

TELEVISION PROGRAM NO. 2

"LOOK AT THE NEWS"

WBKB

JUNE 8, 1945

ON Curtain #1

"Look at the News." Yes, tonight we present  
a new program titled "LOOK AT THE NEWS."

(8 MINUTES REGULAR NEWS)

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ON Curtain #1A

No event in history has produced as many  
outstanding personalities as the present war. The  
names of all but a few of these men were little known  
two or three years ago. Today, their names are household  
words in millions of homes.

They have become personalities. We have read about  
them. We know of their exploits. Now, let's find out  
more about them personally.

Tonight I want to tell you about a wartime leader,  
one of America's great fighting commanders, a soldier  
who couldn't make the grade at West Point, and yet who  
was so determined to be a soldier, and an officer, that  
he enlisted as a private and worked up until now he's  
at the top. He is

UP Curtain #1A ON Pix No. 1

General Courtney Hicks Hodges, commander of Uncle Sam's  
famous First Army, which you'll remember was the first  
to invade Germany last fall, and just recently was the  
first to close the gap between the conquering western  
and eastern allied armies in Germany.

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Camera on Narrator ...

General Hodges isn't the swashbuckling, blood

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and thunder type of leader. Instead, he's quiet,

and Re-insert

shuns the spotlight and doesn't have much to say.

Pix No. 1

at Back.

But, when he does talk, listen carefully, because he's going to say plenty. Our military leaders long ago recognized General Hodges as a commander who planned carefully, waited until the time was right, and then hit the enemy -- and hit 'em hard.

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First of all, let's briefly review the First Army's initial action in Europe. This (POINT)

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map shows the Saint-Lo break-through. It was General Hodges' First Army which cut out a corridor for Patton's tanks, and then quickly encircled the German Seventh Army. This was the first big break for the invading Allied forces.

Pan to Narrator

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Camera on Narrator

Let's look into General Hodges' early life. Maybe we can find out why he is a really great general. General Hodges was born in Perry, Georgia, which is in the heart of the country that produces those famous Georgia peaches. One of his early pictures

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Pan to Pix No. 3

shows Courtney Hicks Hodges when he was 12 years old with others in his grammar school class. The future general (POINT) is the second from the right, and the tallest boy in class in this picture taken about 1900.



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Some five years later, General Hodges went to North George Agricultural College for a year, and then received an appointment to West Point. Here's the way

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he was pictured in the West Point Year Book of 1904 and 1905. But, the general doesn't like to talk about his West Point days. He flunked out mathematics in his first year.

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Pan to Narrator

Camera on

Narrator

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~~It must have been a bitter disappointment for the high-spirited Georgia boy when he had to leave West Point. He had dreamed of becoming an officer. A keen student of history, and of army tactics ... particularly of the Civil War ... his heart was set on winning a commission. Courtney Hodges went back to Georgia, and got a job clerking in a grocery store. But, he decided that a few geometry problems were not going to keep him from getting what he wanted. So he planned, studied, and mapped his course. Finally he enlisted in the army as a private. Here's~~

~~Handwritten scribble~~

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~~one of the few pictures (POINT) that show General Hodges as Private Hodges ... second from the left. Army life agreed with the former West Pointer and he soon was made a corporal, and then a sergeant. And look, you GI Joes, if you want to know how hard-boiled top-kicks dressed back in 1909, then study this picture.~~

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Sergeant Hodges (POINT) is standing in the back row, third from the right, and this picture was taken after he had served  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years as a sergeant. In the meantime, he studied hard, learned those problems at West Point, and was taking examinations for a commission at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, when this picture was taken. He whipped those problems, and here

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During this spot

SLIP out

Curtain #1

is Second Lieutenant Courtney Hicks Hodges. In those days, they called 'em "Shavetails," and it's worth mentioning that he won his commission just a year after his West Point class graduated. If you don't think that's a record, then ask those old-time army men.

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But the studying necessary to win his commission was just the beginning. Lieutenant Hodges studied everything he could get to study providing it would teach him things about the army. He went to Mexico with General Pershing and then, when World War I came, his studying paid dividends because he went in as a captain. Armistice Day of 1918 found him with a brilliant record, proud winner of the Distinguished Service Cross, and a temporary lieutenant colonel.

Curtain to Pix No. 8

In 1920, with his regular rank as major, he was assigned to West Point as an instructor. That must have been a proud day -- to back as a teacher in the school where he had flunked as a student.



He taught infantry tactics for four years, and then he went to a field artillery school and did some more studying. He received no promotion for 14 years and during that time he learned, as so many soldiers do, that peacetime rewards are few and far between. However, promotions came eventually because his knowledge, his work, and his ability had commanded the attention of his superior officers.

Even before Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, General Hodges was busy training American boys for the big conflict to come. He was made a major general,

Curtain to Pix No. 9

and given command of the Third Army when it was in training in Texas. He went to England and helped plan the master stroke that was destined to end Nazism -- the D-Day invasion of Normandy beach.

Fan to Narrator

SLIP out

Curtain #2

..... Allied master strategists followed a plan. They had a job out out for General Hodges -- a job they believed he could fill better than anyone else. They wanted a keen, shrewd leader who planned carefully, who mapped his course, who knew every inch of the big war-front chess-board, and who played the game accordingly by hitting the enemy, and hitting him hard where he was most vulnerable. We'll remember the famous First for a long, long time because of the brilliant part it played in Hitler's defeat.



UP Curtain on Pix No. 10

Here we see General Hodges receiving the congratulations of King Edward with Generals Bradley, Eisenhower and Patton in the background.

We'll remember how Hodges led his army in its powerful dash across France, then held up at the Siegfried Line until he could regroup his units and until his supplies could catch up, then craftily planned the final assault, and finally swept on to the first junction with Russian troops.

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And now General Hodges is back in the United States again. A telephoto picture shows him with President Truman in Washington.

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His arrival in his home state was celebrated with a parade up the streets of Atlanta, and

SLIP to Pix No. 13

here is the General with Mrs. Hodges, who experienced the same long ordeal of "waiting" that so many American women have, and still are, experiencing.

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That, my friends, is General Courtney Hicks Hodges, Commander of America's First Army, one of America's brilliant generals, who has led your sons,

Pan to Narrator

your husbands, and fathers on to Victory!

We hope you'll join us again when we take another

Curtain #3 Down

"LOOK AT THE NEWS!"