

Among the victims of the widespread storms across Europe ---
on a mountainside not far from Rome/ a Douglas airliner of the
Sabena line; which crashed with the loss of all twenty-nine ~~passengers~~
passengers and crew. The aircraft was on a flight ~~from~~ ^{to} Rome to
from Brussels ; ~~but~~ after the crash, more than a week elapsed before
the wreckage was found. This was partly owing to the extremely
bad weather --- and partly to the fact that its position was
some way off its last reported course.

Continuing the story of violence --- the port of Genoa
came under the lash when the worst gale in living memory,
rampaged over the French and Italian Rivas.

Part of the port's huge breakwater was destroyed --- ships
were overturned and smashed against the deckside.

Not only from Europe --- but from sunny South Africa, this
week's news in motion pictures brings a story of Nature cutting
loose. The Vaal River, in the Transvaal, north of the Union ---
has overflowed its banks. Shops and houses in the town of
Standerton were flooded.

And now --- unusual thought this spectacle is at home in
Britain --- this was the kind of fire that followed/ ^{the} explosion
of oil-refinery tanks at Shellhaven, in Essex. Incalculable
further damage was prevented, by the heroism of a man who risked
his life to turn off a vital valve. He is the Chief Engineer,
Mr Thomas Brookbank.

This was the scene that followed that worst fire in the
Thames Estuary since the ~~blitz~~ blitz. But for the cool courage
of Mr Brookbank and those who helped him --- a millken gallons
more petrol would have flowed in --- to turn a bad situation
into a major disaster.