

DEATH SAILS ON THE “OCEANIA”

It is 1943 and these are dark times in most parts of the world. Ship cruises are at an all time high – if you happen to be taking a cruise on a troop ship, or military ship of any kind. There are many convoys being organized and sent from the United States and Canada to try to help stave off disaster in Europe, the Middle East, and the Pacific Islands. Submarines, airplanes, and mines have made any “cruise” very dangerous.

The “Oceania” is a very fast, sleek passenger liner registered in Canada with a well trained crew of experienced seamen, cruise employees and stewards, and an ex Admiral of the French Navy as the Captain. Because of her speed, this ship will not travel in a convoy and will sail directly from Nova Scotia to Portsmouth, England. It is carrying \$40 million in gold bars to aid in the war effort, secret messages and plans that cannot be trusted over the air waves or to airplanes which may be shot down or captured. It also carries a new set of equipment (Mark 1) designed to pinpoint enemy submarines both on or below the surface of the sea. If a ship can use this equipment to evade U-Boats, the war will be substantially reduced in duration.

It is suspected that the Germans will sink the “Oceania” if they can not capture it and get the gold. They know that the English need the gold to support their war effort as do the Germans.

Among the passengers of the “Oceania” are members of the military who hate to fly, test personnel for the Mark 1 equipment, and people with enough money and pull to get a stateroom going to England.

British, Canadian, U. S., Swiss, Egyptian, and Vatican intelligence agents may be on the ship. It is rumored that Captains Adolph Letz (German Sub Ace), as well as Antonio Pizza (Italian), Boris Travesty (Russian), “Tiger” Leepong (Japan), and Bubba Murphy (South Carolina) all have their subs in the waters along the estimated course of the “Oceania”.

It is also believed that several spies have gained passage, stowed away, or joined the crew. Australian intelligence reports that an international hit man is on board. He may have nothing to do with the “Oceania” except to kill some spies that he had been hired to eliminate by a foreign government. He is supposed to be responsible for crippling a spy network operating in China, after being hired to do so by the South African government. He/she uses knives, poison, and guns to kill his victims. He also leaves a calling card to prove it was him – a pink piece of yarn tied to the big toe of the victim. Keep your shoes on!!

Gold, espionage, and patriotism may be motives for mayhem. Whatever the reason, with this much gold on board, you can be sure that danger and death stalk this ship.