937 yesterday when one sold for \$90,000, up \$1,000 from a transaction reported a few hours earlier. This was the best price since \$93,000 on July 20, 1937.

The current bid was \$72,000 and \$90,000 asked.

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TOYLAND IS OPEN

at CARR'S

As Usual

When you want to select from a complete and varied stock you go to Carr's Toyland.

We have a thousand square feet of space on our balcony that houses a separate and complete Toy Dept. You will find there one of the few complete Toylands in Southern Oregon.

Dolls Metal Toys

In the face of curtailed production we have assembled hundreds of dolls for you to choose from. Composition dolls, fine dolls with hair, sleepy eyes; others with soft, cuddly bodies; many baby and character types. Wags, snow suits, pajamas, Jr. Debs, pig tail, curls, hair-do or moulded dolls to dress and wardrobe clothes.

A few last minute additions to our toy lines in the much wanted all metal toys at popular prices. Heavy serviceable steel scooters, cannon, mechanical, shoots pellets; realistic electric range that heats, all-metal banks in several styles, toy iron of metal that's a dandy, air gun type cork gun, 36 inch, shoots corks, has metal target.

Stuffed Toys Juvenile Furniture

What a line we can show you! A hundred kinds? Yes we do have Plush pandas, elephants, honey bears, horses, dogs, teddy bears, monkeys, lambs, ponies. Fur or Rayon Scotties, dreamy cats, jumbo elephants, lambkins, pandas, teddies, novelty dolls. Washable types in horses, Scotties, elephants and other cuddle types. Novelties in balloon pants dolls, clowns, monkeys, elephants and horses.

Durable items to please and serve the kiddies. Chairs and rockers in several styles for any age, one year to seven. Table and Chair sets, substantial upholstered rockers, child's size. Cradles and doll beds and bunks. Utility stools and play benches, smart new dolly walkers, doll high chairs, swings and toys. Blackboards alone and in easel sets.

Games, Books Wood Toys

Always an acceptable gift for use by the whole family. For action—ring, toss quoits, bowling and knock-over games. Boxed games in Anagrams, Lotto, Old Maid, Dominoes, Checkers, etc. etc. Skill games in baseball, Parchese, Easy-Money, race games, football playing cards, chips and sets. Lively spin games, dozens of kinds doll cutouts, color books, crayons, kiddies story books and bound volumes. Play balls, plastic or rubber balls.

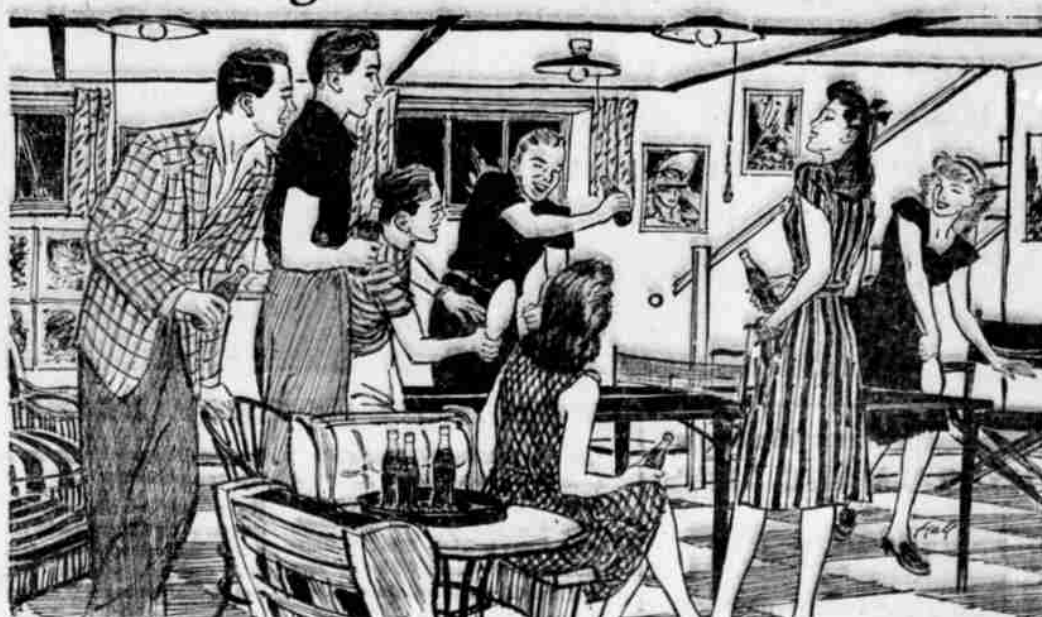
Jr. Housekeeper Items Guns, Holster Sets

Any child likes to play house and have things "like mothers." Toy tea time dishes come in glass, colorful plastics or in baking sets. Wood carpet sweeper that rolls, laundry sets and ironing boards, doll house of pasteboard to assemble, cleaning sets, dust mops, cloths.

No active boy but likes to play with items of this sort. Plastic guns and revolvers, holster sets, single and double; toy soldiers, anti-aircraft, tanks, etc. Tommy guns and cadet raiders, robot and plane construction sets, plastic aeroplanes and helicopters.

For Toys--It's Carr's Variety Store

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