

# MR POPHistory

Week of March 1, 1954



Four fanatics seated in the House gallery suddenly shout “free Puerto Rico!” waved their flag and then fired at least 20 wild pistol shots that wounded five Congressmen. Congressman Alvin Bentley (R-MI) was so seriously wounded that he was given only an even chance of survival. Arrested on the spot were **Lolita Lebron, Rafael Miranda and Andres Cordero**. Police identified the Puerto Ricans as members of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico. Two other members of the party tried to assassinate President Truman in 1950.

Gov. Luis Munoz Martin and political leaders vigorously condemned the shooting of U.S. Congressmen by Puerto Rican extremists as an act of savagery. “The whole people of Puerto Rico are deeply indignant because of this savage and unbelievable lunacy which does not express in the remotest way, the peaceful and decent nature of the people of Puerto Rico.”

Pedro Sancatz is arrested in Hartford after being accused of threatening to kill President Eisenhower. He made the threat after being picked p on a nonsupport charge. The threat was said to have been made shortly before three Puerto Ricans shot five Congressmen in Washington.

Former Gov. Earl Warren of California is confirmed as Chief Justice of the United States.

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An arsenal of American-made weapons is seized by New York police in an Upper West side Manhattan storeroom. Under arrest were two men, identified as members of a Cuban organization opposed to the regime of Gen. Fulgencio Batista, President of Cuba.



Senator **Joseph McCarthy** withdraws the \$2 million libel and slander suit he filed two years ago against former senator William Benton of Connecticut.

Senators Joseph R. McCarthy and Everett M. Dirksen suggest “disagreeable” labor camps for armed services personnel who were Communists or who invoked the Fifth Amendment when asked about Communist associations.

President Tito warns Americans that the actions of Sen. McCarthy may undermine American government prestige abroad.

President Eisenhower speaks out against “disregard of fair play” in words aimed unmistakably at Sen. McCarthy.

Pedro Albizu Campos, leader of the Puerto Rican fanatics who shot five Congressmen is seized after he and four aides shot it out with police and American military policemen in a two-hour gun battle in the heart of downtown San Juan.

**Foreign Minister Molotov** said that western plans to rearm Germany could lead to another war in Europe and possibly to World war III. Molotov blamed western insistence on “the revival of German militarism” for the failure of the Berlin conference to accomplish more than it did.

In a Gallup Poll – 58% say they favor the right to vote for persons between 18 and 21. In his state of the Union address, President Eisenhower said that if these people are good enough to fight for the country, “They should participate in the political process that produces this fateful summons.”



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## Entertainment news –

Marilyn Monroe is back in Hollywood. Husband Joe DiMaggio, still in San Francisco, did not accompany her.



**Jackie Loughery**, Ms. U.S.A in 1952, divorces singer Guy Mitchell. “I really loved Guy and tried to hold our marriage together despite our disagreements. But he just wouldn’t co-operate.”

Actor John Ireland files suit for \$1.7 million breach of contract and slander damages complaining he was falsely identified as a Communist sympathizer. The suit was filed against Norvin productions Inc Television Programs of American inc., and Leon Fromkess. Last February, Ireland said he was notified that he had been discharged and furthermore was told that he was not acceptable to advertising agencies or prospective sponsors because of his supposed “disloyalty to the United states of America.”

**Clark Gable** quits MGM after 20 years “In order to avail myself of the opportunity of entering the free-lance field.”

Widescreen - Paramount Pictures introduces Vista-Vision as one of the most revolutionary processes yet devised to enlarge the scope of the motion picture screen. A demonstration was held at the company’s Hollywood studios which included Cecil B. DeMille, who made it known that he will produce “The Ten Commandments” – his next movie, in the new medium. The screen on which examples of VistaVision photography were shown was described as the largest in actual area ever devised for a theater indoors.

There may be larger screens in drive-in theaters, but this has a greater, width and height combined than any other yet utilized for pictures,” declared Y. Frank Freeman – v/p in charge of studio operations.



## Radio news –

WNEW, New York – probably the most popular DJ station in the country, is sold to a group headed by Richard D. Buckley, former president of John Blair Company. Price is \$2 million. The station was sold by Bill Cherry Jr., its president; Bernice Judice, executive vice president and general manger; Ira Herbert, vice president and sales director and others. Ms. Judis has been credited with introducing many of the features that contributed to the station’s growth.

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Television news –

Debating – the “Home” show on NBC-TV with hostess Arlene Francis. Look for it weekdays at 11am.



**PREMIERE TODAY**

# HOME

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- ▶ Life, Vitality, Entertainment.

on

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*the most practical television program ever designed for women*

**11:00-12:00 Noon, Monday-Friday**

**WNBT Channel 4**

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At the movies –

The Long, Long Trailer – Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz

Money From Honey – Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis.

The Eddie Cantor story – Keefe Brasselle, Marilyn Erskine

Highway Dragnet – Richard Conte, Joan Bennett, Wanda Hendrix

China Venture – Edmond O'Brien, Barry Sullivan

The Glenn Miller Story – James Stewart, June Allyson

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