ISLAND IN THE SKY (20th Century Fox, 1938) Directed by Herbert I. Leeds; produced by Sol M. Wurtzel; Screenplay by Frances Flaherty and Albert Ray, from a story by Jerry Cadry; Camara, Edward Cronjager; NY premiere, RKO Palace: 67 mins.
With: Gloria Stuart (Juli Hayes); Michael Whalen (Michael Fraser); Paul Kelly (Dyce); Robert Kallard (Pietro Vincenti); June Storey (Lucy Rhodes); Paul Harst (Happy); Leon Ames (Warly Butler); Millard Robertson (Walter Rhodes); George Hurbert (Trompa); Aggie Herring (Eve O'Shea); Charles D. Brown (Inspector Whitehead) and Regis Toomey.

Tonight's program, apart from being an entertaining unit on its own, also serves to illustrate the basic differences (and advantages, to each) between "A" and "B" product of the '30's. Both are from the same period and the same companies, and both are in the same basic situation - the race to sustain an innocent man from execution. In the "B" film, that theme is the basic modus operandi and is sustained over the whole film in the "A," almost twice as long, and where it would be difficult to sustain such single-note suspense for such a long period, it is limited to the climax of the film. The title of "Island in the Sky" is somewhat misleading since, unlike the later John Wayne film of the same title, it refers to a night-club, not to aviation. Unlike Warner's, who kept their "B" units quite separate and rarely allowed them the benefits of "A" sets or facilities, Fox lavished all the production care on their "B"s, stars apart of course, and their best available cameramen and doormen sets were frequently pressed into service. "Island in the Sky" is a really glossy production; with bigger stars it could easily have been a proportionately bigger picture, but then of course they would have lost much of the zip that was a characteristic of the often unseful but fast-moving "B"s. Michael Whalen were a likeable threesome that Fox teamed ***

THIS IS MY AFFAIR (20th Century Fox, 1937) Directed by William A. Seiter; Associate Producer, Kenneth Magowan; Original story and screenplay by Allen Rivkin and Lazar Trott; Camera, Robert Flanck; Music and lyrics, Jack Gordon and Harry Bevall; Dance Director, Jack Haskell; NY premiere, Radio City Music Hall: 100 mins.
With: Robert Taylor (Lieu. Richard Perry); Barbara Stanwyck (Lil Durwey); Victor Mcaglen (Jock Ransay); Brian Donlevy (Sat Durwey); Sidney Blackmer (President Theodore Roosevelt); John Carradine (Ed); Allan Dinehart (Doc Keller); Douglas Fowley (Al); Robert McAdie (Airlot Dowey); Frank Comoy (Frederick Freel); Sig Ruman (Gas); Harryst Mackay (Nils Blackburn); J.C. Nugent (Enrie); Millard Robertson (George Andrews); Paul Harst (Bowler); Douglas Wood (Harry Maxwell); Jonathan Hale (Judge); Mary Young (Dougray); Joseph Crehan (padre); James Flavin, Eddie Dunn (prison guards); Lon Chaney jr., Al Ferguson (detectives); John Hamilton (Varden); Maurice Cass (jeweller); and Theodore Lorch, Tom London, Lyn Rari, Frank Shannon, Walter James, Frank Powell, Paul Mooney, Rayme Regan, Ruth Gillette, Jim Donlin, Davison Clark, Fred Santley, Helen Brown, DeWitt Jennings.

Program ends 10:37. Discussion period follows No screening next weekend (Thanksgiving break)

*** ERRATUM: Gloria Stuart's name was submitted from this line; we didn't mean to write "a likeable threesome" all by himself. -- William K. Everson