

Assignment TV

By **TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY**

"I thought I could get along with Stalin, but how wrong I was. The old bastard would make an agreement and then break it the next day." The speaker was a former President of the United States, Harry S. Truman, in an excerpt from one of the 26 half-hour TV documentaries in the new CBS series "Decision."

It will deal with all aspects of the Truman Administration and be narrated by the fiery old gentleman himself. It is personal, off the cuff, and it appears to be a winner.

The episode was part of the traveling show which the CBS

network is presenting on film in all the cities where affiliate stations are preparing to put together their fall programming.

In addition to the Truman bombshell, CBS has an assortment of lightweight new comedies, one promising dramatic series and a panoramic history of World War I documented by excellent footage. It will be produced by the same trio of producers responsible for the success of the CBS "Twentieth Century." The focus will not be entirely on the war footage. It will also emphasize the nostalgic view of life during the period of World War I.

"THE REPORTER" appeared to have some of the ingredients of a good hour-long drama until I heard the announcer say: "Harry Guardino plays a driving, aggressive young newsmen on a New York daily, with Gary Merrill as his editor, bosom friend, and severest critic." Now I'm not so sure.

"The Entertainers" will co-star Carol Burnett, Bob Newhart and Art Buchwald — a musical variety show.

One of the more promising situation comedies appears to be "The Cara Williams Show," with her co-star Frank Aletter of "Bringing Up Buddy."

"Slattery's People" presents a new kind of hero—an unmarried, hard-working House minority leader—in a State Legislature—played by Richard Crenna.

programs devised by CBS. There is a slightly familiar ring. "Gomer Pyle USMC" appears to be a Marine Corps version of "No Time for Sergeants," which will be attractive to those who still find a bumbling hayseed at boot camp amusing.

"Gulligan's Island," with Alan Hale Jr., Jim Backus and Bob Denver (formerly Maynard G. Krebs of the "Dobie Gills" series) is the story of a group of people stranded on an uninhabited island. The network calls it "a weekly outing of preposterously comic dimensions."

"My Living Doll" is the story of a gorgeous girl robot (Julie Newmar) left in the custody of a bachelor (Bob Cummings). Inasmuch as she cannot tell a lie, she causes trouble.

"Many Happy Returns" is the story of a head of the complaint department in an

L. A. department store. "The Baileys of Balboa" stars Paul Ford as an old salt who locks horns with the wealthy yachting crowd.

"Mr. Broadway" stars Craig Stevens as the head of a public relations firm in New York and will attempt to show the end of town that "Naked City" and "East Side, West Side" never explored. "The Munsters" is the story of a normal American family—except they all look like movie monsters.

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