

L.T.-OLDS. THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1963

(Richard C. Hottelet, substituting;
LT in New Guinea)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A fabulous ending to a great adventure -- Gordon Cooper and his Faith Seven back on earth safe and successful -- coming down on the mermaid's eye in Mid-Pacific. The conclusion of the Mercury Space Flight all the more dramatic for the difficulties overcome toward the end -- and the Astronaut's feat in bringing himself back. Right now Gordon Cooper is aboard the USS Kearsarge -- undergoing a medical examination that appears entirely routine. After twenty-two orbits, thirty-four hours, twenty minutes and thirty seconds in flight -- traveling some six hundred thousand miles around the earth, swinging from prolonged weightlessness to nine times the force of gravity, the Astronaut seemed to be in excellent condition and better spirits. Choosing to sit in his capsule and wait to be hoisted aboard the ship, he asked the skipper, Captain Rankin, for permission to come aboard. Captain Rankin, who predicted

correctly that the capsule would come down four miles off his port bow -- and all the thousands engaged in this precision performance have every reason to congratulate themselves -- President Kennedy and the United States Senate were quick to do just that. But the star and the hero was Major Cooper himself. On his twentieth orbit, some five hours before the end, he found that the electrical system controlling the automatic firing of his retro-rockets had gone awry. The astronaut had to take over the controls himself -- flying by wire, making the critical decisions with split-second accuracy. In contact with the ground Gordon Cooper's voice showed not the slightest trace of nervousness -- he approached the climax as though on a training exercise. Fellow Astronaut John Glenn on a communications ship in the Pacific picked him up as he came across Red China. By then Cooper had to maneuver himself into position, turn his back to his line of flight -- retrorockets pointing ahead. A wrong angle, right or left, up or down could send him hurtling far afield or turn his capsule into a blazing torch. East of

Shanghai, he and Glenn counted down together -- and moments later a relieved world heard Glenn exclaim -- right on the money -- the capsule's attitude and the rocket timing just perfect. The rest was roses all the way -- coming down at an easy angle, the big drogue chute broke out at forty thousand feet -- then, as the crew of the Kearsarge watched and cheered the orange parachute gently lowered the silver capsule into the indigo waters of the Pacific Ocean.

That's why Guided Cooper coasted all the way from China -- to the middle of the Pacific near Midway Island. There was still plenty of heat as the capsule bored into the atmosphere -- but the heat shield took care of that. As gravitation took over control of the space capsule -- Cooper's weight became multiplied nine times. Quite a change -- from weightlessness in orbit. And the change took place -- within twenty minutes.

Finally, the Drogue parachute deployed -- at forty thousand feet. Then the main chute opened, easing the astronaut to his airdeaze landing in the Pacific.

DESCENT

To grasp the problem of getting Cooper down from orbit -- consider the statistics. His space capsule was moving at more than - seventeen thousand miles an hour. Had he come plummeting straight in at that speed - he would never have made it. He and his space capsule would have vanished -- in a puff of smoke. But, to get out of orbit, the capsule had to slow down. The retro-rockets acted as cosmic brakes, brought the Faith Seven in at an angle. That's why Gordon Cooper coasted all the way from China -- to the middle of the Pacific near Midway Island. There was still plenty of heat as the capsule bored into the atmosphere - but the heat shield took care of that. As gravitation took over control of the space capsule -- Cooper's weight became multiplied nine times. Quite a change - from weightlessness in orbit. And the change took place -- within twenty minutes.

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ITALY

The resignation of the Fanfani government in Rome - was expected. The recent elections, leaving the Premier - almost no scope for maneuver. He came back to the Chamber of Deputies - with a minority party. Even worse - much of the ground he lost was captured by the Communist Party. Which meant that any coalition he might head - would get off to a shaky start.

Communism For Italy - one more political ~~crisis~~ crisis.

obvious: Khrushchev has ordered Kiselev to persuade the Comrades from Peking - that peaceful co-existence is true Marxism-Leninism.

It's a ticklish assignment - because Mao Tse-tung considers himself quite an authority on Lenin.

And the Strongman of Red China is sending a delegation to Moscow - to defend his hard line. To prove to the Russians, that ~~what he said~~ what he said - when called for a continuing armed assault by Communism on

IDEOLOGY

Here's a Moscow announcement - that probably doesn't mean much to you. But it means a great deal - to the Kremlinologists.

Mikhail Suslov has been tapped to head the Soviet delegation - in the forthcoming conference with the Chinese Reds. And the significant thing is - that Suslov is regarded as the Kremlin's top expert on Communist ideology. The logic of the choice - seems obvious. Khrushchev has ordered Suslov to persuade the Comrades from Peking - that peaceful co-existence is true Marxism-Leninism.

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Capitalism.

Most of the Western experts who keep an eye on the Kremlin - doubt that the ideological dispute can be ironed out. After all, Lenin wrote - a shelf of books. Millions - of words, if you search a bit - you can find a Leninist text in favor of peaceful coexistence. If you happen to believe in a more belligerent attitude - well, you can find a Leninist text for that, too.

Cardinal Mindszenty asked for asylum in the American Embassy in Budapest. He's been there ^{nearly} for seven years.

CARDINAL

Rome is buzzing tonight - about Hungary's Cardinal Mindzenty. The return of a Vatican official from Budapest, suggesting - that the Cardinal's release may be near. That the Red government of Premier Kadar - may give him an exit permit. And x that he may accept the offer - that would send him into exile.

Our own government - is involved in all this. When Soviet tanks crushed the Hungarian revolt of nineteen fifty-six - Cardinal Mindzenty asked for asylum in the American Embassy in Budapest. He's been there - for ^{NEARLY} seven years.

Perhaps -

WEST GERMANY

The vote today in the West German Parliament - fulfills an old dream of the European philosophers. The dream of - peace between Germany and France. An end to the enmity of - the Teuton and the Gaul.

Ironically, this treaty is the cause of misgivings across the Continent - and beyond the Channel. Konrad Adenauer told his West German colleagues - that existing alliances will not be hurt by the Bonn-Paris liaison. But from London to Rome, Europeans are asking - whether De Gaulle agrees with Adenauer. The fear is that Nato - will be hurt. Perhaps - dangerously.

HAITI

To say that the situation in Haiti is confused tonight - is to say that President Duvalier has won a victory. It may be temporary - as his opponents insist. Still, the point is that earlier this week - we heard little but dire predictions about the imminent fall of Duvalier. The collapse of the dictator - liable to happen at any moment.

The moments - followed one another. Crises came, and went, and were put on ice. Now, all our State Department will say - is that we're still thinking of breaking diplomatic relations with Duvalier's Haiti.

PRINCETON

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At Princeton, the wages of hooliganism have caught up with - forty-seven students. All of them, found guilty - in that riot of two weeks ago. The riot that did more damage to town and university property - than anything in thirty years.

President Goheen promised - to have the marauders punished. Dean William Lippincott - set about identifying them. And today - the word went out. Almost fifty students suspended - some of them for a full year - at Old Nassau.

takes a Scottish bagpipe to play a HIGHLAND

tube.

BAGPIPES

If you wonder what's more incongruous than bringing coals to Newcastle - how about bringing bagpipes to Scotland? Bagpipes from Pakistan - of all places.

That's what caused the M.P. from Airdrie, Scotland to rise to his feet - in the ~~House~~^{BRITISH} House of Commons. David Dempsey, demanding to know - how many Pakistan bagpipes are being sold north of the Tweed. And - why there should be any at all.

Said this aggrieved M.P. from Scotland - "It takes a Scottish bagpipe to play a ~~NIGMA~~ Highland at the White House. tune."

The medical reports on the astronaut - continue to be routine. Not a thing - wrong with him. The dizzy spell when he emerged from his space capsule - was anticipated. The seven pounds he lost - also part of the schedule. As for his dry throat - he downed four glasses of pineapple juice, and six of milk. And that was due to a day and a half on oxygen.