FIVE LOST IN RIVER AS SUNKEN BARGE RISES, UPSETS TUG

Harbor Police Rescue Four After Freak Accident

Illustrated on Pages 10 and 14
By JAMES GILSON

Five crew members of a 115-ton tug were lost and four others were rescued early yesterday when their craft was capsized in what was termed the most unusual accident in the history of navigation on the Delaware River.

The tug, the J. M. Taylor, operated by the Taylor & Anderson Towing and Lighterage Co., 13 Lombard st., went to the bottom about 300 yards north of the Delaware River Bridge a short time after she rolled on her side.

Missing and believed to have drowned:

Captain Alton R. Murray, of Marley Park, Md., near Baltimore.
Oliver Knutson, deck hand, 211 Walnut st.
Norman Hickman, deck hand, 122 N. Dewey st.
Andrew Benkos, fireman, 311 Gaskill st.
Alpheus Dixon, 55, cook, 904 S. 15th st.

The survivors:
Philip West, 38, first mate, 30 S. 32d st.
John Houston Long, 40, first ass-

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By JAMES GILSON

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Walter Quillen, 39, second engineer, 3226 Chancellor st.
Russell Savage, 37, deck hand, 5238 Chancellor st.

The accident occurred when a sunken barge, holding several freight cars, suddenly surfaced as it came under the tug, smashing its port side and spinning it over in a few seconds.

2 RESCUED BY POLICE

West Quillen and Savage were rescued by Motor Harbor police as they clung to the "booby hatch" of the overturned tug.

Long was picked up from the river by a 2-feet boat 800 yards more than a mile below the scene of the accident as he clutched a 20-foot ladder washed from the tug and was being swept downstream by a strong current.

FATHER WITH SAME FIRM

Hickman, one of the missing, who was 25, had been employed by the tug firm since leaving grade school.

In his father, George, said last night, the father is employed as a watchman with the same company.

Hickman was unmarried and lived with his parents at 13 Dewey st. He was 21 years old.

NORMAN HICKMAN

Benenson, 49, lived at the Ganiskl at address for only a few months, occupying a room prior to that at 429 S. 3rd st. He also was unmarried.

Friends said he came to this country from Greece in 1916 and had been a seaman all his life. He was working on the tug nine months. A brother, Nick, operates a restaurant in Seattle, Wash., and a sister lives in Tacoma.

Krugler had lived at the Seamen's Church Institute, 211 Walnut st., for "some time." It was said there last night, but the whereabouts of his relatives were not immediately known.

Dixon, the missing cook, made his home with his wife, Mrs. E. O. Fosler, in an apartment at 48th st. She said she had been employed by the tug company about two years.

Capt. John M. Taylor and Capt. George H. Anderson, owners of the tug, said the boat had been hit and marked the spot of a submerged Baltimore & Ohio Railroad barge, which sunk some hours earlier.

The barge, partly loaded with freight cars, started to sink Friday morning, and was found by a tug. The wave beneath it swamped the river when it went to the bottom.

REMAINS OVER SPOT

The tug was sent to the site and for several hours remained alongside the barge, where the barge founder.

The backwash of a passing ship, combined with a strong ebb current, is believed to have overturned the barge with its cargo on the river bed.

Suddenly, the heavy and cumbersome ship began to split and finally it ripped into the port side of the tug and the craft capsized.

THROWN OUT OF BUNK

Savage, in his bunk asleep, was thrown to the floor. He made his way to the deck through a flood of water pouring down the companionway. Savage said he also aided his two mates, one of the missing, and his son.

Quillen managed to get outside from the engine room.

Motor Harbor police reached the tug while she was still afloat. They searched for Quillen and Savage, who were shivering with cold as they held to the hatch. The police said cakes of ice floated by as they offered help.

HEAR CRIES FOR HELP

Down river, near the foot of South st., Patrolmen Edward Romay, William Klim and Andrew Murray, in their boat, the Moke Harbor, heard cries as their boat passed through the water.

They saw a bobbing head in midstream, moving swiftly along. The police boat sped up and they found Long, clutching the ladder and screaming.

He was thrown into the water by the last group was too weak to grab it. The police maneuvered their boat to the ladder and Long was pulled aboard.

The two men were taken to Hahnemann Hospital, where they were treated for shock and exposure. West and Long were detailed, but Quillen and Savage were sent home after treatment.

RAID CLEANUP UNIT ASKS VOLUNTEERS

The Philadelphia Council of Defense yesterday issued a call for volunteers for its division of demolition and clearance work. The meeting would be held tonight at 3200 Chestnut st. to explain the details.