

Article 33

Report to the Stewards Council and Executive Board

SOME LONGSHORING IN SHANGHAI

**Herb Mills
Secretary- Treasurer
ILWU Local 10**

Report to the Stewards Council and Executive Board -- ILWU Local 10:

Some Longshoring in Shanghai

HERB MILLS

Secretary -- Treasurer -- ILWU Local 10

I was one of ten American trade unionists invited by the All China Federation of Trade Unionists for a two week tour of their country. Our delegation was made up of members from the Teamsters, the United Auto Workers, the Building Trades, the Operating Engineers, the United Paper Workers, and Cal OSHA. I flew with two others of the group from San Francisco to the Narita Airport outside of Tokyo on Thursday, Nov. 13. We departed at 1:40 PM on a Japan Air Lines 747 and landed at Narita eleven hours later. By flying westward and crossing the International date line and with a twelve hour layover in Japan we "lost" a calendar day, which we "made up" when we flew home. I spent the morning of what had thus become the next day - Saturday, Nov. 15 - at a Buddhist temple and school in the City of Narita. And with our group then assembled, we departed that afternoon for Beijing, where we arrived at 10:00 PM. We were met by several officers of our hosting organization and transported to the federation's "Guest House" for tea and orientation, for discussion, and for questions and answers. On Sunday, Nov. 16, we toured the city in the morning and then visited the Great Wall and the Ming Tombs. On Monday, Nov. 17, we visited a textile plant -- and its herb pharmacy and nursery. We also then met with some of our hosts for further discussion. And on Tuesday, Nov., 18, we first visited a multistoried housing construction site and a grade school. And on Wednesday, Nov. 19, we visited two other highlights - Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. And then we spent two hours at the U. S. Embassy talking with the U. S. ambassador to China, Leonard Woodcock, the former president of the UAW. During all of this touring, our hosts also took us to many good restaurants and sight-seeing drives and walks.

In the morning of Thursday, Nov. 20, we had a two hour flight on a China Air 707 to Shanghai - where, again, we were royally hosted by officers of the All - China federation of Trade Unionist. Having met us at the airport, they and their staff drove us through the crowded streets of Shanghai and finally down its riverside front of foreign consulates, office buildings and hotels - at one of which we also stayed. As noted on the back of a post card below, that part of the city's riverside is called the "Bund". And with us checked into our rooms, we had lunch at the hotel, then left for a tour of the city. We ended that tour at the north end of the Bund with a very good dinner at the "International Seamen Club" -- which was also followed by more discussion with our hosts.

We spent the next day -- Friday, Nov. 21 -- at the "Berth 10" complex for conventional break-bulk cargoes and containerized cargoes on the Shanghai riverside waterfront. We were hosted for an onsite lunch and day long tour of that complex by some officers and members of the longshore union. But since we did not go aboard any vessel either idle or being worked, I was going to ask that evening if

I could skip the touring planned for the following day, so as to return to Berth B or some other waterfront facility so as also board a vessel or two. But when I did that come supper time, I learned that our itinerary -- which initially had us staying five days in Shanghai and also then leaving for Canton by air -- had to be shortened to our leaving the city by train on the following afternoon for Hangchow and then to Canton, to then cross into Hong Kong, too, on another train. So - come the following morning, we visited a music and art school for students of high school age, after which we boarded a train for a four hour and very scenic ride up the Yangtze River to Hangchow. That very beautiful rolling area is heavily wooded and dotted with lakes and connecting streams. And thus, indeed, it is said to have been the "summer vacation home" of the emperors of China and still is called "The City of Heaven" - which, I think, is why we were routed there when our itinerary had to be changed. In any event, we visited a tea plantation and a silk factory on Sunday, Nov. 23, and then got back to our hotel to watch a TV replay -- and to then discuss with our hosting trade union officers - what all were discussing: "the trial of the Gang of Four" (see PS). And, as it turned out, we also then learned that for us to stay the night of Thursday, Nov. 27, in Hong Kong - so as to also then fly to Narita on Thursday, Nov. 28 -- we would have to begin our train trip from Hangchow to Canton the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 25. So - - fact is -- we all looked forward to a sightseeing trip of nearly a thousand miles since land travel in China for visitors is actually very rare. And, for sure, it was a very scenic and interesting trip. And on Wednesday, 11 - 27, the dining car crew even cooked us a special Thanksgiving a "supper", of which the chief steward laughing said: "... No have turkeys, but do have big chickens." So -- having arrived in Canton at AM on Thursday, Nov. 27, we saw very little of it since our train for Hong Kong departed at noon. And having arrived at that city at 2 PM. we got to the Plaza Hotel, then toured and shopped its very crowded and busy streets. And having slept in on Friday, 11 - 28, we boarded a Japan Air Lines 707 to fly to for Narita at 10:45 and arrived there at 4:05 and got to them where we had earlier stayed. And on Saturday, 11 - 28 we boarded a Japan Air Line 747, which departed for SF at 10 PM -- where it arrived at 2 PM that afternoon -- and with us thus regaining the day we had earlier "lost".

* * *

Day of Trip	Day of Week	Date	Place / Stay / Visit
1	Thurs.	11 - 13	Depart SF 1:40 PMt for Tokyo/Narita airport. Arrive Narita - lose one day with crossing of date line and eleven hour flight.
2	Sat.	11 - 15	Depart Narita after sleep-over and visit to Buddhist temple/ seminary in Narita for 4.5 hour flight to Beijing. Met by host - to guest house - discussion - to dinner - discussion.
4	Sun.	11 - 16	Beijing - tour city - Great Wall - Ming Tombs
5	Mon.	11 - 17	Tour city - visit textile plant - and its pharmacy and nursery.

6	Tues.	11 - 18	visit apartment construction site - and grade school - shop for souvenirs.
7	Wed.	11 - 19	Tiananmen Square - Forbidden City -- U. S . Embassy - Ambassador Leonard Woodcock = former president of UAW.
8	Thurs.	11 - 20	Morning 2 hour 707 flight to Shanghai - get hotel on city's riverside waterfront of office buildings - foreign consulates - hotels - this river frontage is called the "Bund".
8	Fri.	11 - 21	visit Shanghai waterfront - "Berth 10 " complex - conventional breakbulk and containerized cargoes - had hoped to get back to the waterfront on following day
9	Sat.	11 - 22	change in trip itinerary - train ride of 6 hours up Yangtze River to Hangchow after visit to a music and art school.
10	Sun.	11 - 23	Hangchow - visit tea plantation - silk factory - learned reason for change in itinerary - we were to fly to Canton on 11 - 26 so as to fly to Tokyo on 11 - 27 and to US on 11 -28, but no plane space available on 11 - 26 plane, so had to take train on Monday, 11 - 24 for two day trip of over a 1000 miles to be in Canton by morning of 11 - 25.
11	Mon.	11 - 24	Toured city and surrounding area.
	Tues.	11 - 25	Boarded train midmorning - fantastic scenic ride through countryside.
	Wed.	11 - 26	Dining car cooks made us what the chief steward smiled and called "Early Thanksgiving supper" -- to which he then laughingly added: ". . . No have turkeys, but very big chickens!" .
12	Thurs.	11 - 27	Arrive Canton 10 AM - depart by train for 90 mile ride to Hong Kong at noon - arrive at 2 PM - to Plaza Hotel -- tour and shop - dinner - very busy city.
14	Fri.	11 - 26	Tour - shop - Japan Airlines 707 to Narita at 10:45 AM - arrive Narita at 4:05 PM - stayed at same hotel.
15	Sat.	11 - 27	Depart Narita - Japan Air 747 to SF at 10 PM -- arrive same day 2 PM -- and thus regained our "lost" day.



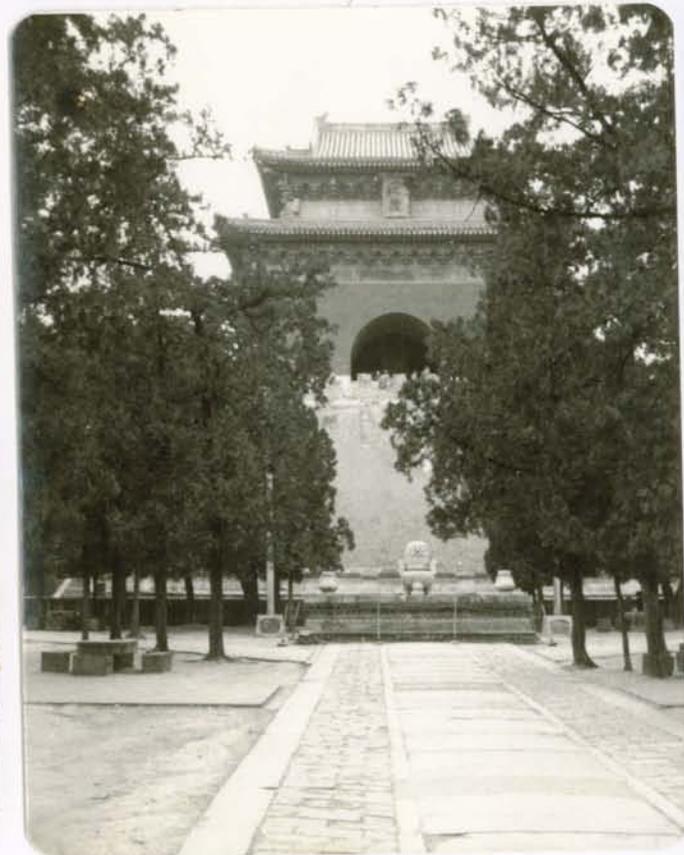
**Japan Air Lines - 747.
SF - Tokyo / Narita
SF boarding gate.
Thurs. Nov. 13, 1980
Stayed at Hotel
Hotel Nikko Nirita**



**Fri. / Sat. Nov. 14 - 15
(lose one day)
visit Buddhist
Temple in Narita.
Fly to Beijing
China Air - 707.
Met by hosts -
All China Fed. of
Trade Unions**



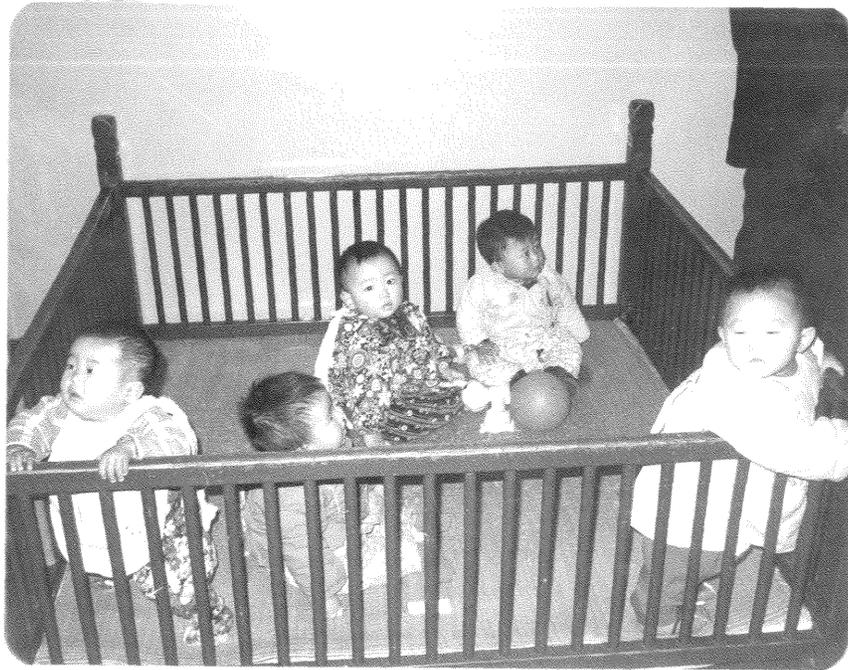
Beijing - Nov. 15 Stayed at guest house of host:
"All China Federation of Trade Unions/" - where
we met with federation officers.



Beijing - Nov. 16 - Tour city - visit Great Wall - Ming Tombs,



Beijing - Nov. 17 - Vistit textile plant . . . its herb pharmacy



. . . and its nursery

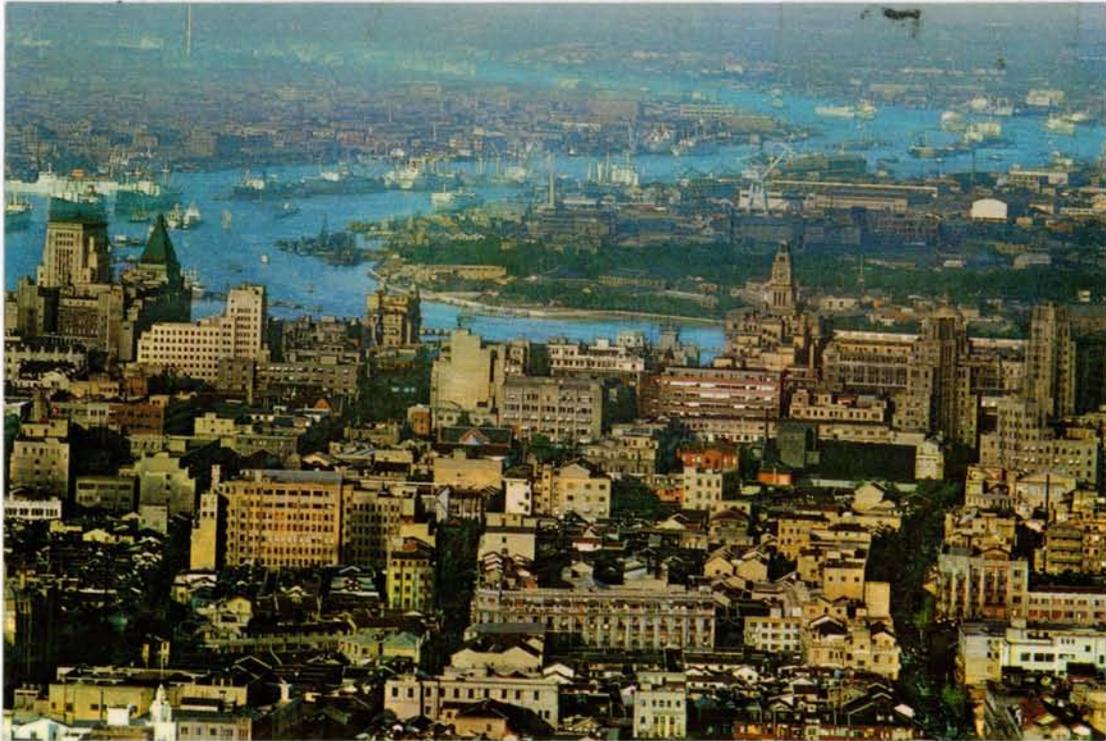


**Tues. Nov. 18 Beijing
- visit construction site /
grade school.**

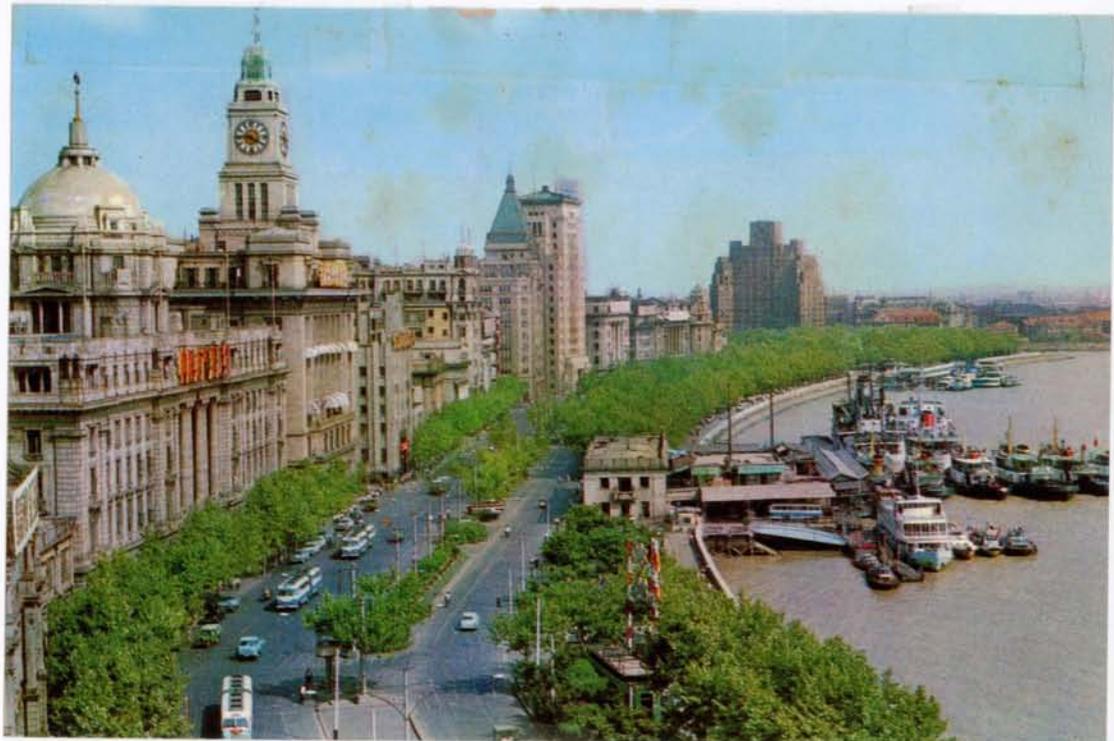


Wed. Nov. 19 Beijing
Tiananmen Square
Forbidden City - visit
U. S. Embassy - author
with U. S. Ambassador.
Leonard Woodcock
-- ex Pres. UAW.





Thurs. Nov. 20
Fly to Shanghai - China Air
707 - 2 hour 972. / stayed at
hotel on the "Bund" - Shanghai
riverfront of foreign consulates,
office building and hotels - had
dinner with hosts at International
Seamen's Club at north end of "Bund."



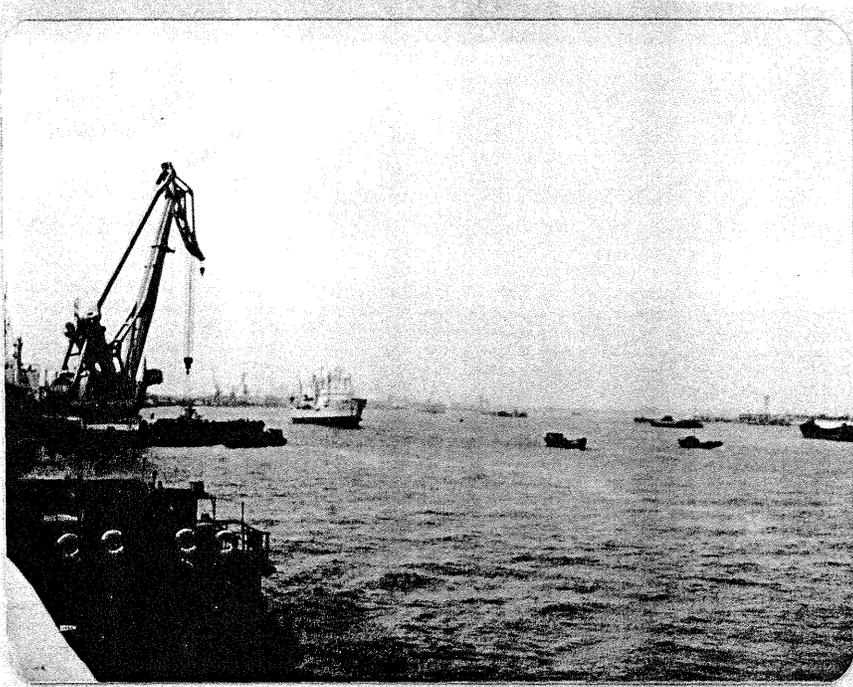


View from my room at Shanghai's Jing Jaing Hotel-- where President Nixon stayed when in Shanghai on his China trip in 1972.

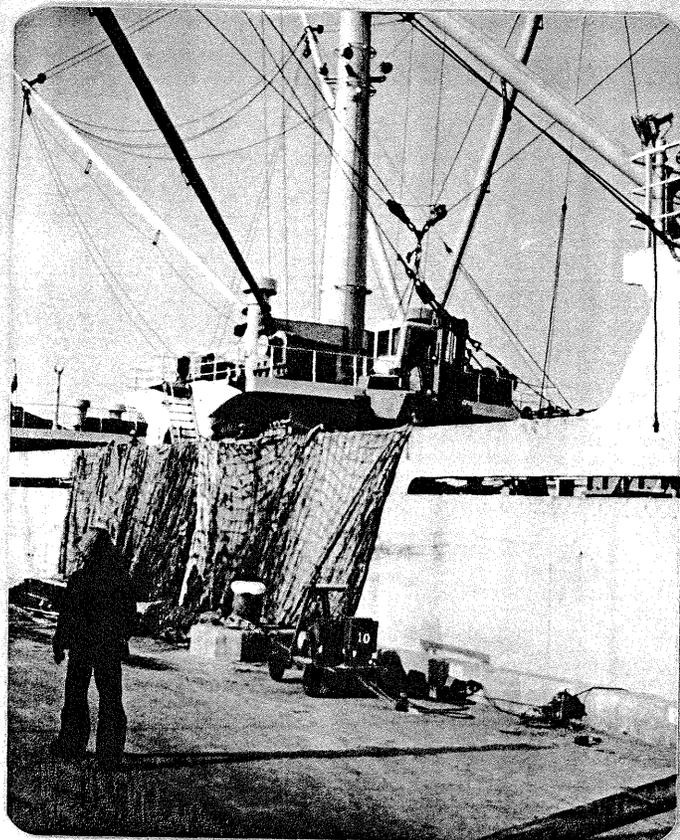


Fri. 21 - Visit "Berth 10" complex - 20 miles from hotell - upon arrival Paul Robeson was singing "Old Man River" on the PA system- told our hosts that Local 10 had made im a fraternal member and brother in 1943.

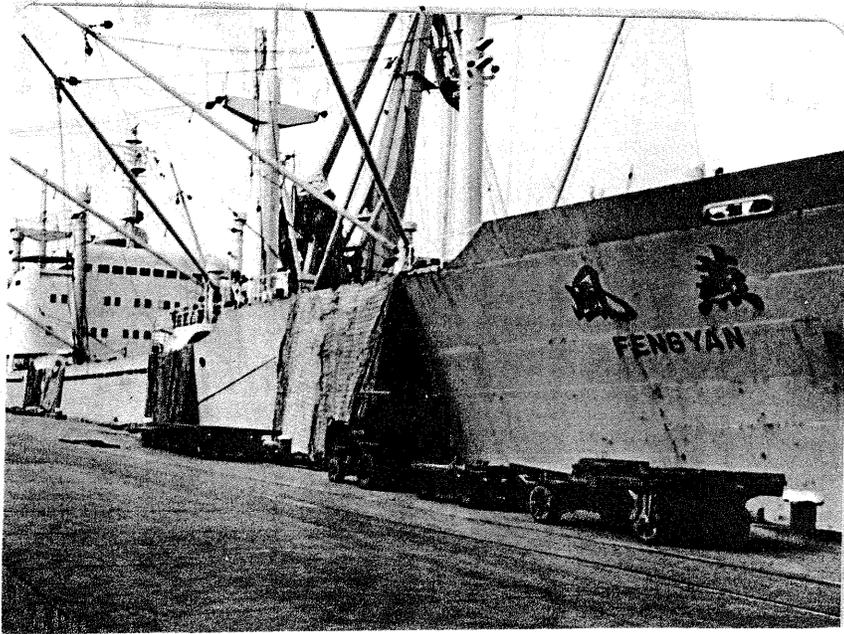
Heavy lift floating crane at head of Berth 10 harbor.



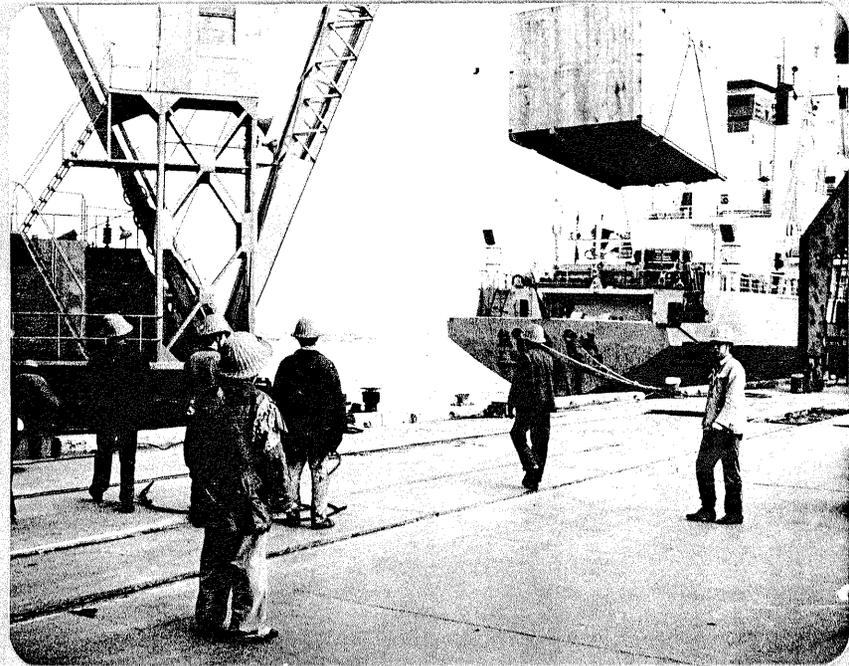
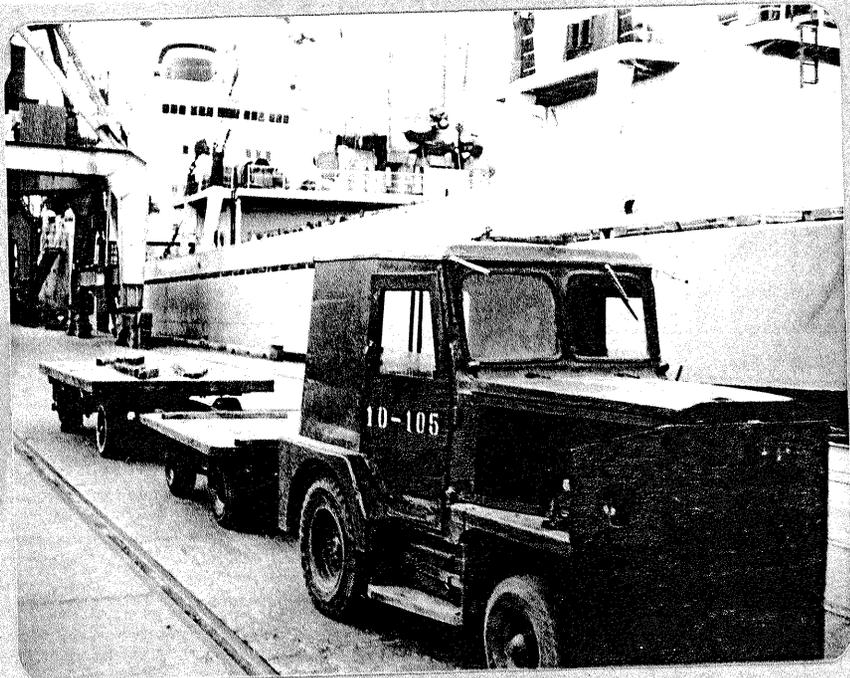
This is the crane elsewhere
pictured . . .



A conventional operation
with 146 in the hold . . .



Note
that
the
brille
is NOT
stitched
to the
hook..

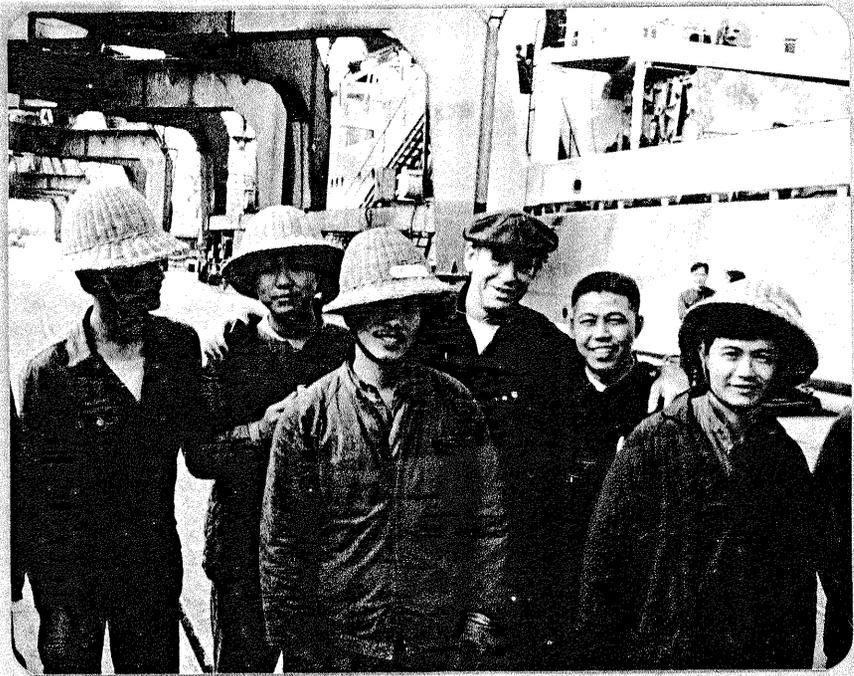


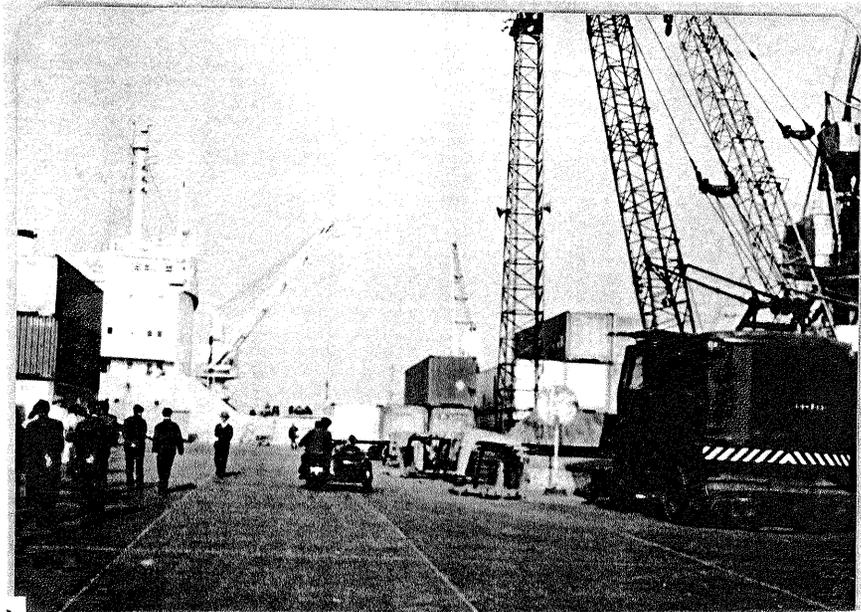
A woman was driving this
vehicle . . . I saw quite a few woman workers, but
they do not work aboard ship . . .

Lot's of Japanese
containers, too...

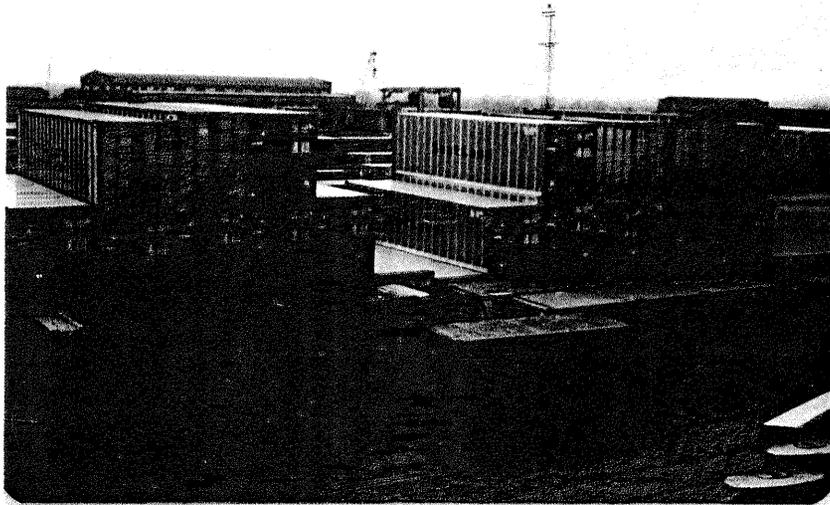


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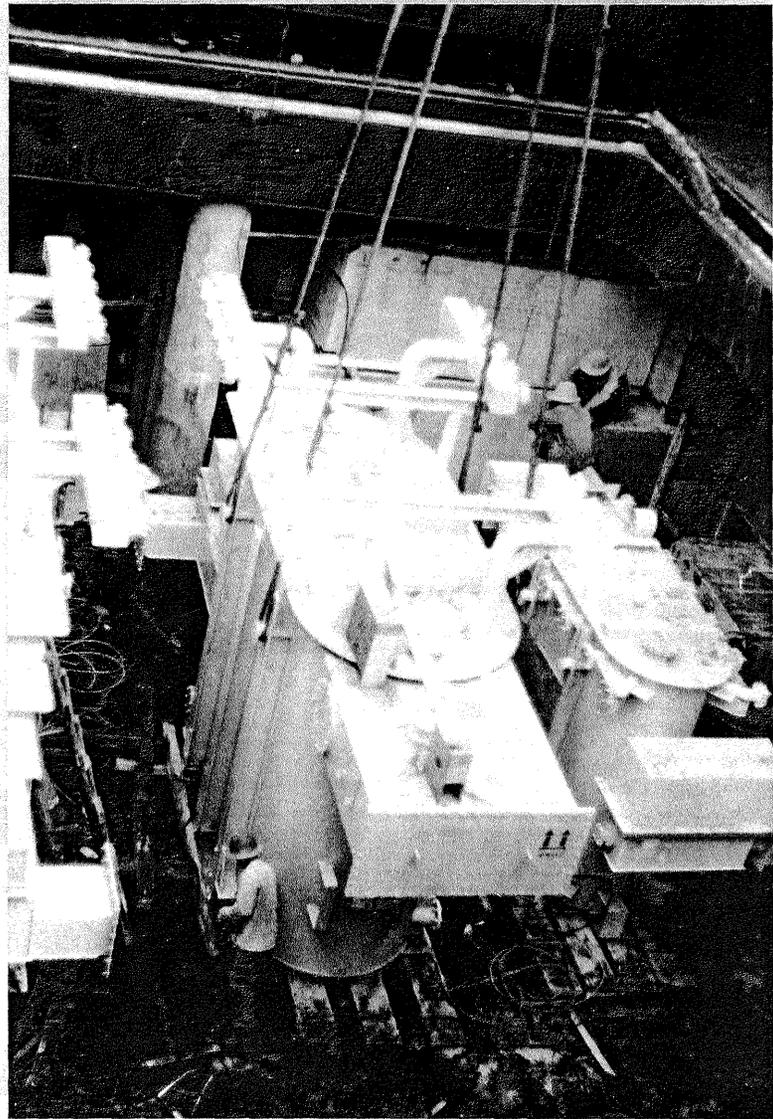




- 15 -



Sealove / Maersk



This was the heavy lift
we watched . . .
Accomplished by the big
floating crane pictured a
few pages earlier . . .

I lost my camera somehow -
- so the following snaps were taken by others.



Saying good-bye to our Shanghai hosts
at the train for Hangchow.



- 17 - View of Yangtze River from train.



Hangchow's West Lake
- which we toured by motor launch.





Tea with the elected manager of the tea plantation.



At the silk factory.



**This is the kitchen crew which
cooked our "early Thanksgiving supper".**



First view of Hong Kong harbor.



HOTEL PLAZA



 JAL HOTEL SYSTEM *International*

Our Hong Kong hotel - pretty fancy doings.



Hong Kong harbor
- flight to Tokyo.



California Coast.

Postscript: A Note on "The Trial of the Gang of Four."

This postscript was drafted just prior to the posting of the author's 1980 report to the Executive Board and Stewards Council of Local 10. In making those reports, he also delivered an ongoing verbal commentary, which included brief remarks on the trial here in question. Since, however, those remarks can no longer be recalled, this PS is intended to give those with little or no information about that trial some understanding of why its daily TV coverage was so very widely watched and discussed by the Chinese people. -- and the rest of the world.

Goggle: Trial of the Gang of Four - p. 1 --

BBC ON THIS DAY | 11 | 1976: China's 'Gang of Four' arrested

On 20 November 1980 all members of the Gang of Four were put on trial charged with attempting to overthrow the government and establish a hardline Communist ...

The Gang of Four were kept under house arrest and, following a propaganda campaign against them, were expelled from the Communist Party in July 1977. By the end of 1978 reformist Deng Xiaoping had effectively wrested power from Hua Guofeng - although he did not assume the title of premier of China and chair of the CCP until 1982.

On 20 November 1980 all members of the Gang of Four were put on trial charged with attempting to overthrow the government and establish a hardline Communist dictatorship. They were sentenced to death, later commuted to longterm imprisonment. After a period of political indoctrination Jian Qing was released in 1991 and died soon after - some reports say she committed suicide. Wang Hongwen died in 1992, Zhang Chunqiao died in April 2005 and Yao Wenyuan died in December 2005.

CHINA: The Gang of Four on Trial - TIME

After many delays, the "evildoers" finally enter the dock. The long parade of limousines and buses knifed through Peking's wintry smog just before 3 pm As...

CHINA: The Gang of Four on Trial

Time magazine By HP-Time.com; Richard Bernstein

- Monday, Dec. 01, 1980.

After many delays, the "evildoers" finally enter the dock. The long parade of limousines and buses knifed through Peking's wintry smog just before 3 p.m. As police and soldiers kept away curious bystanders, sober-faced men and women emerged from the cars, strode through the gates of the public security compound at No. 1 Zhengyi (Justice) Road near Tiananmen Square and entered a large, brightly lighted courtroom. After taking their seats, the 35 judges and 880 "representatives of the masses" looked on impassively as the ten defendants were led into the court by bailiffs to hear the charges against them.

Thus began the long-awaited trial of China's notorious Gang of Four and six other high-ranking "evildoers." The carefully orchestrated courtroom drama, which is

expected to last for several weeks, is the most important show trial to take place in the 31 years that the Communist Party has ruled China. The most celebrated defendant is Jiang Qing, 67, the widow of Mao Tse-tung, who, along with her allies in the Gang of Four,* led Mao's reckless and violent Cultural Revolution from 1966 to 1976. They were arrested four years ago, shortly after Mao's death in 1976. Also on trial are a group of senior military officials who allegedly plotted with the late Defense Minister Lin Biao to assassinate Mao in 1971 and seize supreme power for themselves.

The defendants had not been seen publicly since their arrest. Jiang Qing, a onetime film actress, seemed almost defiant as the trial opened. Her jet-black hair was pulled severely back behind her ears; she marched into the courtroom with her head regally erect and then alternately smirked and yawned during the reading of the indictment, apparently to show contempt for the proceedings. Still, there were some reports that at one point she broke down and cried. Other defendants seemed tired and worn from their long imprisonment. Two members of the Gang, Zhang Chunqiao and Wang Hongwen, had shaved heads. Two other defendants, including Chen Boda, 76, who had been Mao's personal secretary and a theoretician of the Cultural Revolution, had to be helped to their places before the bar by two guards.

Portions of the 20,000-word indictment were printed in China's press before the trial started; they accused the defendants of a host of heinous crimes that took place during the Cultural Revolution. The charges specify that 727,420 Chinese were "persecuted" during that period, and that 34,274 died, though the often vague indictment did not specify exactly how. Among the chief victims: onetime Chief of State Liu Shaoqi, whose widow Wang Guangmei, herself imprisoned during the Cultural Revolution, attended the trial as an observer.

The indictment describes two plots by the "Jiang Qing-Lin Biao counterrevolutionary clique" to seize power. Lin Biao's effort to have Mao assassinated in 1971, for example, was known as "Project 571." The indictment alleges that Lin, who was then Mao's official heir, plotted to kill the Great Helmsman while he was on an inspection tour of southern China. The plan was to attack Mao's special train "with flame throwers and bazookas, to dynamite the railway bridge [over which the train was to pass], bomb the train from the air, blow up the oil depot near the train stop in Shanghai, and then assassinate the Chairman in the ensuing commotion." The indictment sheds no light on how the Great Helmsman, whose improbable code name to the conspirators was "B-52," managed to survive that elaborate plot, or even whether an attack was ever mounted.

Jiang Qing is not accused of conspiring with Lin Biao, or with other members of the Gang of Four who allegedly planned an armed rebellion to "usurp power" in 1976, when Mao was close to death. Instead, the charges against her focus on her systematic persecution of creative artists during the Cultural Revolution. Among other things, she is accused of hiring 40 people in Shanghai to disguise themselves as Red Guards and ransack the homes of writers and performers. The apparent purpose: to find and destroy letters, photos and other potentially damaging materials on Jiang Qing's early career in Shanghai, which she wanted to keep secret.

Despite the seriousness of the accusations against her, Jiang Qing appeared unrepentant. She has not confessed her guilt, something that the Chinese press has emphasized to show her bad attitude. There have been reports that she plans to defend herself by cloaking herself in Mao's mantle, saying that she did only what he

approved . As the trial got under way, Jiang Qing dismissed her assigned team, deciding instead to represent herself.

There is virtually no doubt what the verdicts will be — guilty as charged. The judges, who are mostly party or military officials rather than professional jurists, are unlikely to ignore the well-known goals of China's strongman, Vice Chairman Deng Xiaoping, and his powerful allies. One is to discredit permanently the Gang of Four and other radicals who not only purged the current leaders but also brought China to the edge of chaos. An other is to lower public esteem for Mao without discrediting the Great Helmsman entirely. Indeed, perhaps the only real question about the trial was what the sentences would be, and Chinese officialdom last week provided some ominous clues. "We're going to nail them to history's pillar of shame," predicted Peking's People's Daily. Zhang Youyu, China's most famous lawyer and legal scholar, was quoted as saying that "no sentence could be considered too heavy." He added that "just because we have a principle of leniency does not mean that some counter- revolutionary criminals cannot be sentenced to death."

The three others: former Politburo members Zhang Chunqiao, 63; Yao Wenyuan, 49; and Wang Hongwen, 45.