

Thursday, Jan. 1, 1976
Doug Poling

From Boston....

From Washington....

From Arabia....comes today's news. Good Evening,

Everybody. This is Doug Poling substituting for

Lowell Thomas.

The Christian Science Monitor reports that about three hundred Americans - trained by the C I A, at least indirectly - are now fighting in Angola. According to the Monitor, these Americans have joined forces with the two anti-Soviet movements in Angola. In Washington, both the White House and State Department are saying the Monitor's story is untrue and "totally without foundation."

FORD

President Ford spent the better part of New Year's Day working at his desk. Among other things, he issued fourteen newly-signed bills and one veto - and charted a Federal budget of nearly four-Hundred-Billion. As for New Year's Eve, the President called it a quiet one - saying, "Mrs. Ford and I had a little champagne and watched Guy Lombardo on TV." The lone veto was on a bill that would have made the Treasury Secretary a member of the National Security Council.

MAMIE

Doctors at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington say former first lady Mamie Eisenhower is "alert and responding well to treatment for what appears to be a viral infection." Mrs. Eisenhower - who's seventy-nine - was hospitalized yesterday for the third time in ten months.

STEINBECK

The widow of Nobel Prize winning author John Steinbeck has died at a hospital in Boulder Colorado, Gwyndolyn C. Steinbeck was Fifty-Eight. Her death occurred Tuesday and was announced today.

CRASH

All eighty-two persons aboard were killed when a Lebanese jetliner crashed into the Arabian desert. The plane - carrying fifteen crewmen and sixty-seven passengers - lost radio contact moments before plunging two-thousand feet to the ground.

OPORTO

In the Northern Portuguese city of Oporto this evening, national guardsmen opened fire on a crowd which military officials said was trying to storm a prison where rebel officers are held. Portuguese officials report that three people were killed and six others critically wounded.

BELGIUM

The death toll stands at fifteen, with thirty-seven others injured, in a New Year's Eve fire in a crowded dance hall in La Loo-vee-air Belgium. A fireman said the victims were trapped like rats, in the fire. It started during a power failure. Several people lit their cigarette lighters, touching off highly combustible party decorations.

BRITAIN

Britain's Queen Elizabeth the Second today distributed Seven-Hundred and Forty-Four titles and honors. Richard Attenborough gets a Knighthood under awards to the arts. Attenborough is the actor, producer and director, associated with such films as The Sand Pebbles, Young Winston, and O What A Lovely War.

Chris Bonington was named a Commander of the British Empire. Bonington was the leader of the expedition that made the first successful climb of Mount Everest by the southwest face last September.

DRIVERS

Iowa State Trooper Douglas Bacon says many of the drunken drivers - arrested during the past year - have been persons who are having a tough time of it during the current business recession. Bacon - who himself made seventy such arrests last year - says a person laid off from work - with nothing to do but sit and drink - is likely to be picked up for driving under the influence. But critics of new drunken driving control programs claim the working class gets an unfair share of the police pressure.

EARTHQUAKES

The New Year began with at least two earthquakes jolting parts of the world, including a wide area of Southern California. The epicenter of the California quake was about five miles South of West Covina, and twenty miles East of Los Angeles. Some telephone service was knocked out - but no injuries are reported. Quakes were also felt in the South Pacific's New Heb-ri-deez Islands.

MALPRACTICE

A slowdown by doctors protesting high malpractice insurance rates in the Los Angeles area became a reality today - with private hospitals referring non-critical types of accident cases to county hospital facilities. The private hospitals say only emergency cases will be handled by the protesting doctors until the insurance issue is resolved.

ARMS

Russia has denied that it's cheating on arms control agreements with the U.S. At the same time, a lengthy policy statement in Pravda accuses American critics - such as Senators Henry Jackson, and James Buckley, former Defense Secretary Melvin Laird and others - of trying to block a new weapons accord with groundless charges of Soviet violations.

PREACHER

In Birmingham, Michigan, the Reverend Robert Marshall - at last report - was still delivering a sermon which he hopes will eventually become the longest on record. His goal is to preach for sixty-one consecutive hours - thereby winning a place in the Guinness Book of World Records which lists sixty hours - twenty-five minutes as the current record for non-stop preaching. The Reverend Marshall - who is fifty-five - is Minister of Birmingham, Michigan's - Unitarian Church. If he breaks the record, he'll stop speaking at ten-oh-one P. M. Saturday.

For Lowell Thomas, this is Doug Poling, CBS News.