

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

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The<sup>is</sup> second week of the New Year <sup>brings us news</sup> ~~begins with a little~~  
~~item about~~ <sup>concerning a tidy little sum of</sup> seventeen and a half billion dollars. That's President  
Roosevelt's <sup>new</sup> budget. ~~After~~ ~~if you're a stickler for accuracy~~ the  
~~figure is~~ <sup>to be exact.</sup> Seventeen billions, four hundred and eighty-five millions,  
five hundred and twenty-eight thousand, and forty-nine dollars.  
That, he says, is what he asks for the total defence of our Democracy  
in addition to expenditures for <sup>non</sup> ~~known~~ military purposes. The  
actual total that he asks for the army, the navy, and other <sup>defense</sup> ~~military~~  
<sup>needs</sup> ~~purpose~~ is ten billions, eight hundred and eleven millions, three  
hundred and fourteen thousand and six hundred dollars. Of that  
the army is to get five billions, nine hundred and fifty-six million  
six hundred thousand. And for the navy he asks ~~the comparative~~  
~~trifle of~~ three billions, four hundred and forty-seven million,  
three hundred and ninety-four thousand.

As these figures were being read to the House of

Representatives today one of the Congressmen whistled <sup>right out</sup> loudly. <sup>and</sup>  
That shocked Speaker Sam Rayburn who told the reading <sup>clerk</sup> ~~clerk~~ to  
~~stop~~ until the House was in order once more.

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In case you're tempted to ~~ex~~ imitate that Congressman,  
hold your whistles until you hear the next. That seventeen and  
a half billions is not all the President is going to <sup>demand</sup> ~~ask~~. For not  
a single cent of that money is to be spent on war materiel to be  
lent to the British and their Allies. That, as Kipling used to  
remark, is going to be another story. <sup>TP</sup> Mr. Roosevelt is going to  
<sup>call</sup> ~~ask~~ for a totally separate, distinct, and additional appropriation  
from Congress to help Britain. The amount he's going to ask for that  
is as yet a <sup>matter</sup> ~~matter~~ of wild guessing. The estimates run anywhere  
from three to ten billions. The unofficial prophecy in Washington  
is ten billions. Senator Barkley, the Democratic leader, told  
reporters he thought it would run between three and five billions.  
<sup>TP</sup> To us ordinary folk it's all bewildering and staggering. To call  
this the largest peacetime appropriation in American history becomes  
a flat and feeble comparison. We've had to report that several times  
already. The superlatives grow and grow. As it is, this latest

ten odd billions will bring the total appropriations for defense since last June to twenty-eight billions, four hundred and eighty million dollars. That's more than President Wilson asked ~~even~~ in any one year, <sup>world</sup> even while the last war was raging.

*(Mr. Roosevelt also asks)*

Naturally ~~he asked~~ Congress for more and more taxes:

<sup>And we</sup> that was only to be expected. ~~You~~ can get a rough idea ~~of the~~ <sup>how big they will be</sup> ~~severity of the new taxes he expects~~ from his estimate that the

Government's income in the coming fiscal year should be eight billions, two hundred and seventy-five millions. And that's an all-time record. In spite of ~~this~~ all-time record there'll be a ~~deficit~~ deficit of more than nine billions.

But we still haven't reached the end of the sensations <sup>in</sup> ~~in that~~ <sup>today's</sup> budget message. The President asks the Congress to repeal the public debt limit! This has been foreshadowed for some time.

There have been various proposals. Some people suggested Congress should raise the ceiling to sixty-five billions. It's forty-nine billions at present, and we'll have caught up with that by June.

Mr. Roosevelt <sup>advises</sup> ~~finds~~ the lawmakers to set no limit to the public debt. The limit will have to be raised, that's obvious, as by

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June 30th of next year, Uncle Sam will owe fifty-eight billions,  
three hundred and sixty-seven millions. <sup>TP</sup> He pointed out that for  
the first hundred and thirty years of our history there was no  
statutory limit on the debt; nevertheless Congress was able to  
control the <sup>spending</sup> ~~XXXXXX~~ of Government. The principal purpose of a  
limit on the debt, he urged, is to serve as a stop, look and listen  
signal.

COMMENT

Senator Barkley of Kentucky, Democratic leader, says  
ii this budget represents a minimum of what we ought to do about  
defense.

Senator Tom <sup>Connally</sup>~~Connally~~ of Texas remarks that he's for  
adequate national defense even if it takes our shirt. Republican  
Frank Crowther of New York doesn't think the time has come to  
say the sky's the limit on the National Debt. Senator Wheeler  
of Montana expresses the views of Isolationists and hopes the  
tax payers will wake up to what is going to be the cost of  
fighting another European war. This, declares the Montana Senaot,r  
is just a ~~xx~~ beginning.

Republican Representative Wigglesworth of Massachusetts  
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~~xxxx~~ uses these words, "When you jump off a monument the sens@tion  
is fine as long as you keep going!"

## NAVY

More spectacular even than that seven billion dollar budget is President Roosevelt's reorganization of Uncle Sam's navy. First of all, our naval establishment is to be divided up into three fleets:- an Atlantic fleet; a Pacific fleet; plus an Asiatic fleet.

Second, the President has redealt the cards in the High Command of the Navy. And third, he had ordered forty thousand more men to be enlisted, thus bringing the personnel of every United States warship up to full wartime strength. In other words an increase in our naval personell from one hundred and ninety-two thousand to two hundred and thirty-two thousand men. And by Nineteen Forty-Five our two ocean navy will have six hundred and ninety-one warships, three hundred and eighty thousand officers and men.

That sensational news was announced today by Colonel Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy. He described it as "a rearrangement to fit the facts."

The Secretary also let it be known that he is going to ask Congress for two hundred and eighty more vessels for the Navy -- auxiliary ships. He also announced -- no more destroyers for Great Britain. More destroyers, he said, cannot be detached from our fleet without seriously impairing its efficiency.



Now for some of the details of all this:- Hitherto our men of war on the Atlantic have been known as the Atlantic patrol. But, says Colonel Knox, we have gradually been enlarging our Atlantic squadrons to an extent that warrants their now being set up as a separate fleet. In command of that Atlantic of one hundred and twenty-five warships is Rear Admiral Ernest J. King.

There will also be after February First a new cincture, meaning Commander-in-Chief of the United States fleet. The new cincture will be Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, who succeeds Rear Admiral James O. Richardson. So doing, Rear Admiral Kimmel becomes a full Admiral. In addition to being Commander-in-Chief of the whole works, Kimmel becomes head of the Pacific fleet. The Asiatic fleet, hitherto known as the Asiatic squadron, will continue to be under the command of Admiral Thomas C. Hart. These are only a few among the many names of Admirals, Rear Admirals, Vice-Admirals, Captains, and other high officers who are shifted around and given new commands.

In other words, a navy completely reorganized on a wartime basis. And from private accounts, raring to go!

BISHOP

On the coast of Libya not far from the place where British bombs were falling ~~only~~ recently is the site of a once great city, Cyrenē. It used to be the greatest city in Libya, *a rich and populated* ~~an important~~ See of the Roman ~~Catholic~~ Church.

This morning the new titular Bishop of Cyrene was consecrated at the great Cathedral of St. Patrick's in New York. That new Bishop <sup>is</sup> ~~for~~ the Most Reverend James Francis Aloysius McIntyre, D.D., until now Chancellor of the Archdiocese of New York. After Archbishop Spellman and two other Bishops had laid their hands on his head he thus became not only titular Bishop of Cyrenē but also auxiliary Bishop of New York. The ceremony *was notable* ~~was particularly noticeable~~ because it was attended by <sup>an</sup> ~~the most~~ extraordinary gathering of the Roman ~~Catholic~~ hierarchy ~~in~~ ~~America~~ that New York has seen in quite a long while. In the Pontifical procession were ten Archbishops coming from places as remote as San Francisco and Ottawa, as well as fifty-eight Bishops. In addition there were Right Reverend Abbots and Right Reverend Abbots Ordinary. In fact the great cathedral was ~~literally~~ packed with Most Reverend, Right Reverend and Very Reverend Fathers, Very

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Reverend Provincial Superiors of religious orders, Knights of St. Gregory, Knights of Malta, Knights of the Holy Sepulchre.

The rite of consecration was one of the most ancient and symbolical ceremonies of the Catholic Church. Bishop McIntyre wore the identical white vestments embroidered with silver that were worn by Pope

Pius the Twelfth when he was consecrated a Bishop, and <sup>sub</sup>~~sub~~sequently

<sup>worn</sup>  
by Archbishop Spellman when he was invested.

News from Rumania, Russian warships in the Black Sea.

Some nine of Stalin's men of war appeared off Sulina, a Rumanian Black Sea Port. The story is that they were warned to keep out of Rumanian territorial waters. They heeded the warning, but not until their appearance had aroused a fresh wave of conjecture about the Soviet attitude towards the Balkans.

IRELAND

The Irish are evidently girding their loins against the possibility of invasion by the Nazis. The government at Dublin has issued an emergency decree effective February First. This decree orders precautions similar to those issued in Britain. For one thing it ordered the tearing down of all signposts outside towns and urban districts in Ireland, particularly signs visible from highways, trains, or low-flying airplanes. There are many who think Ireland may be a battlefield before long ~~whether~~ whether the Irish remain neutral or not. For the decision will be up to Hitler

FOOD

~~One rather grave bit of news from London is that~~

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The British are running short of meat. ~~That's official. It comes~~ <sup>So says</sup>

~~from~~ Lord Woolton, ~~the~~ Food Minister. It is becoming one of the

major issues on the home front. There were shortages in many

areas and quite a number of people had to go without their full

rations, thirty cents worth for each ~~person~~ person a week. And

the government admitted that <sup>as a by</sup> ~~product~~ product of this condition

<sup>has</sup> there been hijacking of food trucks, also bootlegging of meat.

<sup>In England</sup>  
Last Monday, the meat ration was reduced from thirty-

eight to thirty cents. Today it's cut still further to twenty-four

cents. One reason for this was the needs of the army of the Nile

in Libya.

VICHY

Apparently the shortage in Britain is nothing compared to conditions in the occupied zones of France. Paris is suffering from a critical lack of not only meat but fuel. And it has been bitterly cold. The Parisians complained, but the Petain government at Vichy replied that lack of food is just as grievous in the unoccupied zones of France as in the regions where the Nazis are.



FRENCH RELIEF

Help for the French, American help! The

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British Government has given in and will allow a Red Cross <sup>vessel</sup> ~~ship~~ *^*  
from the United States to pass through the blockade. *You may have read how* <sup>^</sup> the mercy

ship will take a cargo of milk and vitamin concentrates for the children in unoccupied France, and flour for the people of Spain.

These shipments ~~will~~ <sup>to</sup> *^* be distributed under the supervision of Red

Cross workers on the spot. ~~It's worth noting that~~ <sup>End,</sup> *^* the British

Ministry of Economic Warfare announced this concession to the

request of President Roosevelt two days after Admiral Leahy had

presented his credentials as United States Ambassador to Marshal

Pétain at Vichy.

At the same time it is <sup>today</sup> *^* made clear that there will

be no general distribution of American food. These relief shipments

will be restricted to <sup>a few</sup> *^* the necessities, <sup>and some</sup> *^* ~~mentioned, as well as~~

medical supplies. Other shipments will be made later to France

and Spain if the distribution of ~~the~~ first shipload <sup>turns out</sup> *^* ~~is brought~~

*satisfactorily,*  
~~off successfully~~ *^*

Some observers are pointing out that this relief given

to Spain may go a long way to help keep Dictator Franco out of the

war. The food situation in Spain, wheat and flour, is acute. ~~is~~ particularly the need of *^*

It's from Kenya that we have the news of the death of one of Britain's most famous Generals, the now almost legendary Baden-Powell. At the age of eighty-three. But only last Christmas the founder of the Boy Scouts dispatched a message to Imperial Scout headquarters in London. It was a Christmas card with a caricature of Hitler. Under the caricature was the note, "We owe Hitler a statue. He's done more than any man ever did to consolidate our nation at home and overseas."

For the last few years the world knew Baden-Powell principally as the founder of the Boy Scouts. But, he first became famous for his extraordinary defense of Mafeking during the Boer War. And before that time he'd been known in military circles as one of the ablest intelligence officers in any army, a master scout in the military sense. In fact he had written a text book on scouting -- a classic which was adopted by the British army and imitated by others. It was this brilliant little work that led to the establishing of the Boy Scouts, an institution that swept over the world.

After the relief of Mafeking he became affectionately known to all Britishers as "B.P." So taps have sounded over old B.P.,

the man who started <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ movement of tremendous import not only <sup>and value</sup> <sup>^</sup>  
<sup>over,</sup>  
to youngsters ~~all over~~ the world, but to their elders also. —

Lord Baden-Powell, hero of  
Mafeking!

## AFRICA

Well, the British in Africa seem to be taking a leaf out of Hitler's book. Instead of capturing the port of Tobruk they're forging on westward. Advance mechanized units gave Tobruk the go-by and have cut the Italian line of retreat

At the same time ~~the~~ <sup>F</sup>the siege of Tobruk goes on, with a concentration of tanks, armoured cars, artillery and infantry.

Here's African news that offers promise of something dramatic before long:- " A hundred thousand British soldiers are said to be concentrated in Kenya along the Ethiopian border. This from passengers who landed at Boston today from South Africa. These British forces in Kenya are waiting for the end of the rainy season. Then they hope to storm Mussolini's new Abyssinian empire.

And now what do you say, Hugh?