KGMB - Honolulu,

Good Evening Everybody:

After a journey around the world, by way of the South Pole, around the world and then one-third of the way around again, I am back on A merican soil tonight. I won't attempt to review where all I have been; but, I am on the tropical island if Oahu, in Honolulu, capital of our 50th state -- taking a look at the world from a spot that is just about as near Paradise, as you can find on this old planet.

Whether or not Hawaii is a good place to start the New Year depends, upon your point of view. Here in Honolulu it isn't too easy to realize that people elsewhere are not quite as well off as they

are in these glorious islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

For instance, when I left the Royal Hawaiian several hours ago, visitors from the mainland were most of them - ware reading the story in the morning paper telling about the way "old man winter" is behaving in wew England and other parts of the Northeast, on the mainland. Here under a palm tree. with the temperature in the mid 70's, that storm area seems far, far away - - 80 mile an hour winds uprooting trees on Long Island! Train service disrupted! Tens of thousands people stranded in New England, we are told; snow drifts 20 feet high in Maine and New Hampshire, temperature down to as low as 30 below!

If New England is having one of the severest storms it has endured in our lifetime, in

a way I am sorry to miss it. I'd like to compare it with the climate I encountered recently in the South Pde. But, since I'm not in New England, I can think of no better place to be, than here on the beach at Waikiki.

And grim weather news has been coming through from Europe! A United Press wire from London states that the recent blizzard in Europe has brought death to some 700 people. Snow, ice, and bitter cold all the way from Italy to the British Isles. It seems hard to realize that the storm has isolated villages in Britain where today halicopters were out droping supplies.

To return to Hawaii for a moment, here they have been having their second winter open water ski tournament, with a Californian, Larry Penacho, trying to set a new World Record - trying to better the jump ne made, a few months ago, 155 feet on water skis.

By now you may have all heard about the friendly New Year greeting that Premier Khrushchev sent to British Prime Minister MacMillan; expressing the hope that world problems will be solved during the coming year disarmament, nuclear testing, etc. Said Khrushchev, "The fact that the recent crisis in the Caribbean area was overcome proved that even a most acute problem can be resolved peacefully, provided the parties concerned display goodwill in the matter". Then he went on :-

"I trust that the coming year will be a year of further development of Anglo-Soviet relations for the good of the peoples of our countries and for the good of world peace." Noble sentiments! I'm sure most of us agree with Mr. K. and we hope he will do his part.

Veteran correspondent Joe Gregg cables

that De Gaulle says that France and other Western

European nations are ready to welcome Great Britain

as a member of their economic and political community

in the future, but that she must join them "without

reservations, and permanently".

In a New Year's Eve radio-television

message to the French people, De Gaulle also held out

the prospect of a "great relaxation of tension"

between East and West, and an East-West peace

settlement in Europe.

But what about Red China? The trouble between China and India could turn out to be the world's most serious problem. I was in India a few weeks ago when the Chinese Reds declared their "cease-fire". So far no one has explained why the Chinese Reds stopped their advances when they did,

why they didn't slash right on through to the Bay of Bengal. They had India prostrate and probably could have gone on and on without any difficulty.

Of course their lines of supplies were getting long.

By next May India should be better prepared but still weak. So, in Asia they are wondering whether the Chinese Reds will resume their invasion of India a few months from now, this spring.

Even with all the help india gets from the West, can the Indian army be made ready to hold back the Chinese, in a more few months?

Two of the principal topics of conversations here in the Hawaiian Islands are the big annual football game, in the Hula Bowl, next Sunday, and the spectacular conquest of the volcano, Mauna Kea, by several young men in a special auto. The football game is a big attraction because the players are all American football stars from the mainland, two teams coached by "Rip Engles" of Penn State, and coach Barnes of Ucla.

As for the conquest of the volcano. This was the second annual race to make it to the top of Mauna Kea. As you perhaps know, this volcano is on the big island of Hawaii, rises 13,784 feet above the sea, with its cinder cone, snow-capped part of the year. Four drivers with souped-up cars were in the race. The winner a chap named Jimmy Pflueger, the first man ever to make it --- driving to the top of

the highest peak in the Pacific; that is, loftier than any mountain north of New Guinea.

you. I'm not sure where this will be coming from.

Where am 1 - on tape?

Oh, still in Australia. What would be your guess as to the most famous person living on this continent? I presume the right answer would be Prime Minister Menzies, who has been Prime Minister longer than anyone in Australian history. But running him a close second would probably be the number one cricket hero of the hour, whoever he is, or tennis star Rod Laver, for as you perhaps know, the Australians are the most sports minded people in the world. But near the top of the list would be an extraordinary man with whom I spent some time today. his name is dercules - Hercules McIntyre - and he's seventy-six years old.

His father died at age ninety and between the two of them they span the entire history of Australia - modern Australia.

l enjoy telling about men who do unusual

things, and this chap Hercules is quite a man. There were two older brothers, Gus and Bill, both tall and Brawny. When a third son was born the mcintyres, who lived in the Outback where they grow tall, figured that this lad would be biggest and strongest of them all, so they named him Hercules. If he had turned out to be a shrimp, the name might have been incongruous: but it fits. Hercules is six feet six and has played an important role in the development of Australia.

Alaska, and later was the super who bossed the men who dug the famous Culebra Cut, the Panama Canal. When Gus came back here to the Antipodes he and Hercules started the motion picture business in this part of the world. They are even credited with having produced the first feature films made anywhere, not just shots of trains and things of that kind. They

found they had to be their own distributors, so they set up tent shows. Later they launched two American film organizations in Australia, Paramount and Universal.

At age seventy-six Hercules is the head of a foundation that is doing research on asthma. Asthma is quite a problem in Australia. One out of every ten Australians has asthma. Hercules McIntyre tells me that Asthma is more likely to affect people of high intelligence. The reason. The research indicates that the more intelligent you are the more sensitive you are.

Hercules is one of the richest men in Australia and if you are with me tomorrow evening, I'll let you in on a secret, a way that you may be able to make a fortune.

That was from Australia. Now, to confuse you, let's return to Hawaii.

Do any of you read columnist Ann Landers, who tells her readers now to solve personal problems? "Miss Landers, my wife ran off with a traveling salesman. What do I do now?" and so on. I ran into her today and thought she looked a little harrassed. I said, "Ann, have you a problem?" "Yes", she replied. "I wonder how I can solve it. I came to Honolulu for a rest but had such an exciting time I decided to go to one of the other islands, to get away from everybody. But there I had an even more strenuous time. Now 1've come back to Honolulu to rest up from that. What should 1 do, Mr. T?" I suggested she go home to Chicago. Meanwhile, from Hawaii, so long until tomorrow and Happy New Year to all.