

L.T.-OLDS. MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1961.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The situation in Damascus tonight - confused. Still confused. Not an unfamiliar status for the age-old city of Syria - which has seen so many crises over the centuries. Damascus, a city of confusion. Always the target of invaders invading the Middle East. Fought over by Egyptians, Assyrians, Greeks, Romans, Moslems, Crusaders, Turks, Europeans in World War II - and the French and Arabs since then.

The question tonight - will Cairo regain authority over Damascus? Nasser evidently thinks - he may beat the Syrian junta now in command. The strong man of Egypt, claiming - that the Syrian people are rising in his favor. Joined by - contingents of the Syrian army.

One thing - seems clear. The Syrian revolutionay

LEAD - 2

government doesn't feel - completely safe. Today,  
Mamoun Al-Kuzbari arrested the former leader of Syria -  
Abdel Hamid el Serraj. The charge - attempting a  
counter revolution. Tonight many are wondering whether  
Syria is headed for civil war.

U.S. FOLLOW SYRIA

Washington has a special reason - for trying to figure out the Syrian question. The Damascus junta <sup>already</sup> is asking us for - diplomatic recognition. The State Department, now studying - the formal request, <sup>with a</sup> Decision, expected - early next week. *The answer is* ~~is~~ expected - to be favorable. America, to recognize - the government of Syria.

KENNEDY

Less than an hour after President Kennedy arrived back at the White House today - he was deep in discussions of Berlin with Secretary of State Rusk. Mr. Kennedy had already received a last minute briefing - in Newport. Reports on how the Rusk-Gromyko talks ~~max~~ - were going. These reports <sup>now</sup> followed up by Dean Rusk giving his personal impression - of the Soviet Foreign Minister, ~~And~~ the chances for a settlement - of the Berlin crisis, ~~chances~~ that seem a bit better - tonight. Many Western diplomats are inclined to believe - Khrushchev knows he's headed for war, and had better start negotiating.

U.N.

The American Ambassador to the U.N. is flatly opposing -  
the latest Soviet proposal, ~~That~~ <sup>the</sup> plan to elect a new Secretary  
General - along with three deputies. Gromyko, calling this -  
"a conciliatory suggestion."

What has Adlai Stevenson got against ~~the~~ it? ~~The leader~~  
~~of our delegation~~ <sup>Stevenson</sup> told the General Assembly - that the Russian  
plan would move the cold war inside the U.N. Secretariat. The  
one place that is supposed to be - above ideology.

Besides, this looks like the principle of - the camel and  
the tent. The Soviet camel, pushing its three heads into -  
the tent of the U.N. Secretary General. From there, the next  
move would probably be - to nudge the Secretary General out of  
the tent. Leave it in possession of the Russian three-man  
director<sup>ate</sup> ~~ate~~ <sup>the</sup> - Khrushchev's "troika."

VIET NAM

The administration agrees with the President of South Viet Nam - that "a real war" is raging in his country. President Diem has appealed for quick aid - against the mounting offensive by the Red guerrillas. And the State Department today promised to see - that ~~Viet~~ Diem gets that aid. Spokesman Joseph Read, trying to allay fears in Viet Nam - by asserting that we are not ignoring southeast Asia. Not forgetting that there are other hot spots in the world - besides Berlin.

ALGERIA

*The latest*  
~~Today's~~ Right Wing demonstration in Algeria took place -  
despite heavily reinforced security police. A general strike -  
lasting half an hour. Shops, offices, banks, cafes - closing  
their doors. Traffic in the streets ~~and~~ grinding to a halt.  
Crowds, marching between lines of parked cars - waving flags of  
defiance, ~~and~~ chanting - "Down with DeGaulle!"

The security police, on the watch for rioting ~~but it~~ *that didn't*  
~~never~~ developed. ~~which~~ *and that* paradoxically - has a sinister  
implication. The resistance movement, no longer a matter of -  
spontaneous violence, ~~it's~~ *has* become a disciplined organization -  
able to issue directives that are obeyed.

Hence, General DeGaulle's warning - that he may have to  
resume full emergency powers. The authority to head off the  
danger of - civil war. In his radio and TV speech today,  
DeGaulle appealed for - the continued support of the French  
people. Support without which, he told his audience - the  
Fifth Republic may go under.

## MISSILE

Chalk up another bullseye - for American rocket scientists. An "Atlas" missile, blasting off - from Cape Canaveral. Arching - high into the sky. Thundering five thousand miles - down the Atlantic range. Landing - squarely in the target area. A perfect flight - for the "Atlas".

But this was not - just an accuracy test. The big rocket carried a nose cone - full of sensitive instruments. Also - two "pods" attached to the side. One - for testing the reaction of rocket fuel to high speeds. The other - a mechanical brain that will guide our rockets through outer space.



## HEALTH

Scientists at the Roswell Park Research Institute in Buffalo report finding new evidence that cancer is caused by viruses. First they grew a virus - of the suspected type. Then injected it into - dozens of mice. Enough of the mice, contracting cancer - to suggest a cause-and-effect relation. Also suggesting - that a serum for cancer can be devised.

The other ailment - rheumatic fever. The Chicago Health Department, revealing - a new system for detecting this scourge. A system for sending specimens - through the mail; to a laboratory - for analysis. The doctor, learning in a few days - whether a patient is developing rheumatic fever. With a chance to catch the infection in the early stages - when it can be cured.

## BASEBALL

As you know a pitcher named Tracy Stallard became famous - in a split second yesterday. Were you listening or watching when Roger Maris hit that ball - served up by the Red Sox pitcher? Homer number sixty-one? From now on, fairly often when that record-breaking home run is mentioned, writers will recall who was on the mound at the time. For Tracy Stallard such is fame!

Just as when Babe Ruth hit - his sixtieth. Or had you forgotten that the pitcher then was Tom Zachary.

See you at the opening game of the Worlds Series - on Wednesday - I hope.

## GOLD

Three years ago, Gilbert Cockcroft bought an ancient house - at Black Earth, Wisconsin. As so often is the case the ancient plumbing has been breaking down. So Gil has become - a do-it-yourself plumber.

The story? When a pipe went out - over the weekend, Gil climbed into the attic - with his kit. Starting to wrestle with a bolt - when he noticed a small box covered with dust. Opening the box, he found - two tin cans. Inside the can - gold pieces. Five, ten, and twenty dollar gold pieces - hundreds of them! Adding up to - more than eighteen thousand dollars.

May be worth - a lot more, for one was minted in - Eighteen Fifty-One. Maybe a prize for a collector. They pay fancy sums for Nineteenth Century gold pieces. Anyway, the golden hoard had been in that attic at Black Earth, Wisconsin - for over a century, Dick. Until a do-it-yourself plumber came along to fix the pipe - in the Year of our Lord, Nineteen hundred and Sixty-one.

## STRIKE

A strike of construction workers in London, caused by - tea; or - the lack of it. Two thousand workers, downing tools - because the Company made them give up their tea-break or dock their salaries - for time out.

Enough to make any red-blooded British worker - go on strike. Tonight, hundreds of them are milling around the Prime Minister's residence - chanting slogans in favor of tea-time. Two of the workers, carrying a big sign - for Prime Minister Macmillan to read. On it, the words - "No tea-breaks in Number Ten Downing Street."