

L.T.-GM - BROADCAST

December 21, 1954

C.C.:- GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

Secretary of State Dulles, just back from a NATO meeting in Paris, says that tactical atomic weapons are gradually becoming the chief means of defending Western Europe, and he warned that any Soviet attempt to invade West Europe would be thrown back at the threshold. As for the recent rash of Russian notes threatening dire consequences if West Germany is rearmed, Dulles says he thinks it shows extreme nervousness on the Soviet part. On that German rearmament story, French politicians believe that the Paris Assembly will ratify West German rearmament, even tho its enemies launched a strong attack in the Assembly today. The feel-

ing is that Mendes-France has enough strength in the Chamber to win. The opposition today was led by the party of General deGaulle, the main argument being that German rearmament is being forced on France by America. So ~~are~~^{FAR}, the Communists have been the big obstacle opposing the Premier. Now the Reds are finding help on the far Right, in the party of deGaulle. But Mendes-France still commands the center on this issue and is expected to get the vote he wants.

BRITAIN

The British are not very worried over the Soviet threat to abrogate the treaty of 1942. That came out today when the Foreign Office flatly turned down the Russian demand to reject the rearmament of West Germany. A foreign Office spokesman

called the Soviet note "rude". He said that the London Government would be sorry if the Kremlin denounced the treaty, because it's felt in London that the treaty did some good. But at the same time Britain does not regard the treaty as important enough to have any effect on West German rearmament and Churchill will make no attempt to go back on the decision already taken by Parliament, the ratification of the Paris accords that provide for West German sovereignty and a West German army of half a million men.

SHEPPARD

The conviction of Dr. Samuel Sheppard for second degree murder means the Cleveland jury believes that he committed the crime but that it was not premeditated. Second degree murder indicates a crime that is done on purpose but is not

premeditated. That's why it carries a life sentence instead of execution. Judge Edward Blythin imposed the sentence this afternoon, after the foreman of the jury had announced the verdict. (So

Dr. Sheppard goes to prison for the murder of his wife on July 4th. It was one of the worst murders

in the history of American crime. Thruout the trial the doctor stoutly maintained his innocence. Any- one who reads the papers knows his story about a bushy-headed intruder, Sheppard insisting that the intruder killed his wife and that he himself was knocked out twice in attempting to stop the man.

The State tried for a conviction of murder in the first degree, which would have invoked the death penalty unless the jury recommended leniency. The

defense, of course, wanted an acquittal. But the jury decided on a verdict that lay in between: second degree murder. Dr. Sheppard to get life, with a chance for a parole in ten years. His chief counsel, William Corrigan, promptly announced that he would file a motion for a new trial, to be heard some time after Christmas.

EISENHOWER

Last nite President Eisenhower gave a select group of Republicans his formula for victory in 1956; the President holding a stag dinner at the White House for eighteen guests, including Vice President Nixon and Presidential Assistant Sherman Adams - all of them prominent in first nominating Mr. Eisenhower for President and then in masterminding his victory in 1952. One point that came up during

the dinner was the GOP defeat in the Congressional elections last month. During the discussion Mr. Eisenhower spent some time on his theory of how the GOP might win next time. His formula is that the party should be made up of what he terms "progressive moderates." So it's not surprising that he urges his fellow Republicans to follow that same line if they want to win in '56. One question was not discussed at last nite's dinner. No one mentioned Mr. Eisenhower's availability for the Presidential nomination, and the Chief Executive gave no hint that he has made up his mind on that crucial issue - to run or not to run.

WALTER

The new Chairman of the House-Un-American Activities Committee says that he will fire any investigator who takes Government data without being

authorized to do so, Representative Francis Walter referring to the case of former Air Force Captain Van Fossen, who was hired by the committee after he was discharged from the Air Force for giving the committee undisclosed information. Walter promises to investigate Van Fossen case as soon as he takes over the chairmanship. And he states his working principle like this: "I don't want anyone on the staff who got there because of disloyalty to anyone else."

Tonite Lowell Thomas reports from a stop he made on his way to Cairo. He has a couple of angles - one a little on the fantastic side, not surprising considering the country, a land famed for whimsical eloquence. So, here's Lowell with a recorded travel story.

L.T. Here's a brief Christmas message from Ireland, Charlie, as we fly on from Shannon. In fact, in just a moment we'll be right over Dublin. The Dublin papers today are featuring a Christmas message to them from President Eisenhower. At the American Embassy, our Ambassador to Eire, William Howard Taft, son of the late Senator Robert Taft, read a message that is being read this week at functions in our embassies and legations all over the world. This affair at our embassy here--Dublin is right under us now--was attended by three representatives of the Dublin Department of External Affairs, the Messrs. Horan, Noonan and Malloy - reminding me that I am indeed in Ireland, or right above it.

The following sentence in President Eisenhower's message is played up in the Dublin press: "Christmastime is a season of hope, but the hope is blemished by brutal facts. Even at this happy season we dare not forget crime against justice, denial of mercy, violation of human dignity," wrote the President of the United States.

And, by the way, in the Irish press a writer with the charming name of Deidre MacSherry presents a Christmas fashion suggestion that I'll pass along for any ladies who happen to be listening. The short, short evening dress - that's the latest over here; low cut above and high cut below. Sounds interesting! Also, ladies,

your gown this Christmastime should be a golden one, with a Chanel chemise of gold net - whatever that is; also gold Chinese brocade slippers, gold cigarette and powder cases. And then a special Midas touch: a streak of gold in your hair. ~~Do all of that...~~

~~Chinese brocade slippers, gold cigarette and powder cases, and then a special Midas touch, a streak of gold in your hair.~~ Do all of that, and you will indeed be the golden girl. For this Christmas, says Dublin's *Daedra MacSherry*, banish dull care and the self of your ordinary life, take a pinch of imagination and daring and then you will emerge the evening star, the Christmas angel, the fairy atop the tree.

Ladies, if you take this advice, you'll glow
like a Christmas candle, says this Irish writer.
By the way, I hear there are other ways to get a glow in
Ireland.

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C.C. That's the Lowell Thomas report from
Ireland tonight, from the land of the Blarney
Stone, after which - on with the news.

POPE

The Pope expects to deliver at least
part of his Christmas message in person. For
the fourth straight day he was able to walk in
the Vatican gardens. His personal physician
declared that his condition is showing steady
improvement. So, the Pontiff may deliver some
of his allocution even though not long ago, it was
thought he could not possibly speak over the radio
on Christmas.

SPY

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In Berlin, an American High Commission court sentences a dazzling brunette to five years in jail; Judge Ambrose Fuller handing down the ruling on Irmgard Schmidt, who confessed to spying for the Russians. Judge Fuller told the court that Irmgard used her brains and her beauty to get information from men in our armed forces, and then he gave her five years as a sentence. He called her a crafty and competent agent of the Soviets. He wasn't moved even ^{WHEN} ~~why~~ Irmgard broke down in tears. He just sent her to jail for spying.

BRUSSELS

The Brussels police announce that they have smashed a smuggling ring that transported arms from behind the Iron Curtain to the Arab guerrillas of North Africa. Twenty-eight persons rounded

up already, and the police declare that there will be more arrests. Here's how it worked: consignments of rifles, revolvers, machine guns and grenade were carried to Antwerp from somewhere behind the Iron Curtain. The arms were taken by truck to an airport near Brussels and they were flown to Tangiers (indistinct) Morocco and finally they turned up in the hands of the guerrillas, who have been fighting the French.

COURT OF CHIVALRY

Great Britain's Lord Chief Justice handed down a decision today, in the case of the city of Manchester versus the Manchester Palace of Varieties, a vaudeville theatre - sounds ordinary enough - except that the case was argued before the Court of Chivalry, and the court is a medieval

institution going back to the year 1300. A Court of Chivalry was set up originally to judge disputes over coats of arms, it was a time when knights and barons used to fight over the right to use certain insignia, the Court of Chivalry provided the legal machinery for dealing with such disputes, it's been in existence ever since, more than six hundred years. And how did the Court of Chivalry get into the case, the act, you might say, of the vaudeville theatre? Well, Manchester Palace of Varieties was using the coat of arms of the city of Manchester on its curtain, which rises on the vaudeville performances. The city fathers didn't like it; they decided to sue. The courtroom was summoned into session by

the Duke of Norfolk as the Earl Marshal of London, a court crier led the procession. When the noble lord was seated on the bench, the lawyers began to argue the case, bringing up precedents that went back to Richard II. Now the Lord Chief Justice's decision is in. He finds in favor of the city of Manchester, he orders the Manchester Palace of Varieties to take the insignia of its courtain. So a medieval institution passes judgement on a modern vaudeville theatre. The court of Chivalry telling the Palace of Varieties to stop using someone else's court of arms. They say that vaudeville is dead, but, Hugh, chivalry evidently, is not!

ANNOUNCER: Well, Charlie, no one really wants chivalry to die, nor do they want a dead battery ...

(COMMERCIAL)

Ed. trans. P.O. -----E.S.