



NEW LIEUTENANTS - Second Lts. Raymond G. Hilton and Ronald Wilson, shown left to right, received their commissions recently from the Oregon National Guard Military academy. Both are members of the Medford National Guard units. (Knackstedt Photo)

# Influx of American Living Evident in British Outlook

United Press International London - (UPI) - It was the envious Sassi who said of Julius Caesar: "Upon what meat does this our Caesar feed that he is grown so great?" There are times when the British seem to feel the same way about the United States - perhaps, from their point of view, with some reason. First, the bustling giant from overseas elbowed them out of the center of the world stage at the end of the 1914-18 war. Then, with every passing year, they have seen the influence of the former colonies push and thrust into corners of the globe that used to look only to Britain.

Most of the British, a civilized and tolerant people, recognize this as the same tide of history which once swept them to world supremacy and accept it. What they find harder to accept, however, is the American cultural invasion of the British homeland. A letter to a periodical from a reader once put it perfectly: "Isn't there some British way of saying 'hot dog'?" The writer thus plaintively expressed the irritation so many of his countrymen feel at the eager acceptance by the masses of the American way of life they see in films and on television.

Resentment This resentment crops up in newspapers and magazines. It runs in cycles. At its mildest it is apt to be a querulous complaint about British actors or actresses using "midatlantic accents" or a suggestion that coal fires (British) are better than central heating (American). At its most severe it can alarm those Americans who have not been here long enough to realize that this snapping and snarling has no connection with the basic Anglo-American feeling that the other is a good fellow to have around in time of trouble.

"I wish we could stop falling for the American image quite so wholesale," said the Sunday Express recently. "It is enough these days only to put the word 'American' in front of anything from a kitchen to a space ship, a fashion to a TV serial, a luxury home to labor relations - for the British to back out bowing all the way."

The newspaper wanted to know why the British applied adjectives such as "boyish, handsome, charming" to President Kennedy and "doddering, square, droopy" to Prime Minister Macmillan. The newspaper said Britain's most popular TV programs featured an elderly policeman, a group of rough and ready Liverpool cops and an old junk dealer and his son "cheating, fiddling, crafty and dirty."

In contrast, it said, as portrayed on American television and in films and musicals, American men are splendid, brave, warm, generous and human. TV lawyers like Sam Benedict and Perry Mason are so soft-hearted they sometimes turn down fees. TV medics like Dr. Kildare always cure their patients. TV marshals may be sentimental but they always get their man.

And American TV criminals even have a streak of honesty. Although the article did not mention it, American TV shows are also among the most popular on British television.

There was a time earlier this century and extending to very few years ago when the British popular press built up this stereotype of an American: money-grabbing, loud, boastful, flashily-dressed. Cartoonists still tend to depict the overseas visitor in a violent tie, a broad-brimmed hat and always with a camera slung over his shoulder. But much of the bite has gone out of the characterization, possibly because there has been such a tremendous influx of American tourists recently that the Britons can see for themselves that this type is the exception not the rule.

British columnists, writing from the United States, still tend, however, to emphasize the odd and off-beat in American life, to stress sex and crime, rowdiness and teen-age delinquency in preference to a more serious study of the big friend across the sea. They give items which may be true of small groups or areas, a broad national sweep. Interspersed with the dig-and the more serious howls that can follow any political happening in which Britain feels it has been slighted (such as the dropping of Skybolt) - are instances of the underlying friendliness.

Mrs. Kennedy - always "Jackie" in print - is genuinely liked. The most widely circulated newspaper in the country, the Daily Mirror, made President Kennedy its 1962 "man of the year." But this doesn't ever mean it's closed season on the United States. One of the new hit musicals in the West End of London is titled: "An Evening of British Rubbish."

A member of the company, John Mahoney, was asked about the curious name. "It may be rubbish," he said, "but at least it's good British rubbish and not a foreign import." For "foreign" read "American."

## 4-H NEWS

Nutty Nitten Needles The last meeting of the Nutty Nitten Needles 4-H club was held July 23 at the home of the leader Mrs. Varner. The meeting was held in the yard and refreshments of Kool-aid and cookies were served by Conny Varner. Miss Jeanne Caddick from Vancouver, B.C. was a visitor. We collected food for a family in our neighborhood because the father was in the hospital.

It was decided that we all collect clothing to be donated to the county detention home. This will be a community project. We practiced on our contest for the fair and also worked on our projects. Sandra Mayfield, Reporter.

## Subscribers

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OBTAINS ANNULMENT - The Borden twins, Marilyn and Rosalyn, supplied their own caption for this picture: "Which twin had the phony?" as maidenhood regained 200 of its lost pounds when Marilyn obtained an annulment from Preston Hamilton, her husband of two days. Hamilton, a sometimes bartender, married Marilyn, it turns out, for capital gain to himself. The twins comprise a song and dance act in San Francisco and Hamilton wanted to be their agent. (UPI)

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## Fort Rock Bronze Marker Stolen

Fort Rock - (UPI) - The bronze marker mounted at the entrance of Fort Rock Cave when it became a national historical landmark last month has been stolen, rancher Reuben Long has reported.

Long, who owns the land on which the cave is located, said the marker was pried loose from a large boulder and stolen sometime before July 16. It was first reported missing by a Pendleton family. State police are investigating.

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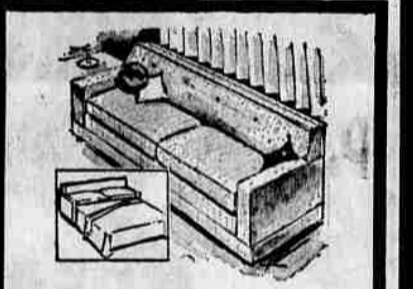
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