



# RETURN WITH US NOW...

RADIO HISTORICAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
COLORADO

Volume 26, Number 16

November, 2001



*It may seem that we will have difficulties getting “into the mood” to celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday this year and perhaps, superficially, this is true. However, if we stop and think about it, we have a great deal to be thankful for. Our country has survived what was meant to be a devastating and paralyzing attack and has responded not with fear and panic, but with a strong and determined resolve. The people of the United States have once again come together with a common purpose and a will to do what must be done whatever the cost. This, to me, is something to be thankful for.*

*During these last weeks, we have been listening to many of our tapes from the early 1940s. The same spirit becoming so evident today shines through the almost 60 years since these shows were new. There seems to be very little distance between Kate Smith singing “God Bless America” and Lee Greenwood’s “God Bless the USA”.*

***Happy Thanksgiving !***

**The RHAC annual holiday dinner planning is in the works!**  
**Reserve the evening of December 4th for this gala event.**

*Old-Time Radio is Alive in Denver!*

KLVZ 1220 AM  
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Music of the 1930's - 60's with John Rayburn  
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 Sunday, 2:00 PM  
 Weekdays, 7:00 - 8:00 PM  
 Sunday, 6:00 - 12:00 PM  
 9:00 PM

RHAC WEB SITE <http://www.rhac.org>

RHAC OTR WEB PAGE <http://www.old-time.com/rhac.html>

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**RHAC Calendar**

*Watch here for upcoming events*

**RHAC Christmas Party** - Dinner, Raffle and show

December 4, 2001

**2001 Conventions**

**26th Friends of Old-Time Radio Convention** Oct 25-28, 2001 Holiday Inn-North, Newark NJ  
 Contact: Jay Hickerson, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887 jayhick@aol.com

**It has been brought to our attention that the SPERDVAC convention has been canceled for this year**

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**RETURN WITH US NOW...**

**I LOVE ADVENTURE**  
by Dr. Charles Beckett © 2001

In 1948, Carlton E. Morse created a spin-off of his popular adventure series, "I Love a Mystery (ILAM)" He called the new series "I Love Adventure" (ILA). Like ILAM, it featured Jack Packard, Doc Long, and Reggie York, Strangely, in the new series the three never appeared together in any episode. The opening of "I Love Adventure" was similar to that of "I Love a Mystery" -- the woeful train whistle, the haunting "Valse Triste" played on an eerie organ, and a clock dutifully chiming the hour. The series consisted of 13 episodes, (or "incidents," as Morse called them). They were half hour programs, which aired once a week -- from April 25 through July 18, 1948, Michael Raffetto again played Jack Packard, Barton Yarborough reprised his Doc Long role, and Tom Collins became Reggie York.

According to the story line, after the attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor, the three adventurers closed their A-1 Detective Agency in Los Angeles, and were pulled in separate directions by World War II. Jack became an Army major in U.S. Military Intelligence. Doc flew with the Flying Tigers in China, Later in the war he became a P-38 fighter pilot. Reggie went back to England and became a sergeant in the Royal Air Force.

At the beginning of the 'first "I Love Adventure" program, Jack receives the following radiogram at the American Counsel drop in Port Said, Egypt.

"Jack Packard. From whatever corner of the world you may be in at the moment, you are hereby being summoned to London in the matter of the greatest expediency.

(signed) The 21 Old Men of 10 Grammarcy Park."

Thus began **Incident #1**, "The China Coast Incident", which was broadcast April 25, 1948. This introduced the first of thirteen mostly international adventures destined to bring the three adventurers back together again.

Who were The 21 Old Men of 10 Grammarcy Park?" They held no official positions in any government. Simply stated, they were a group of international figures, each representing the country of their citizenship. They were assembled in London to do for the people of the world what their own governments should be doing, but could not do, because of chaos, and a variety of other political and social problems in their homelands. The 21 Old Men used agents like Jack, Doc and Reggie to work undercover to clean up trouble spots around the world, with no one being the wiser.

In "The China Coast Incident", at the request of the 21 Old Men, Major Jack Packard has been released by the American military establishment from all his

intelligence work to work for them, Complying with the radiogram he received, he reports to 10 Grammarcy Park -- an imposing mansion located in the center of London. Entering the reception hall, he is overwhelmed by the awesome beauty of this cathedral-like room; with its three story high ceiling, great leaded windows showing the color and pageantry depicting the history of the world, and paintings and carpeting that had been used by queens and emperors from the beginning of organized government. At the west end of the room is a great tapestry, 40 feet across -- which, when rolled back, reveals a flawless one-way mirror.

This mirror enables the 21 Old Men to examine Jack, and others like him, with infinite care, so that they can get to know them without anything becoming known about themselves. Curious, Jack asks "who are you?" The terse reply is "you will never know." The "graybeard" (as Reggie was later to call them) who spoke to Jack through the mirror then explained that he has been selected because of his daring and successful exploits and accomplishments before and during the war.

Jack's first assignment is to find a scientist in Indo-China, and bring him back so that the super explosive formula he had developed would not fall into the wrong hands. Jack has to complete this adventure alone, since Doc and Reggie's whereabouts are still unknown.

In **Incident #2**, "The Great Airmail Robbery" (May 2, 1948), Jack is joyfully reunited with Reggie during a meeting with the 21 Old Men, to which they had both been summoned. Reggie had recently been located in the middle of the Gobi Desert, protecting a professor who was looking for dinosaur eggs, from marauding tribes. The 21 Old Men tell the pair that there is an on-going search for Doc, who had dropped out of sight somewhere in the Orient after the war.

In the past six months, two London-Bombay passenger airliners, which also carried mail, freight and riches of unknown value, had been looted in the air by sky pirates, who threatened to blow up the planes if they were not permitted to board them. Jack a Reggie's assignment is to pretend to be passengers on the next flight and capture the pirates when they come aboard from their own aircraft.

In **Incident #3**, "The Devil's Sanctuary" (May 9, 1948), Jack and Reggie again meet with the 21 Old men and are sent to investigate submarine activity in the Pacific. They fly to Guadalcanal, then boat to a desolate Pacific island, disguised as fishermen. Upon arrival, they encounter an English scientist and his daughter, who are being held prisoner with other scientists by renegade Japanese and German war criminals. All ends well after an exciting confrontation on a German submarine.

**Incident #4**, is "The Pearl of Great Price" (May 16, 1948). In this adventure, the 21 Old Men send Jack and Reggie to French Indo-China, to the lost City of Sheba,



long since abandoned, except for a few priests. Their assignment is to locate a valuable pearl stolen from a Burmese Temple -- and thought to be hidden at Sheba -- and return it to its rightful place.

**Incident #5, "The 100 Million Dollar Manhunt"** (May 23, 1948). While receiving their instructions from the 21 Old Men, Jack and Reggie are told that there is a rumor Doc has recently been seen somewhere along the Mongolian border. The assignment is to locate and return a fortune in diamonds stolen from the Dutch nation during WWII by the Nazis. They were initially taken to Berlin, but disappeared after the war. The trail leads the duo to French Guinea and India connections.

**Incident #6, "The Finishing School Kidnapping"** (May 30, 1948). Twelve teen-age school girls have been kidnapped from an Italian private finishing school. The plane on which they were taken was seen headed for the mountains of Tibet. The 21 Old men have a personal stake in this assignment. One of the kidnapped girls is the granddaughter of the Italian representative of the 21 Old Men. Jack and Reggie have the task of rescuing the girls from a Tibetan Monastery and returning them to Italy. The rescue has an unexpected twist.

**Incident #7, "But Grandma, What Big Teeth You Have"** (June 6, 1948). This is the first ILA adventure that doesn't involve the 21 Old Men or have an international flavor. The story begins in the re-opened A-i Detective Agency, in Los Angeles. Reggie brings in an 11 year old boy me caught purse snatching. Jack and Reggie return him to his grandmother, who turns out to be quite a sinister and conniving old woman. (This program re-used a 1945 "I Love a Mystery" script -- with Doc's part changed to fit Reggie. The original 1945 ILAM show was an audition program with sales presentations instead of commercials).

**Incident #8, "The Man with the Third Green Eye"** (June 13, 1948). As in the previous week, the program opens at the A-i Detective Agency. Jack and Reggie are visited by a man who knows about the 21 Old Men, but claims they didn't send him. (At the beginning of the program, Doc is mentioned as "being around somewhere", but doesn't appear.

A 4 cent stamp, with a map on the back of an outcropping of uranium in the Philippines has vanished, and the maker of the map murdered. The stamp is thought to be somewhere on the Pacific coast in the possession of a man with a third green eye. Jack and Reggie are charged with keeping the stamp out of the hands of the wrong people. They are told that if it is not recovered, "the world can forget about peace, security, and international harmony." Their quest takes them to San Francisco, and an exotic international nightclub, where they meet a sultry foreign femme fatale. (Is she with them or against them?)

**Incident #9, "The Girl in the Street"** (June 20, 1948). Jack is recruited by the State Department to help them

work on a case. A young woman, while standing on a street corner, is abducted by two men who think she possesses an important government letter they want. She had recently returned from Tokyo after visiting her husband, an Army Captain, who they believe gave her the letter before she left. (Reggie and Doc are not in this program, and Jack has only a small part).

**Incident #10, "The Kwan Moon Dagger"** (June 27, 1948). The A-1 Detective Agency is visited by a Chinese Princess, and her seven foot tall bodyguards. She hires Jack and Doc to recover a solid gold handled dagger, inset with rubies and diamonds, which was stolen from a Chinese Temple. The thief has been traced to Chicago's China Town, (This is the first episode in which Doc appears. There is no explanation given as to how or where he was found. Reggie does not appear.)

**Incident #11, "Assignment with a displaced person"** (July 4, 1948). An anxious young man charges into the A-1 Detective Agency and hires Jack and Doc to conduct a manhunt for a beautiful 17 year old girl orphaned by the war and raised in a Mexican convent. She leaves the convent for Los Angeles to rejoin a man she had recently met and fell in love with. But, is the man who is looking for her the same one she expects to meet? And does she know about the valuable contents of the straw suitcase she carries?).

**Incident #12, "Hearse on the Highway"** (July 11, 1948). The show opens with Jack Packard and Doc Long, disguised as truckers, driving a two ton truck down a Southern California highway on a cold, rainy night. Jack has been hired by the Citizens Welfare Committee, a local semi-political organization that believes a recent epidemic of truck high jackings is a reflection on the fair name of Southern California, and they want it stopped. Is the waitress at a truck stop involved in the high jackings? That's what Jack and Doc want to know.

**Incident #13, "The Ambassador Ricardo Santos Affair"** (July 18, 1948). A representative of a Central American country hires Jack and Doc to escort an ambassador and his wife and daughter from Istanbul to his homeland. The ambassador is expected to be elected the next president of his country. It is important that he be closely guarded, since there are many opposed to him, and an assassination attempt is suspected. All is not as it seems.

There's some question as to why Morse only produced 13 episodes of this well received series. Too many other writing assignments? Writer's block? Needed a rest? As Doc Long might be heard to say, "But, it just plain don't make sense, Jack". Devoted "I Love Adventure" fans are left hungry, with so few episodes being made. But, on the positive side, the series did help a little to bridge the gap between the end of the Hollywood "I Love a Mystery" series, which ended December 29, 1944 and it's New York rebirth September 3, 1949.

# The Trivial Matter of Film Stars in OTR Series

By Carol Tiffany

Many major film stars appeared regularly on OTR's drama anthology series such as Lux Radio Theater, Screen Director's Playhouse, Family Theater, and others. However, a surprising number of stars also appeared in continuing roles on series. How many of these can YOU identify? Match the star with his/her series and remember... some stars had more than one series.

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| _____ <i>The Halls of Ivy</i>                   | A. Brian Donlevy    |
| _____ <i>My Favorite Husband</i>                | B. Jean Hersholt    |
| _____ <i>The Shadow</i>                         | C. James Stewart    |
| _____ <i>Pat Novak, for Hire</i>                | D. Humphrey Bogart  |
| _____ <i>Life with Luigi</i>                    | E. Alan Ladd        |
| _____ <i>The McCoy</i>                          | F. Jeff Chandler    |
| _____ <i>Here Comes McBride</i>                 | G. Ronald Coleman   |
| _____ <i>Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar</i>         | H. Orson Welles     |
| _____ <i>(1<sup>st</sup> star)</i>              |                     |
| _____ <i>Dangerous Assignment</i>               | I. Howard Duff      |
| _____ <i>Bold Venture</i>                       | J. Dick Powell      |
| _____ <i>Our Miss Brooks</i>                    | K. Don Ameche       |
| _____ <i>Fort Laramie</i>                       | L. Edmund O'Brien   |
| _____ <i>Dr. Christian</i>                      | M. J. Carroll Nash  |
| _____ <i>Jeff Regan, Investigator</i>           | N. Jack Webb        |
| _____ <i>Adventures of</i>                      | O. Glenn Ford       |
| _____ <i>Sherlock Holmes</i>                    |                     |
| _____ <i>The Six Shooter</i>                    | P. George Raft      |
| _____ <i>The Bickersons</i>                     | Q. Frank Lovejoy    |
| _____ <i>Box 13</i>                             | R. Raymond Burr     |
| _____ <i>Lives of Harry Lime</i>                | S. Basil Rathbone   |
| _____ <i>Dragnet</i>                            | T. Lucille Ball     |
| _____ <i>Adventures of Sam Spade</i>            | U. Lauren Bacall    |
| _____ <i>Christopher London</i>                 | V. Frances Langford |
| _____ <i>The Case of Mr. Ace</i>                | W. Eve Arden        |
| _____ <i>Richard Diamond, Private Detective</i> |                     |
| _____ <i>New Adventures of Michael Shayne</i>   |                     |
| _____ <i>Private Practice of Dr. Dana</i>       |                     |



RETURN WITH US NOW...

From the Desk of  
the Editor  
by Carol Tiffany



Just a few thoughts for this issue of RWUN... Look for new features in upcoming issues: Book Reviews of new and some current OTR-themed books, winners from an essay contest sponsored by Radio Memories (RHAC member Dick Williamson's OTR show aired Sundays on KFKA in Greeley, Co.), biographies of OTR's more memorable personalities and more. We encourage members' input, both in suggestions about what you would like to see in your newsletter and in contributions of materials for publication.

**We are extending the deadline for entries in the favorite OTR Christmas Shows Contest until November 15, 2001.**

Remember there are prizes to be awarded. Please send your list of favorites to:

**Carol Tiffany**

**394 Golf Vista Ct. N.E., Palm Bay Florida 32905**

or E-Mail your list to: [ctiffany@worldnet.att.net](mailto:ctiffany@worldnet.att.net)

Winners will be announced in our December issue. Good Luck, Everyone!

- |   |   |                     |
|---|---|---------------------|
| G | <i>The Halls of Ivy</i>                   | A. Brian Donlevy    |
| T | <i>My Favorite Husband</i>                | B. Jean Hersholt    |
| H | <i>The Shadow</i>                         | C. James Stewart    |
| N | <i>Pat Novak, for Hire</i>                | D. Humphrey Bogart  |
| M | <i>Life with Luigi</i>                    | E. Alan Ladd        |
| I | <i>The McCoy</i>                          | F. Jeff Chandler    |
| O | <i>Here Comes McBride</i>                 | G. Ronald Coleman   |
| L | <i>Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar</i>         | H. Orson Welles     |
| V | <i>Dangerous Assignment</i>               | I. Howard Duff      |
| D | <i>Bold Venture</i>                       | J. Dick Powell      |
| F | <i>Our Miss Brooks</i>                    | K. Don Ameche       |
| R | <i>Fort Laramie</i>                       | L. Edmund O'Brien   |
| B | <i>Dr. Christian</i>                      | M. J. Carroll Nash  |
| N | <i>Jeff Regan, Investigator</i>           | N. Jack Webb        |
| S | <i>Adventures of Sherlock Holmes</i>      | O. Glenn Ford       |
| C | <i>The Six Shooter</i>                    | P. George Raft      |
| K | <i>The Bickersons</i>                     | Q. Frank Lovejoy    |
| V | <i>Box 13</i>                             | R. Raymond Burr     |
| H | <i>Lives of Harry Lime</i>                | S. Basil Rathbone   |
| F | <i>Private Practice of Dr. Dana</i>       | T. Lucille Ball     |
| I | <i>Adventures of Sam Spade</i>            | U. Lauren Bacall    |
| O | <i>Christopher London</i>                 | V. Frances Langford |
| P | <i>The Case of Mr. Ace</i>                | W. Eve Arden        |
| N | <i>Dragnet</i>                            |                     |
| J | <i>Richard Diamond, Private Detective</i> |                     |
| F | <i>New Adventures of Michael Shayne</i>   |                     |

Answers to Movie Stars Quiz:

## Thanksgiving with RHAC's Tape Catalog...

Here are a few Thanksgiving OTR shows that you'll find in our Club's Catalog:

### THE JACK BENNY SHOW:

- "Thanksgiving Dinner" 11-23-41 tape 741  
"Thanksgiving Dinner at Mary's" 11-26-44 tape 739  
"Shopping for a Thanksgiving Turkey" 11-23-47 tape 5118  
"Jack Has Turkey Dreams" 11-21-43 tape 5112  
"Turkey Dreams" 11-30-47 tape 025

### THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE:

- "Thanksgiving: The Tom Sawyer Raft" 11-26-47 tape 721  
"Serviceman for Thanksgiving Dinner" 11-16-41 tape 100

### CASEY, CRIME PHOTOGRAPHER:

- "After Turkey, The Bill" 11-27-47 tape 203

### THE LIFE OF RILEY:

- "Turkey Hunt" 11-19-44 tape 365  
"Thanksgiving with the Gillises" 11-29-47 tape 981

### THE ALDRICH FAMILY:

- "The Thanksgiving Turkey" 11-23-52 tape 5376

### THE MEL BLANC SHOW:

- "Thanksgiving Party" 11-26-46 tape 1018

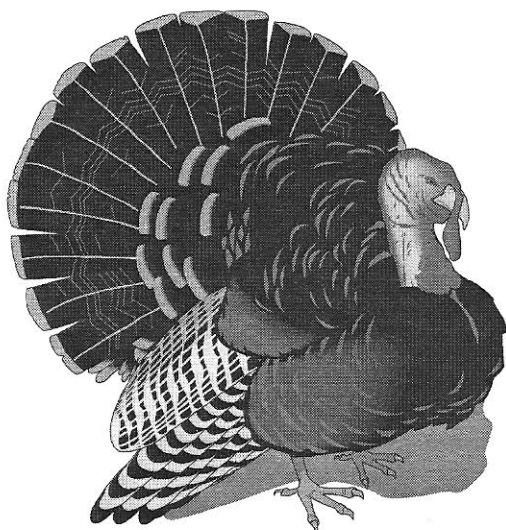
### ADVENTURES OF SAM SPADE:

- "The Terrified Turkey Caper" 11-24-50 tape 5168

And one not-exactly-Thanksgiving show which is nevertheless topical,

### FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY:

- "Cooking Pheasants from an Old Indian Recipe" 11-23-48 tape 062



RETURN WITH US NOW...

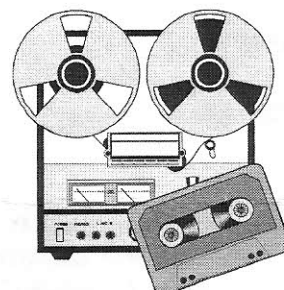
### ATTENTION DENVER AREA MEMBERS

We are looking for a volunteer who can spend ½ day a month helping with the mailing of the RHAC newsletter. We need someone who can;

- Pick up the newsletters from the printer, at 11th and Speer.
- Pick up pre-printed mailing labels and stamps from our Treasurer Maletha King.
- Apply the pre-printed mailing labels and stamps to the newsletters.
- Take the newsletters to the post office.

If you can be of help please contact

**Larry Weide - (303)758-8382  
or at [lweide@attglobal.net](mailto:lweide@attglobal.net)**



## New in the Tape Library

by Dick and Maletha King

This month our Contributor's Library is featuring a set of British radio plays done by some very great British actors that can really make you feel that you are in the set of the plays. The descriptions of these intriguing stories certainly do not give enough emphasis on the gore and mystery involved.

These entries are aimed to please the Sci-Fi people, but they do present some interesting shows, such as Dracula and "A Journey to the Center of the Earth", a great Jules Verne story produced in 1968. We always are in awe of the minds that come up with these stories.

Our members should find these to be very good listening and a little thought inspiring.