

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS EPISODE #490

PROGRAM TITLE

SUSTAINING -- FARM AND HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER

JUNE 12, 1942 -- FRIDAY

DAY & DATE

11:30 - 12:00 NOON WMAQ, 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

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THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF _____

THIS IS TO CERTIFY

THAT _____

PROBATION WORK

1072M - SMITH-BROOKS - DOCKET 453

1.

2. ANNOUNCER Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

3. MUSIC Theme

4. ANNOUNCER For over ten years now I've been talking to you folks

5. about forest conservation. In fact, right along with

6. Ranger Jim and the others, I've tried to preach the gospel, if you

7. please, of sensible forest management. Now that we're at war it seems

8. more urgent than ever to me that our forests be used and handled properly.

9. I get a real feeling of pride, I can tell you, in being the fellow who

10. starts these Forest Ranger programs off with a message in behalf of

11. "America's woods and rille and templed hills.".... Sometimes I've

12. wondered if what I've tried to say has really gotten across...if my

13. message has struck home. And then, like the other day, we get a letter

14. from one of our regular listeners down there in Villa Rica, Georgia,

15. and the writer tells us about her fine woodland, carefully nursed along

16. and protected through the years, and now ready, under the best logging17. practices possible, to provide prime timber for our Nation at war....

18. That's what makes a fellow really proud. And I can't help but think

19. that thousands of other people have also come to realize the value of

20. their wooded land to themselves and to their country, and that they,

21. too, are sensibly handling the forest resource in their care and are

22. protecting it to the best of their ability. To them I say, "That's

23. swell!" And now, once again to the Pine Cone National Forest where

24. anything can happen, and it usually does. At the moment, for example,

25. Ranger Jim Robbins has just returned to the Ranger Station after an
absence of several weeks, to find his wife, Bess, and the local school
teacher, Mary Halloway, all up in the air about Assistant Ranger Jerry
Quick....Here they are....

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE

FOR THE YEAR 1960

ABOUT THE YEAR 1960

ABOUT THE YEAR 1960

ABOUT THE YEAR 1960

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1. JIM Well, if that doesn't beat the old Harry...Here I've been
2. thinkin' how nice it'd be to just take it easy for a
3. couple of days...Hardly get in the door and...pop...I find
4. everybody all upset and....
5. MARY Oh, I'm sorry, Mr. Robbins. We were sort of upset...Here,
6. let me take your suitcase.
7. BESS And what's that package you have there, Jim? Want me to...
8. JIM No, I'll hang on to this, Bess. It's a surprise for you
9. ...somethin' you've been hankerin' to own for a long time,
10. I think.....
11. BESS Oh, that's nice, Jim, but it can wait. We've been so
12. worried about Jerry....
13. JIM All right then. Suppose you tell me about Jerry. All
14. I've been able to get so far is that Jerry's up there at
15. the Indian settlement and about to be scalped or something.
16. BESS Mary and I didn't say that at all, Jim. But we do feel
17. that Jerry may run into some kind of trouble.
18. JIM Not in this day and age. Not with old Chief Red Hawk
19. runnin' things up there at the settlement. Suppose you
20. start from the beginning....
21. BESS & MARY We were having breakfast and the telephone rang...
(TOGETHER)
22. JIM Hey, one at a time, please....
23. BESS Well, we were all planning a little reception, a sort of
24. home-coming for you, Jim...and the telephone rang and it
25. was Chief Red Hawk wanting to talk to Jerry....

Well, it's not that bad... I mean, it's not that bad...
I mean, it's not that bad... I mean, it's not that bad...
I mean, it's not that bad... I mean, it's not that bad...

JIM

Oh, I'm sorry, my hopping. We were sort of...
Let me take your suitcase.
And what's that package you have there, that...
No, I'll hang on to that, Base. It's a surprise for you.
...something you've been wanting to own for a long time.

MARY

BESS

JIM

I think...
Oh, that's nice, Jim, but it can wait. We've been...
worried about Jerry.

BESS

JIM

All right, that's good. You tell me about Jerry...
I've been able to get so far in that Jerry's no longer...
the Indian settlement and about to be released on...
Jerry and I didn't ask that at all, Jim, but we do...
that Jerry had run into some kind of trouble.

BESS

JIM

No, no, it's day and night with Jim and...
I mean, it's not that bad... I mean, it's not that bad...
I mean, it's not that bad... I mean, it's not that bad...

JERRY & LARRY
SOUTH ST.
JIM

US were having breakfast and the telephone rang...
Hey, one of a kind, please...
Well, we were all planning a little reception, a sort of...
handout for you, Jim, and the telephone rang and...
was Jim had been wanting to call to Jerry...

BESS

1. MARY Yes, Chief Red Hawk told Jerry that Johnny Long Jump died
2. last night and that....
3. JIM Well...old Johnny Long Jump, huh? Johnny was a mighty
4. fine fellah...
5. BESS And the Chief told Jerry that they were going to burn the
6. widow's hair today.....
7. JIM Well, I'll be doggonned...That, again....
8. MARY That they were going to burn the poor old widow's hair
9. and that Jerry should tell the fire lookout on Pine Knob
10. in case he saw the smoke this afternoon.
11. JIM So they're goin' to singe the widow's hair this afternoon,
12. huh? It's been years since they've done that, but then I
13. guess no braves have died lately.
14. BESS Jerry left the station right away, and we haven't had a
15. word from him all morning. Jim, you've got to go up to
16. the Indian settlement immediately and see that nothing has
17. happened to Jerry.
18. JIM You bet. Let's all go up there. We've got to try and stop
19. 'em from singeing the widow's hair.
20. MARY & BESS Oh! Yes, we must!
21. JIM Say, you didn't think they're really going to hurt anybody,
22. did you?
23. MARY But why did Chief Red Hawk tell Jerry to warn Pine Knob
24. about smoke? That sounds, almost, like they were going
25. to burn more than just some hair....

Yes, that's how I found that young man.

ALAN

... last night and today.

Well, old Johnny Long says that young man was a doctor.

JIM

Time tells.

And the girl told Jerry that they were going to buy the

BESS

widow's hair today.

Well, I'll be doggoned, that's right.

JIM

That they were going to burn the poor old widow's hair.

MARY

and that Jerry should tell the fire lookout on Fire Lane

in case he saw the smoke this afternoon.

So they're going to stage the widow's hair this afternoon.

JIM

huh? It's been years since they've done that, but that's

guess no more have died lately.

Jerry left the station right away, and we haven't heard

BESS

word from him all morning. Jim, you'd better go up to

the Indian settlement immediately and see what's going on.

happened to Jerry.

You see, that's all you can do. We've got to try and

JIM

find out what's happened to the widow's hair.

Oh, that's all right.

MARY & BESS

Yes, you'd better think that's really going to happen.

JIM

Oh, yes.

Remember, all that you have to do is to tell Jerry to

MARY

burn the widow's hair today, that's all.

No more more from Jerry's hair.

1. JIM That's what they're aimin' to do, all right. That's the
2. trouble.
3. MARY Oh, that poor woman. We must stop it, Mr. Robbins.
4. BESS Now, wait...Jim's teasing us, Mary. Didn't he just say
5. that nobody's going to get hurt? Jim Robbins...you tell
6. us what this all means...singeing the widow's hair and all.
7. JIM I'll tell you on the way. We'd better hustle up there.
8. Stop worrying and come along...
9. DOOR OPENS
10. BESS re you going to take that package with you, Jim? Why not
11. leave it here?
12. JIM I don't want to turn it loose, Bess. And I want Jerry to
13. be around when you open it...Right now, though, we've got
14. to keep those Indians from burnin' the widow's hair like
15. they call it, and I s'pect I'm in for some heavy palaver
16. (FADE) with old Chief Red Hawk....
17. PAUSE
18. FADE IN TOM-TOM, INDIAN CAMP SOUNDS, CROWD NOISE IN BACKGROUND, SUSTAIN
19. JIM Hi there, Jerry....
20. JERRY (SOTTO) By George, I'm glad to see you, Jim. And you
21. didn't get here a minute too soon either. They're goin'
22. to set 'er afire. I didn't get anywhere with the old Chief.
23. MARY You're all right, Jerry?
24. JERRY Of course I'm all right. These folks are swell, except
25. they're stubborn as mules about this widow hair burning
ceremony of theirs.

That's what they're afraid to do, all right. That's the

JIM

trouble.

Oh, that poor woman. We just stop it, Mr. Robbins.

MARY

Now, wait. This is costing us, Mary. Didn't he just say

BESS

that nobody's going to get hurt? Jim Robbins, you tell

us what this all means... singeing the widow's hair and all

JIM

I'll tell you on the way. We'd better hustle up here.

Stop worrying and come along...

DOOR OPENS

Are you coming to take that package with you, Jim? Why not

BESS

leave it here.

I don't want to burn it, lose it, Bees. And I want to

JIM

be around when you open it... Right now, though, we've got

to keep those Indians from burning the widow's hair like

they did it, and I expect I'm in for some heavy

(FADING WITH THE GATE) ...

PAUSE

MADE IN TORONTO, INDIAN MUSIC SOUNDING, GROWN NOISE IN BACKGROUND, AGAIN

JIM

Hi there, Jerry...

(GOTTO) Ty George, I'm glad to see you, Jim. And you

JERRY

didn't get here a minute too soon either. They're

to get for some. I didn't get anywhere with the

MARY

You're all right, Jerry?

Of course I'm all right. These folks are swell,

JERRY

they're talking as usual about this widow's hair

ceremony of theirs.

2. BESS Yes, Jim told us all about it on the way up here.

3. JERRY Even threatening the law on 'em didn't do any good.

4. They'd rather go to jail than give up this doggoned ceremony of theirs.

5. BESS Look, Jim, isn't that Chief Red Hawk coming over to us?

6. JIM Yeah, that's him all right. Sure rigged up in full regalia today, isn't he?

7.

8. CHIEF (COMING ON) How, Jim...Good see you...

9. JIM Hello, Chief Red Hawk, and thanks. I wouldn't come barging in on you like this but....

10.

11. CHIEF You been Red Hawk's friend many years, Jim.

12. JIM Yeah, I know...This is my wife, Red Hawk, and Miss Halloway, our friend.

13.

14. BESS & MARY How do you do.

15. CHIEF How...Squaws come watch sacred ceremony....

16. JIM Look, Red Hawk. About this ceremony....

17. CHIEF Already too much tongue-wagging, Jim, about ceremony.

18. MARY (SOTTO) He means you, Jerry.

19. JERRY (SOTTO) Yeah...Tongue-wagging, huh?

20. JIM You say we're good friends, Red Hawk. If that's so you'll let me speak my piece.

21.

22. CHIEF Sun racing across sky. Not much time.

23. JIM I'll talk fast. Look, Red Hawk. What you're aimin' to do is no good, understand? I'm your friend and I tell you it's no good. In the long run it will hurt you folks. If Johnny Long Jump was still alive he'd agree with me. He was one of your best woodsmen.

24.

25.

Yes, Jim told us all about it on the way up here.
Even threatening the law on 'em didn't do any good.
They'd rather go to jail than give up this doggone
ceremony of theirs.

Look, Jim, isn't that Chief Red Hawk coming over to see
Yeah, that's him all right. Sure rigged up in full
regalia today, isn't he?

(COMING ON) How, Jim... Good see you...
Hello, Chief Red Hawk, and thanks. I wouldn't come
bargain in on you take this but...

You been Red Hawk's friend many years, Jim.
Yeah, I know. This is my wife, Red Hawk, and Miss
Halloway, our friend.

How do you do.
How... Sdpuwa come watch sacred ceremony...
Look, Red Hawk. About this ceremony...

Already too much tonight, Jim, about ceremony.
(OTTO) He means you, Jerry.
(OTTO) Yeah, tonight-wagging, huh?

You say we're good friends, Red Hawk. It that's so good.
Let me speak up first.
Sdpuwa coming see you. Not much time.

I'll talk later, look, Red Hawk. What you're saying
do be no good understand? I'm your friend and I told you
it's no good. In the long run it will hurt you later. If
Johnny bang bang was still alive he'd agree with me
was one of your best woodmen.

1. CHIEF Johnny Long Jump dead. By long custom in our tribe
2. widow's hair must be burned. You knew that custom, Jim?
3. JIM Yeah, sure. Whenever one of your braves dies the idea is
4. to burn the widow's hair, as you call it...
5. CHIEF Yes. So tribe may have many strong man-babies in the days
6. to come.
7. JIM But what you really do is set the woods afire, Red Hawk.
8. That's why...
9. CHIEF My people believe dry grass and trees on hill top become
10. widow's hair....Jim not worry. No harm National Forest.
11. JERRY Yeah, Jim. The Chief made his men build a fire line
12. around where they're goin' to burn, Jim. He's right about
13. that. The fire won't spread to our land.
14. JIM That's not the point. I don't care whose land is mixed up
15. in this. Burning's no good. Look, Chief. Your men have
16. helped us fight fire many a time. Now why the dickens do
17. you have to go and....
18. INCREASE CROWD NOISE IN BACKGROUND, TOM-TOMS UP
19. CHIEF My people want ceremony start. Finish talk.
20. JIM Now listen, Red Hawk. Burnin' the woods is going to hurt
21. your timber and when you hurt your timber you hurt your
22. tribe. Besides, what you're goin' to do is old-fashioned.
23. CHIEF We want keep customs of tribe.
24.
25.

CHIEF

Johnny, you know that. It's our custom to burn the

JIM

widow's hair must be burned. You know that custom, Jim?

CHIEF

Yes, sure. Whenever one of your tribes dies the hair is
to burn the widow's hair, as you call it.
Yes. So tribes may have many strong men-babies in the days
to come.

JIM

But what you really do is set the woods afire, Red Hawk.

That's why.

CHIEF

My people believe dry grass and trees on hill top become
widow's hair. . . . Jim not worry. No harm National Forest.

JERRY

Yes, Jim. The Chief made his men build a fire line

around where they're going to burn, Jim. He's right about

that. The fire won't spread to our land.

JIM

That's not the point. I don't care whose land is lit up

in this burning's no good. Look, Chief. Your men have

helped us fight the many a time. Now why the danger do

you have to do and . . .

INCREASE GRASS IN BACKGROUND, TO-TONG UP

CHIEF

My people want ceremony start. Finish talk.

JIM

Now listen, Red Hawk. Burning the woods is going to hurt

your timber and when you hurt your timber you hurt your

tribe. Besides, what you're going to do is old-time

CHIEF

We want keep custom of tribes.

1. JIM Yeah, but this is 1942, Red Hawk, not seventeen hundred
2. something. Look around you. You've got nice little
3. houses to live in now, no old shacks any more. You got
4. telephone lines coming in here and you've got electricity
5. all over the camp. Things are different now than they
6. were when this burnin' the widow's hair idea started.

7. CHIEF Still custom of tribe.

8. JIM And another thing, Red Hawk. Our country's at war. And
9. I know doggoned well that a lot of your finest young men
10. have gone out to fight their country's battle, like they
11. did last time.

12. CHIEF Many our men gone to war. That is true. But some not
13. return. Need blessing of widow's ceremony to give more
14. braves take place those not return.

15. JIM But those that come back. What are they going to think
16. when they find the woods all scorched, and damaged? Your
17. braves who return, Red Hawk, they'll need to have work.
18. The forest can give them work.

19. CHIEF Won't hurt burn forest.

20. JIM That's where you're wrong, Red Hawk. Every forest fire
21. hurts, even the little ones. Good gravy, man, I'd almost
22. rather see you actually burn the widow's hair than burn
23. the woods.

24. BESS Jim, you don't know what you're saying!
25.

You can't have it both ways, Red Hawk, not even in this world. You've got to choose. You've got to choose to live in now, no old shacks any more. You've got to choose to live in here and you've got to choose to live in there. Things are different now than they were when this burning, the widow's hair was burning.

Jim

Still another day.

Chief

And another day, Red Hawk. Our country's at war. I know you know well that a lot of your finest young men have gone out to fight their country's battle, like they did last time.

Jim

Now our men come to war. That is true. But now they return. They bring back the widow's ceremony to give her peace. They bring back the widow's return.

Chief

But those that come back, what are they going to do when they find the world all scorched, and dangerous? You leave the return, Red Hawk, they'll need to have work.

Jim

The forest will give them work.

Chief

That's where you're wrong, Red Hawk. Every forest that burns, every little one, Good (evil), man, I'll show you. You actually burn the widow's hair that burns the world.

Jim

Jim, you don't know what you're saying!

Red

1. CHIEF Jim speaks words of angry man. I am sorry. (BACKGROUND
2. NOISES UP) My people impatient. Must start ceremony...
3. (CALLS) Running Wolf...John Bear Claw...bring torches!
4. JIM No...Wait...Wait, Red Hawk...By George, why didn't I think
5. of this before?...Jerry, run back to the car and get that
6. package on the front seat, will you? Quick!
7. JERRY Okay, Jim.
8. MARY That's the package he brought for you, Mrs. Robbins.
9. BESS Well, I'll finally get to see what it is, any way.
10. CHIEF Must start fires, Jim.
11. JIM Look, Red Hawk. If I can show you how to carry out this
12. tribal custom of yours without burnin' the woods, will you
13. do it?
14. CHIEF Widow's hair must be burned. That is custom.
15. JERRY (COMING ON) Here it is, Jim. Here's your package. But
16. I don't see what...
17. JIM Thanks, Jerry. (RATTLING OF PAPER) Now, wait'll I get
18. 'er undone...There...
19. BESS Oh, look! I've wanted one of those for years....
20. MARY What is it? I...I can't see...
21. JERRY It looks like a curling iron, Mary. Yep, and that's what
22. it is. An electric curling iron.
23. CHIEF What curling iron mean? What have to do with ceremony?
24.
25.

Jim spoke words of sympathy. I am sorry. (BAG GROUND)

CHIEF

NOISES UP) in people's apartment. Must start ceremony...

(GAINS) Running Wolf. John Bear Claw. Being touched...

JIM

No. Wait. Wait. Red Hawk. By George, why didn't I think...

of this before? Jerry, run back to the car and get that...

package on the front seat, will you? Gains!

JERRY

Okay, Jim.

That's the package he brought for you, Mrs. Robbins.

MARY

Well, I'll finally get to see what it is, any way.

BESS

Must start time, Jim.

CHIEF

Look, Red Hawk. It's an arrow you how to carry out this...

JIM

tribal custom of yours without burning the woods, will you...

do it?

CHIEF

Widow's hair must be burned. That is custom.

(COMING ON) Here it is, Jim. Here's your package. The...

JERRY

I don't see what...

Thank, Jerry. (TAPPING OF PAPER) Now, wait'll I get...

JIM

'er undone... James...

Oh, look! I've wanted one of those for years...

BESS

What is it? I can't see...

MARY

It looks like a curling iron, Mary. Yep, and that's what...

JERRY

It is an electric curling iron.

What curling iron means that have to do with ceremony?

CHIEF

2. JIM Look here, Chief. Your old men told me that way back when
3. this custom started you really used to burn the widow's
4. hair, and gradually it got around to burning the woods
5. instead. Well now, with this iron here you can go back
6. to the original ceremony. With this electric curling iron
7. you can actually make the widow's hair smoke up and singe
8. and burn plenty, and it won't hurt her, not a bit. How
9. about it?

10. CHIEF And tribal custom then no longer old-fashioned. So?

11. JIM You bet.

12. CHIEF Good. (CALLS) Running Wolf...John Bear Claw....put out
13. torches. Bring Widow of Johnny Long Jump here....(TOM-
14. TOMS FAST)

15. JIM (ASIDE) Bess, I...I'm doggonned sorry, but I had to do it.
16. We can't let 'em burn those woods.

17. BESS (CHEERFULLY) Of course not, Jim. I...I don't mind. Really
18. I don't. But...well...here comes Mrs. Johnny Long Jump....
19. I better show Chief Red Hawk how to use that curling iron.
20. Before the poor woman does get burned!

21. MUSICAL FINALE

22. ANNOUNCER Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to your each week during
23. the National Farm and Home Hour with the cooperation of the
24. Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

25. 11:30 A.M. 6/9/42
26. BLP

