Help The + Red Cross

"SALADA" TEA

● SERIAL STORY

MURDER IN CONVOY

BY A. W. O'BRIEN

LAST WEEK: For a long time, the men stand at their lifeboat posts before the order to return to quarters is issued. Rollins reviews in his mind events and clues relating to the murder of Captain Tees, and always Joan Davaar seems to enter the picture. He determines to see Miley again, starts out from his cabin at night to find the lieutenant. On the way he sees a figure behind a passageway curtain and dives for it. After a brief tussle, he jerks to his feet, finds he has been wrestling with Miley.

* * *

GREG'S PLAN

CHAPTER VIII

"What's the idea, Harry, playing hide-and-seek?" puffed Rollins.

Lieutenant Harry Miley rose slowly, ruefully shaking an arm. "Well, there's no doubt about what you're playing—and you play rough!"

A sudden silence fell upon them.

"Why were you hiding behind the curtain?" snapped Rollins.

Miley hesitated a second. "I might ask why you are prowling around this side of the ship at this hour?"

"That's easy, I was coming over to have a chat with you."

Miley laughed outright. "Okay, Gregory, that settles it. I'll confess that I was attempting to play sleuth and hide myself here in the hope of spotting anything unusual. You'll notice that the location is ideal for the purpose. I can watch this exit, the one across the cross-passage and the one down my corrodor—three oft he four exits from this deck."

Rollins asked another question. "But why choose this deck in particular?" His voice slowed to a deliberate tempo. "You weren't watching for me by any chance, were you?"

Miley didn't answer. Instead, he beckoned towards the cross-passage. "Let's go along to your cabin and have that chat you wanted."

* * *

In the cabin, Rollins faced Miley squarely. "How about answering the question?"

"I will if"—Miley put emphasis on the words—"if you tell me about last night. Just exactly what were you doing just before the lifeboat alarm sounded?"

Rollins felt ice water running down his spine, but he gambled: "I had been unable to sleep and was lying in my bunk reading. Suddenly I heard a rifle shot from somewhere above, followed by a second. I threw on some clothes and was about to dash out when th elifeboat alarm sounded.

"Realizing the commotion that would follow and the uselessness of investigating the shots at the moment, I grabbed my shoulder bag and mask and . . ."

Miley nodded slowly. "You get a clean ticket on that—from me at least. You see, Greg, a sentry spotted somebody on "A" deck and promptly ordered the person to stop. Whoever it was began running away. He shot once—high—then a second time low, but the wanderer had opened a deck door and it stopped the bullet. Just inside was an emergency switch—like an emergency lever on a train. He yanked it and ran. The sentry came through the door just in time to see a figure disappearing downstairs. He raced after the figure to 'B' and saw you alone in the corridor. That was that."

* * *

Miley lighted a cigarette.

"But that still doesn't explain one thing," Rollins said.

"What?"

"Just why you were apparently resigned to stand for hours, perhaps all night, behind the curtain. If I had been pulling something funny it's hardly likely that I would be slipping around corridors when I knew the whole ship was on the watch for something."

Miley shrugged. "I wa splaying a hunch, that's all. You'll notice a stairway from 'A' deck comes out a slight distance from where I was hiding."

"Well?"

"You'll boil if I tell you."

Rollins felt that icy chill on his spine again. "I won't boil—let's have it!"

Miley leaned forward. "I was wondering, Rollins, if that nurse would be sneaking downstairs to see you. After all . . ."

Rollins slashed a right cross that caught Miley squarely on the side of the face. He pitched sideways off the chair and landed on all fours.

"Get up, rat!" snarled Rollins.

Miley came shakily to his feet, blood trickling from the side of his mouth.

* * *

The ship gave a bad lurch to starboard, and Rollins went slightly off balance. Miley slipped into a crouch and rushed him. A hard left uppercut caught Rollins squarely on the chin. Miley sank a right in the midriff, and Rollins clinched.

"Break clean, Big Shot!" Miley growled into the other's ear.

Rollins pushed him away, his face white with pain.

Miley weaved in again to meet a sharp left jab. Then they were toe to toe, science gone to the wind. Above the groaning of the big ship's timbers came the thuds of pounding fists and the muffled gasps of the fighting men.

A savage right to the heart dropped Rollins to one knee. Miley stepped back.

"Let's call it quits, Greg," he panted. "I didn't know you were so sweet on the girl, or I would have phrased myself a little more delicately. You took a wrong implication—I wat wondering if she was taking you into her confidence or not, and thought I might overhear something. . ."

* * *

Rollins rose slowly and sat on the end of his bed. "C'mon, Miley, there's no use to parry legal thrusts now—out with it!"

"Well, she has been reported three times for being on deck after 'Lights Out'."

"Nothing serious about that—I suppose she just wanted some air."

Miley shrugged. "Yes, that's possible. But she has also been seen on everal occasions with binoculars studying the Morse messages sent by light flahes from the battle cruiser commanding the convoy."

He paused but Rollins said nothing.

"And, finally, another nurse told me this Davaar girl has been acting queerly. A stranger to all of them, she has kept to herself for the most part, but what bits of conversation they get out of her at the table would indicate that she knows very little about nursing. You seem to be her sole friend on board and . . ."

Rollins looked down at his bleeding knuckles. "And what?" he asked in dull tones.

"And I had hoped that you might be able to help me out. I have kept my suspicions from the O.C. because they are admittedly shallow, but there is a question of duty. What I wanted to know from you, Rollins, is whether she has ever given you any hints as to her background. . . Why she has kept to herself. . . What she may have seen during those jaunts on deck . . . Where she camef from . . ."

Rollins shook his head. "I can't help you there. She never discussed herself."

Miley seemed actually relieved. He smiled and stuck out his hand.

"This dirty job of investigating was pushed on to me, Greg, and I don't like it. Did we run into a couple of doors?"

Rollins stood up and shook hands. "That's it—a couple of doors. You're off the track about the girl though."

"I guess you're right. Just forget the whole business." Miley straigtened his tunic and left the cabin.

* * *

Rollins stood motionless, staring at the door. There was a hard glint in his eye. He had gone in search of Miley to find out one detail, and their strenuous session together had given him the answer.

Rollins was apparently the only person on board ship who had seen the miniature light flashes from "A" deck last night. His suspicion about a light being involved in the Tees murder was apparently unshared by Miley or anybody. The sentry who had reported the light on that first night had been left with the opinion somebody had been sneaking a smoke.

Rollins lighted a cigarette and inhaled deeply He felt, as sure as he was alive, that some person aboard the ship was flashing a light from "A" deck each night about the same time and that he, Rollins, was the only one who had stumbled across the fact.

If he reported his poinion to the O. C., they would likely hide watchers on deck, and word would get around that something was up. The murderer might be warned, thus ruining any possibility of catching him.

There was only one thing to do. The next night would find him hidden in a lifeboat close to that busy spot on "A" deck. Either he'd get the murderer or the murderer would get him. This time the game would be for keeps!

(Continued next week)

HOMEMADE BRAN BREAD

All-Bran, popular morning cereal, goes into the making of this superb tasting nut bread. Spread with cream cheese it's fine for sandwiches. With butter and preserves, it takes the place of dessert. Directions for putting it together are given below.

All-Bran Nut Bread

1 egg
¾ cup sugar
1 cup milk
2 tablespoons melted shortening
¾ cup All-Bran
2¼ cups flour
1 teaspoon salt
3 teaspoons baking powder
¾ cup chopped nut meats

Beat egg and sugar until light. Add milk, shortening and All-Bran. Sift flour with salt and baking powder; combine with nut meats; add to first mixture, stirring only until flour disappears. Bake in greased loaf pan with waxed paper in the bottom, in moderate oven (350°F.) about 1 hour and 10 minutes.

Yield: 1 loaf (4½ x 9½ inch pan.)

HAPPY WARRIORS

The three branches of the service being trained in Canada for the Polish forces are represented in this photo. From left to right is an airman, a soldier and a sailor. Over their heads hangs the defiant eagle of the Polish Republic. Sailors and airmen are given only initial training at Owen Sound, the soldiers remain for a longer period before being sent overseas.

How To Prolong Life Of Stovepipe

Extra care in putting away stove pipes this Spring is a good precaution against future scarcity.

Pipes should be wrapped carefully and stored in a dry place. Before this is done the inner surface of the pipe, as well as the outside should be cleaned with a stiff brush to remove all carbon deposits. If the surface coating is scratched, the area around it should be cleaned with sand paper or steel wool and given a coating of good heat-resistant paint. After this has been allowed to dry thoroughly all surfaces of the pipe should be covered with heavy oil, grease or hot paraffin.

Finally, the pipe should be wrapped securely in paper—preferably waxed paper—and stored in a dry place. A similar procedure should be followed to prolong the life and save the metal content of a smoke pipe of a furnace or any other removable sheet metal parts which normally collect furnace soot.

Where a stove pipe has been partially destroyed, the serviceable portions of the pipe should be saved.

When a stove pipe is not protected during the summer, the sulphur in the pipe attracts moisture, forming sulphuric acid which eats away the iron. Precautionary measures will prolong the life of a stove pipe many years.

Radios Out of Action

It has been estimated that one of every ten domestic radio sets in Britain cannot be used because of a shortage of valves, batteries and skilled labor.

COTTON FROCK

By Anne Adams

Right now you need a cotton frock that doubles for active sports wear too! Anne Adams offers you Pattern 4051, with a jiffy back buttoning, and a bodice enhanced by the smart square yoke and optional cap sleeves.

Pattern 4051 is available in misses' and women's sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40. Size 16 takes 3⅝ yards 35-inch fabric.

Send twenty cents (20c) in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this Anne Adams pattern to Room 421, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto. Write plainly size, name, address and style number.

Floating Island

The last Dutch ship to leave the bombed, fired and dynamited Java naval base of Surabaya has arrived at an Australian port, says Newsweek. It got there without being caught by enemy patrols by rigging up a disguise that outdid any ruse ever used by the Japanese. The Dutch had fastened trees and other bits of tropical scenery to their ship, thus giving it the appearance of a small island.

Sea Gulls Warn

Sea gulls, which always fly inland ahead of raiding planes, are a valuable warning to defenders of England's coast.

TABLE TALKS

Did you ever stop to think of how much eye appeal has to do with our foods?

Add a garnish to a plain dish of pudding or custard and the value of that dessert multiples instantaneously. A little whipped cream in fancy form; some sliced berries; a few scattered nut meats; some jelly — no matter how simple or how complex the garnish, it turns a plain dessert into a fancy one.

Sugarless days need not mean "no desserts." Here are a couple of recipes for rennet-custards—desserts that call for no sugar, no eggs, no baking or no boiling. Make these, add your favorite garnishes, place the finished product before your guests — and your dessert problem is solved for the day.

English Rennet-Custard

1 package maple rennet powder
1 pint milk, not canned
½ cup chopped dates
½ cup raisins
¼ cup currants
⅛ teaspoon cloves
⅛ teaspoon cinnamon
⅛ teaspoon nutmeg
½ cup cornflakes

Mix fruits, spices and cornflakes and divide among 5 or more dessert glasses. Make rennet-custard according to directions on package, pouring at once over fruits, spices and cornflakes. Let set until firm — about 10 minutes. Then chill in refrigerator.

Chocolate Date Rennet-Custard

1 package chocolate rennet
1 package chocolate rennet powder
1 pint milk, not canned
20 dates

Chop dates in small pieces and divide among 6 dessert glasses. Make rennet-custard according to directions on package. Pour at once over chopped dates. Do not move until firm — about 10 minutes. Then chill in refrigerator.

Patch Holes With New Resin Fabric

Piece Welded To Whole by Means of Hot Iron

A tear i nthe middle of the tablecloth—and it doesn't seem worth reweaving. A rip in a sheet—and you add it to the pile of family mending. A worn spot on Dad's shirt just where the point of the collar rubs—and you know from previous experience that nearly any kind of patch will be unsightly and spoil the looks of an otherwise good shirt.

* * *

These are just a few of the mending difficulties that Mrs. Thrifty Housewife faces as she sorts her weekly laundry. But they need be problems no longer. With the new resin-treated material that's on the market, mending can be done along with the family ironing. Just take a piece of the mending material, cut to size, lay it under the torn place, press it for a few seconds with a hot iron, let it cool—and the job's done.

No more long darning jobs, no unsightly patches, no expensive reweaving on your household linens. Just a quick pressing job, and your mending is done. And according to word received from experts, this patch is almost invisible, and what's more, it withstands a lot of laundering—both washing and ironing.

Patching washable household cottons and linens is not its only use. Holes in pants, raincoats, and other colored, heavy-fabric materials can also be repaired if a spare piece of patch material is available. Sometimes it can be taekn from some concealed part of the article to be mended. Here too the process is simple. In order to be sure that the new piece will fit exactly into the worn place, cut through both layers at the same time, preferably with a sharp razor blade. Set the cut-out patch into the hole into which it fits. Then fasten it permanently into place by a piece of mending material cut somewhat larger than the patch and applied from the reverse side. Cement it into place with your hot iron.

60,000 Warbirds Australia's Quota

Since the war began 250,000 men have applied for enlistment in the Royal Australian Air Force, states Australian Press Union. New South Wales leads with 90,000. Then comes Victoria 60,000, Queensland 40,000, South Australia and West Australia 30,000 each, meaning that a man has volunteered for the R.A.A.F. ever five minutes since the war began.

Not all the 250,000 men have been accepted, but the call-ups have been sufficient to permit Australia to honor her undertaking to supply 60,000 trained airmen and ground staff under the Empire air scheme. Since Japan entered the war the eagerness of Australia's youth to enlist has become even more pronounced.

Train Tasters To Test Egg Powder

Art and Science of Egg Tasting Developed In U. S.

A team of 12 men is being trained in the art and science of egg tasting at the U. S. Bureau of Home Economics laboratories in Maryland, relates The Toronto Telegram. Their job will be to apply the taste test to the whole dried egg powder being shipped to Britain under lend-lease agreement. The 160,000,000 pounds of whole dried egg powder represents quite an astronomical number of eggs, since it takes three dozen eggs to make one pound of the powder.

Very little whole dried egg powder is used in the United States. American consumption, chiefly by bakers and confectioners, is of dried egg whites or dried egg yolks, not whole dried eggs.

The British housewife will receive her whole dried egg powder through the Ministry of Food in a five-ounce cardboard package with a waxed paper inner lining, containing the equivalent of one dozen eggs, and will cost about 40 cents. Directions for use and instructions to keep in a cool place away from strong odors will be on the label.

At the receiving end in England, Dr. C. S. Hanes, of the Low Temperature Research Laboratory, Cambridge, will conduct taste tests as a further check on the palatability of the product before release for use. Dr. Hanes has himself just been through the egg tasting training in Maryland.

Seersucker Saves Precious Hours

With Red Cross sewing, defence classes, and other new responsibilities, added to the daily schedule of the average housewife, it's a happy day when she can cut corners. And that's right where the use of seersucker in the family wardrobe steps in to save precious hours over the washtub and the ironing board. Seersucker is easily washed and takes so little ironing. It has a practical value for summer pyjamas that can't be excelled. Blouses and school dresses of this time-saving material will help keep the family in plenty of clean clothes with a minimum of effort expended.

For the best results, starch the material lightly when washing blouses and dresses. It will give them a crispness almost like new and the garments will last twice as long. I've tried it and it works like magic. If the garment seems to need it, you may press slightly while dry.

Care Will Make Rubber Last Longer

Rubber is going to be increasingly hard to get in any form. Rubber articles in the home should be given the greatest care to make them last longer. Remember in storing that rubber rots quicker in hot, damp places than in cool, dry places.

Dust talcum powder or cornstarch in the creases or folds of rubber or rubberized articles for protection against cracking.

Stuff paper in rubber boots or overshoes when putting them away.

To make rubber gloves wear longer, don't wear them to polish brassware or copper kitchen utensils, or when cleaning pans, with a ball of steel or brass thread. These metals are enemies of rubber.