



# TIC TOC

June 1968

## MANY WORKED EFFICIENTLY TO COVER KENNEDY STORY

On the day after the shooting of Senator Robert Kennedy in Los Angeles, newsman Joe Crowley sent the following memorandum to Tom Eaton. President Patricelli thought the rest of the staff would also find it interesting:

"As you might imagine, when the first word of Senator Kennedy's shooting moved on the wires it was quite hectic around here. But I cannot help be impressed with the cooperation I received from several people and I think it should be brought to your attention.

"As I was sliding the first bulletin under Art Johnson's nose (he was on the air), the NBC hotline went off and we had but a few split seconds to get the fact the Kennedy had been shot on the air and switch to NBC. Art read the first few lines cold and immediately threw it to the net. It was a very smooth operation despite the

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## BROADCAST-PLAZA TO DEVELOP NEW THEATRE, HOTEL ADDITION

Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. has been tentatively designated the developer of a \$5 million theatre and addition to the Hotel America on the east side of Columbus Blvd.

The Hartford Redevelopment Agency tentatively nominated the Company as developer of the site on June 20. Formal approval is expected at a later date.

Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. would purchase two tracts, now used as parking lots, for the development. The northern tract would be used for

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## MR. TYROL NAMED PRESIDENT OF PLAZA PRODUCTIONS, INC.

Robert S. Tyrol, vice president and general manager of Broadcast-Plaza, Inc., was elected to the board of directors and appointed president of Plaza Productions, Inc., a Broadcast-Plaza subsidiary, at a meeting of the directors June 25.

Mr. Tyrol, who will continue to serve as vice president and general manager of Broadcast-Plaza, Inc., succeeds Roger C. Wilkins, who was named chairman of Plaza Productions. James W. Wille remains as executive vice president and general manager of Plaza Productions.

Plaza Productions, Inc. was formed as a subsidiary of Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. in July 1967. Located in East Hartford, the company offers complete audio-visual communication services to commercial and other establishments. It is equipped to provide high quality motion pictures, video and audio tape recordings and other communications necessities.

Mr. Tyrol has been associated with WTIC since 1940, except for wartime service in the Coast Guard. He was transferred from announcing to sales in 1956 and became vice president-radio sales in 1959 and vice president and general manager in 1966. He is a former president of the Connecticut Broadcasters Assn. and the Hartford Rotary Club and former chairman of the State Industrial Advisory Committee.

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## MR. MORENCY RECEIVES TRINITY HONORARY DEGREE

Paul W. Morency, who retired last fall as president of the Company, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Trinity College in Hartford on June 2.

The citation noted that Mr. Morency has been "long active in community affairs and known to all for his generous assistance in the training of the retarded, pioneer in the development and growth of the broadcasting industry, for nearly forty years a skillful organizer and planner of Station WTIC and Channel 3 for the information and pleasure of listeners and viewers, a huntsman and lover of the out-of-doors."

Mr. Morency came to Hartford as general manager of WTIC in 1929 and retired as president of Broadcast-

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MANY WORKED  
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fact that it was done under trying conditions. Mike Russell's response was immediate and excellent. Before I realized it, he had a tape up and was recording from the net and throughout the morning he provided me with copies of actualities etc.

"We were still on the air with television and although master control and the announcer on duty were shocked, and I'm sure had not had time to digest what I had shouted through the talk box, they reacted quickly and efficiently.

"Ed Gracyalny, Mac MacDonald, Frank Townsend and George Dawson were on duty in m.c. and within seconds had made a successful switch to CBS. Larry Blair, who was in the booth, did not have the benefit of copy because CBS was so quick to send the signal for a special program. I remember telling him on the box to say that Senator Kennedy had been shot and that we were going to CBS. This he did and, as with radio, the transfer to the net was accomplished.

"Before I had time to even think about it (it could not have been a minute after we had gone to the net) Ed Gracyalny called me on the box to say that he had already begun taping what CBS was offering.

"Will Rivers, the guard on duty, received many calls on the shooting and not one of them was sent to the newsroom. He managed to take them without bothering me.

"I notified the appropriate people and Dave Wilkinson was here in what seemed like no time to take over the decision making process for radio.

"Gerry Haber was on duty in film edit and stayed through the night. He, Len Mirabel and Bob Barr were a big help when we had to make still frames of Connecticut leaders to get on television with their statements.

"Paul Kuntz, who must be now getting used to my waking him up in the middle of the night, was also quick to arrive at the station and before I realized it, had Senators Dodd and Ribicoff on the telephone as well as Mrs. Bailey who told him where to reach Chairman Bailey.

"Dick Ahles was here right behind Dave and he had two girls, Karen Findlay and Debbie Barker, on the switchboard in no time.

"As you know, when something like this happens the newsman on duty has a great deal of responsibility. It can be a difficult experience but with people like these backing you up, it seems a little easier. I think these people produced a first rate effort and I thought you should know about it."

ROTARY PRESIDENT  
COMPLETES HIS TERM

Vice President and General Manager Tyrol completed his one-year term as president of the Hartford Rotary Club on June 24.

The club expressed its gratitude for his leadership by presenting him a 300x reflector telescope, a 35mm slide projector and a handsome rosewood gavel.

The new Rotary president is Thomas Brennan of Fuller Brush.

MARIJUANA CLOUD REPEAT SLATED  
TO REACH STUDENTS IN AUTUMN

"The Marijuana Cloud," a WTIC-TV special that examines the increased use of marijuana in Connecticut, especially among young people, will be repeated in the fall to reach students at the beginning of the school year.

The hour-long special, narrated by newsman Joe Crowley, includes a lengthy interview with three articulate college students who use the drug and favor its legalization, plus comment by several legal and medical authorities who condemn its use.

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MR. MORENCY  
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Plaza, Inc. in 1967. His contributions to the training of the retarded were made during his long tenure as a trustee of Connecticut's Southbury Training School.

Mr. Morency continues to serve as a director of Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. and as a consultant to the corporation. He is also a director of the Travelers, the Travelers Research Center, Plaza Productions and many other civic organizations.

MR. TYROL  
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Mr. Wilkins is a senior vice president of the Travelers Insurance Co. and chairman of Broadcast-Plaza, Inc. He is also in charge of all investment operations of the Travelers, with whom he has been associated since 1929. He is chairman of the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce Housing Committee, chairman of the Institute of Living, and a member of the advisory committee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

BROADCAST-PLAZA TO DEVELOP  
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construction of a multi-story, 200-room addition to the Hotel America that would also include extensive ballroom and convention facilities, swimming pool and a 225-car parking garage. The smaller southern tract would be used for construction of an 800-seat motion picture theatre. The new development would be connected to Constitution Plaza by pedestrian bridges crossing Columbus Boulevard and Kinsley Street.

PARCELL ELECTED  
OPERA CO. DIRECTOR

Harry Parcell has been elected a director of the Simsbury Light Opera Company.

The Simsbury Light Opera Co. is a non-profit organization well known for its productions of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. Next season, the company will present "The Gondoliers." Anyone interested in on or off-stage activities should contact Harry.

The new director is also chairman of the lighting committee as well as lighting director for the new Rosewood Summer Theatre in Simsbury.

MARIJUANA CLOUD  
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Crowley and Dr. J. E. Rosenfeld of the Connecticut Department of Mental Health interview the three marijuana users, who are seen only in silhouette. The three tell how they were introduced to marijuana, described some of the experiences they have had while under its influence and say why they favor its legalization.

The students' testimony is countered by Dr. Rosenfeld and two other officials of the State Department of Mental Health, Robert Griebbe and Ernest Shepherd. The Federal Government's involvement in the problem is described by Edward R. Cass of the U. S. Bureau of Narcotics and local law enforcement problems created by marijuana are outlined by State Trooper Raymond Reynolds.

Hartford Atty. Peter Zaccagnino tells of some of his experiences defending marijuana users in local courts and Dr. John Donnelly of the Institute of Living deals with the most poignant problems of all--the effect of marijuana on the young and their families.

The program was directed by James Aseltine and produced by George Bowe. It was filmed by Herman Heinze and Robert Dwyer and edited by Allen Allshouse. Lighting was by James Stewart; audio by Randy Scalise and special effects by John Lanzieri. The second showing will also be sponsored by the Hartford Insurance Group.

The Meriden-Wallingford Mental Health Planning Council, which is developing a comprehensive community approach to the problem of drug abuse and control, has asked to use a print of the program at a special meeting of the Mayor's Task Force on Drug Control in July.

GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT  
BROADCASTING FOR WTIC

WTIC News inaugurated a weekly commentary by George Fielding Eliot, one of the nation's foremost military analysts, on June 23.

Eliot's commentaries will deal primarily with the war in Vietnam and the Paris peace talks. They will be broadcast on the 6 p.m. news on WTIC AM and FM.

Eliot, now retired and living in Litchfield, has been a well-known military writer and broadcaster for four decades. He was with the New York Herald-Tribune and CBS during World War II and with the Mutual Broadcasting System during the Korean War.

**LARRY BLAIR PLANS  
SEA ENDURANCE TEST**

Larry Blair will spend the last weekend in June aboard a rubber life raft out of sight of land in the Atlantic Ocean.

He plans to spend three days off the coast of Belmar, N. J. to test man's reactions to sun, heat, darkness, isolation and the elements.

Blair's nine-foot, inflatable life raft will be equipped with a good supply of survival gear, plus some fresh fruit and sandwiches for the first day at sea. The rest of his rations will be of the type one would find in a survival kit.

Blair plans to keep a log of his three days at sea and the Coast Guard will keep tabs on him, but will not interfere unless necessary.

**BERTEL RAISING FUNDS  
FOR URBAN YOUNGSTERS**

Dick Bertel is serving as chairman of a fund drive to provide Hartford youngsters with an opportunity to participate in Wethersfield recreation programs this summer.

The program is entitled "Project FUN," (Friendship for Urban Neighbors.) Youngsters from the North and South Ends of Hartford will be invited to participate in the summer activities.

**KRAUSE JOINS OTHERS  
IN WTIC AIR CORPS**

Lew Krause has become the newest member of the WTIC Air Force by receiving his private pilot's license.

Joe Lorrain and Mickey Gentile are already licensed and Bill Mill and Dennis Switaj are now training.

Lew modestly credits two years and an overabundance of patience from his flight instructor to his achievement. His instructor was Hal Schnerr, the former WTIC-TV engineer who is now in charge of Air Kaman's flight school.

**TODAY'S LAFF**

Have you seen the new "TODAY'S LAFF" bulletin board feature?

It's appearing daily on the cafeteria bulletin board--along with a lot of material you'll find helpful and interesting. Check the board daily.

"TODAY'S LAFF" is the creation of Chuck Albert--and a lot of old movie stars.

**ELIZABETH DORSCHUG RECEIVES  
MANY GRADUATION AWARDS, HONORS**

Elizabeth J. Dorschug, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Dorschug, was a high honors graduate and spoke on the topic, "Involvement," at Commencement Exercises of West Hartford's Conard High School on June 21 at the Bushnell Auditorium.

Earlier, at an Awards Assembly, she received a Distinguished Service Citation for academic excellence, won a book prize from Geneva College for four years' excellence in Latin and a Random House book award as the outstanding member of the Senior Class. She will attend Cornell University's College Arts and Sciences in September as one of forty college scholars chosen from the entering Freshman class.

**CORRECTION**

In the May TIC TOC, Jim Stewart's name should have appeared with those responsible for the production of "The Way It Is."

Stewart was responsible for lighting and assisted in other phases of the production. We regret the error.

**CAROL DUNNE PLANS  
STUDY FOR MASTER'S**

Carol Dunne of TV continuity leaves WTIC-TV in July for a long vacation prior to going back to college.

She plans to tour the midwest before entering Boston University in the fall to study for a Master's degree in broadcasting and film.