

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Tonight the first session of the Eighty-Fifth Congress of the United States - is history. The lawmakers finally wound up this session - and prepared to go home. Judgement about their work seems to depend upon the Party you belong to. Since the Eighty-Fifth was controlled by the Democrats - they feel it did a pretty good job. The Republicans express a disappointment and think more of President Eisenhower's program should have been put through.

But both Parties are agreed on one thing. Both Democrats and Republicans glad to go home, happy to have a vacation, after those long and heated debates on everything from the Post Office to relations with Tito.

FOREIGN AID

The Foreign Aid Bill that passed Congress today - carries about a billion dollars less than President Eisenhower originally requested. The sum agreed upon by the Senate and the House - almost three and a half billion. The President had asked for close to four and a half billion. But in Washington it's believed ^{Pres,} ~~in~~ Eisenhower will sign the ^e ~~the~~ bill as the best he could get from this session.

Most of the money is ear-marked for military aid - our Allies to get ships, tanks, planes, and guns. There's also money for technical aid, the "Atoms for Peace Plan", and so on. And, more than two hundred million goes into a special emergency fund - which the President can use at his own discretion - give it to our Allies, whenever he thinks it will help maintain the stability of the free world.

SECURITY

During the day Congress passed ^{the} a bill to safeguard the security files of the FBI. First the Senate put its okay on ^{it} ~~the bill~~ by a vote of seventy-four to two. ~~and~~ Then the House followed suit - unanimously, three hundred and fifteen to zero.

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This bill provides that no statement made to government authorities by any witness - shall be produced in court, unless the witness has testified in a formal examination. In other words, a court can order the government to produce such a statement from its files. If the government refuse^s - the judge ^{to} ~~could~~ either strike the testimony of the witness from the court records - or ~~else~~ declare a miss-trial - ^{if the judge so decides.}

Attorney General Brownell ^{today} told newsmen ^{it's a} good bill; ^{one} ~~It's expected~~ that President Eisenhower will sign, ~~it into law, as soon as he gets it.~~

COMMITTEE

Today the Senate Rackets Committee heard opposing testimony - about fraud in a Union ^{vte.} ~~election.~~ George Crosby says he stuffed ballot boxes in an election of the United Steel Workers. He told the Committee that a Union official, Harry Lewellen, paid him ten dollars - for depositing thirty-five marked ballots during an election last February.

Lewellen flatly denies the charge. He says he paid Crosby the ten dollars - simply to ~~assist~~ distribute Union literature. Lewellen adding, he ^{has} ~~is~~ filed criminal libel charges against Crosby.

CIVIL WAR

Among the final labors of this session of Congress - the Senate and the House passed a special resolution today. Subject - The Civil War. Today's bill would set up a commission to plan for the centennial of the war between the States. The Senators want a real commemoration in Nineteen Sixty-One. One that will be a fitting tribute not only to Lincoln and Sherman and Grant on the one side, but also to Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and Jeff Davis on the other.

All the members of Congress - like most Americans - want a colorful salute to America's favorite historical subject - the Civil War.

ATOMIC

The fourteenth atomic ^{blast} explosion of the present series - ~~exploded~~ at Angels Peak, Nevada. ^{They call it a} "baby blast", — only equal to about eight thousand tons of TNT. ~~It was~~

Touched off from a plastic balloon ~~flying~~ seven hundred feet above the ~~floor of the~~ desert. ~~The bomb, erupting into a bright~~

~~The~~ red fire-ball, ~~that~~ ^{glowed} for thirty seconds - then turned ^{orange;} ~~and~~ ^{then} faded away. The familiar mushroom cloud - soaring twenty thousand feet into the sky.

No ground troops participated in today's test.

But twenty-four planes flew over the area immediately afterward - registering the radioactive fall-out.

WEAPON

Our own ~~the~~ guided missile ^{— the one} fired at Cape Canaveral, Florida ^{the} }
other day -

was visible for more than ten minutes. Observers describe it
as rather small. The unusual thing about it ~~that~~ it rose
almost straight up. Then ~~it~~ dropped a bit, leveled off -
and disappeared out over the South Atlantic.

Officials at Cape Canaveral refused to identify the
missile. The guess is, it was either a "snark" - a jet-powered
pilotless bomber. Or else, the missile called "Thor",
developed by the Air Force - an intermediate range rocket.

MISSILE

The Soviet intercontinental missile is "a wingless rocket" - ~~powered~~ powered by jet - and guided from ^{the} earth.

So says "Pravda", - quoting a professor of the Russian Military Academy.

The "Pravda" report claims that ~~the~~^e missile flies about six hundred miles above the surface of the earth, ~~and~~ can hit targets thousands of miles away - plunging down on them from the stratosphere. The Soviet newspaper, repeating Khrushchev's boast - that Soviet missiles can ~~hit~~^{devastate} any part of the world - with deadly accuracy.

But in Washington, ~~Soviet~~^{on the Soviet Union} experts ~~point out~~ that this report in "Pravda" is vaguely worded. No information about the scientific make-up of the missile ~~is~~^{merely} just repeated ~~the~~ claims of Russian leaders - that seem to have a lot of propaganda mixed up with fact. ~~But~~^{However} these ~~Russian~~^{Washington} experts add quickly ~~that~~^{that} - the West must take these Soviet claims seriously - because the Russians may have developed an important weapon - maybe ~~catching up with~~^{catching up with} us in the missile field.

HENDERSON

Deputy Under-Secretary of State Loy Henderson assures the Arab world that we are not trying to impose our policy on any country in the area. In a formal statement through the American Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, he says his tour of the Middle East is merely to investigate. Find out what is going on out there. Also, he has been commissioned by President Eisenhower - to explain our point of view. But he's not trying to persuade any Arab state to follow our lead.

The Henderson statement doesn't mention Syria - the present No. 1 problem in the Middle East. From Cairo we hear that General Afif el Bizri and his henchmen are now in complete control of Syria. General Bizri, going so far to the Left, that even Nasser has warned him that he may turn his country into a Soviet satellite.

MALAYA

The world's newest independent nation came into existence today - at Kula Lumpur, in the Malayan peninsula. Malaya, given full freedom by Britain. The sixth Commonwealth country to be granted this by the British, - since World War Two. Malaya now joining India, Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon, and Ghana.

At midnight, Queen Elizabeth resigned her sovereignty over all of Malaya, except Singapore, which remains a crown colony. At Kula Lumpur, a crowd of fifty thousand cheered, as the Union Jack came down - and up went the red-and-white Malayan flag. Bells rang, fireworks exploded, - and the Malaysans sang, shouted, and danced in the streets.

The new Prime Minister, a Malayan, - Tengku Abdul Rahman, today asked all Malays to ehlp him. He also promised to press the fight against Communism - even though Red China recognized the independence of Malaya before it came into existence officially. A part of

Mao Tse-tung's propaganda campaign to try and sway - the Malays. The new nation is strongly Mohammedan - and its Prime Minister says he doesn't want anything to do with the atheistic doctrine of Marx.

Tengku Abdul Rahman faces the major problem of how to get the different ethnic groups of his country to work together. Malaya has a population of five million. Half native Malayan. Forty per cent - Chinese, who control much of the wealth. The rest - Indian, European, and so on. Getting them to cooperate - is the first job in front of the Prime Minister. The second - to fight off the challenge of Communism.

MUSSOLINI

The Italian government today showed it has little ^{fear} of the movement called ~~concern for~~ neo-Fascism. The proof - the remains of Benito Mussolini have been turned over to his family for burial.

The Dictator, as we know, was executed by Communist partisans in Nineteen Forty-Five. Later, the authorities placed the body in a secret grave - to prevent neo-Fascists from using it as a symbol.

Ever since, the Widow Mussolini has been asking for the body of her husband. She wants to bury it in the family plot at San Cassiano. Now, her request has been granted. The remains of Mussolini turned over to her in a simple wooden coffin - carried to San Cassiano in an American car with New York license plates - to make the transfer as inconspicuous as possible. American cars, a common sight on Italian roads, but no one would expect the body of Mussolini to be in one of them.

This, the ~~last~~ ^{latest} chapter in the story of the Dictator who ruled Italy for so many year^s - and who was ruined when he forced his country into World War Two.

GATTY

Here's a sad story for all aimen - and for me personally. Harold Gatty has just died, on the island of Suva, in the Fijis. Harold was only fifty-four. But he lived a life as full of events - as almost anyone of his time. I was with him in the South Pacific only a few weeks ago. He seemed fine, no idea he was suffering from heart trouble.

Harold Gatty got into aviation - when it was a young science. Taking up navigation he invented a new technique for flying by the stars. A technique so revolutionary - that Colonel Lindbergh called him - "the best navigator in the country, if not in the whole world." Harold Gatty made his number one headline of course with Wiley Post, in Nineteen Thirty One - when they circled the globe in a single engined Lockheed. Post and Gatty making it all the way around in what was then a fantastic record - eight days, fifteen hours, fifty-one minutes.

After that, Harold Gatty served for a while as a research engineer for the U.S. Army Air Corps. Later, he became an official of Pan American Airways.

He was awarded many honors - including the Distinguished Service Cross.

He was a native Tasmanian - from that large island off the southeastern tip of Australia. And he always loved the Pacific islands. So he started an airline in the South Pacific - "Fiji Airways." Just the other day he told me he was going to expand his organization - add more planes to "Fiji Airways." And he had just completed a new book, on how to keep alive - to be published in a few weeks.

Out at his home on a cocoanut plantation in Fiji, Harold Gatty takes off on his final flight - to join Wiley Post.

UNION

In Tokyo, they have a new labor union - called "The Tokyo Resources Collector's Cooperative Association." An impressive title. Who belongs? Why, the ragpickers. Those who hunt through the junk piles of the city - collecting old clothes, rags, bottles, paper, and so on.

The ragpickers sell what they find - to the junk dealers. But, they say they are being victimized. Junk dealers don't pay enough! Exploit the ragpickers! So this exploited group of the Japanese proletariat has formed a defensive union, to keep up the price of junk - "the Tokyo Resources Collector's Cooperative Association."

DIAMONDS

If you want to pick up a bushel of diamonds, for nothing - head for Sierra Leone, in British West Africa. Everyone in that territory - seems to be gathering gems worth thousands of dollars - from the diamond mines. The situation, so out of hand that the Army has been called in to police the mines.

It all started last Wednesday when the natives working in the mines - rioted. The police, unable to restore order - for twelve hours. In the meantime - thousands of natives swarmed into the area, harvesting the diamonds. The police unable to stop the pilfering, called for the Army. ^{Joe,} Meanwhile, /the natives had made off with bushels of diamonds.

S - L - U - Monday.