

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

(Admiral Byrd is in command again at Little America, landing there today after an unprecedented flight in a plane that took off from an aircraft carrier in the Bay of Whales.)

But Byrd is wasting no time looking up old landmarks. (He already is announcing immediate plans for another flight across the South Pole -- over some unexplored territory.) The purpose? Once more try to determine whether the Antarctic is a single continent or two great island masses.

Byrd says his group in Little America will team up with a sea-borne task force now stationed in the southeastern part of the Bellinghassen Sea. Between the two, they'll send long-range patrol planes winging south and east over the unexplored territory between the Ross and Weddells Seas.

And says Byrd: "This company may be on the

threshold of the most important geographical discovery remaining in the world." The Admiral, now leading his fourth Antarctic Expedition, reiterates his belief that the South Polar Continent is an untoughed reservoir of natural resources.

Byrd, who has already made history and expects to make more, added another "first" to his list of exploits today. The plane which brought him to Little America took off from the deck of the carrier "Philippine Sea" when it was six-hundred-and-fifty miles away from the objective. It was the first carrier-borne plane ever to ~~xi~~ land on the Antarctic Continent.

TAXES

To cut or not to cut the taxes, that is the big question in Washington, ~~course~~, and today it almost led to blows. The Republicans, who talked so glowingly about reductions after election day, are now in a highly nervous state about that question.

This morning ~~Representative~~ ^{Congressman} Harold Knutson of Minnesota, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, was having his breakfast with three other Congressmen in the House cafeteria. Congressman Engel of Michigan walked by with a cup of coffee in his hand, and Knutson began razzing his Michigan colleague. Engel, ^{— some way} ~~as you will~~ recall [^] had a suggestion of his own for tax legislation, and Knutson called it a C.I.O. bill. That annoyed Engel, who put down his cup of coffee and told Knutson that the people ^{the Minnesota statesman} ~~to~~ wanted to help were those in the high brackets. That brought Knutson to his feet and, in the course of the argument, he reached out and took hold of Engel's arm. The man from Michigan then said:

Don't put your hands on me!" So Knutson replied, with startling originality:

"Don't you put your hands on me either." Before the fists began to fly, two other Congressmen stepped in, and peace was restored, if not dignity.

Later in the day, Speaker Joe Martin declared that taxes would be cut provided - provided Congress can also balance the budget, and ~~can~~ pay off part of the national debt. ^{That} Before anything else is done, Uncle Sam must be put on a pay-as-you-go basis, and must pay ^{off} some of ~~the~~ public debt. After that, we can begin the long weary trail back to a semblance of normal, reasonable taxes.

~~Joe~~ Martin pointed out that, although Knutson had promised a twenty per cent ~~reduction~~ across-the-board reduction, he was not speaking for the Party. ^{That} the Party's first obligation is to even up income with outgo, and pay our debts.

TRUMAN

When President Truman goes to Mexico City, he will take the occasion to visit other places too. After his visit to President Aleman ^{at Chequantepec Castle,} ~~of Mexico,~~ he will go to Waco, Texas, to make a speech and receive an honorary degree from ^(BAYLOR) ~~Hartley~~ University. And thereby hangs a tale. He was to have been invested as a Doctor of Laws way back in Nineteen Forty-Five. But the Baptists of Texas at their general convention, adopted a resolution asking the University to withhold that degree because, in its own words, of Mr. Truman's "reported attitude toward drinking and gambling." The President promptly cancelled his plans.

He has never made any bones about the fact that he takes an occasional hand at poker and whenever he feels like it ^{he} enjoys a glass of wine or a highball. And he declined to bow the knee to Baptists or anybody else on those matters of intimate personal conduct. The

President of ~~Ohio~~ ^{BAKOR} University meanwhile decided to ignore the views of the Baptist convention, and renewed the offer of a degree to the President, which Mr. Truman accepted.

After the ceremony at Waco, the President will fly to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and from there join Uncle Sam's fleet during its maneuvers in the Caribbean.

Followed by
~~After that he may take~~ a short cruise in the presidential yacht.

ADD WEATHER

~~Paraphrasing Mark Twain, "If you don't like the weather, you know what you can do about it."~~

~~But~~ If you don't like cold weather, *at any rate*

You can be thankful you're not up in ~~the~~ Yukon territory today.

~~At~~ At Snag, a village just under the Alaskan border, the temperature fell to seventy-eight point seven degrees below zero. And that's the lowest -- so goes the claim -- ever recorded on the North American Continent.

optional

~~The mercury fell to that fiendish low early this morning. Ah, we might think, ^{Then} but the sun came up and warmed things up a bit? ^{Nope!} ~~You can stop thinking that.~~~~
~~Not~~ at this time of year in ~~the~~ Yukon territory! The sun just peeped over the southern horizon ^{and then slid} ~~for a couple~~ ^{down again,} ~~of hours. It doesn't warm up anybody.~~

Also, and perhaps of more interest, the sub-zero temperatures in Canada and Alaska have pushed out a cold front which is now sweeping down on the Pacific Northwest. Predictions are that thermometers

ADD WEATHER - 2.

will fall to ~~new~~ record lows in British Columbia,
Washington, and Oregon. Vancouver, British Columbia,
has already been lashed by a seventy-mile an hour
gale and fishing boats and pleasure craft from
Washington harbors are ~~already being beaten and~~
buffeted by ~~the storm~~ **STORMS** with more ~~with the worst yet to come.~~

HITLER

Although this is no public holiday, it is an important anniversary in the history of the world. We might call it a black-letter-anniversary, because it was just fourteen years ago today that Adolf Hitler became Chancellor of Germany, an event that started the nations of the globe on their way to the most devastating war that ever afflicted mankind.

On January Thirtieth, Nineteen Thirty-three, the streets of Berlin rang with yells of "Heil Hitler!" But no such cries were heard today. At any rate, none ^{were} heard by the Allied soldiers now occupying Berlin. _h And, only one Berlin paper commented -- the "Social Democrat," -- with these words: "How could the German people have been deceived by Nazi trickery?"

And yet, from various unofficial sources, come reports that the Gērmans are repeating their conduct of twenty-six years ago after the First World War. Once again their humility and respectful demeanor are vanishing. Once again they are demanding, feneagling,

using about the same tactics as in Nineteen Twenty and 'Twenty-one.

Fourteen years ago, Hitler stood on that balcony outside the Chancellory, beaming down on the cheering crowds. Or was it ^{the} balcony across the square at the old Kaiserhof Hotel? Anyhow, we are told today that the balcony ~~XXXXXX~~ is still there, although the Chancellory itself - once a massive building, is but an empty shell. And some yards away, a Russian sentry marches back and forth, stamping his feet, fighting the bitter cold in front of the cellar where Hitler hid during the last days of his empire, where he hid and died.

GERMAN NAVY

During the last two years, it has leaked out bit by bit, the mistakes made by high commanders on both sides. Captured German documents are still revealing how much the Nazis knew about the Allies' war plans, and, more significantly, how much they did not know.

Here's the latest -- from a series of German papers just made public by the American Navy, dealing with the war at sea.

They confirm that Adolf Hitler was enraged because his surface warships refused to fight. And the mad German Fuehrer took drastic action as was his wont. He ordered the German high seas fleet scrapped way back in ~~the~~ Nineteen Forty-Three. From then until the war ended, he opposed the Allies with a "shadow fleet."

The documents say that Hitler first upbraided his admirals in a series of blistering conferences, said ~~that~~ that German naval men were keeping their big warships lying idle and utterly useless like so much old

iron. Then the Feuhrer, in wild rage, ordered his battleships and ~~xx~~ cruisers cut up as scrap and used the metal to make tanks and guns for his land armies.

Grand Admiral Raeder, commander of the German fleet, protested furiously. At one conference, he pleaded for time, telling Hitler that Germany's northern fleet was even at that moment attacking a big allied convoy on the Murmansk run.

Then threedays later came the word, the German task forced has limped out ~~xxxxxx~~ of the battle with ~~de~~stroyers sunk and a cruiser crippled. Thundered Hitler: "This means ~~xxxx~~ the end of the High Seas Fleet."

And the end it was. The ships were cut ~~xx~~ up for junk -- and with few ~~wx~~ceptions, replaced by wooden dimmies. In one sense, it was a strategic victory for Germany, for even our own top Admiral, King admist that he didn't know until the war ended that the German fleet had been taken out of action, In another sense, it was ~~xxf~~ one of the Allies' greatest naval

victories. They drove ~~ix~~ a powerful enemy Navy off the seas and into the junk yards and hardly fired a shot to do it.

HERO.

One of the minor naval engagements in the early days of the war with Japan was one in which Uncle Sam's Destroyer Pope was put out of action after a three-hour running battle with Jap warships and aircraft between Java and Bornéo. The survivors of The Pope, including Lieutenant Richard ~~N~~ Antrim of Peru, Indiana, were imprisoned ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ a camp ^{at} Makassar, in the Dutch East Indies.

Contrary to the Geneva Convention, Antrim and other prisoners were set to work building air raid trenches at the camp. ^{well,} Antrim fooled the Japs by digging those trenches in the shape of a huge U. S. The enemy never discovered the trick, though it was done right under their noses. ^{And finally it was noticed by} ~~and it helped Allied air photographers~~ ^{Allied airmen, and it} ~~and~~ saved the prisoners from being bombed by their own ^{people. If the trick} ~~aircraft~~. If ~~it~~ had been discovered, Antrim would ^{would} undoubtedly have been executed.

Today he ^{'s} a Commander; and for that ^{trench idea} President

Truman ^{today} decorated him. ~~with a Bronze Cross~~ But that's not all. During his imprisonment, in April, Nineteen Forty-Two, one of his fellow officers was being savagely beaten by Jap soldiers in front of the entire Japanese force and twenty-seven hundred Allied prisoners. The victim first received fifteen blows from a hawser and was then kicked by three soldiers. The tension was tremendous; the Allied prisoners were on the verge of revolting, and starting a riot in which probably everybody would have been killed. But, at that point, Lieutenant Antrim stepped forward, and in the words of the Navy Citation, "indicated to the perplexed guards that he would take the remainder of the punishment." This astonished the Japanese, and provoked a cheer from the twenty-seven hundred Allied prisoners.

The Navy Citation goes on to read: "By his

fearless leadership and valiant concern for the welfare of another, he not only saved the life of a fellow officer and stunned the Japanese into sparing his own life, but also brought about a new respect for American officers and men and a great improvement in camp living conditions."

For that, ~~as well as the Bronze Star Medal,~~

President Truman decorated Commander ^{Dick}~~Richard~~ Antrim with the Congressional Medal of Honor. Said Mr. Truman: "I would rather have this medal than be President." And he added: "You did a mighty fine thing."

At Annapolis, Antrim once upon a time was a star ^{Navy}~~of the Naval Academy~~ football ~~team~~ player.

CONGRESS

A freshman Representative made his maiden speech in the House today and, unlike most maiden speeches, it interested his colleagues enormously. ^{Congressman} ~~Representative~~

John Bell Williams of Mississippi told what it felt like after coming to Washington ~~and expecting~~ to help make the country's laws and finding out that what you ^{really} have to do is ~~to~~ run errands for the folks back home.

And One of ^{his} ~~these~~ errands ^{has to do with} ~~concerns~~ forty-one thousand acres of good farmland in southern Mississippi, which the Army ^{swallowed up} ~~had grabbed~~ to make Camp Van Dorn. The people of that part of the state wanted to see it reconverted to its original use, since those were good fertile acres. So,

^{Congressman} ~~Representative~~ Williams reported what he had been up against. ^{How he} ~~he~~ went to the War Department, and ^{there} ~~he~~ was referred to the War Assets Administration. ^{How he} ~~he~~ went to the War Assets Administration, and ^{there} ~~he~~ was referred to the Farm Credit Administration in New Orleans. ^{How he} ~~he~~ went to the Farm Credit

Administration in New Orleans and ^{there} learned that those acres had never been transferred by the War Assets Administration. ^{Whereupon} he went back to the War Assets Administration and then, and not until then, did he learn that it had never received those forty-one thousand acres from the War Department.

Going from agency to agency, and bureau to ^{bureau} ~~bureau~~ ^{he now bewildered} ~~Congressman~~ ^{Congressman} ~~Representative~~ Williams finally learned that the War Department still had those lands, ^{— all of} which it might have told him in the first place [—] but didn't. So then he wanted to know why the War Department still had those lands after declaring them a surplus? Oh, that was easy, the War Assets Administration had refused to accept the land until they had ^{been} decontaminated. Was there anything formidable in the process of ~~decontamination~~ decontamination? Not exactly. It required a squad of one officer and eight men, working less than

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two months. So, today, after having declared those fertile acres to be surplus, the Army has not yet been able to complete that two months' process of decontamination.

Other freshmen in Congress listened eagerly to Congressman Williams of Mississippi. Even the old hands lent an ear, -- and smiled wearily. It was an old, old story to them, being battledored and shuttlecocked ~~rx~~ between government departments.

And that, say Congressmen, is what is happening all over these United States. Army officers, they say, seem to take a particular pleasure in using fertile farmlands for camps when wasteland was available, and once they have their hands on it, they are reluctant to let go. That's what the Congressmen say as they are battledored and shuttlecocked from dep't to dep't and bur. to bur. in Washington. Ron Rawson, were you ever battle dored or shuttlecocked?

Byrd

Admiral Byrd is back at "Little America -- his old home, in the ice. Today Byrd joined the fourth Antarctic expedition under his command and thereby made aviation history. For he reached his base on the Bay of Whales shortly after five this morning, landed there aboard the first plane to land in polar regions -- that is the first one ever launched from a carrier. It took him just six hours to do it. He took off from the deck of the carrier PHILIPPINE SEA, when it was six hundred and fifty miles to the north, somewhere near Scott Island.

WEATHER

It looks as though we ~~are~~ are in for the same kind of winter weather that has most of Europe in ^{its grip.} ~~an iron~~ ~~hand.~~ From Britain, as well as from the continent, we have still more serious reports of hardships, people dying from the cold, also from shortages of food and fuel. In England the cold is so acute, it has frozen the water in the gas mains. And the shortage of coal has caused a consequent shortage of electric power, and whole regions of London are entirely blacked out. In Paris, the schools are closed and people are riding the subways to keep warm. The suffering in Germany is even worse.

Here in the U.S.A., there have been four tornadoes in eighteen hours, and twenty-four people have died as a result, with heavy loss ~~of~~ ~~to~~ property and livestock. in Alabama, southern Missouri, ~~and~~ northern Arkansas, Tennessee and Georgia. Ten people died in

the blizzard that swept through Illinois and Wisconsin.

Chicago is under a blanket of ~~dirty~~ snow. Trains are stalled, some lines ~~are~~ blocked by snowdrifts, and some railroad companies have had to re-route their passenger traffic. ^{and -} Freight traffic is at a standstill in many states.

COMMUNISTS

Former Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin sprang a sensation today. He declared that Communists and their fellow travelers have worked their way into the staffs of no fewer than five committees of the United States Senate. They have also infiltrated nine unions, all of them C.I.O. unions. Their purpose ^{being} ~~is~~ to establish a private spying system for the Communist Party, which J. Edgar Hoover of the F.B.I. described as not really a political party at all, but a criminal conspiracy against the United States government.

Bob LaFollette named the Senate committees. They include the Senate Civil Liberties Committee, the Sub-Committee on Wartime Health and Education, the Chairman of which is Senator Claude Pepper of Florida; also the War Mobilization Sub-Committee, whose Chairman is Senator Harley Kilgore of West Virginia, and the Sub-Committee on Small Business. Senator Murray of

Montana is Chairman of that one.

LaFollette also enumerated the C.I.O. unions infected with Communists and fellow travelers. They are the United Electrical Radio Machine Workers, the Fur and Leather Workers, the International Longshoremen, United Public Workers, meaning government employees, the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, Farm Equipment and Metal Workers, United Furniture Workers, The American Communications Association, and Transport Workers.

LaFollette makes these revelations in an article in the current Collier's, and he says he knows these facts from first hand information. When he himself was Chairman of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee, he was obliged to take strong measures to wipe out Communist influences on the staff of his own Committee. He made the charge that the attempts of Congress to cope with Communists and fellow travelers on the government

payrolls have been persistent but futile. He added that the Civil Service Commission has the names of a hundred thousand government workers suspected of Communist sympathies, but has only enough money to investigate fifteen hundred of them.

CIVIL SERVICE

*Please do not
send this story
to anyone.
Asher.*

A Senate Committee today heard more than it expected. The Senators were investigating complaints that civilian employees at a navy base were drawing pay from two employers, Uncle Sam and private contractors. Today, Walter Asher, who worked under civil service at Portsmouth, Maryland, told how he had complained about things that were being done there. For one thing, his superior officer had assigned him to work for a private contractor; and, Asher kicked. Thereupon, said he, William Lewis, an inspector, and Paul Penny, a civil service engineer, said to him that if he didn't learn to keep a civil tongue in his head, he might get bumped off. ~~And~~ one of them said that he had better watch out or he might get killed tomorrow.

The same witness also told reporters that the engineer had asked him to soft-pedal his testimony when he came before the Committee.

RENTS

Administration officials are striving to calm the storm which yesterday almost swept O.P.A. into a ~~drastic~~ drastic upward revision of its rent ceilings. And tonight General Philip Fleming, temporary O.P.A. chief, notified his associates that he would explain before a Senate Committee tomorrow morning what went on back stage in that "comedy of errors" yesterday -- that "comedy of errors" which almost brought about an immediate and countrywide ten-per-cent rent increase.

Phil Fleming is headed for Washington by train from Chicago. Among other things, he wants to have a word with Senator Capehart of Indiana who proposes that rent control be turned back to the forty-eight states on a "sink or swim, starve or die" basis.