

# Thick Arctic Ice Cap Seen as Boon to A-Subs

WASHINGTON (AP)—The League of United Nations Nations, which stands between the northern rim of the Western Hemisphere and Eurasia may be no barrier to the atomic submarines the U. S. is now building.

That was made evident today by replies from the Navy to questions about the nuclear engine submarines it is developing—submarines in which the crew as well as the boat can remain down for days, weeks or possibly months.

The northern approach to the mainlands of Russia and Canada, for example, always had been closed by the great areas of frozen seas or unyielding pack ice through which no craft could force its way—until the advent of long range planes.

But an article written for Collier's magazine by Rear Adm. Homer Wallin, chief of the Bureau of Ships, spoke cryptically of the ability of atomic submarines to launch guided missiles with atomic warheads and then slide silently beneath the waves "or ice" to reappear at another point to launch guided missiles with atomic warheads and then slide silently beneath the waves "or ice" to reappear at another point to launch another attack.

A reporter who asked Navy officials about this was told: "It is possible for even conventional submarines to operate under ice. Since a conventional submarine's submerged endurance is limited by its batteries, and it must have air for operating its engines to recharge its batteries, it has a limited endurance for under ice operation.

"The Nautilus (first of the atomic powered boats to be started), which will be independent of the earth's atmosphere, will therefore, be able to operate under ice for longer periods of time. It makes no difference whether the ice is solid or mushy as long as there is sufficient depth of water beneath the ice to permit submarine operation."

The Arctic Sea apparently has plenty of water beneath the ice, except possibly for some areas near land masses. Recent soundings have shown 14,000 feet of water at the North Pole.

Wallin mentioned that the Nautilus would be able to dive deeper than any present, conventional submarine. Navy officials, in reply to a question about this, said cautiously that "greater depth for the Nautilus, as with any other submarine, could be made possible by making her pressure hull stronger through the use of greater weight or greater steel strength."

The atomic power plant will require no air in creating the superheat to produce steam for the propulsion turbine, and thus can remain under water as long as the fuel lasts. This can be a long time—the fission of one pound of uranium releases energy equal to the combustion of 2,600,000 tons of coal.

That left the question of how long the crew of an atomic submarine could stay down, out of the earth's atmosphere. Wallin said the Bureau of Ships is working in a gadget to take oxygen from the water, and that this may be ready for use in the Nautilus.

In addition to the problem of providing air, the Navy is studying other physiological and psychological problems of men living for prolonged periods confined in a submarine.

# Storm Hits Local Phones

Phone communications were out to some 1,400 different phone sets at the height of the damage-count during the storm last weekend, according to Klamath's Pac. T and T, Mgr. S. C. Bowie.

And as of last night about 1,000 phones had been restored to service by work crews which include some 40 additional men brought in to bolster the service force of about 20 already on duty here.

Bowie said his men have been working day and night, since the storm started, to maintain connections everywhere. He said that in total there were about 10 per cent of this area's 9,500 (approximately) phones out of order at one time.

Service locally should be okay by Saturday, and in outlying areas service is expected to be back to normal by Monday. He described the storm as one of the worst kind ever experienced here. It snapped poles like matchsticks, he said—something uncommon in this area.

# 'Christmas' Town Busy

CHRISTMAS, Fla. (AP)—The 200 or so persons in this little community are out to make every day Christmas Day.

As a step in this direction they planted a permanent Christmas tree recently.

Weatherproof ornaments were substituted for the usual fragile tinsel. Any day you drive through Christmas you'll see a full-blown Christmas tree.

In addition to planting and decorating the new tree, the residents have been busy with the usual flood of Christmas mail.

Mrs. Juanita Tucker, the postmaster who inherited the job from her mother-in-law in 1932, handled about 200,000 pieces of mail last Christmas— with the help of 12 other women.

Mrs. Tucker says she expects even more mail this year. Central Florida residents and lots of tourists as well drive to the town so that their cards and presents will have the added touch of a "Christmas" postmark.

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**PROBE ICY WATERS.** Diver Edward Doherty, going down ladder, one of four Navy divers from the Great Lakes Naval training station are probing the icy waters of the Colorado River near Glenwood Springs in an effort to locate the bodies of three women presumed lost when an automobile plunged into the stream. Only the driver survived.

# Jurist Wants Whipping Post

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—The return of the whipping post was listed among measures advocated by a jurist here to protect "the rights of law-abiding people."

Circuit Judge Walter B. Jones said in an address to a civic club yesterday that in the administration of criminal law "we put a greater value on the criminals among us than we do on their victims."

His suggested program to "put the criminal in his place" would include these changes in state law:

1. Let a majority on a jury write a verdict instead of requiring it to be unanimous.
2. Rewrite the laws relating to insanity plea in criminal trials.
3. Set up a whipping post for minor offenses.
4. Let women serve on juries (they are barred in Alabama).



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# Surgery For Red Skelton

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—Suffering from a painful diaphragmatic hernia, comedian Red Skelton was scheduled to undergo surgery today at St. John's Hospital.

The ailment was diagnosed several days ago. Physicians at first thought they might be able to postpone surgery so the comic could resume filming his television shows.

However, friends said, the hernia permitted his stomach to push against his heart and lungs, causing breathing difficulties and other unpleasant symptoms.

Mrs. Georgia Skelton said her husband appeared jovial yesterday when "he finally made his decision to get it over with as soon as possible."

Dr. Stanley Immerman and three specialists will operate. The surgery is expected to take from 3 1/2 to five hours.

"Red's public was unaware that he had been in excruciating pain since the beginning of his television stint this season," said his wife.

Commenting on recent reports of family dissension, Mrs. Skelton said: "Red and I still happen to be in love." He spoke to her at the hospital last night and to their children, Richard, 4 1/2, and Valentina, 5 1/2.

Six of his television shows have been filmed ahead.

**WARNING GIVEN**

KUALA LUMPUR (AP)—A member of the Malayan cabinet warned in a recent speech here that racial tension in this country is on the increase and if nothing is done to counter it, racial strife will result.

Dato Onn bin Jaafar, member for home affairs, called on community leaders to work for the unity and goodwill of the people. Addressing Malayan graduate teachers, he reminded them of the 1946 Chinese-Malay clashes following the surrender of the Japanese. Chinese had attacked the Malays believing that they had facilitated the victory of the Japanese over the British.

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