

Portuguese East Africa Visited by Former Medford Man

(Editor's note: This is another in a series of articles by Luke Lange, former Medford resident, who is taking an around the world trip aboard the freighter, SS Friesland. Today's article concerns the east coast of Africa.)

By LUKE LANGE

Anyone who has ridden on a ship for a long period of time knows the feeling of looking forward to the arrival at the next port, no matter how small or uninteresting it may be. Anything to get off the ship, eat on shore and break the monotony of staring at the sea.

Port towns in nearly all countries are generally dirty, but these small cargo towns on the east coast of Africa really take the rag off the bush.

Those that are controlled by whites usually have two or three clean buildings near the docks for white employees and their families.

The rest of the town is invariably dirty. Even so, the 10 Americans aboard can't seem to wait for the gangplank to be lowered.

Mile From Anchorage

Most towns are a mile or more from the ship's anchorage, and if the town is large enough to have one or two taxis they will be waiting at the dock. Before you get in you know the driver will overcharge you.

The sun is hot in Africa and walking is rough, so you take your expected yentzen from the driver, eat at a dirty restaurant, return to the boat and gripe because she isn't loading cargo faster so you can hurry up the coast to the next African stop and do it all over again.

On arrival at Laurence Marques, Portuguese East Africa, we were all anxious

to go up town, and it turned out to be one of the cleanest towns we had seen in Africa.

Run by Portuguese

I had been wondering how the Portuguese run their show in Africa compared to the French, Dutch, English, and German, and I began to find out right after we dropped anchor.

The Portuguese love uniforms, authority, paper work and confusion. The only bureau that can "out red tape" the administration in Portuguese East Africa is our own Department of State. It seems our travel agent had neglected to get a visa for Laurence Marques. Even though our family had a valid passport and visa for Portugal, and a valid passport for Portuguese East Africa, we had no visa.

I was informed by a customs agent, dressed in a gaudy uniform, that the Lange family couldn't get off the boat. Up to this time we had not been asked for a passport nor visa anywhere in Africa so this seemed to be a simple matter, told him to make out three and we would pay him.

This, he said was out of the question, since visas could only be issued at Beira, some 400 miles up the coast. After riding this ship some 15,000 miles, we wanted to see all of Africa we could, so I gave him a work out.

Given Seaman's Passes

Our Dutch ship captain stepped in with his guarantee of my good behavior on shore, a gift of 100 escudos (\$3.50), along with an apology from me, we were given seaman's passes and allowed to go ashore, restricted to the city limits of Laurence Marques.

The ship was staying three days in port, and we wanted to go into the interior and talk to the natives. I felt we could get where we wanted. The Port police sent me to

the main central police who passed the buck to the American Consul, another 10 blocks away with the temperature at 115.

Our offices in foreign countries try to use all the local help they can, and a nice looking Portuguese girl lost no time in telling me a visa was impossible. I demanded to see the American Consul, and he, of course, was out of town. The vice consul was busy with government affairs, so I got a magazine and told her I wasn't leaving until I talked to him.

Drops Urgent Business

He dropped the urgent business, came out and shook hands, said he was from Vermont, glad to meet an American from California way out here and what could he do for me. I told him the simple problem of the visa, hated to bother him but, had been to customs and two police stations, and the main police station had assured me he could arrange a visa in short order. He said there was nothing his office could do, this was out of his jurisdiction, he didn't have the authority, he was getting tired of having the Portuguese police send him Americans on such matters.

It occurred to me that maybe they couldn't get me a visa, but they could cancel my passport. With the trip only one-third completed, I thought I had better leave well enough alone, so I left the office defeated. With the matter of the visa settled to everyone's satisfaction but my own, I went up town to find the family, who had been shopping.

Portuguese East Africa is run 100 per cent by the Portuguese. Unlike other countries of Africa under white control, they have given the natives full citizenship. They have given them a higher pay scale and the black man's standard of living seems better here than in other African countries we have visited. **Class of Laborers**

Even so, few of the blacks have risen above the class of laborer. This is due to such things as lack of ability, education, ambition and in many

Self Diagnosis Is Subject of Program

"Self Diagnosis and Treatment" will be discussed on "Adventures in Medicine" at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon over station KBES-TV.

Appearing on the medical panel will be Dr. Dwight H. Findley, general practitioner, and Dr. John L. Welch, specialist in internal medicine, Medford, and Dr. Aubrey M. Hill, general practitioner, Ashland.

They will point out some of the possible harmful effects of using self-prescribed nostrums and medications, or mis-using prescriptions, emphasizing the dangers involved in "sharing" prescriptions with friends or other members of the family.

Mrs. C. Ivan Burton, moderator of the program, said today's topic was selected as the result of viewers' questions. "Adventures in Medicine" invites suggestions from the viewers, Mrs. Burton said, and cards or letters may be directed to the program, care of station KBES-TV.

669,500 Oregonians Had Jobs in April

Salem—UPI—Nearly 670,000 Oregon residents had jobs last month, the Oregon Employment department said Friday. This was a gain of 11,500 jobs from March.

The April figure this year of 669,500 was a boost of 15,600 jobs over April, 1961.

April was the seventh month in a row in which more employment was recorded in 1962 than in corresponding months in 1961.

Oregon unemployment in April stood at 37,800. This was down 11,800 from March. It also was 12,100 less than April, 1961.

French Lawyers To Seek New Trial

Paris—UPI—Lawyers for Edmond Jouhaud made plans Friday to seek a new trial for the former army general in an attempt to save him from the death sentence for treason.

The attorneys acted on the strength of the outcome of the Salan case, which has disturbed the De Gaulle government and raised fears of increased violence in Algeria.

Ex-General Raoul Salan, admitted leader of Secret Army Organization (OAS) terrorists in Algeria, was convicted of treasonous acts Wednesday night and sentenced to life imprisonment. The court ruled out the expected death sentence on the ground of unspecified "extenuating circumstances."

cases laziness. In no case are they held back by segregation or discrimination against Laurence Marques is full of Portuguese soldiers, wearing camouflaged jungle uniforms. With trouble in the countries all around them, the Portuguese are having difficulty in keeping out black refugees from places like Rhodesia and The Union of South Africa.

The news of the battles in the Congo and other sore spots in Africa has spread here. The blacks are urged on by a handful of educated would be patriots who are demanding the Portuguese get out of Africa and give the country back to the natives. The attitude of the United Nations and our own government gives them further encouragement.

The Portuguese, next door to the Congo, have witnessed a demonstration of a like movement by the Belgians. They further witnessed a good demonstration of the United Nations ability to handle the chaos caused by this premature independence.

Government Pulls Out

The Belgian government on the constant urging of the UN and other civilized nations, finally pulled out of the Congo. The blacks burned, robbed and looted everything in sight. What they didn't destroy, they stole.

The United Nations sent a UN army to keep the peace. Soldiers consisting mostly of Ethiopians were sent into the Congo. These soldiers, according to reports, made the original atrocities look like small potatoes.

This contingent was pulled out of the Congo as quickly as possible but the damage had been done.

Is it no wonder the Portuguese in East Africa have told the United Nations to keep out of their colony, and refused a UN committee the right to investigate the administration.

These events, along with our voting against them in the UN, probably explains their animosity at this time toward American tourists.

Naval Group

In addition to the Army, the Portuguese have a Naval group in this section. Two destroyers are in the harbor and there is a constant Naval patrol of the coast.

In nearly all African towns the businesses and shops are owned and managed by Indians. This is true in Laurence Marques.

When Nehru took Goa away from the Portuguese these Indians celebrated with a street dance. They are all in a barbed wire concentration camp at the edge of town and the shops are all padlocked. The entire Indian population is getting free transportation back to India.

One thing you notice in Africa is the lack of war talk about Russia and the United States.

They are too busy with their own little wars to give any thought to a world conflict.

The Dutch officers on our ship are having a ball kidding Americans aboard for being so generous in helping Ghana with loans and gifts of money, and our diligence in seeing how it is spent by the Nkrumah government.

Recently the Ghana Minister of Defense was in England. His wife attended an auction, and bought a solid gold bed for \$6,000 American dollars. We also heard that on her return to Ghana she bought a house for \$53,000 American dollars. This kind of money in Ghana would buy a home and grounds similar to the Country club in Medford.

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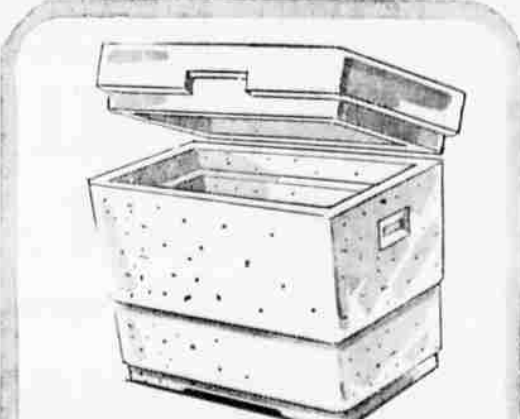
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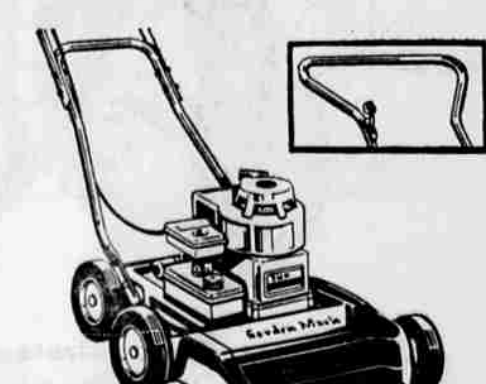
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