

1. *Walter Cronkite, Dec. 30, 1960.*
(on P.T. program)

Continuing violence in Belgium....resulting today in the first gunfire, the first slaying in the general strike against the government of Premier Gaston Eyskens. One striker....killed in Brussels by revolver shots fired by a bystander, who later told police he was trying to help a Belgian gendarme being manhandled by rioters.

The gunfire broke out as two thousand strikers rioted through Brussels....smashing windows, shouting slogans against the government and its proposed austerity program.

The mobs broken up by repeated charges of mounted police....at full gallop with slashing sabres. At least three demonstrators injured....one woman carried away unconscious with a deep sabre wound in her head. Two gendarmes injured...one pulled from his horse by angry strikers....then severely beaten.

The remnants of the mob....still demonstrating after the mounted police charges....drenched with high pressure fire hoses until cooled off and dispersed.

Baudouin, King of the Belgians...who cut short his honeymoon in Spain to return to his troubled nation... conferred on the crisis today with his Premier and other government leaders. No plans at the moment for a Baudouin address to the nation.

A come down today for France's highest ranking soldier, Marshal Alphonse Juin....stripped of his last remaining state post, on the superior defense council, by his former military comrade, President Charles de Gaulle.

A falling out between two former friends...caused by Juin's militant opposition to DeGaulle's policy of self-determination for Algeria.

That opposition reached a peak two days ago when Juin called on his countrymen in an open letter to vote "no" in the January Eighth referendum on DeGaulle's Algerian policy.

Then today the final act...a ruling that Marshals of France were no longer "members by right" on the Superior Defense Council. The intent is clear...Juin is France's only Marshal.

And in Algeria...speculation that extreme rightist Pierre LaGaillarde may be in Oran....that nation's second largest city....to lead a new uprising against the DeGaulle government. Rumors of his return ...triggered by the discovery of an abandoned Spanish boat bobbing in the breakers off Oran.

LaGaillarde...as you know....has been living in political asylum in Spain....after skipping parole during his trial as a ring leader of the abortive revolt against DeGaulle in Algiers last January. He had been living just outside Madrid....supposedly under tight police surveillance...but he could not be located there today.

Neither could another Madrid resident...retired French General Raoul Salan...another leading critic of DeGaulle's Algerian Algeria. Both LaGaillarde and Salan are barred by French authorities from returning to Algeria...but that might be just where they are tonight.

Plans for a major conference on American agriculture announced today by President-elect John Kennedy at Palm Beach. He is calling leaders of nine major farm organizations to a meeting in New York City next Thursday. The purpose....to discuss with him and the incoming Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman.... action to deal with ~~the~~ what Kennedy calls "the farm crisis."

The conference...just one of a series of important meetings Kennedy has scheduled for his New York visit beginning next Wednesday. He plans one more return trip to Palm Beach...probably on a weekend....before heading for Washington and the inauguration ceremonies January 20th.

Tonight...~~just 15 minutes ago in fact~~...

Kennedy confirmed earlier reports...naming former New York Governor Averell Harriman as his roving Ambassador for important special missions abroad. Harriman has served in a variety of government posts during his career...

including Ambassadorships to both Great Britain and the Soviet Union.

Sad New Year news for almost sixty six thousand retired bituminous coal miners. Starting with February payments, their pensions will be cut by twenty five percent...receiving seventy five dollars a month instead of the one hundred dollars heretofore.

This action announced today by trustees of the United Mine Workers Welfare and Retirement Fund. The reason....reduced income from the royalty on each ton of coal produced in these days of reduced coal demand.

Pensions of hard coal miners have already been cut in half....from one hundred dollars to fifty dollars... because of even more depressed conditions in that industry.

All adding up to a depressing start of the New Year for retired coal miners.

Cause for celebration today in Freedom Village, Tennessee...a tent city populated by negro share croppers who claim they are being forced off their land because they wanted to vote.

Today...A U.S. Court of ~~Appeals~~ Appeals in Cincinnati issued an injunction cancelling their eviction from their homes and farms scheduled for Saturday night. The injunction granted by the court to allow time to study federal charges that white landlords want to evict the share croppers for voting. The court set February 6th for a hearing on the matter.

However, landlords in the controversy say they'll go ahead with plans to terminate annual tenant contracts... claiming that mechanization of farms eliminates the need for share croppers.

In Washington... a suggestion today that states which deny voting rights to negroes be given reduced representation in Congress. This from the retiring staff Director of the Federal Civil Rights Commission, Gordon Tiffany....in a report sent to President Eisenhower, President-elect Kennedy and members of the Commission.

~~Tiffany calls for adoption of a plan under which House representation would be reduced in proportion to the number of citizens of a state...denied the right to vote because of race.~~

~~SECRET~~

the soviet union tonight threatened to resume nuclear testing if france continues its atomic tests, in the sahara desert.

the official soviet news agency tass said that "if western powers proceed with nuclear explosions the soviet government cannot but draw appropriate conclusions to safeguard its security."

the statement accused, United states and Briatain of giving what it called "tacit approval" to the French tests, the third of which took place earlier this week.

It said: "the tests exposed the false position of the United States and Britain at the nuclear test ban talks at Geneva now in recess."

AND NOW HERES DICK NOEL-

FEATURE

It's another holiday weekend, Dick...and the nation is on the move again....almost in answer to President elect Kennedy's campaign plea. But this time...its on the move in a different way. Swarms of people crowd all available transportation facilities....headed for a holiday over the New Year....or headed back from a holiday over Christmas. Also students are headed back to school this weekend....adding to the normally heavy holiday travel. It's a time to have a care if you're driving this weekend....the National Safety Council estimates that three hundred and forty persons will be killed in New Year's traffic...and some fourteen thousand ~~an~~ others will suffer injuries.

In New York City...some twelve hundred cabarets are gearing up to help residents and holiday tourists celebrate the passing of the old and the arrival of the new. And you can do it in New York. For as high as thirty

five dollars for dinner and noise-makers, or for as little as seventy five cents for coffee and one tin whistle at Greenwich Village.

But whichever way you celebrate..and no matter where you might do it...Happy New Year everybody...and as Lowell might put it...Solong until next year.