

L.T. - (Clds).

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GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The new year begins optimistically - for President Kennedy. At least - personally. The political problems of the New Year - ~~will~~, there the balance of optimism and pessimism remains ~~pretty~~ much as it was.

The President's personal good fortune, ~~as you know~~ the improvement in the condition of his father. ~~Joseph P.~~ Kennedy, rallying - from his stroke. Pneumonia - cleared up. Fever - subsiding. Rehabilitation procedures - begun at the hospital. The elder Kennedy, even allowed to sit up for a few minutes. This, on the advice of ^{the famous} Dr. Howard Rusk.

Another member of the Kennedy family - was under discussion today. The first lady. The question - to make ~~me~~ or not to make her ~~sheduled~~ trip to India and Pakistan. Jacqueline Kennedy is due to leave next month. The belief in Washington is that she'll go ahead with her trip - now that her father-in-law is recovering.

NUCLEAR

The newest official group established by the Defense Department - has a ^{prosaic} ~~rather uninspired~~ name: - ~~simply called~~ "Joint Task Force Eight", ~~reference~~ But this seemingly colorless committee - may have a dramatic bearing on our survival as a nation. "Joint Task Force Eight" to supervise nuclear explosions in the atmosphere - if and when President Kennedy gives the order.

The Committee is headed by General Alfred Starbird - of the army. His deputies - General John Samuel of the Air Force. And - Admiral Lloyd Mustin of the Navy. All three services, involved - because the tests would be held at our atomic testing ground in the far pacific.

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FRANCE

(In his New Year's address to the French people -
General DeGaulle reiterated that he's standing firm on
his basic policies. Especially, two of them - Berlin and
Algeria.)

The tall soldier of France told his audience - that
he's not holding up negotiations with Khrushchev. The culprit
in the case - Khrushchev. DeGaulle, inviting the boss of
the Kremlin - to drop his ultimatum on Berlin. Stop -
threatening the west. After which, the French government
will be pleased to enter - genuine negotiations.

Algeria? DeGaulle is still pushing his plan for -
an Algerian Algeria. ~~He's~~ - an independent state based
on a free vote of all the people in the north-African territory.
He's not about to surrender - to his enemies. He won't give
in to the Moslem rebels - or the right-wing underground.

FRANCE - 2

As the President of France was speaking - thirty-thousand French troops were moving into Algiers. Loyal detachments of the French army, ready to meet any challenge - from either side. It's likely ~~that~~ they'll get a stiff challenge from both sides. Today, the ~~Muslim~~ Moslems and the settlers - were out on the streets again, fighting one another - with sticks and stones, ~~and~~ touching off more terrorist bombs.

The toll, mounting in Algeria - as ~~Charles~~ DeGaulle carries his campaign for an ~~honorable~~ ^{over} settlement into nineteen sixty-two.

SPACE

A year-end tabulation of space achievements - looks like this. Russia and the United States have launched - seventy-eight artificial satellites. Of these, thirty-six are still up there. But only a dozen are still sending back information. The entire dozen ^{are} American. Let's take a quick run-down of the most spectacular.

Vanguard One - launched in March of nineteen-fifty-eight. It's radio, as strong as ever - transmitting scientific data about the effect of sunlight on space ships.

Explorer Seven - ~~launched~~ launched in October of nineteen-fifty-nine. Noone expected it to remain vocal for so long - but its radio keeps on chattering away. Telling us more about - radiation in outer space.

SPACE - 2

Echo One - launched in August of nineteen-sixty.

No radio voice - but it reflects radio waves. A key to communications on a world-wide scale.

Tiros Three - launched last July. Purpose - to send back photos of meteorological conditions around the globe.

A step toward - control of the weather.

Artificial satellites have already blazed the path - to the moon and beyond. Russian cosmonauts - have orbited the earth. Next into space, ~~we hope,~~ next month - an American Astronaut, *maybe.*

ISLAND

The "Lonliest Island in the World" is going to remain lonely. In fact, uninhabited. Tristan Da Cunha - far off in the South Atlantic. The island had two-hundred residents, until ~~that~~ ^{its long dormant} volcano erupted, and forced them to leave. They are in London now - wishing they could go back. That's why the British government sent Geologist Peter Harris - to have a look at Tristan Da Cunha.

His verdict - "No return possible." The island - almost completely covered with lava. The fish cannery, its only industry - now buried beneath tons of molton rock. Geologist Harris, adding - the houses will disappear after the next eruption, which could come at any time. Less than a century and a half of history - for the "Lonliest Island in the world." Settled in eighteen fifteen by soldiers - who had been guarding Napoleon on St. Helēna. Abandoned in nineteen sixty one - by their descendants.

Tristan Da Cunha left to the volcano, the seagulls and the pounding Atlantic surf.

As far as weather news on this side of the world, it's flying south from Alaska we get quite a change in temperature - sixty degrees - from forty below to fifty above.

Curious to know whether a break in the record Alaskan cold spell might be in sight today, I'm San Francisco get up the thermometer and find this afternoon it's sixty-two below in Fairbanks. With several more days somewhere in the interior Alaska it's colder than that, maybe in the minus seventies or even - minus eighty.

Meanwhile, over in Great Britain they are complaining because it's thirty above. Not, no wonder, since only five percent of British homes have furnaces. Result - an outbreak of influenza, taking a toll of 5 hundred and fifty lives in 1917.

WEATHER

As for weather news on this side of the world, ~~in~~
flying south from Alaska we got quite a change in temperature -
ninety degrees; -- from forty below ^{we flew} to fifty above.

Curious to know whether a break in the record Alaskan
cold spell might be in sight today, KCBS San Francisco got
me the astonishing word that this afternoon it's sixty-two
below in Fairbanks. Which ~~surely~~ means that somewhere in
the interior Alaska it's ^{much} colder than that, maybe in the
minus seventies, or even - minus eighty.

Meanwhile, over in Great Britain they are complaining
because it's thirty above. But, no wonder, since only
five percent of British homes have furnaces. Result - an
outbreak of influenza, taking a toll of a hundred and fifty
lives so far.

COINS

There's an interesting angle to that archaeological story from London. ~~It was~~, apart from the historical significance.

An excavation near Newgate Street, uncovering thousands of Roman coins. Silver and gold pieces, dating from the period - when Britain was a province of the Roman Empire. When Roman Legions were based in London - and paid their bills in the Imperial currency.

More beguiling, the type of coins just discovered.

A horde of what the Romans called - Liber, Solidus, and Denarius. Those Latin words survived to this day - in the jargon for British money. Where we say "Dollars and cents" - they say "l,s,d". The first letters of - Liber, Solidus, Denarius. In short, l s d.

And now Dick, tell us what we ought to do with some of our L S D!

CRIME

A Cleveland judge today ended - one of the most fantastic careers in the history of American crime. The criminal - Mrs. Betty Wade, by day, a respectable Cleveland housewife; by night, driver of the getaway car for a gang of robbers. Picking up her share of the proceeds - after a job; then driving home - to her husband and children; who hadn't the faintest notion of what Mama was doing.

Mrs. Wade's double career might still be going on - except that her car was hit by police bullets, as she drove away from the scene of her last crime. The lady robber getting ten to twenty-five years.

Her motive? The old story - gambling. Betty Wade, the housewife, losing so much to the gamblers - she tried to recoup by becoming Betty Wade, the car-moll.