

HERE'S INSIDE OF RADIO SPY HUNT

Writer Visits One of Stations as Watchmen of Air Go Into Action in Tracking Down Suspicious Broadcasts Of Unlicensed Operators.

A United Press reporter visits one of the nation's seven monitor radio stations now engaged in tracking down suspicious broadcasts from unlicensed stations in the interests of national defense.

By MERRIMAN SMITH
United Press Staff Correspondent

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 14 (U. P.)—Hop aboard a me-gacycle and let's go for a radio spy hunt.

The base of operations: A cottage in the hills outside Atlanta. It looks like a modest rural dwelling, but inside the walls are lined with massive radio receivers, tables littered with slide rules and charts, the whine of generators mingling with the screech of loudspeakers.

This is one of the nation's seven radio monitors operated by the Federal Communications Commission. In normal times, the monitors make routine checks of broadcasts by commercial stations and see that amateur short wave operators conform to commission regulations.

But at present, with war and its accompanying espionage spreading over much of the world, the monitors have been assigned to a minute-by-minute radio spy hunt. Although the routine checking operations are continued, the FCC monitors are now most concerned with national defense.

Work Around Clock

For instance, should a foreign agent in a Southern port of the United States attempt to communicate the departure time of a certain ship to a naval vessel of his nation, the FCC monitor would be on his trail within a few minutes if it had intercepted the message at one of its listening posts.

Around the clock, seven days a week, expert radio men sit in the monitor stations with earphones clamped on their heads, slowly polling the spectrum of radio frequencies for any attempt by an unlicensed transmitter to broadcast information for any purpose.

The suspicions of these "radio cops" are aroused principally by the sending of unfamiliar code, ciphers or other material unusual to regular radio channels.

Watchers for Strange Signals

For example, the monitor hears an unfamiliar signal in the band or channel customarily used by the nation's 55,000 "hams," or amateurs. The Government operator increases the volume on his own set and clears his desk for action.

"7088 SX50P XOPT," he hears this unknown station click out. The monitor operator's experience tells him immediately whether the message is originating from a manual or automatic sending key. The apparently meaningless ciphers arouse further suspicion because they usually mean code—and strange code usually means an attempt to cover up.

The operator throws a switch. An automatic recording device goes to work, making a permanent record of the suspected messages. The slide rules are brought out and the frequency of the suspected signal computed. Other Government monitors are notified.

Police Go Into Action

Then Uncle Sam's radio police force goes into high gear. The various monitor stations work together in taking a long range bearing on the suspected station. This consists of using highly developed direction finders. Such a sub-rose station would be stopped within a brief period.

The mysterious ciphers are transmitted to the FCC in Washington and turned over to a trained staff of cryptographers who specialize in breaking down codes. After examination of the content, the FCC consults other governmental agencies which may be interested such as the military intelligence services and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sign Michigan Pact

Indiana yesterday signed a reciprocity agreement with Michigan allowing Indiana soldiers in the neighboring state to use Indiana license plates and driver licenses during 1941.

Predicts Auto Tag Record

No accurate figures are available yet, but Frank Finney, commissioner of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, estimates that the sale of auto license plates and drivers licenses for 1941 will break all records.

"The motorists are virtually swamping us," Mr. Finney declared.

Streamlined 'South Wind' Sets Record on Chicago Run

By DAVID MARSHALL Times Staff Writer

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 14.—Hundreds of Chicago railroad fans strolled the Pennsylvania Railroad yards today to see and photograph the "South Wind," one of America's most modern streamlined trains which yesterday set a new speed record from the Indianapolis-Chicago run.

Piloted by Edwin R. Carter of Logansport, a veteran engineer, the sleek maroon and gold all-coach train, said to cost more than half a million dollars, whipped over the 202 miles in 3 hours and 16 minutes. This record run was set despite a six-minute stop just outside Indianapolis for pictures taking, another six-minute stop at Logansport and two other one-minute stops in South Chicago.

At times, the ultra-modern streamliner whizzed north at a top speed of 68 miles an hour.

With the tactfulness of old-time engineers, he observed that his record-smashing trip was made "in good time." Not once during the trip, he added, was the 280-ton (560,000-pound) engine opened "all the way to its maximum speed of 110 miles an hour."

Mr. Carter took over the throttle at Logansport, the division terminus.

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At all Haag's Quality Drug Stores.
Two sizes 25c and 50c.

If You'd Dig Up an Indian Village—



Emsley W. Johnson Sr. (left) and Christopher B. Coleman, Indiana Historical Society secretary, are participants in the annual society meeting which ends a two-day session with a banquet tonight.

State House— ELECTORS CAST VOTES MONDAY

Tucker Later Will Notify
President of Senate:
'14 for Willkie.'

In a drab and routine way, the final chapter of the most colorful presidential campaign in recent years in Indiana will be written Monday.

Fourteen Republican electors will meet at 10 a. m. in the House of Representatives to vote for Wendell L. Willkie for president and Charles L. McNary for vice president of the United States.

The votes of the 14 will be tabulated by Governor Townsend and Secretary of State James Tucker. Mr. Tucker then will notify the President of the United States Senate of Indiana's vote.

Sign Two Ballots

The Republican electors were certified by Governor Townsend after the official tabulation of the election showed that Mr. Willkie polled 899,466 votes to Mr. Roosevelt's 874,063.

The ballots which will be handed to the electors read: "The undersigned Presidential Elector of the State of Indiana hereby casts his ballot for — for President of the United States." The vice presidential ballot is the same. The elector will sign both.

There is nothing to keep the elector from writing in the names of the two candidates who lost in Indiana—President Roosevelt or Vice President-elect Henry A. Wallace but it never has been done here, and the Republicans say it won't be this time.

Ball Heads Group

The 14 electors are George A. Ball, Munce; Frank N. Gavit, Gary; Mrs. Mabel Siter, Fraser; Delph; David M. Hoover, Elkhart; John H. Edris, Bluffton; William H. Long, Peru; Bert Fleming, West Lebanon; Reid Dugger, Franklin; Joseph E. Kelley, Mt. Vernon; Estal G. Bieley, Lawrenceburg; Mrs. Ruth W. Hancock, Greensburg, and M. Bert Thurman, Harry B. Dynes and N. Nelson Deranian, of Indianapolis.

Sign Michigan Pact

Indiana yesterday signed a reciprocity agreement with Michigan allowing Indiana soldiers in the neighboring state to use Indiana license plates and driver licenses during 1941.

Indiana also has such agreements with Virginia and Mississippi.

Predicts Auto Tag Record

No accurate figures are available yet, but Frank Finney, commissioner of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, estimates that the sale of auto license plates and drivers licenses for 1941 will break all records.

"The motorists are virtually swamping us," Mr. Finney declared.

G. O. P. LEADERS SCAN NEW BILL

Reorganization Act to Be Discussed at Session Next Week.

Republican majority leaders of the Legislature will convene here again Monday and Tuesday to reach a final decision on bills to reorganize the executive branch of the State Government.

Frank T. Millis, majority leader of the Lower House, said a committee of attorneys had completed preliminary drafts of the executive reorganization bill.

It has been rumored that many of the Republican leaders favor a compromise plan, giving Democratic Governor-elect Henry F. Schrecker a sizeable slice of executive power in a bi-partisan setup of state boards.

However, other G. O. P. leaders are holding out on a "no agreement" platform. Legislative leaders said, however, that the difference of opinion among the Republican majority is not great enough to block an agreement.

HURLED BASKET ON WILLKIE FAN, FREED

DETROIT, Dec. 14 (U. P.)—Miss Dorothy La Roue, who admitted throwing a waste basket out of a hotel window during the appearance of Wendell L. Willkie in Detroit early this fall, was acquitted of a charge of felonious assault yesterday.

Miss La Roue admitted stealing several articles out of a downtown hotel window as a crowd gathered shortly before Mr. Willkie's arrival. The waste basket struck Betty Wilson, 19.

The run was the first chance the officials had to learn for certain just what the train could do and would do. Each of the cars—an observation-buffet lounge, diner, baggage-dormitory, and four full-length coaches—were taken from the Budd plant at Philadelphia to Indianapolis separately and there assembled.

Then the trip was not only a pre-inaugural run but also the initial road test of the first north-south streamliner in the nation's history.

you've heard about it . . .

NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM CHRISTMAS CAMERA NUMBER

(Issue of December 5, 1940)

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At all Haag's Quality Drug Stores.
Two sizes 25c and 50c.

'I AM' CLAIMED TO HEAL BODIES, U. S. JURY TOLD

Cult Solicited Jewels to
Help the Process,
Witness Says.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 14 (U. P.)—Leaders of the "I Am" cult told their followers that they were greater than Jesus Christ, because they had healed "more bodies," a Federal jury had been told today.

Mrs. Gertrude M. Host, 33, a school teacher and former member of the cult, testified in the mail fraud trial of Mrs. Edna Ballard, widow of its founder, her son, Donald Ballard, and eight other leaders.

At five lectures in San Francisco and Los Angeles which she attended, Mrs. Host said, the Ballards said Jesus was an "Ascended Master"; that they were masters who hadn't ascended yet, and therefore they were akin to him, though greater.

To heal even more bodies, the Ballards asked their followers to contribute, especially jewels, she said. They adopted this slogan: "Every time you give a jewel you heal a body."

Jewelry Donated

Mrs. Host added that she never knew personally of the Ballards having healed anyone but she did have several friends who had donated jewelry.

Defense Attorney Charles Carr asked if it were not possible that some of the jewelry given to heal the sick had been "tinsel." Mrs. Host replied that she "knew a few of the students who gave jewels to the Ballards and they don't wear cheap jewelry."

Mrs. Host testified that Guy Ballard, who died in 1939, and Mrs. Ballard had promised to have some of the "Ascended Masters, especially St. Germain, a French theologian of the Fourth Century, appear at their meetings."

"But they added that if the Ascended Masters didn't appear it was because the students' bodies didn't keep harmony," she said.

Government Attorney Norman Neukom read from the movement's magazine, "the Voice," a "special message" from St. Germain, which said:

"One day I will show before you in this wonderful activity. I feel very close to you dear ones—now doesn't that seem chummy?"

Told to Purify Bodies

Mrs. Host testified that adherents were taught to "purify" their bodies, mentally, physically and emotionally.

"It is only in this manner that you could obtain your ascension," she said. "Jesus was described as an Ascended Master. He came here to purify his body and then went on. He got sick of the place."

Defense Attorney Carr asked Mrs. Host if the movement did not teach that when one ascended, he left a part of his physical body on earth.

"No, sir," she replied emphatically, "you were supposed to take your bodies with you."

She said the Ballards told their followers not to read the Bible.

Federal Judge Leon R. Yankwich then recessed court until Tuesday.

Star Stricken



Olivia De Havilland . . . faces appendicitis operation.

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 14 (U. P.)—Stricken with appendicitis while in Santa Fe, N. M., for the premiere of "Santa Fe Trail," actress Olivia de Havilland was rushed by plane to Hollywood today for an emergency operation.

May Robson, actress, also was stricken in Santa Fe and removed to an Albuquerque Hospital. It was reported she was suffering slightly from a condition brought about by the high altitude.

APPROVE NEW SCOUT HEADS

Ruddell President and Gratz
Secretary of Indiana
Council.

New officers and executive board members of the Indianapolis and Central Indiana Council, Boy Scouts of America, have officially approved, it was announced today.

The officers are Almus G. Ruddell, president; Harry T. Ice, C. Otto Janus, Wilson Mothershead, William Schloss, and Clarence S. Sweeney, vice presidents; H. Foster Clippinger, treasurer; Wallace O. Lee, commissioner, and Homer T. Gratz, secretary.

Committee chairmen include Mr. C. H. advancement; Mr. Janus, c. g. and activities; J. Frank Holmes, finance; Dr. C. A. Stayton, health and safety; DeWitt S. Morgan, leadership training; F. E. Glass, organization and extension; L. J. Badollet, public relations, and Gregg Ransburg, senior scouting.

District chairmen are Richard Adney, Boone County; Clayton Cook, Clinton County; Fred A. Turner, Lewis Wallace District; William Huddleston, Hendricks County, and Frank Moore, Shelby County.

Executive board members for the coming year are Mr. Adney, Mr. Badollet, Arthur R. Baxter, Mr. Clippinger, Mr. Cook, F. C. Evans, Mr. Glass, E. W. Harris, Mr. Holmes, A. F. Hook, Mr. Ice, Mr. Janus, Harry V. Jones, Mr. Lee, L. C. McNamara, Frank Moore, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Mothershead, Gregg Ransburg, Harper J. Ransburg, Mr. Ruddell, Mr. Schloss, Walter Spencer, Louis Starken, Dr. Stayton, James A. Stuart, Clarence S. Sweeney, Fred A. Turner, George Vonnegut, and Irvin Williams.

The Christmas Court of Honor will be held Wednesday at the World War Memorial.

WILLKIE CLUBS LOOK TO FUTURE

Permanent Group May Be
Set Up With New Name
And Aims.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14 (U. P.)—Oren Root Jr., chairman of the Associated Willkie Clubs of America, told delegates from 36 states, meeting today to set up a permanent organization, that "as long as the country is in danger, people who believe in the things in which you and I believe are patriotically bound to stand up and be counted."