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and the plane took off for Reno for a scheduled refueling prior to the skyjacker's demand that the craft head for Mexico. By this time Reno authorities and the public were very much aware of the dramatic landing at Reno. FBI agents must have made at least three alternate plans of action to apprehend Cooper at Reno. Local authorities must have had 50 official cars covering each portion of the airport.

Local newspapers must have held up all front
page runs for this national scoop. TV stations must have situated men at every window of the arriving plane for a glimpse of this man.

With the passengers disembarked at Seattle, our trusty G-men were ready for action. Long range rifles were leveled into position. Handgrenade launchers were distributed, barracades erected, all roads leading to and from Reno were heavily roadblocked. No way could Cooper expect to again get off the ground after his

touchdown at Reno.

Now the plane approached the runway. Tower officials opened the right approach lane. The pilots steadied the craft and landed. FBI agents scrambled closer and closer to the plane. One bright young agent was reported to have shot out the rear wheels. Then the Bureau really went into action and boarded the plane, all itching to catch first glimpse of D. B.

To everyone's astonishment, Cooper was nowhere to be found on the plane. The first clue the agents had to his possible whereabouts was a wide open rear hatch. The second was a report from the pilot that Cooper had ordered the crew to fly slow and at low-levels on a

direct flight from Seattle to Reno.

Wiping the egg from their faces, the FBI organized a massive hunt from the foothills of Washington to the rocky plains of Nevada. This unknown man had actually swiped a plane received \$200,000 for his efforts and parachuted to safety right under everyone's noses.

How would the public react? Would they anxiously await the arrest of this airline pirate and blackmailer? You might think yes. But the answer was clearly no when street interviews were taken at this writing. The public by an overwhelming 80-20 majority was actually rooting for Cooper to make a clean get-away.

Some of the man-on-the-street's answers were like this: "He took the time to plan a Mission-Impossible plot, I hope he makes it." "The man has not injured anyone, let him escape." "He is a true example of a way to beat the establishment." "I'm for the bad guy." "No comment, I'm a law-abiding citizen."

guy." "No comment, I malaw-apiding To add insult to injury, Cooper (they think) sent a note addressed to Newspaper, Reno. The note, a paste-up of letters from a newspaper read, "attention thanks for hospitality was in a rut D. B. Cooper."

Well Nevada has its newest hero. And strangely enough, his money would be quite welcome in any of our local casinos.

To D. B. Cooper, your fickle friends of Nevada salute you.

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fine Italian dining is in store for Las Vegans with the opening of the intimate La Sala Restaurant, at the Fremont Hotel, set for Friday, May 14.

James Hill, president of the Fremont, said the debut of the new dining room will offer "tourists and local residents alike, an opportunity to enjoy excellent Italian fare in a relaxed atmosphere."

Hill said an extensive menu will be offered, featuring many exotic, gourmet delights along with the highly popu-lar dishes usually found in Italian restaurants.

With complete dinner prices starting at \$3.95, La Sala will be offering the broadest selection of Neopolitan delicacies in Las Vegas.

Hill and Mickey Perlowin, food and beverage director for the Fremont, enlisted the services of Pepe, as chef in the new dining room. Pepe was formerly with Louigi's and the Four Fountains on the Strip.

Open every evening, La Sala will seat just 70 diners in Roman

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