

Army Report on Ports Seen of Little Value In Grounding of 'Mo'

The Army announced today publication of a report on the Ports of Hampton Roads, Va., including the navigation channels, but Navy spokesmen said quickly it would have been of little value to the grounded battleship Missouri.

The "Mighty Mo" was grounded for 15 days on a mudbank near Thimble Shoals. Testimony at a Naval Court of Inquiry, now sitting at Norfolk, has disclosed that two buoys marked an acoustic range through which the Missouri was passing, but that the charts used in plotting the battleship's course showed five buoys instead.

Charts used by the Navy are those of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The Missouri had these charts.

The new report on Hampton Roads, a revision of a port series of 1934, was prepared jointly by the Board for Rivers and Harbors of the Army Corps of Engineers and the Maritime Commission.

The Army's announcement said that specific subjects covered in the report included the navigation channels, facilities and services there. This included Thimble Shoals.

But there was "no connection" between the announcement and the Navy difficulties with its only active dreadnaught, Army spokesmen maintained. The 347-page report has been "in the works for several months," and its release just so happened to coincide with the Missouri incident, they said.

Meanwhile, there were some indications in high Navy circles that the mothballing of the Missouri may be taken up with President Truman again. There are no present plans to take this course, but a high official said that, "of course, the composition of the fleet is always under study."

The House Armed Services



UNCHEDULED ICE DELIVERY—Bay City, Mich.—An ice movement brought some anxious moments to cottage owners along Saginaw Bay when a strong wind blowing into shore caused ice to pile up from 15 feet to 25 feet in spots. Forward progress of the ice stopped just short of most of the cottages and damage was reported small.

Committee yesterday made plans to ask Admiral Forest P. Sherman why the Navy shouldn't deactivate the battleship and operate an aircraft carrier in its place, as soon as the Chief of Naval Operations returns from a Pacific tour.

PTA Founder's Day Fete

Mrs. I. I. Ruediger, director of Division 7 of the public schools here, will speak at a Founder's Day candlelight ceremony at the John Tyler School PTA at 1:15 p.m. tomorrow at the school, Tenth and G streets S.E. The association was founded 53 years ago by the Misses Alice M. Birney and Phoebe A. Hearst.

Travel Interchange Advantages Cited

World travel—spurred on by women's curiosity—will penetrate even the Iron Curtain, according to Senator Brewster, Republican, of Maine.

The Senator took part in a discussion of international travel yesterday at a joint meeting of the American Automobile Association's Women's Safety Committee and the District Advisory Board. It was held in the Mayflower Hotel.

"A development of interchange

of visits of the common people of the world will sweep away all of the existing barriers," Senator Brewster declared. "Travel is one of the biggest items in the solution of world, as well as economic, problems."

Mrs. Ruth Shipley, chief of the Passport Division of the State Department, and Russel E. Singer, executive vice president of the AAA were also on the program.

Glee Club Benefit Planned

The Hyattsville (Md.) High School glee club will hold a benefit in the school at 8 p.m. Friday. A adopting a resolution.

Temporary Skipper Tests 'Mo' at Sea

By the Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 8.—The battleship Missouri—freed from the mud, her damaged bottom shipshape—today was bucking the waves of the open sea.

She will race through the Atlantic for a test run and return to the Norfolk naval base tomorrow. There she will reload for her interrupted training cruise to Guantanamo, Cuba.

Meanwhile three of her top officers when she ran aground January 17 continued to explain to a naval court of inquiry. They have been temporarily replaced on the "Big Mo" by officers who had the same positions on the ship last summer.

Defendants are the ship's skipper, Capt. William D. Brown; its navigator, Lt. Comdr. Frank G. Morris, and its operations officer, Comdr. John R. Millett. Comdr. Millett was named a defendant yesterday after he had told the court he had confused shallow-water buoys for deep-water buoys just before the 45,000-ton ship plowed aground in Chesapeake Bay.

Capt. H. P. Smith, who preceded Capt. Brown as skipper, was back in command of the Missouri today. Comdr. Harold D. Fuller is back as operations officer, replacing Comdr. Millett, and Lt. Comdr. Harry W. Hall is back as navigator in Comdr. Morris' place. Comdr. George E. Peckham continues as executive officer.

Long-lasting Relief for Itchy Skin Irritation

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Clifton Fadiman to Marry Melville Jacoby's Widow

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.—Clifton Fadiman, best known as the questioner in "Information Please" on the air and in the movies, yesterday applied for a license to marry Annalee Whitmore Jacoby, a writer.

Mr. Fadiman, 45, now is conducting "This Is Show Business," a Columbia Broadcasting System television show.

His bride-to-be is 33 and the widow of Melville Jacoby, Time-Life Magazine writer killed in an airplane accident in Australia in 1942 while serving as a war correspondent.

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