

Battered Pennsylvania, Valiant Hero Of Naval History, Sinks To Rest

PEARL HARBOR, March 8 (AP)—The battleship Pennsylvania, survivor of the Pearl Harbor debacle and two atomic blasts, was scuttled near Kwajalein February 10, the navy announced Saturday.

"Damage received at Okinawa was mainly responsible for the Pennsylvania's unseaworthiness and not damage inflicted during the atomic bomb tests" at Bikini in July, 1946, the navy said.

Two other warships, termed victims of "progressive deterioration," also were scuttled last month. They were the destroyer Trippe, sunk February 3, and the attack transport Banner, sunk February 16.

The navy said the Pennsylvania would not have remained afloat much longer in Kwajalein lagoon. She was towed there after the Bikini atom blasts. She was considered a possible menace to shipping if she sank in the lagoon, as did the Prinz Eugen. Both were guinea pigs of the Bikini tests.

The "Mighty P," as the navy calls her, recovered from the Pearl Harbor attack to strike the Japanese 13 times with 11,000,000 pounds of steel—more than was fired by any other battleship in history.

Off Okinawa, 59 hours before the

war ended, an aerial torpedo ripped the Pennsylvania's stern and killed 20 men.

She was commissioned March 16, 1915. She had a displacement of 33,000 tons and was 608 feet in length with a beam of 106 feet, 3 inches. She carried 12 fourteen-inch guns, 16 five-inchers and many smaller weapons.

"This is how the Pennsylvania ended her days:

Sixteen sailors manned her on the last run. (In her glory days the Pennsylvania carried 130 officers and 2300 enlisted men.)

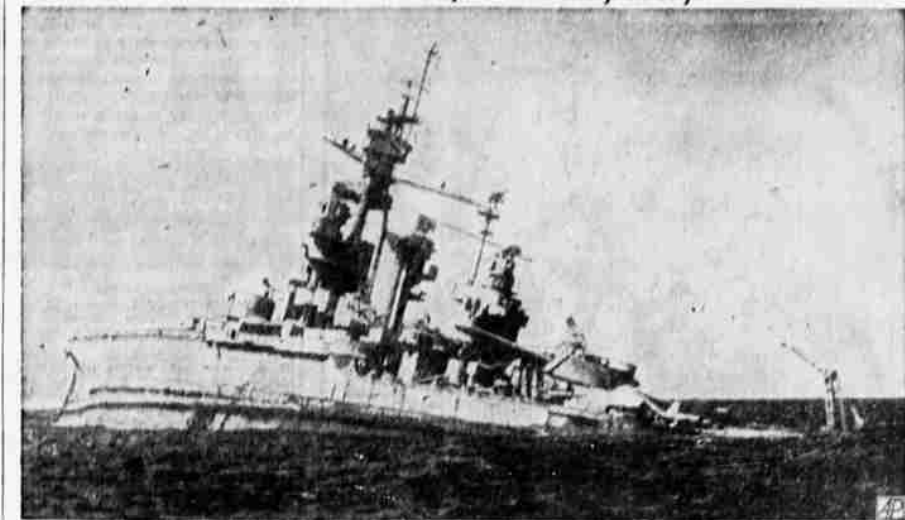
She rode ignominiously at the end of a tow hawser, her once powerful engines silent. At the designated spot, the crew opened the sea-cocks, removed the condenser plates, scrambled to the deck and boarded a tug.

Her stern dropped beneath the waves, but for two and a half hours the Pennsylvania resisted her fate while navy planes circled overhead. Then she slipped to her grave.

Channel Work Bids To Be Called Soon

Among construction bids expected during the next two months

Veteran Battleship Is Sunk By Navy



The 32-year-old battleship Pennsylvania goes down by the stern after being towed from Kwajalein lagoon and deemed unseaworthy. The 33,000-ton veteran of two wars and traditional flagship of the U. S. Pacific fleet, was a target ship in the Bikini atomic bomb tests.

on U. S. bureau of reclamation projects are for channel improvements through Poe valley and laterals and drains near Tulelake, Calif.

The channel improvements are on about seven miles of Lost river chan-

nel through Poe valley, approximately 10 miles east of Klamath Falls.

Laterals and drains near Tulelake include construction of earthwork and structures in area A, excavation, concrete, rockfill, furnishing and placing 24 to 72-inch metal pipe,

1800 lineal feet. Time allowed for completion, 300 days.

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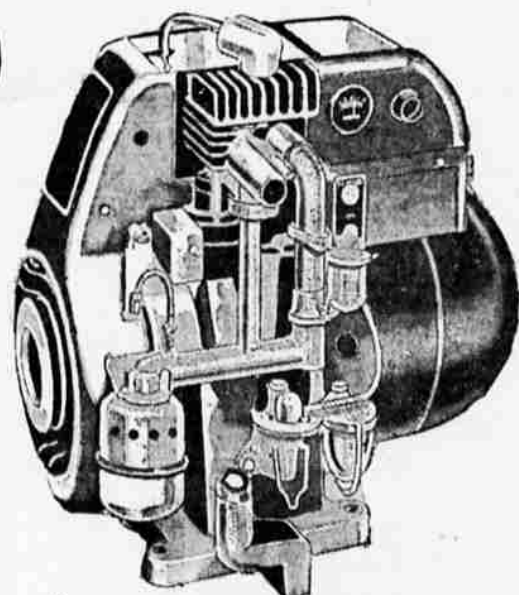
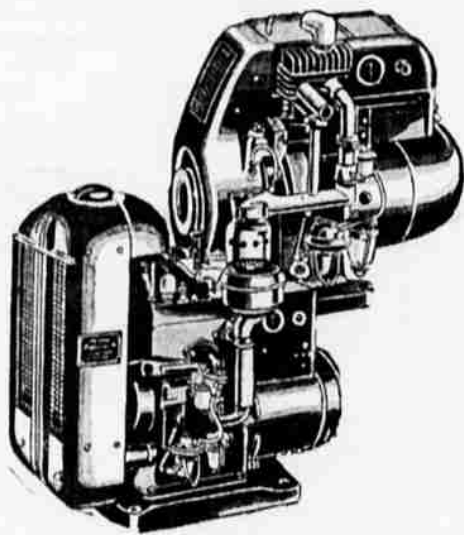
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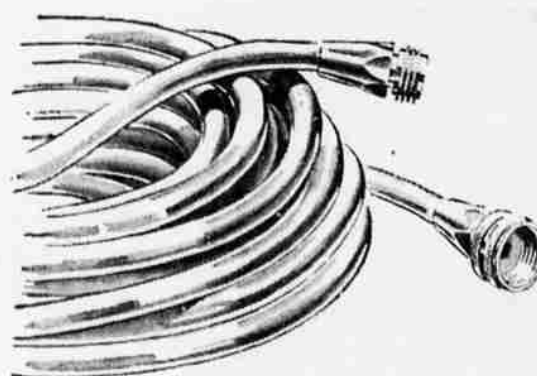
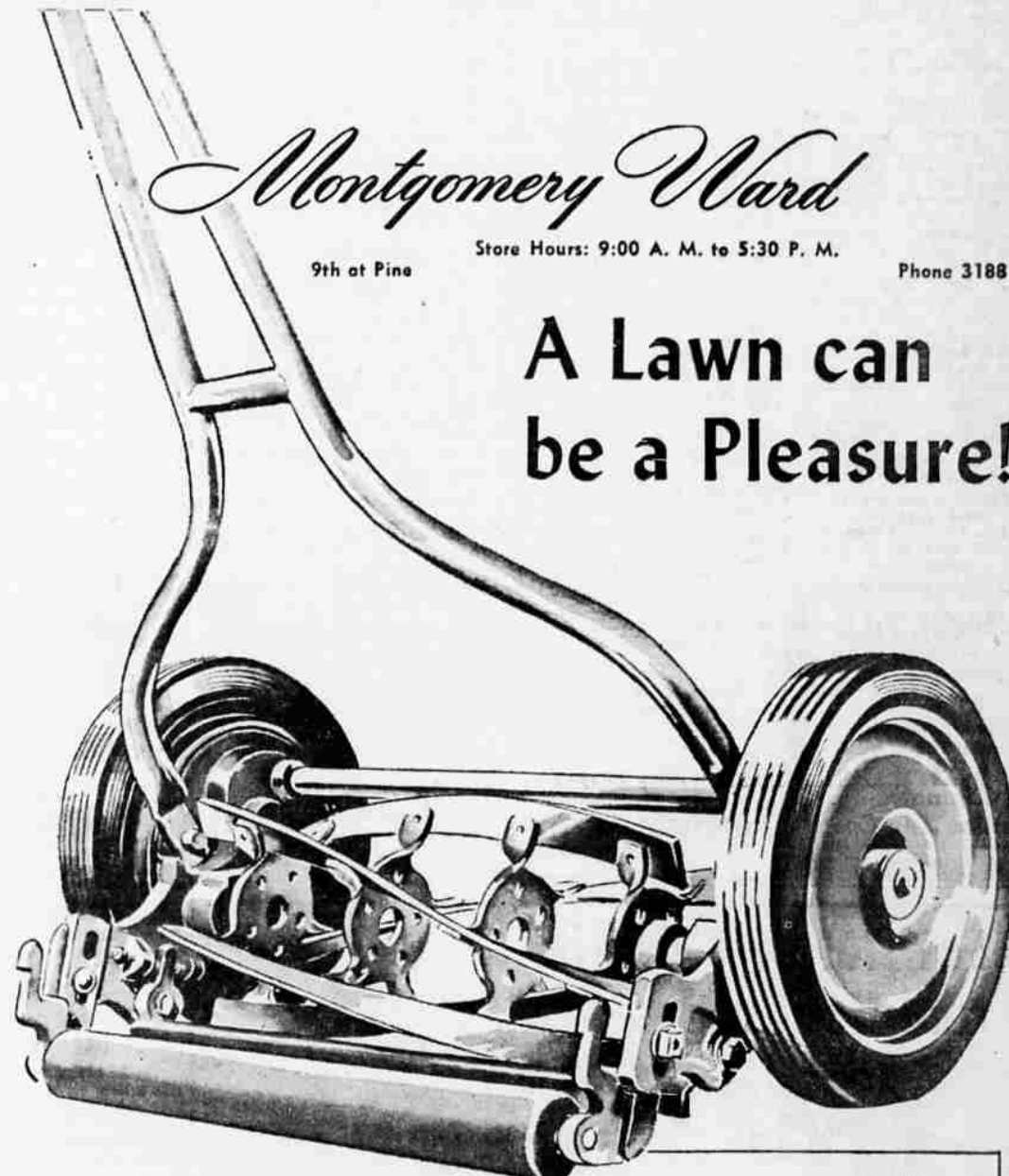
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