Businessman Escapes From Hong Kong in Pirate Boat

Editor's note: In the following dispatch a veteran far eastern business man, a member of the New York firm of Starr, Park and Freeman, describes his escape from Japanese-held Hong Kong. Duff, of Canadian descent, is widely known in the Far East. His wife is in Ridgecrest, N. C.

By J. ARTHUR DUFF
As Told to The United Press

CHUNGKING, March 7 (U.P.) I was in my apartment in the Gloucester hotel on Victoria island, Hong Kong, on Dec. 24, when I got word that the defenders of the island could not hold out much longer and that capitulation to the Japanese might be imminent.

I decided that I would try to escape since I knew that fall of the island would mean internment for all of us. I felt I had a good chance because of my knowledge of the Chinese language and my long experience with the people of the country.

My first problem was to get to a place on the island where I could hide until I could make plans to get a boat from the island to the adjacent mainland where, I was confident, I could slip through the loosely-held Japanese lines.

To keep out of sight, I took refuge in a Chinese house. It was searched four times by enemy soldiers, but each time my hiding place was not discovered.

I disguised myself as an Indian, and, on Jan. 10, I succeeded in arranging to escape with some Chinese. Wearing ordinary Chinese clothes, and slightly disguised in order to avoid identification, I walked four miles to a fishing boat to negotiate my passage to the mainland.

There were six sentry searches at barricades before I arrived at a village, intact, with money hidden in the cuffs of my trousers and soles of my shoes. I left enough in my pockets, though, to satisfy robbers in order to avoid third-degree treatment.

Beyond this village, the Japanese were said to be turning back all pedestrians. As arrest appeared certain if I tried to get through, I returned to a smaller village.

I slipped into a deep ditch and hid in a culvert under a roadway. After dark, I walked through vegetable patches to an appointed rendezvous.

I spent the night in the house of friendly natives but left before dawn.

Sentries again were guarding the way, but I decided I had to go on, for the boat that was waiting was running constant risk of being fired on from a nearby fort, while I was in danger all the time of being arrested by the Japanese.

I walked through the pass in a heavy rain. No sentries were outside in the downpour, fortunately.

From there I made my way to the bay and boarded the waiting boat.

I could not remain on the boat, however, and had to spend two days in a nearby temple while the Chinese crew went to the city to collect food and clothing

This boat eventually took me out to a pirate junk.

We sailed to a secret anchorage to await a favorable wind. We spent six days there and nearly starved because food was lacking. When our hunger was at its worst, the pirates went to the mainland, where they collected a cow, a pig, chickens and cabbage.

I felt sorry for the farmers who had been robbed, but I was grateful for my only meal in six days.

On the seventh day, while most of the pirates were ashore smoking opium in a village, my junk was attacked by other armed men.

They bound me and shoved me aboard another junk, together with all the guns and ammunition of the first. Then they sailed away, tacking in the open sea all night long.

Our captors shot the pirate leaders and threw them overboard. I felt sorry, because, though they were doubtless cutthroats, they were not deserving of such a fate.

The leader of my captors finally disclosed that he was a guerrilla chieftain and one of the pirate crewmen was his spy—a circumstance which actually resulted in my escape. The guerrillas promised me protection during my escape.

The guerrillas gave me 50 yuan ($2.50) and sent me by boat across the bay and thence to guerrilla headquarters.

I stayed at guerrilla headquarters three days, then was taken under escort through a countryside honeycombed with abandoned Japanese defenses.

Accompanied by police and military evacuees from Wai-Chow, we passed numerous parties of Chinese refugees from Hong Kong. We traveled late at night, continuing our journey until 3 a. m.

We walked 30 miles through the mountains, finally reaching the river beyond the Japanese advance.

I joined a party of Chinese refugees and with the aid of Chinese authorities continued the journey to Kewilin.

WEEK DEDICATED TO BETTER VISION

This week, March 8 to 14 is Better Vision week, and thousands of optometrists throughout the country are cooperating with the Better Vision institute of New York in bringing the important message of eyesight conservation to all.

"The heavy defense program makes your eyes more important than ever," says M. J. Julian, director of the institute. "Longer hours, closer, more exacting work—all these cost additional eye energy, and bring out visual defects not known or suspected before. It is the part of every loyal American to be sure that his eyes are functioning to the highest degree, without trace of eyestrain; and Better Vision week this year, therefore, takes on added significance, because now, more than ever before, the eyesight of the nation is of vital importance."

In a survey recently conducted by the institute, it was shown that seven people out of ten require glasses, but that only four out of ten wear them. This means that almost one-third of the population of the United States is going about their daily tasks, perhaps performing their work inefficiently, because of inadequate vision.

"The poor general condition of America's eyes is sharply brought out by the fact that almost one-half of the rejections for the U. S. army air corps are due to faulty vision," continued Julian. "It does not require 'super' vision to pass this eyesight test; only normal, healthy eyesight.

"Whether you believe you might need glasses or not, it is the best policy to be sure. If you haven't had your eyes examined within the past year, why not make it a point to see your optometrist now, during Better Vision week? It may pay you huge, unrealized dividends in better work and more enjoyable recreational hours."

River Searched For Bodies of Army Plane Crew

STUART, Fla., March 7 (AP) A wide stretch of the tide-swept St. Lucie river was being searched by army men today for the bodies of seven military fliers who plunged to their death in a storm-tossed army transport plane.

Soldiers from Morrison field, West Palm Beach, kept civilians out of the area. A spokesman said there was no question that anyone aboard survived the crash.

The plane ran into a tropical squall early Thursday night. A wing was torn loose, causing a fire, and the craft plunged into the river three miles below Stuart.

Army authorities at Dayton, O., said Lieut. John A. Evans of Auburndale, Mass., was the pilot; Lieut. Harry E. Bullock Jr., Lexington, Ky., co-pilot; Sgt. Ercel Stallard, Lathar, Ky., aviation engineer, and Corp. Clarence F. Ayers, Huntington, W. V., radio operator.

Also aboard were Lieutenants Clements and Simpson and Sergeant Rutko from the Middleton, Pa., air depot, whose first names and addresses were not available here.

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SOCIETY

SPRAGUE COUPLE GIVEN SURPRISE

SPRAGUE RIVER — Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Kircher, Sprague River newlyweds, were given a surprise supper and party at their home Wednesday night, March the fourth. At half past six o'clock a group of friends assembled at the Kircher home and caught the couple totally unaware. Each guest brought a supper dish.

The early part of the evening was spent in visiting, after which supper was served. The Kirchers were presented with a card table as a gift from the group.

Those attending the affair were Mr. and Mrs. Earl Atchinson, Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Seright, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Coffman, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Groves, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Heidrich, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Parks, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ough, and the guests of honor, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Kircher.

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MRS. DRYDEN HOSTESS AT CLUB MEETING

The Friendship club met February the twenty-seventh at the home of Mrs. C. O. Dryden on North Eleventh street. Mrs. T. J. Webb and Mrs. Freda Jackson were co-hostesses.

A bridge luncheon was served at half past one o'clock after which a short business meeting was held. Auction was played with awards going to Mrs. Thomas Hart, Mrs. W. A. Bishop and Mrs. Frank Hamm.

Others present were Mrs. E. H. Love, Mrs. Emma A. O'Neill, Mrs. Glenn Hewitt, Mrs. O. E. Schupp, Mrs. L. A. Eschle, Mrs. Henry Gloystein, Mrs. Myrtle McWhithey, Mrs. Charles M. Reynolds and Charlene, and the hostesses. The next meeting will be held March the twenty-seventh, the place to be announced later.

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Contract Club Is Entertained

The Thursday Contract club met March the fifth at the home of Mrs. Stella Dryden on North Eleventh street. A bridge luncheon was served at half past one o'clock to Mrs. Cecil Sparks, Mrs. T. J. Webb, Mrs. Edith Eschle, Mrs. Idoline Schupp, Mrs. Bertha Hewitt, Mrs. Clara McPherren and Mrs. Willa Bark.

Awards were received by Mrs. Sparks, high, Mrs. Schupp, second high, and Mrs. Bark, traveling. The club's next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Pearl Yorkland on North Eleventh street.

The Three R club, Royal Neighbors of America, will meet Tuesday afternoon, March the tenth, at the home of Mrs. Ella Pauley, 631 Roseway drive. A dessert luncheon will be served at half past one o'clock followed by the business meeting.

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Chapter Holds Executive Meet

Merrill chapter, Women of the Moose, held an executive meeting in the home of Louisa Icenbice on the afternoon of February the twenty-seventh. After the regular order of business a pinochle party was held, sponsored by the alumni committee.

High score was held by Mrs. Carson and low by Vannie Van Meter.

Those present were Mrs. J. W. Reeder, Mrs. Henry Vacknitz, Mrs. John Stolt, Mrs. Robert Petrick, Mrs. Ray Van Meter, Mrs. Wilbur Nine, Mrs. Don Carson and Miss Vannie Van Meter.

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Mrs. Harvey Hostess At Sewing, Tea

The Congregational Community circle met for a neighborhood tea and Red Cross sewing February the twenty-seventh at the home of Mrs. L. R. Harvey on Garden avenue. Those present were Mrs. Glenn Stivers and Barbara Lee, Miss Mary Eckstein, Mrs. S. H. Goddard, Mrs. H. S. Stone, Mrs. W. L. Larson, Mrs. W. C. Little, Mrs. J. C. Marin, Mrs. George Potucek, Mrs. W. R. Nelson and Mrs. H. J. McGilvray.

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Juveniles of Neighbors of Woodcraft met Monday afternoon at four o'clock in the KC hall. Games were played and refreshments served by Margaret Redkey, Lorene and Dicky Weed. The next meeting will be held Monday, March the sixteenth, at four o'clock at the hall.

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Looking for bargains? Turn to the Classified page

Milk Mixture For Stomach Ulcers

A recent medical discovery now being used by doctors and hospitals everywhere has proven unusually successful in the treatment of stomach ulcers caused from excess acid. It is a harmless preparation yet so effective that in many cases the pains of stomach ulcers disappear almost immediately after it is used. Also recommended for gas pains, indigestion and heartburn due to hyperacidity. Sufferers may now try this at home by obtaining a bottle of Lurin from their druggist. Lurin contains this new discovery in its purest form. Easy to take. Just mix two teaspoonfuls in a half glass of milk. Costs but little. Try a bottle, it must satisfy or money refunded. Lurin for sale by Waggoner's and drug stores everywhere.

NEWS OF THE THEATRES

Now playing at the Pelican theatre.

The two principals in M-G-M's filmization of J. P. Marquand's best-seller novel of Boston life, "H. M. Pulham, Esq.," currently playing on the Esquire screen. Robert Young as Harry Pulham, and Hedy Lamarr as Marvin Myles, the girl he remembers for twenty years.

The Navy Has Landed and Ann Sheridan (right) seems to have the situation well in hand. With Jack Haley, Martha Raye and Jack Oakie, she heads the cast of the maritime musical, "Navy Blues," which sails into the Pine Tree Sunday.

It once was a law in England that whoever killed a cat had to pay the owner enough grain to cover up the cat's body.

Too many of us are sitting with our hands folded, waiting for George to win the war.—Admiral William H. Standley, ambassador to Russia.

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SPRAGUE STUDENT BODY HAS MEETING

SPRAGUE RIVER—The students of the Sprague River high school met in a regular bimonthly meeting to discuss additions to the constitution, social affairs and a school memory book.

This year in place of an annual, a school memory book will be edited, giving the pictures of the classes, the basketball squad, drill team, individual senior pictures and individual faculty pictures. These pictures will be taken by a Klamath Falls studio in the near future.

A social dance was planned for the afternoon of Friday, March 6, in the gymnasium. The school orchestra will furnish the tunes. Announcement was made of the coming Saint Patrick's dance which will be sponsored by the senior class to raise funds for a school gift and other class expenses.

Several new amendments to the school constitution were read regarding the awarding of sports letters and the determination of eligibility.

The honor roll for this period contained the names of Dwain Seright, Douglass Gaines, Gloria Carnini, Wanda Poteet, Fonzie Parrish and Joanne Little. Nora Crume and Vera Schmitz made the honor roll except for two minutes in citizenship.

Principal Parks announced to the students that the courses in general science, mathematics and physical education would be made much stronger and more would be required of the students. This is to better enable the students to step into better positions in defense work and army life.

Sprague River

Raymond Schonchin, who is employed in an aircraft factory in California, is spending a few days visiting in Sprague River with friends and relatives.

Three cars of rooters travelled to Bonanza Wednesday night to watch the Antlers battle Butte Falls. Among those making the trip were: Roland Parks, George Hobbs, Gene Robertson, Alden Lewis, Don Hunsaker, Dale Hunsacker, Claude Parrish, Bob Carnini, William Wolford, Wilfred Barkley, Doug Gaines, Leon George, Ethan Parrish, Neva Short, Vera Schmitz, Virginia Schmitz, Forrest Seright and several others.

Aldo Giacamelli is back at work at the Sprague River Glenger store after working several months at the Chiloquin store.

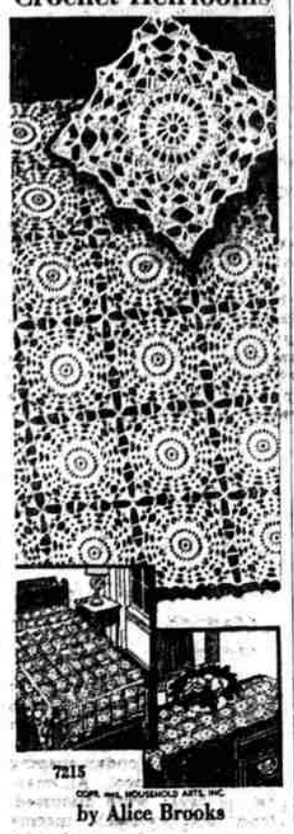
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Atchinson were called to Selma, Ore., early this week, where Mrs. Atchinson's parents were reported to be quite ill. The Atchinsons returned Tuesday.

Harol Parrish, who is attending sheet metal school in Albany, Ore., spent a couple of days this week visiting with his parents in Sprague River. Harol expects to go to work in an aeroplane factory in Seattle soon.

Among Sprague River folk to motor to a pinochle party at the LaHoda residence at Malin last Sunday were, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Book, Mr. and Mrs. Rollo Moore, and Mr. and Mrs. George Hobbs

Barking dogs do not bite — while they're barking.

Crochet Heirloom



by Alice Brooks

Small squares that tumble from your crochet hook with amazing speed are used to form these beautiful accessories. You can crochet a cloth or pillow this way, too. You'll have the square memorized in no time. Pattern 7215 contains instructions for making square; illustrations of it and stitches; photograph of square; materials needed.

To obtain this pattern send 10 cents in coin (plus one cent to cover cost of mailing to The Herald and News, Household Arts Dept., Klamath Falls. Do not send this picture, but keep it and the number for reference Be sure to wrap coin securely, as a loose coin often slips out of the envelope. Requests for patterns should read, "Send pattern No. ..... to ..... followed by your name and address.

Mt. Laki Woman Suffers Injuries In Bus Mishap

MT. LAKI — Mrs. Belle Dawson was injured last Saturday morning while en route to Medfard to visit her daughter, Mrs. Lyle Merrill.

The bus on which Mrs. Dawson was a passenger was involved in an accident and she was thrown from her seat, sustaining severe chest bruises and a chipped ankle bone. She is a patient at a hospital in Medford where her foot has been placed in a cast.

Big Valley Indian Buried Near Adin

BIEBER — Billie Roseberry, Big Valley Indian who rode in an ancient buggy drawn by a pair of horses whenever he came to town, was buried Thursday in a private plot on his ranch south of Adin. He died Wednesday.

Roseberry was born 67 years ago in the Cougerneck section north of Lookout. Surviving him are his wife, Mary, and a daughter, Mrs. Malindy Baldenagro of Big Valley.

SPRAGUE MERCHANT EXPANDS BUSINESS

SPRAGUE RIVER — A. L. "Shorty" Book, owner of the Ideal department store in Sprague River, has added another store to his business. The new establishment is a similar grocery and department store in Bly. Book will move his family to Bly in the near future, where he will assume active management of that branch. The Sprague River store will be under the direction of John Little.

The loss of the Books as residents of Sprague River will be partly compensated by the return of the family this summer after the new business is well established. Mr. Little will then likely manage the Bly unit. Mr. Book is prominent in local affairs, serving as fire chief and scoutmaster, as well as being a local representative of the Klamath Sportsmen's association. The Books have two daughters in the local school, who will move and enroll in the Bly school.

FUTURE CRAFTSMEN TO ATTEND MEET

The Future Craftsman club, composed of boys in the Klamath Union high school trades and industries class, will go to Portland March 9, 10 and 11 to attend the Oregon Junior Safety congress.

The safety congress is sponsored by the state apprenticeships commission, the state industrial accident commission, the Future Craftsmen of Oregon, the division of vocational education, and the state board of education.

The following boys with their coordinator will leave Sunday for Portland: Russel Duffy, Nolan Cooper, Roy Dean, Douglas Ernest, Randall Foster, Jack Fay, Henry Hancock, Marvin Jackobsen, Jim Lawson and Coordinator A. H. Fitch.

Headquarters will be at the Imperial hotel.

The program consists of three full days of activity, consisting of safety demonstrations, and other competitive events, as well as four half days for visiting industrial plants of Portland.

Chamber Purchases Cow for Farmer

SPOKANE, March 7 (AP) — Farmer Ed Ruchert squirmed as he heard his hometown chamber of commerce bidding for the grand champion cow of the Inland Empire Hereford cattle sale.

What could a chamber of commerce want with a cow?

It bought "Miss Hartland" for $1000 and gave her to Ruchert as the foundation for a new herd. He lost his stock of 36 cattle in a fire.

We, not they, will win the final battles; and we, not they, will make the final peace.—President Roosevelt.

Germany has allies fighting with her. So far we have not been in that position.—Premier Josef Stalin.

READJUSTMENTS Are Being Made!

And some families are having trouble making financial readjustments to meet 1942 Budgets!

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