

December 20, 1963 Friday

Honolulu, Hawaii

CONGRESS

**Hawaii's representatives in Washington - they
are not in Hawaii. For Congress is in session tonight!
All because of the Foreign Aid Bill. President Johnson
wanting the bill passed before adjournment put it up to the
democratic leaders on Capitol Hill. Whereupon they
promptly called back the lawmakers who had already left
for home; telling them to pass the Foreign Aid Bill or give
up their Christmas Holiday.**

VIETNAM

The word from Saigon is that the American Secretary of Defense has received pessimistic reports about the war in South Vietnam. Secretary McNamara, learning that the target date for victory may have to be pushed ahead, to Nineteen-Sixty-Five or even Nineteen-Sixty-Six, or maybe even beyond that, because of a succession of defeats inflicted on the Vietnamese Army.

However, Secretary McNamara is not pessimistic about final victory over the Red Guerillas. As he left Saigon today, he promised that American troops will stay there - until victory is won.

SUBMARINE

The message President Johnson sent to Newport News, Virginia, apparently came from the heart. He is pleased to have a new polaris submarine join the fleet, but, the man from Texas has a personal interest in this one because it is named for another man from Texas, the statesman who long ago sponsored young Lyndon Johnson. That man Sam Rayburn. The new Sam Rayburn was launched at Newport at Newport News today.

It was Sam Rayburn, legendary Speaker of the House who helped young Johnson get to Capitol Hill. Years later, it was Rayburn who headed a campaign, hoping to win the Presidential nomination for his protege in Nineteen Sixty. Two years ago the Speaker died. Today - an atomic submarine bearing his name put to sea. Saluted by Lyndon Johnson - whom Sam Rayburn never knew as President of the United States.

CHAMIZAL

I suppose it's appropriate that the Chamizal Bill was signed by a Texan. Moreover, a Texan with a special interest in good relations with Mexico. Lyndon Johnson said as much during today's formalities at the White House. And the President's words were echoed by the Mexican Ambassador. Actually, it took Uncle Sam more than half a century to get around to this. As you have heard or read the Chamizal area of El Paso, actually was assigned to Mexico by International arbitration in Nineteen-Eleven. But we always said "No" - until today. Now its official. Four-Hundred-and-Thirty-Seven acres of land north of the Rio Grande, ceded by the United States to Mexico.

ASSASSINATION

Here's what must be the years most incongruous story! The man who threatened to shoot President Kennedy violated a Federal law; while the actual assassin did not.

Assassination - is murder, and the Federal government leaves murder cases up to the states; except where Military courts are concerned.

But threatening the President, that is punishable in the Federal courts; and the defendant, if convicted, can get five years in prison.

This bit of legal information comes to light because of Russell McLarry, of Sulphur Springs, Texas. McLarry is accused of threatening to assassinate Mr. Kennedy; a Federal crime for which he will be prosecuted.

CONVICT

The "loneliest man in the world" is lonely no longer Richard Honeck spending Christmas with his niece - after spending the past sixty-four years in prison. Fifty years of which brought him not so much as a Christmas card. To the outside world he was the forgotten man. He went to prison before the turn of the century, at the age of twenty. He's now eighty-four. So he spent more than two-thirds of his life behind bars.

Paroled today into a world he can hardly remember.

The erstwhile loneliest man in the world.

STALLINGS - 3

Stallings. It should be read by every American.

And now - Dick Noel!

part in World War I - Lawrence of Arabia, Count Luckner of the Sea Devil, A Wild Marine Named Dan Edwards, The Men Who Fought in U-Boats, and so on.

But, the Second World War was upon us before anyone got around to doing one book that needed to be written, the story of America's part in the war, the story of the Doughboys.

At last it has been done, and by a man who really can write. Remember the dramatic motion picture "What Price Glory", by Laurence Stallings and Maxwell Anderson? I suppose it was one of the finest motion pictures ever made. And now, Laurence Stallings, a fighting man if there ever was one, and a brilliant writer, who really writes with words of fire - Laurence Stallings has written the book. It's "The Doughboys".

If you haven't already bought that Christmas present or if you have, I suggest you dash out and get a copy of "The Doughboys" - the story of the A.E.F. - by Laurence

STALLINGS

Have you bought all your Christmas presents? Want a suggestion? By her an Olds - of course. But I am wondering how many who are listening tonight fought with our Doughboys in France, in World War I, - or how many of you had Fathers, Brothers, or Sons - or Daughter - who took part in the First World War? On the flight out to Hawaii, and since arriving here in the Islands, I have been reading a really great book - a book that will be of interest to every American who was involved in World War I.

I suppose you recall hearing at the time that the first World War was on a scale that far surpassed any other war in the five or six thousand years of recorded history? Yes - far greater even than the wars fought by Ghengis Khan, or Attila the Hun, or the Wars fought by Alexander the Great, Caesar or Napoleon.

I, myself was involved in the writing of some six or seven books that had to do mainly with the experiences and adventures of a few unusual men who played an important

MOSCOW

The Russians - they also are talking about their weather, generally with maledictions. But today proved that the Russian winter - can be useful to the Russian government. The intense cold preventing further demonstrations by those African students. There might have been a real riot, at today's funeral for the student from Ghana, the one the students say was murdered by the Russians. But it was too cold in Moscow to stage a riot. So, instead the African students appeared at Moscow's Donskoi Monastery, singing African songs - and all bundled up in Russian clothing.

They did announce that there will be more protests against Russian racialism. Could that mean when the Russian Winter is over? When it isn't so bitter cold in Red Square?

WEATHER

The word "untravelable" - is not an attractive word. It comes from Oklahoma, and refers to U.S. Route Seventy-Seven - the stretch between Norman and Lexington, Oklahoma. It's "untravelable" according to the highway patrol.

Why? Many roads are glare ice tonight - all the way from the Great Lakes to the Gulf Coast. In some areas they are exceedingly dangerous. Some parts actually "untravelable".

The coldest spot at the moment is in Minnesota. Thirty-Five below at Bemidji. Twenty-Six below at International Falls.

Nine below sets a new December record for Chicago. Pittsburgh - four below; coldest day there since the Ohio weather bureau started keeping records. Also the coldest ever at Dayton, Toledo, Columbus, Akron and Cincinnati.