

ADVERTISER FARM AND HOME HOUR

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS (EPISODE #352) ^{OK}

CHICAGO OUTLET (WMAQ-BLUE (11:30 TIME 12:30 AM (AUGUST DATE 25, 1939) (FRIDAY DAY)))

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

1. ANNOUNCER Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.
2. MUSIC QUARTET, RANGER'S SONG.
3. ANNOUNCER: Every ten days during the forest fire season the United
4. States Forest Service compiles a report of the number of fires started,
5. the area burned, the amount of destruction in dollars, the cost of
6. extinguishing them, and the total number caused by people who use the
7. forests or travel through them. This season shows an increase of more
8. than 400 fires over last year's record at the same date. But the number
9. of man-caused fires has increased by more than 70.....Think of it! 700
10. more man-caused fires this year. Most of them started from sheer
11. carelessness. A half million dollars' worth of valuable property has been
12. destroyed. Another half million has already been spent to extinguish the
13. fires so that they wouldn't destroy more property. On August 10th forest
14. fire conditions in Montana were serious west of the Continental Divide;
15. in California, there was generally high danger, in Washington and Oregon
16. the fires were mostly controlled because weather conditions had improved;
17. in Idaho the situation continued critical.....When you go into the
18. forests for your vacation, a fishing trip, or just to enjoy the scenery,
19. remember that it is your responsibility to be careful with fire in any
20. form. Don't throw burning cigarettes or matches from your car as you
21. drive along. Observe the fire regulations posted by the Forest Service
22. in your National Forests. Your cooperation may be the means of preventing
23. the destruction of life and property.

24. (MORE)

25.

1. ANNOUNCER CON'T. The forest fire situation on the Pine Cone National
2. Forest, where our friend Ranger Jim Robbins is in charge, happens to be
3. quite critical at present. They haven't had any rain for over two weeks.
4. The forest is like a pile of shavings. And hot winds have been blowing
5. in from the south for the past two days. Because Jim's fire dispatcher
6. has been on duty continuously for almost 48 hours, Jim has taken over
7. the job to give his man a chance to get some sleep. We find him in the
8. dispatcher's office now, sitting at the short-wave radio.....

9. JIM: KBAT, Forest Service fire dispatcher calling KBFA.....
10. Hello, KBFA...Acknowledge....KBAT, Fire dispatcher,
11. calling KBFA, Forest Service plane. Come in....

12. FADE IN PLANE MOTOR IDLING ON FILTER MIKE

13. JERRY: (ON FILTER MIKE....PAUSE) KBFA, Forest Service plane to
14. KBAT. Go ahead, Jim.

15. JIM: Where's the plane now, Jerry? I've been trying to locate
16. you.

17. JERRY: On the landing field, Jim. Bob just finished warming up
18. the motor. We can take off any time now.

19. JIM: That's good. You'd better go up right away. The last
20. report from the Weather Bureau said humidity 7 and wind
21. southeast winds continued. Tell Bob to circle the forest
22. so you can keep an eye on things in general. I'll call you
23. as soon as something breaks.

24. JERRY: Okay, Jim. I'll report to you if we spot any smokes.

25. JIM: Yeah. And you'd better check with our mobile unit to see
that they can pick you up all right. That's all.

1. JERRY: Got it, Jim.
2. DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES
3. DUFFY: (FADING IN) Hi Jim. How's business today?
4. JIM: Oh, hello there, Duffy.
5. DUFFY: How many forest fires you got today?
6. JIM: Well, just at this very minute we don't have any. Some of
7. the boys are working on a couple of mop-up jobs. But no
8. going fires right now.
9. DUFFY: Well, I'm glad to hear it, but it doesn't make news.
10. JIM: What's the matter, hard up for a story?
11. DUFFY: Well, I figured I'd like to carry some kind of a story on
12. the Forest Service, after all that stuff I used last week
13. about the fires. Could you give me some kind of an angle,
14. Jim? Maybe a human interest story on what fire fighters do
15. between fires. You know, "after the fire is over"... tra
16. la....
17. JIM: Well, there isn't much you can say about it. We detail a
18. few men to mop up, and the rest go back to their regular
19. jobs and wait till another fire comes along.
20. DUFFY: Yeah....Well, let's see....Don't you have anybody standing
21. by, or sort of staying in the harness? What are you
22. supposed to be doing here with all this radio equipment
23. around here, and telephones?
24. JIM: This is the fire dispatcher's office.
25. DUFFY: I see. Sorta like a train dispatcher's job. That it?

1. JIM: That's right. Except a fire dispatcher is responsible for
 2. getting all the necessary men and equipment when a forest
 3. fire breaks...All the radio units on the forest transmit
 4. to this office when....
5. (ALL SPEECHES CONCERNING FIRE SHOULD BE READ IN CRISP, UNEMOTIONAL STYLE,
 6. MAINTAIN PACE BY PICKING UP CUES FAST.)
7. MACK: (FILTER MIKE) T-171, Bailey's Ridge lookout, calling KBAT...
 8. T-171 to KBAT.
9. JIM: There it is. KBAT to T-171. Go ahead, Mack.
10. MACK: Picked up a smoke west of Silver Lake campground. Azimuth
 11. says three hundred and six degrees and forty-five minutes.
 12. Vertical angle, minus eleven.
13. JIM: Minus eleven. Got it.
14. MACK: Smoke's a light grey, drifting north. I'll get a cross shot
 15. from Angel Head.
16. JIM: Right. Take it away.
17. DUFFY: That a bad spot for a fire, near the campground, Jim?
 18. JIM: Any place is a bad spot now, Duffy.
19. DUFFY: Forest is pretty dry, isn't it.
 20. JIM: Worst we've had for several years. But it wouldn't be so
 21. bad if we didn't have this wind....
22. FADE IN SOUND OF PLANE ON FILTER
23. (JERRY IN PLANE) KBFA, Forest Service plane to KBAT... Come in, KBAT.
 24. JIM: It's Jerry....Go ahead, KBFA,.. It's yours.
 25.

1. JERRY: Smoke west of Silver Lake campground, Jim. Looks like
2. it's along the highway. We're heading that way now.
3. JIM: Bailey's Ridge has already picked it up, son. I'm waiting
4. for him to give me the cross shot.
5. JERRY: All right, Jim. Contact us when you're ready. We'll pilot
6. the patrol car as soon as it's under way.
7. JIM: Right. How's the smoke look to you? Boiling up very fast?
8. JERRY: Not yet. Wind doesn't seem to be getting at it very much.
9. I think the boys on the patrol car can handle it, if
10. they get there quick enough.
11. JIM: All right, son. That's all.
12. DUFFY: You say that was Jerry?
13. JIM: Yep.
14. DUFFY: Sounded like he was in a plane. And he said...
15. JIM: He is. He's flying over the forest on...
16. MACK: (FILTER) T-171 to KBAT. Bailey's Ridge calling KBAT.
17. JIM: KBAT back to Bailey's Ridge. Go ahead, Mack.
18. MACK: Got the cross bearing from Angel Head. He gives azimuth
19. fifty-two degrees. Vertical angle plus fifteen minutes.
20. And the rest of his report checks with mine. It's not a
21. very big smoke. But there's plenty of young reproduction
22. down there to make a good fire.
23. JIM: Too much. Keep me posted on it.
24. MACK: Okay, Jim.
25. DUFFY: Say, Jim, what's all this stuff about a cross shot?

1. JIM: Just a minute, Duffy. Wait'll I contact our motor patrol
2. squad, KBAT, Forest Service fire dispatcher calling
3. Eye-22.....KBAT calling Eye 22, patrol car....Hello, patrol
4. car.
5. JAKE: (FILTER) Eye-22 to KBAT. Go ahead with it.
6. JIM: We've got a fire west of Silver Lake campground along the
7. highway. What's your location?
8. JAKE: We're below the big meadow on east highway.
9. JIM: Cut across to the Silver Lake road by one of those truck
10. trails and get there as fast as you can. That blaze will
11. give us plenty of trouble if we don't hop on it.
12. JAKE: Right, Jim. The plane's circling over us now. I reckon
13. Jerry is trying to pick us up.
14. JIM: Yeah. Go to it, boy. I'll back you up with the emergency
15. outfits if you need 'em. That's all.
16. DUFFY: Hey, Jim. I don't get all this. You go too fast for me.
17. How come the plane has to pilot the truck?
18. JIM: Saves lots of time getting to the fire. Jerry's sitting up
19. there where he can see the fire and with his radio he can
20. talk to the boys in the truck and guide them right to it.
21. DUFFY: I see...(WRITING) I hope I can get all this down before I
22. forget it...
23. RATTLE OF TELEPHONE RECEIVER
24. JIM: I'll have to check with our emergency forces to see that
25. they're standing by in case we need to send them to the fire.

1. DUFFY Do you think you'll have to?
2. JIM Wouldn't be surprised, what with the wind blowing the way
3. it is....Hello....Hello....Give to the State Fire Warden.
4. That's right.
5. DUFFY Do you fight fires with the State outfit?
6. JIM Top. It works both ways. We help them when they need us,
7. and they give us a hand when we need it.. Hello, Warden's
8. office? This is Jim Robbins...Heh...Silver Lake
9. campground area... Along the highway...I reckon it was.
10. Quite a few people driving past there now..Yeah...All
11. right, thanks. We'll call you if we need you.
12. RECEIVER REPLACED
13. DUFFY That sounds like a pretty good idea to have other outfits
14. standing by to fight a fire with you.
15. JIM You bet. (MUTTER OF RECEIVER) Hello, give me the CCC camp.
16. Right.
17. DUFFY I thought you'd be sellin' them. Jim. They always go to a
18. fire, don't they?
19. JIM Not unless they're needed for an emergency. They've got
20. their regular work, you know. and...Hello, Camp Robinson?...
21. Yes, bet. We've got a fire near Silver Lake campground...
22. No bet yet. But I think you'd better double your stand-by
23. crew for the next couple of days, till this wind dies down
24. Yeah...Right. I'll call you when we have trouble. Go long.
25. RECEIVER REPLACED

1. DUFFY: What's next, Jim? I don't want to miss any of this.

2. JIM: All we have to do is wait till we hear from the boys on
3. the fire.

4. DUFFY: The truck, you mean?

5. JIM: Yeah.

6. DUFFY: Do you think they've got there yet?

7. JIM: Hard to tell. Depends on what time they could make on
8. the road. We try to keep 'em in the best condition we
9. can. But we don't have a big enough outfit to keep all of
10. 'em like a highway.

11. DUFFY: Will we be able to hear what's going on at the fire?

12. JIM: 'Fraid not. They'll be too busy to do much talking.

13. DUFFY: But how will you know if they need help.

14. JIM: They'll call us if they do.

15. DUFFY: Well, I should think everybody would get more excited
16. about it.

17. JIM: What for?

18. DUFFY: Well, don't you get excited, up on your toes when there's a
19. fire going? Aren't you going to send out any of your fire
20. trucks?

21. JIM: Jerry said he thought the boys on the patrol car can handle
22. it, if they get there in time. I'll wait to hear what he
23. says.

24. DUFFY: But you guys act like there was nothing to it. I always
25. thought you tore around here like mad when a fire started.

1. JIM: (CHECKLES) No use tearing around, Duffy. That's when
2. mistakes are made, and at such a time mistakes are costly.
3. But the boys'll do plenty of it when they get on the fire.
4. DUFFY: Aren't you going to warn the people that live near there
5. to evacuate their homes, or have the radio station..
6. JIM: No, Duffy, no, that's not the way we go at this business,
7. except in unusual cases when a fire gets out of control,
8. like when there's a hurricane whipping it through the
9. crowns and nothing much can be done to stop it.
10. DUFFY: But you guys are supposed to be heroes. Why don't you act
11. like it?
12. JIM: We get paid for putting out fires, not acting.
13. DUFFY: But it sure is dangerous work, isn't it, to battle a forest
14. fire?
15. JIM: It has its dangerous moments. That's why we have to be as
16. efficient as we can.
17. DUFFY: By gum, this'll make a bang-up story, Jim. This will be a
18. money.
19. JIM: Well, I hope it will.
20. DUFFY: It's the kind of thing people go for. Powerful organization,
21. high speed efficiency, lots of man-power, 24-hour duty.
22. I'll tell 'em about the radio network on the National Forests,
23. and the speedy trucks, and the planes...Anything else I
24. ought to say about the equipment you use on a fire?
25.

1. JIM: Well, you might bring in something about our Bosworth
2. trenchers, bull dozers, power pumps, supply trains,
3. dropping supplies from airplanes, and so forth. I can
4. give you more dope on that later on.
5. DUFFY: Like a regular army, isn't it?
6. JIM: Just about.
7. DUFFY: Costs plenty of money to run an outfit as big as this,
8. doesn't it?
9. JIM: Yes, it does.
10. DUFFY: But we have a big investment in the National Forests that's
11. got to be protected.
12. JIM: Absolutely. But with the money we have to spend on
13. equipment, and all the organization and efficiency we get
14. on a fire line, that's still only half of the battle.
15. DUFFY: Half of it? What are you gettin' at, JIM?
16. JIM: Well, we do everything in our power to put out forest fires.
17. But what we want is to make more headway in cutting down
18. the number of fires that get started. Fire prevention,
19. in other words.
20. DUFFY: I see what you mean.
21. JIM: We can fight fires till we drop in our tracks, Duffy, but it
22. won't do any good as long as people are careless about
23. starting more fires.
24. DUFFY: That's the truth, all right.
- 25.

1. JED: We've put in years of experimenting and working on
2. methods of fighting fires, until we've got it down to
3. pretty much of a science. But what we need most of all
4. now is some good sound organized cooperation from the
5. people who throw burning cigarettes or matches out of their
6. cars when they're driving along a forest highway, and from
7. the people who forget to drown their campfires. If folks
8. would just cooperate with us as hard in preventing fires
9. as they do in putting them out, we'd really make headway.

10. MUSIC UP AND OUT

11. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you every Friday on
12. the Farm and Home Hour through the courtesy of the
13. National Broadcasting Company with the cooperation of the
14. United States Forest Service.

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