

U. S. PROPAGANDA GOES OVER BIG IN YUGOSLAVIA

BELGRADE Yugoslavia — (AP) — Ask anyone in Belgrade how to find the United States Information Center and he will tell you "Follow the street past the Hotel Majestic until you see a big crowd. That will be it."

Day and night the USIC windows, on a busy corner near the center of town, attract sidewalk-blocking interest. An average of over 40,000 persons a month go on inside to look at the downstairs exhibit room or visit the upstairs library and reading room. Another 30,000 monthly use the Zagreb branch.

The USIC and Yugoslavia have come a long way since the days in 1945 when secret police were stationed outside to interrogate and sometimes arrest those who walked in.

QUIETLY RE-OPENED
For a few weeks the service was completely closed down. Then an arrangement was worked out for a quiet and limited re-opening. The popular magazine distributed by what was then USIS was forbidden.

Even since the end of 1946 there has been a gradual increase in USIC activities. The big upsurge began in the summer of 1949, coincident with the Tito regime's first

hesitant steps toward economic collaboration with the west.

Today Yugoslavs move freely and unhampered about the crowded premises, many returning again and again. They request "Voice of America" programs on open postcards and carry on a lively correspondence with the library on every conceivable question connected with America.

ATTENDANCE GROWS
In early 1949 the USIC staff counted an average of 30,000 visitors per month. In August, 1949, there were 34,000, in September 41,000, and in March, 1950, a peak of 45,000. A monthly average of over 40,000 has continued ever since.

The visitors concentrate mostly on the downstairs exhibit room, which has been denuded of all furniture to make room for the crowds. The library and reference rooms are heavily used also.

About 8,000 volumes are in the library, all but a few reference works available for loan. The USIC staff reports remarkably good returns on the books, even the hundreds which are loaned by mail all over Yugoslavia. Most in demand are scientific and technical works.

RECORDS POPULAR
Numerous other activities also go on at the USIC. Belgrade radio

gets regular loans of records, both classical and modern dance music, and frequently commentaries to accompany the programs. Some 150 to 200 documentary films, renewed with new subjects every few months, are in constant use. One movie record of a recent air show in Washington, D. C., is being shown daily to visitors at an exhibition commemorating the tenth anniversary of Yugoslavia's guerrilla war, which had to do without planes through most of its course.

AIRLINE OFFERS TO FLY OVER NORTH POLE
ANCHORAGE, Alaska — (AP) — Alaska Airlines has put in its bid to fly jet-propelled airliners over the North Pole from Alaska to Europe.
An airlines spokesman said a jet transport plane could fly the 3,200 miles over the Pole from Fairbanks to Oslo Norway in five to six hours, at a cruising speed of 475-500 miles per hour. However, he pointed out that the

request to the Civil Aeronautics Board for an over-the-pole certificate represented long-range planning and that regular flights over the Pole probably could not be made before 1954.
Commercial polar flights depend on international conditions and the speed of U. S. development of jet airliners, he said.
The average haul of all mail in the U. S. is now 561 miles, according to The American Magazine.

KENTUCKY RESTAURANT TO TAKE TO AIR
LOUISVILLE, Ky. — (AP) — A Louisville restaurant soon will be flying the Pacific Ocean.
The C-54 Grill, housed in the fuselage of a Douglas C-54 Sky-master, has been bought by a small airline which operates between Seattle and Tokyo by way of Alaska.
The airline plans to make it an airplane once again.
The C-54 Grill was opened in

1947 after the fuselage was bought from the War Assets Administration for \$500.
The fuselage will be taken to an aircraft plant on the west coast, fitted with wings, tail assembly, engines and controls.
PARALLEL — There wasn't anything new in the answer, although the question had a new twist — which the governor recognized. It is interesting to note the way the story was reported.

PROMISING SWIMMER
DURHAM — One of the most promising freshman swimmers now working out at Duke University under Coach Jack Feroona is Vincent De La Guardia, rated second best swimmer in Cuba and a good bet for next year's Olympic team. He specializes in the back, breast and crawl strokes.
Only certain potato varieties can be used for making potato chips and french fries.

American Square Dance Rage As Britain Copies Example

By NICHOLAS KING
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

LONDON — (AP) — The American square dance is sweeping Britain today as jitterbugging and the antics of the jazz age did before it.

In any Saturday night dance hall, trans-Atlantic cowboys in ten-gallon hats, boots and frontier pants can be heard calling the steps in a valiant western drawl as Britons wearing gingham and blue jeans pound, stomp and twirl in dosi-dos and allemand lefts.

Fiddlers saw out tunes such as "Little Brown Jug" and "The Arkansas Traveler" to the rhythm of clapping hands.

The craze started officially when Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh ducked for an oyster in Ottawa in one of their Canadian tour's gayest evenings.

PUBLIC FANCY CAUGHT
Photographs of Elizabeth in a "peasant" skirt swinging on the arm of a blue-jeaned Philip caught the public fancy. Promoters were quick to capitalize.
Now dance hall signs say: "Get in line! Yippee! Leave your spurs and pistols to home."

Checked shirts and gingham dresses have become as much as a uniform as tuxedos used to be for more stately dancing. Men like the exercise which square dancing entails and the girls point out there are no wallflowers on such occasions, in contrast to the usual woman-heavy British social function.

SCOTS OBJECT
Like most trans-Atlantic imports, square dancing is not being swallowed whole by everyone, however.
Scottish opinion claims that the square dance is only a corruption of ancient Scottish dances which are still going strong.
The Scots claim there is little in square dabbling that is not found in their traditional reels and quadrilles—the direct ancestors of the square dance. In Scotland, they don't need anyone to call for them. They know all the steps already.
The square dance is here to stay — for a while, anyway.

So Merry Christmas to All...

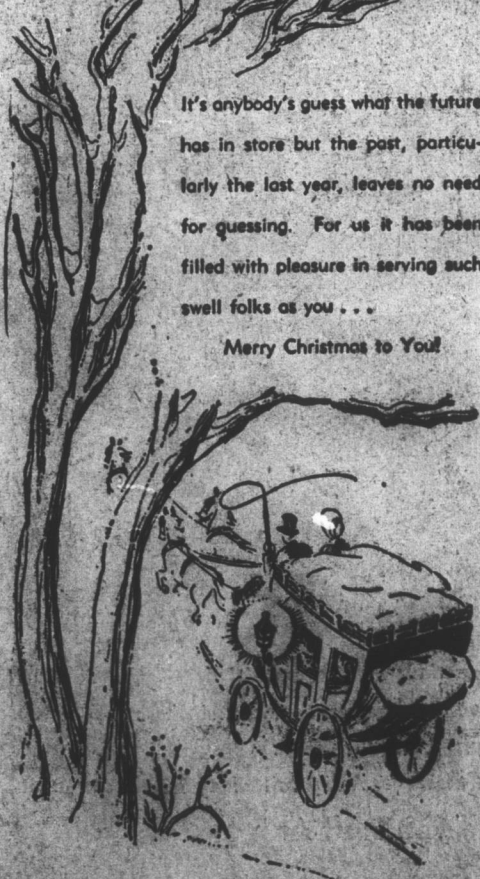


In this season of Holiday Joy we extend our best wishes to you, your family and friends.
May the true spirit of the season find its way to your home and hearth, bringing with it days of quiet happiness and peaceful content.

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Christmas Greetings



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Merry Christmas to You!

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