

SPACE

L. T. - Quirk, Fisher. Tues. Apr. 13 - '65.

Scientists on both sides of the Iron Curtain -- today scoffed at the so-called Russian discovery -- of a "super civilization" in outer space. Discovery of the master space-race -- reported yesterday by the official Soviet news agency Tass, ~~Based~~ on the reception of mysterious radio signals from outer space -- at regular intervals of a hundred days.

But today -- Soviet scientists ^{were} calling an ~~unprecedented~~ unprecedented Moscow news conference -- in an attempt to downgrade the Tass announcement. Dr. Nikolai Kardashev -- who was the authority for the original dispatch -- asserting ~~ed~~ that scientific evidence now available -- does not furnish "positive" proof of his previous claim. Other Soviet scientists agreeing that any alleged knowledge of the super-civilization -- could only be "hypothetical" at best.

In this country -- essentially the same reaction from American scientists -- who have long monitored the same mysterious signals. These electrical emissions described as

probably a celestial phenomenon -- rather than a form of communication from intelligent beings.

Dr. Franklin Branley of the Hayden Planetarium in New York -- commenting that there are undoubtedly people out there. "Out there" -- being outer space. Adding that sooner or later -- we will undoubtedly hear from them. But the Russians -- said Dr. Branley -- have apparently "jumped the gun again -- just a little bit," *as he put it.*

NIGER

We hear today An attempt to assassinate the President of the newly-independent Republic of Niger, -- ~~disclosed today~~ ^{*This*} in reports from Niamey -- capital of that former French colony in the heart of West Africa.

A hand grenade hurled at President Diori Hamani -- as he entered a mosque in Niamey. The grenade said to have killed a child -- and wounded several bystanders. But the President himself -- escaping injury. The would-be assassin -- captured by police. Later identified as the chief deputy in a recent Communist plot -- to overthrow the government.

YEMEN

From the Middle East -- reports of a fierce battle today between Egyptian troops and Yemeni royalists -- in the wild and desolate hill country of Western Yemen. According to Radio Aden -- in the nearby Protectorate of Aden -- two Egyptian columns supported by Egyptian Mig jet fighters -- attempt^{ed} to smash through Royalist forces guarding the Alhakla Pass. That pass -- gateway to the Royalist stronghold of Harib -- headquarters of the Iman El Badr.

The Iman's regime -- ousted in a Republican coup backed by Egypt -- in Nineteen Sixty-Two. Since then -- Republican forces led by some fifty thousand Egyptians -- have tried unsuccessfully to stamp out Royalist supporters entrenched in the ^{hills of Yemen.} ~~hills of Yemen.~~ Today's battle -- said to signal an all-out drive to finish the job -- once and for all.

IRISH

Premier Sean LeMass of Ireland today was finally assured of at least a one-vote majority -- in the next Irish Parliament. A six-day recount of ballots cast in a rural district -- ending in victory today for the LeMass candidate -- by a margin of just thirteen votes. LeMass' Fianna Fail Party thus winning seventy-two seats in the new Parliament -- one more than the combined total of all opposing parties.

CHARLES

Prince Charles of England today was confirmed a communicant of the Church of England -- in private services at Windsor Castle. The Archbishop of Canterbury officiating at the ceremony -- attended only by members of the royal family. The sixteen-year-old prince confirmed in the same chapel -- where his mother was received into the Church -- ~~confirmed~~ twenty-three years before.

VIET NAM

The death of Joseph Grainger -- ^{that} a civilian U.S. aide official ^{slain} in Viet Nam -- today described as a case of "murder -- plain and simple."

Senator Thomas Dodd of Connecticut -- a friend of the Grainger family -- arriving in Saigon on a fact-finding mission -- simultaneous with the news of Grainger's death. Dodd asserting that the cold-blooded killing -- will only "steel our own resolve to resist and defeat the Communists."

Grainger -- who lived in West Hartford, Connecticut -- captured by the Viet Cong five months ago. Later escaping his Communist captors -- but shot down on January the Twelfth -- while trying to make his way to freedom. His death finally verified today -- by the U.S. Embassy in Saigon.

Meanwhile, the battle goes on. Eighty U.S. and Vietnamese planes -- striking in two waves today -- at a key bridge, at roads and at radar installations in North Viet Nam.

Communist forces in South Viet Nam -- said to be regrouping for another major attack. But as yet no indication of where they may hit.

LODGE

Henry Cabot Lodge -- the former U.S. Ambassador to Viet Nam -- to return to the Far East shortly as a special emissary for President Johnson. Lodge to leave next week for Australia -- then New Zealand, the Philippines, Formosa, Japan and Korea. The purpose -- as announced by the White House: "A general exchange of views between Mr. Lodge -- as the President's personal representative" -- and the leaders of those governments with a direct concern in Viet Nam.

WILSON FOLLOW LODGE

By contrast, British Prime Minister Harold Wilson is scheduled to fly to the United States tonight -- for ~~in-person~~ talks with the President. Under pressure from the Left Wing of his own party -- Wilson said to be seeking a new basis for peace talks in Viet Nam. (Said to envision a peace parley including North and South Viet Nam -- as well as Red China, Britain, France, Russia and the United States. This supposedly in line with Mr. Johnson's recent proposal for peace talks -- without prior conditions.)

FLOOD

In Minnesota -- the raging waters of the Mississippi River -- today flooded St. Paul's Downtown Airport and its Union Railroad Station. About nine hundred residents of St. Paul -- already forced to flee their homes. Two thousand volunteers working around the clock -- in a bid to protect the city's lowland areas from further flooding. The battle -- a valiant effort -- but perhaps in vain. The river expected to crest later this week at twenty-seven feet -- thirteen feet above flood stage. If so -- it would be the worst flood -- in Minnesota history.

BONETTI

This next dispatch from Ostiglia, Italy. Where three members of the Bonetti family -- today disclosed that they will soon leave for London, ~~There~~ to lay claim to an estimated fortune --of some seventy-five million dollars. This the long-lost estate of Angelo Alberto Bonetti -- the fabled "white king of Madagascar" -- who died in Eighteen Sixty-Two without any apparent heirs.

At the same time, lawyers in London predict~~ing~~^{ed} a complex legal battle -- if the claim of the Italian Bonettis has any justification. It seems that the Bonetti family of Ostiglia -- now numbers a total of about fifteen hundred persons. Any or all of whom ^{- Dick -} may be the long-lost descendants -- of Angelo Alberto Bonetti -- the "white king of Madagascar."

MEMPHIS

Here's a case of insult added to injury -- in a news item from Memphis, Tennessee.

A Memphis man caught shooting pool with a fourteen-year-old boy -- at a bet of a dollar-a-game. The unlucky pool player -- subsequently charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

The charge perhaps justified -- except for one thing. The youngster -- something of a "pool shark." And when police broke up the match -- he was ahead by thirty-five games.

Kind of makes you wonder -- who was contributing to whom?
~~whose delinquency?~~