New Naval Maneuvers Based On War Lessons

By JAMES J. STREBIG

ON BOARD EIGHTH FLEET FLAGSHIP IN THE ATLANTIC, May 15 (Delayed) (AP)—This cruise is the first in a new era of navy training built on wartime experience.

Before the war the fleet went to sea once a month for a week and once a year it went out for a long cruise, sometimes up to six months. The operation orders never varied. They were printed in nice booklets.

That system looked a bit silly after the war. So Admiral Marc A. Mitscher, commanding the eighth fleet from aboard the carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Commodore Arleigh A. Burke, his chief of staff, are making this cruise a pretty tough classroom course for officer and sailor alike.

The new plan is to have four cruises a year. There will be no printed orders. Men responsible for the operation must work out the plan, and tactics will be different for every cruise.

Text Book Tactics

Burke, a destroyer sailor, recalls that in pre-war training distances were set for the nearness of approach to a target. Inside that range you were "sunk."

But Burke says every wartime torpedo attack his destroyers made was well inside the distance at which the men had been trained, and they managed to sink 18 enemy ships in one four-month period.

All through the fleet admirals and apprentice seamen have been doing and re-doing jobs that may not have been necessary.

For example, when the battleship Missouri joined the fleet it reported it did not need fuel because its bunkers were loaded to 92 per cent of capacity. An order went out quickly for the "Big Mo" to go alongside the tanker and connect her fueling lines.

Why? Well, says Burke, if the men on the Missouri didn't need practice in refueling operations, the men on the tanker did. And anyway it was a sure method of learning whether the ships had the proper equipment for the job.

Old Hands Train Recruits

But they spend all the money to operate training cruises when about half of the men in the fleet are packing sea bags from the last time?

Says the commodore: This is the last opportunity to use them to teach the newer men.

Two rear admirals are taking turns at tactical command. Their home work is gone over by "Pete" Mitscher himself.

Under naval regulations if a naval aviator commands the fleet his chief of staff is a surface man. That is why Burke, former destroyer squadron commander, is working with Mitscher, 33rd man to win navy wings.

Burke intends that common understanding of each others problems extends all the way through the admirals staff. Most of the staff are aviators. Between cruises they will be required to serve a brief tour of duty in submarines and destroyers and possibly in supply ships.

The fleet sailed from Norfolk, Va., April 19 and will reach New York May 27.

New Jam Seen In B. C. Strike

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 23 (CP)—A hitherto undisclosed complication which might hamper an early complete settlement of the British Columbia lumber strike of 36,000 logging and sawmill workers was seen today as the third full session of union-operator discussions presided over by Chief Justice Gordon Sloan was scheduled to take place.

The complication involves the southern and northern interior areas of the province which are not being discussed as yet at the renewed negotiations for a possible settlement of the nine-day dispute involving union demands for an 18-cent hourly wage increase, 40-hour week and union security.

This disclosure, made by Chief Justice Sloan, was the only official statement of what is taking place inside the conference room.

"The discussions are so far limited to the coastal area," he said. "Whether they will extend to the interior is a matter on which I do not wish to express an opinion at the moment."

Meanwhile, the two outstanding effects of the strike were the threatened shortage of newsprint and the possibility of B. C. crop losses running into millions of dollars.

It was estimated that every day the shook plants of the interior remain idle more than 100,000 containers are lost to the fruit industry which expects one of its record production years. The shortage of shook may force the industry to ship apples in bulk, highly unsatisfactory and unprofitable.

Big Slash Reported In Flocks And Herds

CORVALLIS, May 23 (AP)—Oregon State college extension officials said today that Oregon poultrymen and livestockmen have reduced the number of grain-consuming animals even more than the government recommended.

An OSC survey, made after the feed shortage was blamed on failure of local growers to cut chicken flocks, stated that the number of chickens in Oregon is no larger than a year ago, and late hatched chickens have been reduced at least 25 per cent. The government's recommendation was for a 5 per cent cut in the egg output.

In the turkey industry, the OSC report said, Oregon growers have reduced birds an estimated 35 per cent, compared with the 15 per cent goal.

Dairy cows and hogs are less, too, the report added.

Oregon's Lone Mine Not In Coal Seizure

COOS BAY, May 23 (AP)—Oregon's only coal mine — which kept operating during the tie up of other soft coal fields—is not included among mines seized by the government, the Coast Fuel corporation reported today.

C. L. Pratt, manager here, said the mine sends coal only to The Dalles and one Portland plant and to a few points on the coast and in southern Oregon.

In the conduct of air-sea rescue operations, coast guard air stations, including the one at Floyd Bennett field, Brooklyn, under the operational control of Navy Sea Frontiers serve as task units, and personnel assigned to aircraft and vessels are thoroughly trained in rescue technique and procedures.

Honor Students At Sacred Heart

Valedictorian of Sacred Heart academy's senior graduating class is Ruth Mattes, and honors as salutatorian go to June Selstrom, right. Commencement will be held tonight, Thursday, in Sacred Heart church. Twenty-three will receive diplomas.
—Kennell-Ellis.

Sacred Heart To Graduate

Twenty-three students of Sacred Heart academy; members of the 1946 graduating class, will receive diplomas at Sacred Heart church tonight, Thursday, at 7:30 o'clock.

Valedictorian of the class is Ruth Mattes, and salutatorian is June Selstrom. The program will open with an organ processional followed by "Inviolata" by Gounod, sung by the academy choir. There will be presentation of diplomas followed by an address by the Rev. T. P. Casey. The choir will sing "O Sacrum Convivium" by Remondi, followed by the benediction and recessional.

Members of the class are Ruth Mattes, June Selstrom, Mary Vandenberg, Elaine Abbott, Millie Motschenbacher, Florence Narey, Theresa Murphy, Marilou O'Connor, Elizabeth Dennehy, Margaret Provost, Vivien Kiernes, Irene Kejsar, Celine Carrier, Mary Mahoney, Ethel Hawkins, Rue Ann Dubel, Barbara Holmes, Billie June McTaggert, Dorothy Lund, Helen Bradbury, Earl Wisecarver, William O'Keefe and Edward Willits.

The eighth grade of Sacred Heart academy, consisting of 23 students, received diplomas in commencement exercises held in the SHA auditorium in the presence of friends and relatives. The valedictorian was Ralph Beard and the salutatorian, June Woodley.

Possibly the least known and appreciated jobs performed by coast guardsmen in war and peace are those required of men on ships assigned to the International Ice Patrol and weather patrol.

Portland Faces Record Drought

PORTLAND, May 23 (AP) — The driest two-month period on record is in prospect for Portland unless a quarter of an inch of rain falls before the end of May, the weather bureau said today.

Only .17 inch of moisture has fallen in two days of May and the past 20 have been rainless, the bureau reported.

Smoke Spied In Old Volcano

BEND, May 23 (AP)—Smoke or steam puffs reported ascending from the slopes of Bachelor butte, an extinct volcano cone, will be investigated by a University of Oregon geologist this weekend.

Two Bend skiers said they sighted the phenomenon on the northeast slope of the 9060-foot Cascade range cone, while standing at several different points.

The two, Wayne Ernst and Don Mosen, said they observed a peculiar dark spot on the snow covered slope near where the puff appeared but could not reach it because of the late hour.

Dr. Warren D. Smith, University of Oregon geologist, said he would tour the slope this weekend.

A similar report of puffs from Crater lake, farther south in the Cascade range, resulted last fall in U. S. meteorologists installing equipment in the lake to detect any subterranean disturbances.

Outstanding among disasters in which the Red Cross has administered relief have been the northern Ohio tornado of 1924, the mid-western tornado of 1925, the Florida hurricane of 1926 and the Mississippi river valley flood of 1927.

Souvenir Firearms May Trouble Police

PORTLAND, May 23 (AP) — Souvenir firearms brought home by the younger veterans are going to cause police officers new trouble, Lt. Col. Michael M. Mikulak, University of Oregon athletic staff member, warned here.

He told the Oregon Association of City Police Officers yesterday that "the authority of a gun on a policeman doesn't mean much to the veterans," adding "They've carried their own guns too long."

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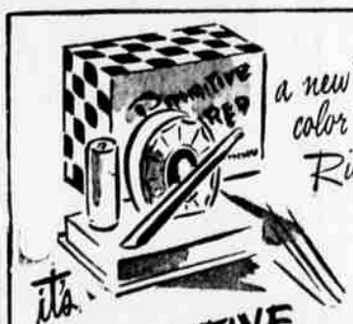

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