

The Week in California

Radar Men Testify Before Navy Board of Inquiry After Destroyers Collide in Fog

By United Press International
Radar men were called to testify in Long Beach before a naval court of inquiry seeking to learn the cause of a death-dealing collision between two destroyers.

The fact-finding court of four high-ranking naval officers heard in its opening session that verbal orders given shortly before the collision might have avoided the tragedy — had not screaming ship whistles drowned them out.

The collision occurred in dense fog off Newport Beach, south of Long Beach, killing 11 men aboard the USS Ammen. A total of seven others were injured on the Ammen, and the other ship, the USS Collett.

Cmdr. Albert Ford, 39, skipper of the Collett, said the signal he shouted when he saw the broadside of the Ammen looming directly before his vessel was, "right full rudder."

"I wanted to sideswipe her if I had to, rather than make a direct hit amidships," he testified.

Whistles Started
"But by that time the ship's whistles had started and the helmsman didn't hear me," Ford said. "I reached through the pilot house window and signaled with my hand."

"By then response was too late and the Collett rammed into the side of the Ammen," a 40-foot hole at the fire and engine rooms was ripped out of the Ammen and the bow of the newly-outfitted Collett was crumpled back 30 feet. Both ships later were able to limp back to port.

The Collett's speed at the time of impact was 20 knots, about 23 miles an hour, Ford said.

Radarscopes Okay
The radarscopes aboard the Collett were believed to have been operating perfectly, Ford said. He pointed out, however, that since the once-proud warship had been in the dockyards being re-outfitted, turnover of personnel had been high.

Ford said radarmen aboard his ship had "fair training," but he rated them "poor" on communications with other ships.

The court of inquiry has no disciplinary powers. Its sole purpose is to determine facts about the collision.

Elsewhere, there were these developments:

FIRES: Gov. Edmund G. Brown declared fire-ravaged Los Angeles county a disaster area as giant fires exploded into new fury over thousands of acres of tinder-dry southern California brush and timberland. The governor's declaration came just as 500 people in Mt. Baldy village were fleeing the onslaught of two huge fires that threatened to merge into one about 30 miles northeast of Los Angeles. Total acreage from six major fires and dozens of smaller ones topped to more than 100,000 acres.

WATER: The state prepared to proceed "as rapidly as possible" with a huge aqueduct system to carry water from central California's lush delta to the thirsty southern

part of the state. But Harvey O. Banks, director of water resources, told newsmen that other features of Gov. Edmund G. Brown's \$1.75 billion water plan — including Oroville dam — may be delayed. Banks met with newsmen the day after two Eastern consultants recommended two-stage construction of the water program — if voters approve a proposed \$1.75 billion water bond issue in November.

DEMONSTRATORS: A group of demonstrators who were arrested during the San Francisco City Hall riots last May challenged FBI head J. Edgar Hoover and members of the House Un-American Activities Committee to an open debate. The challenge came in the wake of Hoover's charges that the riots were Communist inspired, infiltrated and paid for. A statement issued by the group took issue with FBI reports that students got to the hearings by means of a telephone campaign and that the party distributed song sheets to demonstrators.

SINATRA: The Los Angeles city attorney's office refused to issue a complaint against actor-singer Frank Sinatra, but said it would file against a companion as the result of a parking lot fracas at a Hollywood nightclub May 14. City Attorney Roger Arnebergh said there was not enough evidence to charge Sinatra with striking parking lot attendant Edward Moran, 21. But he said a charge of battery and disturbing the peace would be filed against John Hopkins, known in the film colony as "Big John."

FINCH: Opening arguments got under way in the second murder trial of Dr. Bernard Finch and Carole Tregoff. A jury of 11 women and one man will hear the trial, expected to last another 2 1/2 months.

Orleans Firm Bids On Klamath Timber

Yreka — A. and S. Rochlin, Orleans, Calif., submitted the only sealed bid last week on 9,200,000 board feet of pine and fir timber in the Blackberry unit, Klamath National forest, located in the Salmon River district.

Rochlin bid \$19.65 per thousand for 600,000 board feet of ponderosa and jeffrey pine; \$23.20 per thousand for 1,450,000 board feet of sugar pine; \$3.15 per thousand for 570,000 board feet of white and red fir; \$10.55 per thousand for 6,580,000 board feet of douglas fir; \$5.15 per thousand for a nominal volume of knobcone pine; and \$3.15 per thousand for a nominal volume of incense cedar.

The total advertised and bid value was \$116,644.50.

Quotes From the News

BY UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
United Nations, N.Y.—U. S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, telling the wives of the crewmen of the downed U.S. RB-47 that Russia's claims the plane was over Soviet territorial waters was a sinister fabrication:
"They will not get away with it."

Alexandria, La.—Former Gov. Earl Long, campaigning for Congress:
"Uncle Earl never does anything that you ladies would be ashamed of. I don't drink. I don't run around."

Oklahoma City—Oklahoma State Rep. Shockley Shoemaker, in a record of his expenses during his unsuccessful primary campaign against U.S. Rep. Ed Edmondson (D-Okla.):
"Pants torn by Democratic dog, \$16.32."

Solbakken, Denmark—Eric Aggernas, vice chairman of the Danish Nudist Movement, extolling the advantages of nudism:
"There's nothing as unpleasant or unhealthy as a dripping wet swim suit."

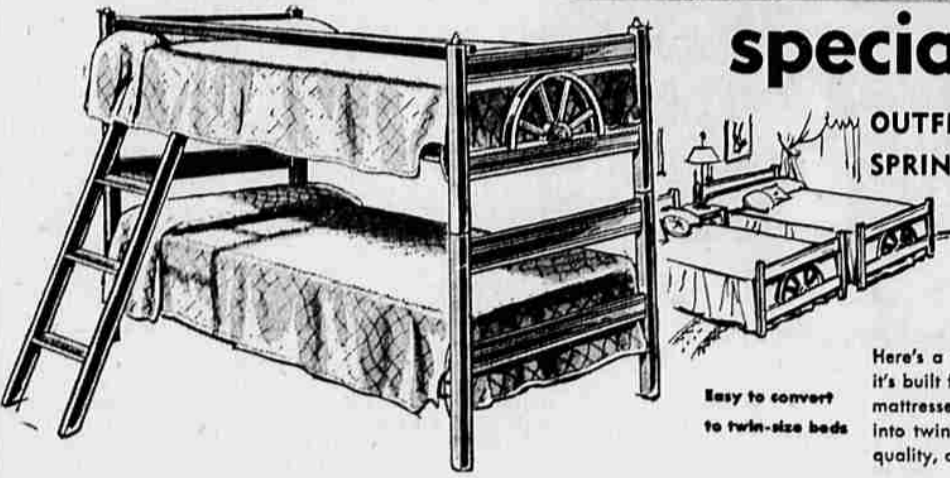
Noted Song Writer Al Hoffman Dies

New York — 77—Composer Al Hoffman, 58, who in 30 years collaborated in writing a long chain of hit songs that began with "Heartaches" and ended with "Papa Loves Mambo," died Thursday night in the hospital for joint diseases after an illness of several months.

Hoffman, born in Russia and brought to this country as a child, came to New York in 1928 after a period as leader of a Seattle dance band.

He composed the music for "Heartaches" in 1930 and later collaborated with composers and lyricists in songs including "Auf Wiedersehen, My Dear," "Little Man, You've Had a Busy Day," "If I Knew You Were Coming, I'd Have Baked a Cake," "Muirzy Doats," "She Shall Have Music," "Chi-Baba Chi-Baba," "So This is Love," "I'm Going to Live Till I Die," and "A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes."

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Here's a wagon wheel bunk bed set that your kids will really appreciate. And it's built from selected hardwoods to take plenty of punishment. The innerspring mattresses are comfortable for children or adults. You can convert the outfit into twin-size beds if you wish. Compare this price anywhere in town for this quality, and you will see how low it is!

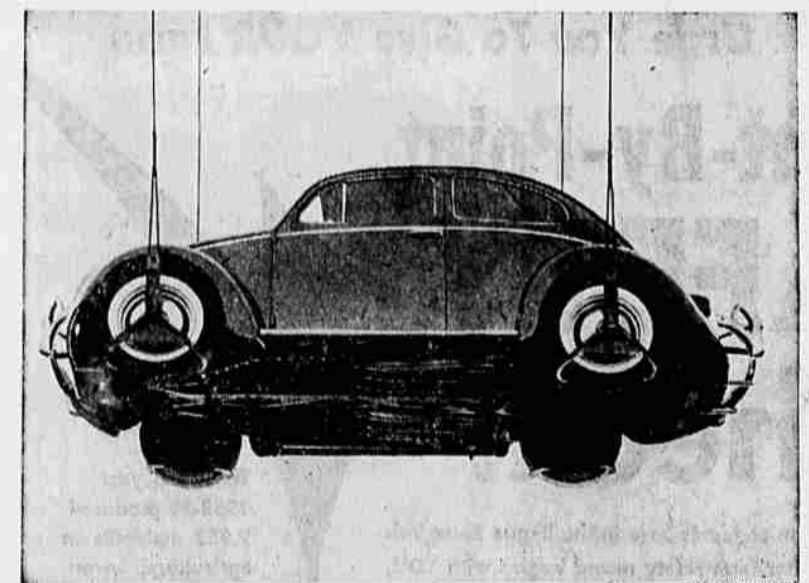
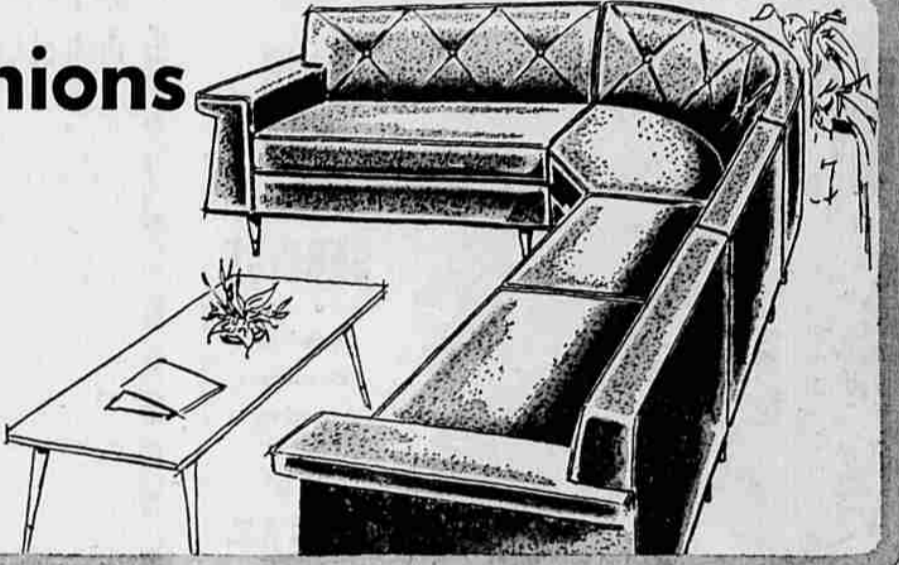
4-pc! foam cushions

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\$5 Down

Rich in appearance, comfortable, sturdily built to last for years. You get all 4 pieces for this one low price. The 100% Nylon cover comes in a selection of colors. The foam rubber cushions are thick and luxurious. Diamond welted backs provide a modern touch. This is a big set, a quality set at a dollar-saving price. Don't miss it.



Who in the world seals the bottom? Volkswagen.

Here's a side of the VW that few people know about: the underside. It is completely enclosed, and sealed with rubber to make it practically airtight. So light, there are reports it will float! But here's a more useful advantage: a VW slashes through water that brings other traffic to a standstill.

On most cars, control wires and cables are left exposed. But notice how flat and smooth the VW bottom is. No hollow pockets and hanging parts to trap air and slow you down. Less drag. Better gas mileage. A VW depreciates less than any other car because less can happen to it.

The Volkswagen's heater and defroster are part of the chassis, built into it and therefore included in our price: \$1782 top to bottom.



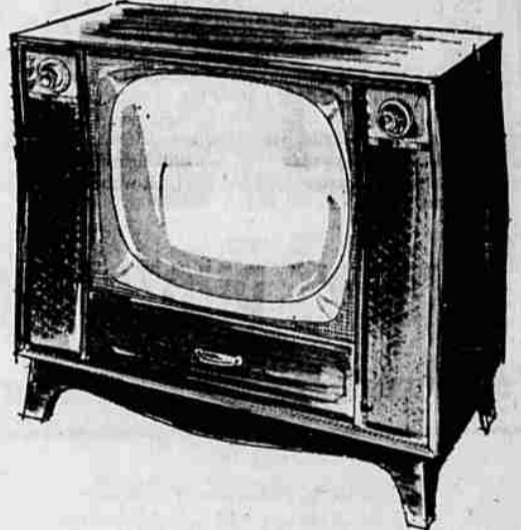
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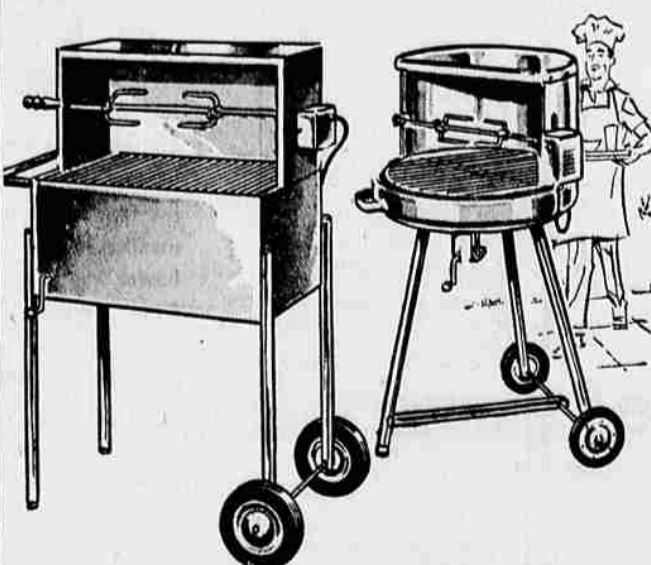
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*measured diagonally

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wagon type **19⁸⁸**

Just because the price is low, don't compare this barbecue with cheaply constructed barbecues you may see elsewhere. Overall height 44". Weight approximately 57 lbs. Husky motor and plated spit. Crank raises and lowers removable tray in firebox. Big rubber-tired wheels.

brazier barbecue **11⁸⁸**

Big 24" heavy-gauge steel bowl. Adjustable chromed grill and heat-holding hood. Husky UL-approved electric motor. Don't confuse this with wobbly cheaply constructed braziers.

Car polish and polish cloth reduced!

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New Riverside instant car wax-cleaner. Foam type. Leaves high luster, durable finish. 16-oz. can.

Giant Single Seater

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