

INTRO L.J.-P.G. Wed. Dec. 31, 1952 (Lake Placid Club)

I am broadcasting from the ~~XXXXX~~ ^{Adirondacks}
tonight, from the Lake Placid Club, up here in a
world of deep powder snow, the best ~~gm~~ in years.
But if this broadcast gets through it will be a
miracle. There was a fire late this afternoon
at Elizabethtown, New York, only a few miles away.
This fire burned out two hundred and sixty-one pairs
telephone and telegraph lines. By some ~~miracle~~
miracle the phone company has helped me gets my
news over an emergency wire, by way of Malone on
the Canadian border. And, I am using an emergency
wire for this broadcast. That means, you may be
hearing me, or you may not. There is a chance
that I'm not on the air at all - just talking to
myself.

KOREA

New Year ^{is over} can be loud as we all know but it was loudest of all on the warfront in Korea. There they rang in the year of Nineteen Fifty-three with fireworks, but not roman candles or sky rockets. At the stroke of midnight, Korea time, cannon all along the battlefront roared out in unison. Hundreds of artillery pieces hurled ^{ing a} ~~the~~ barrage of shells into the Red positions across frosty valleys and snowclad hills.

2 Otherwise, the New Year is quiet -- in spite of Red propaganda, which boasted that the Reds would begin ~~the~~ nineteen fifty-three with a thundering offensive.

PLANE

Today brings a story that we can understand -- about the holdup of the Philippine airliner. *Q* Chinese gunman ^a shooting and killing the pilot, and another flight ~~officer~~ ^{then} ~~and~~ compelling the co-pilot to set a course to Communist China. The airliner -- then forced down by fighter planes of nationalist china.

The first reports, as they flash ^{ed} through were more or less incomprehensible. For example -- how could nationalist fighter planes force down an airliner, which was in the control of murderous Communist gunmen?

The story is told by the co-pilot, Felix Gaston -- who relates how the plane, with two Americans among the passengers, took off on a ~~ft~~ local flight, ~~From~~ one airport to another in the northern philippines. Normally -- a short routine trip of thirty-eight minutes. Soon after the take off, the pilot, Captain Pedro Perlas turned the controls over

to the co-pilot -- and they flew along.

"After about twenty minutes," relates the co-pilot, Felix Gaston -- "a man came into the cockpit, and handed a typewritten note to the Captain. The captain read it, and gave it to me. The note said: "This is a stickup." I'm a desperate man. Do not talk to each other". Whereupon the intruder, a Chinese, ordered them to fly the plane to Amoy - a city on the coast in -- Red China.

Suddenly -- Captain Perlas grabbed the controls, and threw the plane into a violent maneuver. His purpose -- to throw the intruder off his feet. But at that moment the gunman shot and killed him.

At that moment, the purser of the plane came to the door of the cockpit and tried to enter. The gunman shot through the door and killed him. Then he kept the Co-Pilot covered with his pistol, and Co-pilot Felix Gatton was compelled to fly the plane out over the China sea.

After four hours of this they reached the China coast. The gunman saw they now were over Red China --

PLANE 3

so everything seemed right for him. And that was when an airplane appeared. "I recognized it as a Nationalist plane," says the co-pilot. And then he added:- "But the assassin thought it was a Communist plane ----as we were over Communist territory by then. The plane sent a burst of gunfire across our bow, and on the ground, Communist aircraft guns opened up."

The second nationalist plane appeared -- and these nationalist pilots knew something was wrong. Today, an American woman passenger, Mary Ireton of Bethel, Ohio, told how she was able to signal them. Understanding the murderous event that had happened, Mary Ireton took a lipstick and wrote SOS on a seat cover. This she held up to a window of the plane, and the nationalist pilot, flying alongside caught sight of the distress signal SOS.

Whereupon the two Nationalist pilots of the two intercepting planes waved the co-pilot of the airliner down to a landing on the island of Kinmen. Which is

PLANE 4

still held by the Nationalists -- altho its just across from the Red port of Amoy.

The gunman confused by all this, thought they were being forced to land at a Communist airport,--, he left the cockpit. When the plane came down on that island flying field, he walked right into the arms of Nationalist soldiers.

The philippine authorities identify him as Ang Cho Kio, previously suspected of being a Communist -- and, wanted for murder.

This is not the first case of airplane piracy in the Far East. But its the most murderous. Coming to a dramatic and most unexpected conclusion.

TRUMAN

The New Year is always a time for looking back over the old year -- and President Truman indulged in that familiar past-time today. He said that the prospects for world peace are better now than they were a year ago, and added that he will deliver a radio-tv ^rreport on the state of the nation five days before he quits office.

At the same time ^{Mr. Truman} ~~he~~ made a New Year ~~re~~ resolution. Not swearing off something with a vow, exactly -- but merely expressing a hope. He told ~~xxx~~ the reporters that his New Year's hope is -- that the Lord will give him the power to refrain from swearing at the newspapers. He noted that ninety percent of the press had always been against him -- but now, when he leaves the White House, he'll stop cussing them out, [—] he hopes!

TRUMAN-MACARTHUR

President Truman is described as displeased by the Marine Corps decorations awarded to Senator Joe McCarthy. The President as we know has no more bitter political foe than the Wisconsin Senator -- and, in the election campaign, there was a running fire of Truman blasts against McCarthyism. These awards, yesterday, had to have Presidential authorization -- and they were signed, in behalf of Harry S. Truman by Secretary of the Navy Dan Kimball. But this, according to word at the White House, was merely done in a perfunctory way -- without the President knowing anything about it. The Distinguished Flying Cross, and five other combat medals, together with citations, granted after nine years.

The explanation is as follows: The Marine Corps Air Medals are bestowed for -- combat missions flown. An airman -- entitled to a decoration for each five missions. Senator McCarthy, as a Captain in the Marines, flew on thirty of these in the Second World War --

-- and was entitled to the medals automatically.

All he had to do was apply for them -- which he did in Nineteen Fifty one. All according to Leatherneck routine.

There seems to be some disagreement in government circles -- about renewing the grand jury ~~xxx~~ ~~is~~ investigations ~~ix~~ of American Communists working for the U N.

Today in Washington U.S. Attorney Miles Lane told a congressional committee that he would start new grand jury action in New York on ~~xxxxx~~ Tuesday.

But immediately after that, assistant General attorney Charles Baker told the committee he's against any such further Grand Jury proceedings. He says he's against it because, the jurors know it can't result in an indictment. He said the logic of that sort of thing might lead to what he calls-- Government by hysteria.

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Previously secretary of state acheson stated ~~that~~ the opinion that Red Americans in the U N give this country -- a black eye. But he didn't think it was a danger to national security.

EISENHOWER

From Eisenhower headquarters ^{comes} ~~the~~ word
that the President-elect will address a joint session
of Congress shortly after taking office -- subject
the federal budget, with a view of cutting it.

We hear that the General discussed the idea
^{at} ~~his~~ his meeting yesterday with Senator Taft and other
Republican leaders, and they heartily concurred with
the suggestion -- that the new President appear
personally before Congress and explain his ideas
of reducing federal expenses.

RAILROAD

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The Baltimore and Ohio railroad was indicted today on charges of handing in false financial statements to the government. This is in connection with an eighteen million dollar loan granted the railroad by the reconstruction finance ~~XXXX~~ corporation, back in the Thirties. Charges have been made that in dealings concerning the loan, the B & O filed accounts that misrepresented its financial condition. These in the late forties. All followed by today's indictment -- issued by a Washington grand jury. If convicted the railroad will be liable to fines of more than a hundred thousand dollars.

STRIKE

New York City seems in for a dubious New Year -- so far as transportation^s concerned. A bus strike seems inevitable -- just as the merry throngs ring out the old and ring in the new. The strike is called for one minute after midnight -- and will affect three-and-a-half million people who ride the busses daily.

The bitter labor dispute brought an exchange of angry denunciations between union chief Michael Quill and Mayor Impellitteri. City officials called a last minute meeting for a settlement, but ~~xxxxxx~~ the union boycott the discussion.

The city is taking ~~xxxxx~~ emergency measures to prevent a paralysis } of transportation -- should
~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ^
the ~~xxxxxxxx~~metropolis begin the new year with a bus strike, as now seems ~~in~~ inevitable.

TRAIN WRECK.

News from Arkansas - that it was only the calmness and good sense of the passengers which kept a train wreck last night from being a disaster. The "Meteor", a crowded express, ran into a freight train for a head-on collision. So ~~violent~~ violent the Diesel engine of the "Meteor" was knocked on top of the freight locomotive. The passenger train burst into flames and ~~as~~ it took firemen four hours to put out the blaze.

Sounds bad for the passengers; and, twenty-six were injured - but no lives lost. People got out fast, but with calm judgment. Startled and stunned by the collision at night, the wreck on fire - but no panic. That's what saved the lives.

It happened near Fort Smith, Arkansas, on a stretch of track used by two railroad lines -- the passenger train belonging to one, the freight belonging to ~~another~~ the other. The Engineer of the "Meteor" says he was running five minutes ahead of schedule. The Engineer of the freight train declares the "Meteor" was twenty minutes ^h beind schedule. The freight train was half an

TRAIN WRECK. #2

an hour late - to complete the mix-up.

So now, let's sing out the old line; - *isn't*
that ^{*fine*} a ~~heck~~ ^{*heck*} of a way to run a railroad.

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FERRY BOAT

At Boston a ferry boat made its last trip today, bringing to an end something that may sound incredible in these expensive days. The one cent ferry ride! -- the last of its kind!

Ever since eighteen-thirty-two, the East Boston Municipal ferry has provided passenger service, always at the same rate -- a penny a ride. Not a long voyage, five eighths of a mile. But it was, by far, the cheapest transportation in the country.

Actually, that East Boston ferry has long been obsolete, though convenient for a number of people. And -- the delight of sentimentalists, who regarded the one-cent fare as a pleasing reminiscence of the past. It has been costing ~~the~~ the city three hundred thousand dollars a year -- in deficits. The penny a ride being -- not such hot finance. So the town fathers called it off, and the east Boston municipal ferry boat made its last trip ^{as} ~~in~~ the year ended -- today.

And now to all a Happy New Year. d

A-2-4-M.