

FARM AND HOME (UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS) EPISODE NO. 491

PROGRAM TITLE

SUSTAINING

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1942

DAY & DATE

11:30-12:00 NOON BLUE

TIME

PRODUCTION NOTES

CHARACTERS

CAST

SOUND

REMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

BLUENETWORKKOMPANY

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

MUSIC: THEME.

ANNOUNCER: Burned timber; scorched, barren soil; the diversion of manpower from important war jobs. - these are but a few of the evils of forest fires. Now that we're at war and our forests take on a greater value with each passing day, a call has gone out, country-wide, for volunteers to enlist in the fight against forest fires. To defend this country we all love, each one of us is being asked to do our full share in what has become a national drive against possible forest devastation. There are many ways we can help: By dousing our matches, our cigarettes, our campfires....by being mighty careful with fire every minute we are in the woods. If we discover a forest fire we can do our bit by stamping it out or by getting word immediately to the nearest State or Federal officer. And, if and when the call comes to serve actively with rake or shovel or axe or pump on a fire line, we can help best of all by pitching in whole-heartedly - as forest defenders on our Nation's home front...Patriotic Americans everywhere will answer the call to protect our forests, knowing full well that forest fires aid the enemy!

Now, once again, to the Pine Cone Ranger Station, where we find Ranger Jim Robbins, his wife, Bess, and his assistant, Jerry Quick, and Jerry's sweetheart, Mary Halloway, all listening to the radio in the livingroom. It's a late hour for Jim and Bess...long past the usual bed time, but...well..here they are:.....

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FADE IN MUSIC (LIGHT BAVARIAN AIR) FILTER, AS OVER SHORT-WAVE, KEEP LOW IN BACKGROUND.

JIM: So that's the enemy station, huh? (YAWNS) Doggone, I hope you two kids really heard what you said you heard last night on that foreign broadcast...You're keepin' us up 'way past bed-time.

JERRY: Mary and I wouldn't make up a story like that, Jim. We just happened to be fooling around with the radio dials, see? And I tell you we heard that announcer say Elk City just as plain as I'm saying it now.

MARK: Yes, he did, Mr. Robbins. And he said he'd have another message for Elk City at midnight tonight.

JERRY: Mary and I couldn't make head or tail out of what he was saying though. Something about a Red Night...almost like a fairy tale.

JIM: Well, we've only got a few minutes to wait. I can stand it, I reckon.

BESS: That pretty music....How can they play such music?

MARK: What do you mean, Mrs. Robbins?

BESS: Why, with all the misery and despair and hate they've brought on Europe...so many, many people starving in those poor countries Hitler's armies have overrun. How can there be any gay hearts in those enslaved countries across the water?

MARY: I see what you mean, Mrs. Robbins. Music like this is meant for a happy people, a free people. When they play it, it's a mockery.....

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CHAPTER I

In the early part of the century, the United States was a young nation, and its people were full of energy and ambition. They were determined to build a great nation, and they were not afraid to take risks. They were the first to establish a republic, and they were the first to give the people the right to elect their representatives. They were the first to give the people the right to free speech, and they were the first to give the people the right to a fair trial. They were the first to give the people the right to a free press, and they were the first to give the people the right to a free market. They were the first to give the people the right to a free education, and they were the first to give the people the right to a free religion. They were the first to give the people the right to a free society.

They were the first to give the people the right to a free society, and they were the first to give the people the right to a free economy. They were the first to give the people the right to a free culture, and they were the first to give the people the right to a free art. They were the first to give the people the right to a free science, and they were the first to give the people the right to a free technology. They were the first to give the people the right to a free medicine, and they were the first to give the people the right to a free law. They were the first to give the people the right to a free justice, and they were the first to give the people the right to a free peace.

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JIM: That's true all right. But it's part of Hitler's big lie. When they shoot music like that at us folks here in America, they're tryin' to make us believe that things over there are all sweet and rosy. What they can't get in their thick skulls is that Americans don't fool so easy.

JERRY: It's almost midnight, folks.

JIM: There's nothing Hitler's bunch won't try to get away with. That's why I was willin' to sit up here this late to check on what Jerry and Mary said about some guy 'way over there in Europe mentioning Elk City. Take that time they carried on what everybody thought was a simple snapshot contest.

JERRY: Yeah. I remember. For weeks, the announcer asked for little photos - just small shots of, say, the town courthouse and the big office buildings and the like. Boy, I'll bet they got quite a file of photographs.

JIM: Let's hope we can knock 'em clear out 'fore they get any chance to use 'em.

MARY: Listen...The music's about over.

FADE OUT MUSIC.....

FOREIGN ANNOUNCER: (FILTER) This is the New Europe calling....one moment, please.....

JIM: Polite, ain't he?

BESS: Hush, Jim....

ANNOUNCER: (FILTER) And now, good friends, we continue our little story for our faithful listeners in and around Elk City, Zone Three..

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JERRY: See, Jim. What did I tell you?

JIM: Hold it, Jerry....I wanta hear this.....

ANNOUNCER: (FILTER) You will remember that last night I told you how, through the forest and up and down the mountainside, the brave Red Knight carried his flaming sword some thirty-two years ago, and achieved a great victory for his great leader. Well, dear listeners, it will soon again be time now, very soon, for the Red Knight to go forth again to strike terror in the hearts of unbelievers. It will be the same Red Knight, my friends, grown fiercer through the years and mightier, striking for a new, a greater leader. For a greater cause and a greater victory. But, of course, our Red Knight must have his comrades in arms.....

BESS: What in the world is that man talking about?

JIM: Wait, Bess.

ANNOUNCER: (FILTER) Followers of the Red Knight's great leader will join in his victorious march across the land. But certain preparations must first be made. Tomorrow night at this same time I will tell you just what is to be done. Because, my friends, the Red Knight must go forth the day after tomorrow. He will strike out for his great leader and the greater cause. And now, faithful and good listeners of Elk City, Zone Three, until tomorrow night at 12:00 midnight, American war time, we say in your American fashion (LAUGHS) "Keep the Home Fires Burning." We will not have some more music.....

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JIM: Turn it off, Jerry. Turn it off.

CLICK, RADIO OUT

JERRY: Well, what about it, Jim? Isn't that the craziest little fairy tale you ever heard?

BESS: It just doesn't make any sense to me...Red Knight and all....

JIM: H-m-m...Looks like there ain't anything Hitler's bunch won't try to get away with.

MARY: You really think it was something important, Mr. Robbins?

JERRY: Personally, I'm sorry we got you to stay up and listen to all that tripe, Jim.

JIM: Well, I'm not. I'm doggonned glad we did. (MUMBLING) So was ha, ha, keep the home fires burning, huh? Well, that sly little humor at the end of Brother Rat's broadcast is goin' to boomerang, believe me.

BESS: Jim Robbins, what are you mumbling about.

JIM: You mean you didn't get the real significance of that broadcast? None of you?

MARY: It was just a lot of words to me.

JIM: Well, I'll tell you what that bird really said then. He told his faithful listeners of Elk City, Zone Three, as he called them, that tomorrow night they'd get full instructions how to try and give this part of the country the worst going over it's ever had.

BESS: Why, Jim, what do you mean?

It was just a lot of words to me.

THE END

I have been thinking about you a great deal lately.

I hope you are well.

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I hope you are well.

JIM: Just this, Bess. Unless we get going around here to stop it we're apt to be fighting the worst forest fire we've ever seen, day after tomorrow.....

SLIGHT PAUSE

JERRY: Whew! Jim, is that right?

JIM: His Keep-the-Home-Fires-Going business was the tip-off to me. The Red Knight is fire..Yes, forest fire. You remember he said the Red Knight carried a flaming torch through the forest and up and down the mountain-side.....

JERRY: Say, by George, that's right.

MARY: He said the Red Knight carried his flaming sword thirty-two years ago. What did he mean by that?

JIM: That'd be back in 1910. Why, sure. That was one of the worst fire years in American history. As I recall, some 130 folks lost their lives.

BESS: But, Jim, he said they achieved a great victory then. What do you suppose he meant by that?

JIM: I reckon he meant that this country lost millions of acres of its resources. Waste of resources even back thirty years ago helps the enemy because otherwise those resources would be helping us today...To give the devil his due, Germany has always taken good care of her forests and that's why, up to now, they've had pretty good forests. And that's why they'd like to see ours destroyed. It'd put a crimp in the war for sure, as far as we were concerned.

Just this, Babe. Unless we get going around here to stop it
we're not to be fighting the worst forest fire we've ever
seen, boy after tomorrow.....

JIM:

SLIGHT PAUSE

Wow! Jim, is that right?

JERRY:

His Keep-the-Fore-Tree-Going business was the tip-off to me.
The Red Knight is here. Yes, forest fire. You remember he
said the Red Knight carried a flaming torch through the
forest and up and down the mountain-side.....

JIM:

Boy, by George, that's right.

JERRY:

He said the Red Knight carried his flaming sword thirty-two
years ago. What did he mean by that?

MARY:

That'd be back in 1880. Why, sure. That was one of the worst
fire years in American history. As I recall, some 180 million
lost their lives.

JIM:

But, Jim, he said they achieved a great victory then. What
do you suppose he meant by that?

BEBS:

I reckon he meant that this country lost millions of acres of
the resources. Waste of resources even back thirty years ago
helped the enemy because otherwise those resources would be
helping us today...to give the devil his due, Germany has
always taken good care of her forests and that's why, up to
now, they've had pretty good forests. And that's why they'd
like to see our destroyed. It'd put a crimp in the war for
sure, as far as we were concerned.

JIM:

JERRY: Well, doggone, Jim. This is pretty serious. What're we goin' to do?

JIM: I've been thinkin' about that...We've got to mobilize our forces pretty quick so as to be prepared in case there's any dirty work around here...and there's a call I want to make to Washington, right now. To a certain fellow in a certain agency in our Capitol that can give us a hand. When I was in Washington he warned me to look out for something just like this and to let him know pronto.

JERRY: So the Red Knight's goin' to march across our land. There must be some mighty low people who'd take orders like that from the enemy.

JIM: Talking about it won't help. We're at war...I'm going to make that call now. That's all I can do at the moment... But tomorrow night we'll be sitting right here (FADE) listening in again.....

FAUSE

FADEIN IDENTIFYING SHORT-WAVE BROADCAST THEME - QUITE LOUD - SLIGHT INTERFERENCE IN BACKGROUND (FILTER)

JIM: Quiet everybody....That announcer's comin' on.

BESS: Jim, how can you be so calm?

ANNOUNCER: (FILTER) (ACCENT) This is the New Europe calling - One moment please.....

JERRY* Jim, that station.....Doesn't it seem louder to you and clearer than last night?

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MARY: It does to me, Jerry. Except for that noise in the background like another station.

JIM: Listen careful now....

ANNOUNCER: (FILTER) Attention, faithful listeners of Zone Three, Elk City Area....This is important, very important. Our recent stories of the Red Knight have, I am sorry to say, been ill-timed and unfortunate. It is considered best to disregard earlier broadcasts on this subject. When the time is proper you will be advised further. But for the time being, the Red Knight will not ride. This must be fully understood. It is an order. The Red Knight must not ride! It is the word of our great and true leader. And now we will have some more music....one moment please.

JIM: I guess you can turn it off, Jerry.

CLICK - RADIO NOISES OUT.

JERRY: Say...What do you think of that? The Red Knight will not march across this country, sez the guy from across the water. Just like that!

JIM: (CHUCKLING) By George, he sure sounded like that enemy announcer we heard last night, didn't he?

ALL: What! Huh? What d'yuh mean?

JIM: Yeah, that was one of our American short-wave stations beamed on the same band right toward this Elk City area.

MARY: And that interference in the badkground?

It does not seem likely that you will be able to do this.

Like a good deal of the other things...

It is a very important thing to do...

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JIM: I guess that was the foreign station, tryin' to give the real instructions. Only nobody over here heard 'em. Our station's just as powerful and, being closer, it drowned out the enemy station.

JERRY: So Washington came through for us, huh, Jim?

JIM: Right! And they did a doggonned good job, I'd say.

BESS: Well, we can all breathe easier then.

JERRY: But the people in Elk City and around who were to get those instructions Jim? What about them?

JIM: I reckon the government men will be kinda busy in Elk City for a little while! There's probably only a couple of foreign agents there anyhow. But it wouldn't take many to set the woods afire for miles around...

MARY: Then everything's all right? And we've nothing to worry about any more?

JIM: I wouldn't say that, Mary. We've overcome one threat that's true. But that doesn't mean we can afford to take things easy. Not by a long shot.

JERRY: No, sir! You're right on that score, Jim.

JIM: As long as we're at war with the Axis, Mary, there's a possible threat to our forests all across this great country of ours. And I'm one fellow that's not going to forget that either....(FADE) not for a minute.

MUSICAL FINALE

I think that we are in a position to give the
full instructions. Our report over the past few
sessions has been powerful and, being strong, it demands
out the most attention.

So Washington goes through for us, this.

Right, and that is a long road for us. It is very

well to our all these sessions.

But the people in New York are not the same as the
instructions that they have about this.

I think the government men will be able to do this
for a little while. There's probably only a matter of

months before that time. But it would be better to
take the whole time for all the sessions.

That's all right, all right, and we're willing to wait
about it now?

I think we should wait. I've got to see you first, but I

think that that's the best way to do it. We can't
wait, but we can wait a long time.

So all these things will be done soon.

So long as we are in the state, there's

nothing to be done. We can't do anything about it
of course. And I'm sure that's not going to be done
either. (Loudly) Not for a minute.

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week during the
National Farm and Home Hour with the cooperation of the
Forest Service. United States Department of Agriculture.....

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vmb 2:30 p.m.
6-17-42

Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. and also with the cooperation of the
United States Forest Service to you each year during the