

L.T.-OLDS, MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1961.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Moscow is filled with Red big-shots tonight - from all over the Communist empire; and Reds from "The Free World" too. Reason - the opening of the Soviet Communist Party Congress tomorrow. Four thousand delegates on hand in Moscow - to hear the latest from Khrushchev.

The Soviet dictator is expected to come up with - something dramatic. Will it be as sensational as at the last party congress, when he exposed the crimes of Stalin. Probably not. But in the power struggle that Communism always produces - the man on top has to fight to stay there. So it's taken for granted that Khrushchev will come up with something - to show that he has always been right. His opponents - always wrong.

However, the one crushing triumph that he so

badly wanted to present to this congress - has been denied him. He had hoped to force a Western surrender on Berlin. Not only has he failed to get that surrender - but he'll have to explain why his policy has brought the world so close to nuclear war.

in fact, if this congress were anything more than a rubber-stamp - Nikita Khrushchev would have a lot of embarrassing questions to answer. For instance, questions about the disastrous failure of the Siberian agricultural program - which was his baby. And was much opposed by others. The figures on the decline of the Siberian farms - are still coming in; and they all add up to - failure for the Khrushchev Siberia plan.

BERLIN

In West Berlin, the focus of attention tonight -
Steinstuekhen, ~~The~~ tiny enclave inside East Germany - that is
part of the American sector. You ~~have to cover~~ ^{must cross} a mile of Red
territory - to reach Steinstuekhen. ^{all of} Which gives Comrade Ulbricht
a chance - to make a nuisance of himself.

Today six West German workers were on their way to the
enclave to repair a road - when they were stopped by the East
German guards, ~~Told~~ that they had no authority - to enter East
Germany, ~~And would~~ ^{were} not be allowed - to cross the border.

This latest harrassment, raising the possibility -
that a permanent helicopter system may have to be set up.
Anyone prevented from traveling by land - to be shuttled in and
out. ^{a little} ~~An~~ airlift, to beat the blockade - to save an enclave with
a population of a hundred and fifty-nine. Steinstuekhen.

NEGOTIATIONS

French diplomats are expressing astonishment tonight - over British and American criticism. The charge that Paris vetoed the London conference - that was supposed to discuss a common Allied policy for negotiating with Khrushchev.

The French say they're surprised - because no such conference was definitely scheduled. The idea - still in the planning stage. So - why all the fuss in London and Washington?

Besides, Paris points out that it's well known ^{how} ~~that~~ DeGaulle is opposed to Western talk about negotiating the Berlin crisis. The President of France, declaring emphatically - that it would be a blunder to open discussions at the point of a Soviet ultimatum. DeGaulle, repeating what he has said so often - that Khrushchev has manufactured the Berlin crisis, ~~and~~ And Khrushchev should be the one - to propose negotiations.

FINLAND

The conference at the White House today - has more than the usual international implications. President Urho Kekkonen - not just another visitor to President Kennedy. Mr. Kekkonen, represents Finland - a free nation that lives in the shadow of the Russian Bear. Helsinki, maintaining - its independence, ~~But~~ forced to take a friendly line - with the Red giant.

Especially since the Finns remember Nineteen Thirty-Nine -- and the Soviet invasion. [^] Stalin's aggression that the Finns finally stalled - in the snow of the "winter war".

Moreover, President Kekkonen has dealt personally - with Khrushchev. He knows a good bit about - the personality of the Soviet dictator. So it's not surprising that official Washington is much interested - in what this particular visitor has to say.

When President and Mrs. Kekkonen arrived at the Washington airport - President Kennedy and the First Lady were there to greet them. ⁱⁿ a brief welcoming address, Mr. Kennedy recalled - Finland's gallant fight for freedom. President

Kekkonen, responding with a reference to - the long, strong ties of friendship between Finland and America.

Then the Kekkonens and the Kennedys drove to the White House - for ~~one of the most~~ important political discussions ~~of recent weeks.~~

PEACE CORPS

Officials in Washington are not at all happy about the controversy in Nigeria - over The Peace Corps - that started with Marjorie Michelmore of Foxboro, Massachusetts; Marjorie, who wrote that now widely publicized postcard - telling about things in Nigeria - describing primitive conditions such as she had never encountered at Foxboro; causing sarcastic observers to ask - "just what did Marjorie expect to find in underdeveloped countries when she signed up for The Peace Corps; and how was she briefed?

All of which touched off anti-American demonstrations; demands that Marjorie - be sent home; angrier Nigerians demanding expulsion of - our entire Peace Corps contingent.

In Washington, the administration is hopeful - that nothing so drastic will happen. The Marjorie case,

DRIVER

"Now there ~~was~~ a camel driver of Karachi - named Bashir Ahmad." Sounds like the beginning of a tale from - the "Arabian Nights." Actually, this story is as fascinating as any told by - Scheherazade.

Imagine the picture - today. Bashir Ahmad, who's

been driving a camel cart for thirty years, ~~back~~ in Pakistan -

^{today} galloping around a Texas ranch like an old cow-hand. And -

"The L.B.J. Ranch" at that! Home of - the Vice President of the United States.

Sinbad the Sailor never got farther from home - than

did Bashir Ahmad the camel driver. Nor did the hero of the

"Arabian Nights" - see greater wonders. Did Sinbad ever see

himself in action - hundreds of miles away, and back in time?

Bashir Ahmad did - when he watched television. ~~There~~ There he

was on the magic screen - arriving in New York yesterday.

Pick, do you think

~~Imagine~~ [^] Scheherazade could have made up a colorful

thousand and second tale - from ^{this Texas adventure} ~~the wanderings~~ of Bashir Ahmad, of Karachi! ?

POLARIS

The Polaris submarine "Ethan Allen", a hundred feet below the surface of the Atlantic, off the Bahamas - launched its big missile today. The sleek Polaris, breaking the surface with a clean sweep; seeming to hover for a moment in the sunlight; then rising - with a burst of speed; rocketing up - to the edge of space; riding over - the "top" of its flight arc; zooming down - into the Atlantic again; hitting a target - eleven hundred miles away.

The important thing about this - the range of the missile. The "Ethan Allen" our nuclear sub - armed with an improved rocket that flies four hundred miles farther than any fired so far.

CAVE

A dispatch from Budapest states - that three spelunkers have been rescued after a week underground. ~~Spelunkers meaning~~ cave explorers ✓ Simon Karoly, Tibor Werle and Istvan Furtig - entered the Magyas Cavern a week ago Sunday, ^{said to be} ~~The Magyas Cavern,~~ ~~being~~ one of the most dangerous caves in the world. So deep, ^{and} with so many passageways ~~that it's~~ never ~~been~~ mapped. Visitors-warned to stay close to the entrance.

^{These} ~~Well, the~~ three ~~spelunkers~~ ignored ^{the} ~~that~~ warning.

They climbed - too far down. Then, ~~they~~ dropped their only flashlight - and broke it. When they tried to grope their way back in the darkness - they couldn't find the entrance. For several days they walked and climbed - in the complicated labyrinth of the Magyas Cavern. All the time - without food or water. Finally, ~~becoming~~ too weak - to go any farther, ^{and by now} ~~they say they~~ ~~felt~~ sure ✓ they'd never get out alive.

Then - a light. The sound - of voices. ~~And a few minutes later - the three spelunkers were dazzled by sunlight. Breathing in - fresh air.~~ A rescue party, finding them at the ~~last moment~~ - far down in the maze of Hungary's Magyas Cavern.