

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The eighty-fifth Congress - begins its second session, in a serious mood. Oh, yes, there was the usual gaiety-friends, greeting one another after their recess. But no one on Capitol Hill seems to doubt that we will be facing some unusually vital issues in the next few months. As the Senate Chaplain, our Frederick Harris put it - "The most crucial challenge, since the liberty bell first rang out." A reference, of course, to the alleged Soviet lead in scientific weapons. So the Members of Congress are all set to debate some of the most important issues - that any congress has ever been asked to discuss.

Many bills were introduced on this the first day. Senator Leader Lyndon Johnson of Texas - is proposing a full program of his own - his plan for overtaking Russia's scientists. Senator Johnson saying "Whoever controls outer space - will control the whole earth."

Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn, puts it this way, "We are in a struggle for survival - or may be at any time." The veteran Rayburn predicting, that Congress will give President Eisenhower all the money he needs - to match Russia in the field of missiles. Mr. Eisenhower acting quickly in this crisis - has asked for more than a billion dollars; to be used to hire scientists, pay for rockets, and strengthen the Strategic Air Command.

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How does Senator Richard Russell feel - his
reaction to the Radio House meeting? The California
Republican asserted that he thinks Mr. Eisenhower is
meeting the challenge that we face as a nation. He
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But he feels our revenue should be enough - to meet the
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budget of seventy-four billion dollars.

EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower today met with Republican Congressional leaders at the White House. The most important part of the discussion concerned the State of the Union Message the President will deliver before Congress on Thursday. Today he briefed the men on whom he will depend - for support, on Capitol Hill.

Afterward, Senator Knoland of California told newsmen the President is optimistic about our economy. Feels that this year will be better than last.

How does Senator Knoland himself feel - his reaction to the White House meeting? The Californian Republican answered that he thinks Mr. Eisenhower is meeting the challenges that we face as a nation. He agrees there probably won't be tax changes from now on. But he feels our revenue should be enough - to meet the cost of a crash program in missiles. He doesn't see any reason why we can't pay for everything we need - with a budget of seventy-four billion dollars.

When one reporter wanted to know - about the President's health. Senator Knowland said he has never seen Mr. Eisenhower looking better.

The White House, by the way has announced that the President definitely will fly to Chicago on the 30th of this month - to speak before a fund raising dinner of the G.O.P.

GAVIN

Tonight, the fate of the chief of Army research - remains in doubt. General James Gavin, still not sure whether he'll stay in the Army or not. He has already announced his retirement. His reason, the refusal of his superiors to give him the promotion to which he thinks he is entitled. But General Gavin says this is not yet final. He'll reconsider, if he gets the chance.

The problem is now up to Secretary of the Army, Wilbur Brucker - who is going to confer with General Gavin. Secretary Brucker could refuse to accept the Gavin resignation. But the General insists there is one thing he won't do just to stay in the army. He says he won't stop attacking the defense appropriation in the new budget. General Gavin believes, we should spend much more - to overcome the Soviet lead in missiles.

MACMILLAN

The British Prime Minister off on a long tour, of the Commonwealth. Harold Macmillan, to be away for six weeks - as far as India and Australia,

At the air port, the Prime Minister gave newsmen an optimistic statement about the dispute in his administration. The reference, to yesterday's resignation - of Peter Thorneycroft, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Macmillan says the crisis is over - and his Cabinet is now working again as a unit.

But despite the Prime Minister's optimism, his party seems to be in trouble. The Conservatives, split over the question of finances. Thorneycroft stepped out - because he thought Britain would have to cut down on welfare benefits. Macmillan, opposing this - because he feared it would touch off new wage demands by the Unions.

The Conservative Party is divided. Most, going along with the Prime Minister. But a strong minority

agrees with Thorneycroft. Meanwhile, the Labor Party
of course is trying to profit by whatever split there
is in the ranks of the Conservatives.

1

AUSTRALIA. Australia does not favor another East-West summit conference -- at least, not ~~right~~ now. So says Richard Casey, ^{Canberra} Minister of External Affairs. Speaking to a news conference in Melbourne, Casey pointed out that the Russians have always refused any compromise on two key issues -- German reunification, and international control of nuclear weapons. The Australian Foreign Minister adding -- there's no sign that the leopard has changed his spots. No sign that Khrushchev intends to meet us half way on either of these issues. So Melbourne doesn't see much sense in another summit meeting. The risk of failure -- too great.

Richard Casey went on to say -- his government does favor East-West conferences -- at a lower level, where possible failure would not be such a disappointment to the world. The Aussies, to support the plan for a get-together of Foreign Ministers.

Asked about the immediated danger in Southeast Asia, Casey answered -- ~~it's~~ it's Communist infiltration and subversion. Australia is worried about the danger of

a major war -- just like all the other nations of the free world. But right now she's a lot more worried about what is happening in Indonesia.

OIL. In Algiers, French officials report -- oil from the Sahara Desert is on its way to France. Oil from the ~~new~~ ^{new} fields at Hassi Messoud -- where mining engineers recently struck a gusher. ^{now moved} ~~carried~~ by pipeline, and tank car, to Philippeville on the Mediterranean. Then by tanker across to Marseilles. The timetable of shipment, a secret. Paris doesn't want any attacks by Algerian terrorists -- who have sworn not to let a drop of oil get out of Algeria.

One thing seems sure -- the French are not thinking of evacuating the Hassi Messoud area of the Sahara -- ^{where it is} ~~because it is~~ estimated that six hundred tons of oil ^{per day} will soon be flowing from ^{beneath the sands of} ~~those wells deep in the desert waste~~ ~~of sand~~ the greatest of all deserts -- the Sahara.

MOTHERS.

Those three American mothers in Red China - are still receiving plush treatment. Mrs. Redmond, of Yonkers, Mrs. Downey, of New Britain, Connecticut, and Mrs. Fecteau, of Lynn, Massachusetts. Today Communist officials took them on a sight seeing tour of Canton. They were shown the old city - and then the stores and schools put up by Mao Tse-tung. Then, the memorial to Doctor Sun Yat Sen "Father of Modern China," who overthrew the monarchy - and set his country on the road to a new day. Altho the Communists have abandoned ^{the} Sun Yat Sen idea of freedom - they use his fame for propoganda purposes.

The three American ladies all say they had a good time in Canton and are now anxious to go on to Peking to see their sons, who are still in prison.

TEXAS. Texans began moving back into the Rio Grande Valley today -- after fleeing for safety when the floods came. But the situation is still critical. Many houses, flooded -- without running water, gas, or electricity. On the Gulf of Mexico several buildings were swept away by tidal waves. ~~Others, facing the same danger.~~ Damage in the Rio Grande Valley -- running into the millions.

~~Add to this -- bad weather. The thermometer diving.~~

~~Heavy snow, falling -- with drifts piled almost two feet deep in some places.~~

CALLAS

The battle of Rome became more furious today - when soprano Maria Callas fired a legal action at the opera house. This, after the management banned her from future appearances. The ban, only temporary - but its enough to touch off the temper of the celebrated prima donna. This is the second incident in a week. First, a

The order came down from the Prefect of Rome - who controls the police. The Prefect saying, Miss Callas might start another riot - if she should appear in "Norma" tomorrow and Saturday. A substitute is scheduled to sing the part instead.

But Maria announces that she'll stay in Rome until Sunday, when her contract expires, and if she isn't allowed to sing she'll take it to court. She has called her attorney back from Cortina D'Ampezzo where he was skiing.

PLANE.

Communist Albania holding the crew of an American plane - forced down by Russian built jets. The Albanian Reds charging - the plane violated the air space over their country. They say it was forced to land thirty miles from the Adriatic coast.

This is the second insident in a week. First, a British transport - forced down near Valona. Plane and crew allowed to return to Britain. Now an American plane.

SCIENTIST.

Soviet science is bringing the Russian people - vlood, sweat, and tears. That's the opinion of Dr. Nicholas De Witt, of the Harvard Russian Research Center. Dr. De Witt points out that Russia's crash program in rockets - means the workers are still not getting the consumer goods they want. The drab Soviet standard of living - goes on and on. Khrushchev gets his sputniks - but Ivan Ivanovich still doesn't have his own car, or much of a home for his family.

What about the scientists in the workers' paradise? We have heard a lot about how the Kremlin give plush treatment to its experts? Dr. De Witt says that successful scientists do have an easy life in Russia, but that it's a different story for the unsuccessful ones. They suffer from punishments unknown to the West. As Dr. DeWitt put it:- "obscurity, deprivation, and even death."

So life is not quite a bed of roses for a scientist

in the Soviet Union. If he produces what the Red bosses want - they treat him like a hero. If he fails in his assignment, - he may simply disappear.

MISSILE

Russia may have had a science fiction scare - like the one that hit America twenty years ago. You no doubt remember the Orson Welles' broadcast? When he did a radio version of H. G. Wells' "War of the Worlds." A lot of Americans thought they were hearing a real news program - and in New Jersey, one patriotic citizen even went out with his shot gun - looking for Martians.

Have the Soviets had something like that? At any rate there is no confirmation of the story that Russian scientists sent a missile with a man in it. But we are told that Radio Moscow broadcast a science fiction story - about future travel through our Solar system. The next day, rumors began circulating through the Soviet capital. One story told how the man missile - had gone a couple of hundred miles up - its passenger, returning to earth by parachute.

A good story while it lasted. But tonight, Don, the believe seems almost universal that it all came from a science fiction broadcast - by some Russian Orson Welles

AND NOW LOWELL:- Here's something that may only be interesting if you are hungry!

Does anyone recall how bean soup became a ~~major~~ congressional issue, way back in Nineteen Four? I remember an item about it ten or fifteen years ago. The Speaker of the House in 1904 was Uncle Joe Cannon, who one day looked at the menu - and couldn't find his favorite dish. Said Uncle Joe: "I want bean soup on the menu every day." So, bean soup has been there ever since.

The question at the moment is - who has the better recipe for bean soup? The House or the Senate? Senate Chef Destito, gives us his recipe - Michigan beans, smoked ham, chopped onions, bay leaves, and garlic. Over in the House, Chef Ernest Zahn, has a simpler recipe - Michigan beans, smoked ham, salt, and pepper.

They say Congress is split over this issue. But I doubt it. Both recipes make my mouth water.