

L.T.-OLDS. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1962

(L.T. at South Sea Islands, and then Antarctica,
Bc. given by Doug Edwards of CBS.)

GOOD EVENING:

Ships of the U.S. Navy's Cuban blockade headed for their home ports today and the Caribbean crisis dwindled to a mere shadow of its former self as the nation prepared to observe Thanksgiving. President Kennedy, his wife, and daughter Caroline flew to Hyannis Port for the traditional Kennedy clan Thanksgiving celebration. John, Junior - who'll be two years old on Sunday -- remained behind at the White House as he did last year. He remains in the care of a nurse because of a cold - the same reason he missed the family Thanksgiving gathering last fall.

Before leaving Washington, the President expressed the gratitude of all Americans to the men and women of the

Armed Forces. He said their "immediate readiness to face any danger has been most evident during the past several weeks.

At the same time Defense Secretary Robert McNamara authorized the release within next week of more than fourteen thousand Air Force reservists, who had been called to active duty in the crisis. He also authorized the Navy to cancel the extension of tours of duty which had been ordered for Navy and Marine Corps personnel. About fifteen thousand Navy men and two thousand Marines had received such orders. A Pentagon announcement said every "effort will be made to expedite the release of these men and return them to their homes as soon as possible."

The Air Force reservists, presumably, will be able to have Thanksgiving dinner at home since they have never left their home stations. Millions of American families are piling into automobiles and heading for holiday reunions at Grandmother's house or elsewhere. Housewives are baking the pumpkins pies, and stuffing the turkeys with all the

fixings -- or trimmings -- or whichever of those words you care to use.

It all started a long time ago, when the harvest was done, the crops were in, and the earth once more had yielded its bounty to Man. There was a time of Thanksgiving in that ancient Biblical era when Moses wrote:- "When thou has gathered in thy fruit on the barn floor, thou shalt make merry in the festival time -- thou, thy son, and thy daughter, and the stranger within thy gates." The first President, George Washington, proclaimed the initial national Thanksgiving observance on November twenty-sixth, seventeen hundred and eighty-nine. He called for thanks to God for his benefits and urged prayers that he render our national government a blessing for all the people. The first observance, of course, is regarded as that of the Pilgrims in the Massachusetts autumn of Sixteen Twenty-One, celebrating their first harvest after a year in the new land.

WEATHER

The U.S. Weather Bureau says the Thanksgiving weather tomorrow will be excellent for most activities from coast to coast. The south will have clear skies and mild temperatures. A few showers are predicted in the northern Rockies with snow flurries in the upper Great Lakes region and light rains ending along the Atlantic coastline. Agricultural sources say there will be enough turkeys and cranberries for all. The turkey supply is estimated at ninety-two million birds and the cranberry crop this year is a record seventy thousand tons. So, enjoy it.

CHINA

Reuters reports tonight that Chinese Red troops have stopped short in their main advance on Assam, but there's no confirmation whether the fighting has ceased in other sectors of the twenty-five hundred mile Himalayan border. Midnight had been the deadline. Earlier reports said the Chinese Communists have driven to the lush plains of Assam and have claimed all but total victory in disputed areas of Ladakh.

Meantime, the United States is rushing to India a dozen large Air Force transport planes, with American pilots and personnel, to help in the fight. At the same time, a high level mission, headed by veteran diplomatic trouble-shooter Averell Harriman, has been dispatched by President Kennedy to help determine just how much arms aid India will need from this country.

Britain also is sending aid in the form of a top level political and military mission to join forces with the Americans for fact-finding talks. And London has also begun air-lifting military supplies to bolster the Indian defenses.

WALKER

United Press International reports from Oxford, Mississippi tonight that a federal court has accepted a report by a Dallas, Texas, psychiatrist which, in effect, says that former Major General Edwin Walker is mentally competent to stand trial for the role he played in the rioting at the University of Mississippi. This is the climax of a two day hearing on motions involving the mental stability of the ex-war hero who stands charged with rebellion, insurrection and seditious conspiracy in connection with the "Ole Miss" violence.

Chief U.S. Marshal James P. McShane surrendered in Oxford, Mississippi, today on a warrant returned by a local grand jury, charging him with "inciting" the riots that took place last month on the university campus. He was to be brought before a judge later for a hearing. Another person, as yet unnamed, also was indicted by an all-white grand jury last Friday.

FEDERAL HOUSING

Certain builders in Washington are expressing concern that President Kennedy's ban on race discrimination in federally aided housing might sap the health of the already wobbly home-building industry. From other quarters, both pro and con, ~~the~~ reactions are milder than expected, apparently because the White House order itself was far less drastic than civil rights have been demanding. And there's been little outburst from the Southern Congressmen so far. One who did speak out was Senator Robertson of Virginia, who says he can see no constitutional authority for the act.

ALPHABET

Irish-born dramatist George Bernard Shaw, before he died, dreamed up a forty-eight letter alphabet which will make its public debut tomorrow. It's aimed at making reading and writing easier. It looks like a form of shorthand. Despite the fact, it has twenty-two more letters than the present alphabet, it uses phonetic spelling and is said to be quite efficient. Trouble is, Shaw left only a little over twenty-three thousand dollars to set up the new system, and the lawyers say most of that already has been spent. But tomorrow it goes into book-form and perhaps there's a future in the new Shaw A-B-C's.

Now Dick -- English, loud and clear, about Oldsmobile.

DOG

Well, Dick, Spot has been missing for three weeks and that's worrisome to a family in Cincinnati. And a little lady there has enlisted the aid of Santa Claus to help find him, because the family is very sad about Spot's disappearance. Susan Miller has written Santa for help even if the children and her family don't get any toys, explaining: "You see, Spot was one of our family -- we had him when he was four months -- now he is eight years old and I, Susan, have almost grown up with him. Spot is described as a pretty dog, white and brown, with a big bushy tail, a mixed cocker collie, which is quite a mixture, by the way.

Susan figures that Santa might see Spot on his rounds as he collects and distributes toys, perhaps tied in somebody's house. She's certain that Spot would come home if he were free. The letter was signed, Sadly yours, Susan Miller, twenty-four twenty-five Gladstone Avenue, Cincinnati two.

So ----- if anybody spots Spot, please deliver, because Santa Claus is bound to be busy on Christmas Eve. With that, goodnight, and we'll be back tomorrow.