

L.T. - DELCO - TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1957

(Given by Walter Cronkite)

RACKETEER

Testimony in Washington - about the tactics of a labor racketeer. Related - by the President of a Brooklyn metal concern.

Business man Paul Claude told how convicted racketeer Max Chester scared him with constant questions about his children. He said that Chester remarked repeatedly:

"How dangerous is it for children to play in the streets?"

As a result of which, the business man gave him sums of money.

Claude also told the Senate Labor Rackets Committee that a Brooklyn police captain told him - he'd better deal with the racketeering union. Then, when the strike was called in Claude's shop, two uniformed policemen walked in and told the workers to walk out.

Another witness - Chester, now serving a prison term, but released from jail to testify. He wouldn't state anything more than his name - invoking the Fifth Amendment.

SUBMARINE

Two submarines collided under water today. Both - prowling around under the surface - where they ran into each other. Only minor damage - and no injuries.

The accident happened in the Atlantic, one hundred miles south of New London, Connecticut. The Navy submarine Tusk, based on New London - and the Cobbler, out of Norfolk, Virginia. Participating in maneuvers - running blind under water, when they had the collision.

At last reports, both were on their way back to port - under their own power.

TUNNEL

At Vancouver, several months ago, they started work on a tunnel. Which would connect - the Canadian Pacific Railway station with the new Vancouver Post Office. Tunnel digging - the usual way. Two crews - one starting from each end. To meet - in the middle.

Which requires - neat calculation. But they do it all the time - the two crews of diggers joining up at a given point.

At Vancouver, the job went along rapidly, and the time came when the two sections of the tube should meet. But the digging seemed - slower than anticipated. Because they didn't meet. So they were digging on and on. Today, the sad revelation. The two crews had by-passed each other. Driving their sections through the tunnel with vim and vigor. But - not in exactly the right direction.

I don't know what they'll do, but they might have to go around in a circle - to meet each other.

CHINA

In Red China, a student riot is reported, a violent outbreak at the city of Hang-Yang, in central China. The news - emanating from the Chinese Reds, themselves. Their official news agency stating - that the student insurrection occurred in June. Made public - only now. The news agency relates - that a thousand students went on the rampage. Plastering the city - with anti-Communist posters. Calling - for a return of the Nationalist regime. For two days they boycotted classes, stormed through the city, and raised havoc in the offices of the Communist Party and the Red government.

The Communist New China News Agency adds that the Vice-Principal of the school has been arrested for "instigating" the students.

CUBA

A bomb exploded in a Woolworth Ten Cent Store -
in Havana, today. One person killed - five others injured.
Panic among the shoppers - but order was quickly restored by the
police.

The bombing was the doing of terrorists - in
opposition to the regime of President Batista. The latest
violence - in the Cuban wave of unrest and rebellion.

DEFENSE

The Armed Forces - to halt all hiring of civilians.

So ordered by the Secretary of Defense, today. Secretary

Wilson's plan is to cut military spending by two billion,

two hundred million dollars. The Army has more than a million

civilian employees - and the number must be reduced for the

sake of economy.

DISARMAMENT

At the London Disarmament Conference, today, Russia gave an answer to the new Western proposal for open skies aerial inspection. Moscow Delegate Zorin demanding - why doesn't it include American bases in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East?

The West presented a sweeping proposal for aerial and ground inspection - in all Russia, the United States, and Canada. Europe also to be included - if the Soviets accept.

To Zorin's question, U.S. Delegate Stassen replied that - if North African and Asian bases were left out, so also were vast areas "associated" with Soviet Russia. Meaning, obviously - Communist China.

Today's Russian reaction was chilly - but not an outright rejection.

ATOMIC

At the atomic testing grounds of the Nevada desert, today, eleven persons walked across the border - into forbidden territory. Pacifists - in a demonstration against a continuance of atomic experiments. They moved across the line in twos and threes - just enough to violate the prohibited area. All eleven - promptly arrested for trespassing.

That was an observance of the twelfth anniversary of the atomic attack on Hiroshima - and there was a protest in Japan. An international conference in Tokyo - calling for a ban on atomic weapons. Representatives of twenty-two nations, attending - including a group of Americans.

They named a chairman - Mrs. Andrea Andreen of Sweden, a winner of the Stalin Peace Prize. Known - for supporting Communist causes.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Republican leaders in Congress had a conference with President Eisenhower at the White House, today. Subject - the Civil Rights Bill. Upon emerging, G.O.P. Leader Joe Martin of Massachusetts informed the newsmen - that the Republicans in the House will oppose any notion of accepting the Senate version. With its amendment - guaranteeing jury trials in racial cases.

Joe Martin said the Senate bill is - "unacceptable" to the President. He was asked - would the President veto the bill? He replied that the Republican leaders at the conference today had the impression - that the President would veto the bill, if the Senate version were accepted by the House.

The Republicans will try to have the measure sent along to a joint committee for a compromise. Hoping - that a Civil Rights Bill acceptable to the President can be agreed on. But the prediction is that no such Committee action can be expected in the present session, and the bill would be out - at least, for this year.

QUEEN

In London, today, a peer of the realm made an explanation on television - and got slapped in the face. Lord Altrincham - who, in a magazine article, criticized the Queen.

On a T.V. program he said his unfavorable remarks, as he put it, "were not meant to be beastly or anything like that."

But he stood by what he said in the magazine article - about speeches Her Majesty makes. Calling the royal style - "a pain in the neck." Today His Lordship expanded that by saying - the Queen should fire some of her speech writers.

Upon emerging from his television appearance, Lord Altrincham was approached by a gray-haired man. Who stepped up and shouted: "Prince Philip can't do it." So he did what the Queen's husband cannot - and slapped His Lordship across the face.

The husky thirty-three year old peer of the realm

did not strike back. Merely remarking - "You can't even hit hard enough."

The assailant now turns out to be a former Sergeant in a swanky outfit - the Horse Regiment of Hassars.

AUTOMOBILES

The automobile industry advises against legislation to make people employ seat belts in automobiles. Contending - that the public must be educated in the use of them. Must be convinced - that seat belts can be life-savers.

Officials of the Big Three, General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler, testified before a Congressional Sub-Committee, and the opinion given was - that twenty-one thousand fatalities could be averted, and fifty thousand injuries prevented each year. If all people riding in automobiles and in trucks used the belts.

Sub-Committee Chairman Kenneth Roberts of Alabama noted - that seat belts are mandatory in airplanes. So why not make people use them in motor vehicles? But the motor industry officials insisted that the public must be persuaded - or they won't use the belts.

MRS. EISENHOWER

Tonight the report on Mrs. Eisenhower is - that she's in good condition. After an operation - performed at the Walter Reed Hospital today. At the White House the word is that the sixty-year old First Lady underwent surgery - for a "benign" condition. Not - "malignant". Meaning - no cancer. The operation was performed by Colonel Humbert Riva, a gynecologist in the Medical Corps.

The malady afflicting Mrs. Eisenhower was kept a deep secret. No word leaking out - that she was going to the hospital for an operation. The news released - only when the President had been informed that the surgery was entirely successful. The First Lady - not in any danger.

He received the good news at the White House, and then it was disclosed - that an operation had been considered for some time. The doctors - deciding on today. Not an emergency - but the operation might as well be performed.

PLATYPUS

At the Bronx Zoo, a hunt is on - for a duckbill platypus, which has disappeared. Penelope - the only female platypus outside Australia, the native land of those weird creatures. Which are - in between a mammal and a bird.

For year years Penelope lived - with Cecil, her mate. Officials of the zoo - hoping they'd have a family. But Penelope seems to have wearied of married life - and vanished.

The hunt is through large expanses of brush - in the two hundred and fifty-two acre zoo. All the more difficult - because the habit of the platypus is to dig a hole, and crawl in. Which Penelope, probably - has done.

Something like a treasure hunt - only more so. A duckbill platypus - priceless.

INTRODUCTION TO L.T.

Tonight, Lowell Thomas gives us a report from New Guinea - where he intends to visit some of the most primitive people on earth. Deep - in the jungle.

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L.T.: - Hello Everybody:

Although I have not quite reached my final destination, I am not far from it. In fact, I am in one of the most remote places anywhere on this planet - Madang, on the north coast of New Guinea. Of course, thousands of Australians, Americans and Japanese were here a few years ago. But, except for seeing the prow of a ship, here and there, sticking out of the shallow water inside the coral reefs, you would never know that some of the greatest battles in the history of the world were fought here just a few years ago. There is almost nothing left to indicate that MacArthur and his men passed this way. Although, of course, there are many bushy haired New Guinea natives along the coast who

fought in the war or had jobs connected with it. And there are a few white men in New Guinea who were in the war. But that is a story I will tell later.

All I wanted to mention now is that this morning I am coming through to you from northern New Guinea on the edge of the Bosmarck Sea. Approximately 14,000 miles from where I usually do my news broadcast, at home in the States. In fact, I am roughly 2,000 miles from Sydney, Australia.

On the way here from Sydney we flew along the East coast of Australia, close to New South Wales and Queensland, across the Great Barrier Reef, which by the way, is often called one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, then across the Coral Sea to Port Moresby, on the South Coast of New Guinea at the mouth of the Fly River.

When you land at Port Moresby, you know at once

that you are on the world's largest island, because you are met at the airport by Papuans with their distinctive tall frizzy hairdo, a race of people who are just emerging from the stone age. In fact, their brethren in the back country here in New Guinea, hundreds of thousands of them, are still in the stone age.

From Port Moresby we flew straight across the wild jumble of mountain ranges that comprise the heart of New Guinea. The airmen who flew in these skies during the war - you may have had a son or a brother here - could tell you that it doesn't look like a place where you would want a forced landing. The pilot of my plane was one of those veterans. His name, Rienetz Zuymatt, a chap from Holland who is now an Australian citizen - or perhaps I should say he is a citizen of New Guinea, because he has been here so long. And he not only flies the skies, day after day, but he has his own coffee

plantation high up in the Hagen Mountains, near Goroka, within a few miles of valley still inhabited by stone age cannibals - the region we will be heading for when we leave Madang. How would you like to come along?

Well, from here on, for the next week or so, I will be telling you a little of our experiences, if I can get through to you.

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