

BRITAIN

In January 1957, Britain's Harold Macmillan joined the ranks of Western Allied leaders, when he took over the reins of the British Conservative government. Today he told the Conservative Party Conference, shortly after the 69 year-old Prime Minister successfully underwent a prostate operation, that he would not be able to head the government for any extended period, and has so informed Queen Elizabeth.

## INTRODUCTION TO TAPE

*Tonight Lowell Thomas tells us about early exploration of the Antarctic continent and a man who ranks along with Admiral Byrd and the rest. Lowell ...*

## WILKINS

HELLO EVERYBODY AND HI THERE DICK:

Anyone headed for the Antarctic naturally thinks about his predecessors. Amundsen, Scott, Shakleton, Byrd, Balchen, and the heroic days of exploration down at the Ultimate South.

My own favorite from this roll call of heroes - one of them at any rate, is Sir Hubert Wilkins, one of the extraordinary men of our time. Sir Hubert had a real flare for adventure. A flare that put him among the first to explore in the regions around both Poles. He also was the first ever to film a war - the Second Balkan War. And in World War One he made a spectacular record. And then he continued that all the rest of his days.

Wilkins was the first to enter the Antarctic by plane. Sir Hubert took two small Lockheed Vegas to Deception Island in Nineteen Twenty Eight. With him, two of the ace pilots



of the Twenties - Ben Eielson and Joe Crossen - both Alaskans.

They made their way South to Deception Island aboard the mother ship - of a whaling fleet. Oddly, they found it too warm down there near the South Pole to use the planes at that time. Ben Eielson proved it when he got into the air and tried to land on the sea ice and felt the wheels breaking through. And they had to haul the plane to safety in a hurry with a rope around the tail fin.

Finally, it did become just cold enough. Sir Hubert, and his men hacked out a make shift run-way at the base of a volcanic crater. And then they were off.

Ben Eielson, flying by the seat of his pants, at first, making a turn between two mountain peaks, and then they headed South. And on they flew until they were over the Graham Land Plateau of the Antarctic Continent where no man had ever flown before. And this part of course never before seen by Man from the sky.



For eleven hours they flew with that white Continent extending to the horizon on every side. They explored in a few minutes terrain that would take days, or even weeks, to cross on foot. They placed on the map - a whole section of the Antarctic Continent, including - although Sir Hubert couldn't realize it at the time - a mountain that was going to be named after him later on.

Finally, their emptying fuel tank warned them to turn back. They flew toward the sea - noticing how the steep icy cliffs fell headlong into the frigid ocean. And how the penguins gathered at protected spots - to form their rookeries.

And then out across the water again to Deception Island- where they landed eleven hours after take off. Eleven hours - and more than a thousand miles - for the first flight into the Antarctic. An epic of aviation, written by Ben Eielson and Sir Hubert Wilkins.

Solong,

## LANDSLIDE

*The Piave River Valley and its surrounding Dolomite Alps in North Eastern Italy are inhabited by a robust, reserved mountain folk. Most of the villages in the area are small - supported mainly by small factories and shops. The soil is too poor for agriculture. When the Vaiont Dam was under construction, many of the local men found full employment for as long as five-years. That dam - completed in 1960 - is 873 feet high, the third highest in the world - jammed into a wedge between two mountains. Last night residents of the Piave River Valley were awakened as a small tremble telescoped into a loud roar. Part of a whole mountain above the Vaiont Dam Reservoir had collapsed - sending tons and tons of dirt and rock rumbling into the reservoir. A giant mass of water - displaced by the mountain slide - plunged over the top of the dam and cascaded down into the valley. A great*

## **LANDSLIDE - 2**

**wave of white, surging death - some 300 feet high,  
swept away the villages. Rescue workers fear the  
death toll will reach four thousand.**



## GROMYKO

*Just about a year ago the world was watching - breathlessly - as the United States and the Soviet Union locked horns over Cuba. During that period, Russia's foreign minister Gromyko was a visitor at the White House, and his assurances that Soviet weapons on Cuba were strictly defensive, led the President later to accuse him of "deliberate deception". Today, the atmosphere at the White House was quite different. Gromyko was there again - his first visit incidentally since the Cuban affair - and the meeting was said to be "in the spirit of the test ban treaty". The Soviet diplomat telling newsmen he hoped his talks with Mr. Kennedy would lead to further steps to ease tension, and he publicly confirmed that Russia will buy wheat from the United States.*

## SPY

*For all the apparent relaxation of tensions between East and West, there was a disclosure in Washington today that the underground war of espionage continues. An Army Sergeant, once employed by the very secret National Security Agency, is said to have received almost sixty thousand dollars for spying for the Russians. Jack Dunlap was believed to have smuggled documents out of the N.S.A. Headquarters over a period of two years. Last July he committed suicide.*

*Dunlap's high living put counter-intelligence agents on his trail, but not before he carried out one of the most serious breaches of U.S. security in recent years. A Soviet success in the deadly cloak and dagger game.*

## UNITED NATIONS

*There is one problem that cannot come up in the United Nations without storm and passion - that is South Africa's apartheid policy of racial separation. This morning the head of South Africa's delegation to the General Assembly, rose to explain and defend this policy. The other African nations angry at the indictment of 11 African nationalists in South Africa on charges of conspiring to foment rebellion and assist foreign invasion planned to demonstrate in the chamber - but trouble we expected did not come. Instead the African nations summoned an emergency session of the Assembly's special political committee this afternoon - and rammed through a resolution condemning the South African government, saying the trial will worsen an already explosive situation. It asks South Africa to drop the trial and release all political prisoners. Only Portugal opposed this step - and tomorrow morning*



**it will pass the Assembly - probably by almost unanimous  
voet. South Africa is expected to ignore this admonition  
as it has ignored 27 earlier ones. It sees the steadily  
gathering storm, but feels it can ride out the gale.**