

L. T. - DELCO. LOS ANGELES: - Tues. June 5th. 1956

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

I'm back on the mainland of North America, tonight - just in from another flight around the world. And the first thing I want to do is express my hearty thanks to Charles Collingwood, who I understand has done a particularly fine job while I have been away. I hope, Charlie, that my recordings, from Nepal, the Vale of Kashmir and elsewhere got through to you and I hope they didn't complicate things for you, your day-by-day report on events in other parts of the globe.

The first thing I notice out here in California is that I have returned home right at the peak of the crisis of the pre-convention political campaign.

PRIMARY

Out here in California reports tonight tell of a heavy vote in the primary election. One place after another - showing high percentages of citizens flocking to the polls. Higher - than in recent primaries.

The big turnout is explained by perfect weather - and the hot fight between Adlai Stevenson and Senator Kefauver. Each of whom waged a rip-snorting battle - the result of which could put either of them out of the race for the Democratic nomination. The voting will continue until the polls close at seven P.M. Pacific time; - ten P.M Eastern Daylight.

SEATON

The Interior Committee of the Senate acted in a hurry today - with a voice vote. Which okayed the Presidential appointment of Fred A. Seaton, as the new Secretary of the Interior.

The committee questioned him about his views on electric power, and accepted his answers. A quick okay on the floor of the Senate is considered certain.

BUSES

A federal court at Montgomery, Alabama, today ruled that racial segregation on buses is unconstitutional. Which of course, applies particularly to Montgomery - where a negro boycott of the city buses has been on for six months. Protesting against segregation.

The court gave the state and city two weeks - to prepare an appeal. The case - likely to be ~~xx~~ taken to the Supreme Court.

HYDROGEN BOMB

In Japan, a sea captain declares - that the United States exploded a hydrogen bomb on May Twenty-Eighth.

Japanese meteorologists have been saying the same thing - based on recordings ~~xx~~ of shock waves. Washington neither confirming nor denying. The Japanese captain says -

his ship was sixteen-hundred-and-sixty miles from Bikini -

where atomic tests are ~~being~~ held. Two days after the date of the explosion, a geiger counter showed an increase of

radio ~~xxxx~~ activity in the atmosphere, *jumping from the figure* ~~from~~ forty-five, *to* ~~to~~ twelve-hundred-and-fifty. So says the Japanese captain,

and physicians in Tokyo report - that two members of his crew show a deficiency of white corpuscles. Attributed to - radio activity.

FRANCE

The news from Paris gives the government of premier Millet - "a victory in advance." That's virtually what it amounts to. The National Assembly giving Millet a vote of confidence - whether or not to sustain the mollet policy in Algeria. Today, the Communists in the Assembly decided - to abstain from voting. Which assured - a victory for the Mollet government. The vote 271 to * 59.

CYPRUS-LONDON

The most closely guarded man in Britain, today, was Sir John Harding, Governor of Cyprus. He's in London, conferring with top officials, and a ~~xxx~~ strange thing happened - in Manchester. During the night, an automobile went speeding to the downtown section of the city - scattering mimeographed leaflets. Which stated that the Governor of Cyprus was marked for - death. "A bullet waiting for you," the leaflets told Sir John.

The police think this ^{might} ~~xxx~~ have been a hoax, - if so, a mighty strange one. But they also suspect - there ~~may~~ be an attempt on Sir John Harding's life, by Greek Cypriots living in Britain.

BURMA

There was a change of Premiers in Burma, today - U-Nu resigning. His political position has been weakened by gains the Communist-backed opposition made in an election last month.

His successor - U-Ba-Swe. Who promptly announced, "We will follow strictly the neutral line". So Burmese neutralism remains ~~in~~ unchanged - a middle position between East and West. However, Premier U-Ba-Swe declared - ~~that the~~ first object of his government will be to wipe out thousands of ~~communist~~ guerrillas in remote areas of

Burma. Whether ^{all of} these guerrillas are Communists no one knows. When I was in Burma the other day the word was that no man's life is ~~now~~ safe in large areas of that colorful, highly productive country.

ISLANDS

The Chinese Nationalists have sent a couple of warships to take possession of those islands. Have you heard about them? In the China Sea? All of which may bring about some really intricate international complications. The islands are the Spratleys, a small chain of islets and coral reefs, off the West Coast of the Philippines, - and east of Indo-China - in the South China Sea. The Spratley Islands are claimed by Nationalist China, Red China, southern Viet Nam, and the Philippines. Recently, a Philippine lawyer led an expedition, and occupied several of them. Claiming them - as private property.

Word is that the Philippine government offered a suggestion - that the United States arbitrate the complicated, conflicting claims. But the Chinese Nationalists on Formosa rejected that. Instead, they are sending a minesweeper and a supply ship to take possession.

ISLANDS - 2

This, we hear, was done by the Chiang Kai Shek regime - without the knowledge of the U S Seventh Fleet, stationed in Formosa waters. I, unexpectedly, flew over these islands, on my way home.

ADD ISLANDS

You will remember that about two years ago, an airliner, ~~an~~ an unarmed plane carrying passengers from Thailand to Hong Kong was shot down over the China Coast, near the island of Hainan. The Migs that did that dastardly deed then proceeded to compound their crime by diving on the survivors who were struggling in the waters, ~~strong~~ strafing these defenseless people. It was one of the most savage acts of the cold war. That was a airliner that belonged to a small civilian outfit called Cathay? Cathage Pacific. At that time Cathage Pacific had just three airliners . Since then they have only had two. On my way here I flew in one of the remaining two. And the skipper, to avoid a repetition of that episode, flew us far out across the South China Sea right over the Spratley Islands, and across North Reef, which is well known to all navigators in those parts. This was how I happened to get a look at these uninhabited islands that are now in the limelight claimed by four or five governments.

As we looked down on them from our Cathage Pacific plane they appeared to be of no importance at all. But, in this new and turbulent era, maybe they have some strategic value.

ANCIENT PORT

Syrian archaeologists announce the discovery of a seaport - which scholars had been trying to find for years. A Mediterranean harbor, on the coast of Syria, that flourished in remote antiquity - and vanished some twenty five hundred years ago.

The clue came from Egypt, from the Tel El Amarna tablets - that remarkable collection of records assembled by one of the great Pharaohs. Clay tablets with inscriptions - telling of relations between Egypt and Syria. In these, the scholars found prominent mention of the Syrian port of "Semira". Which historians had never heard of.

So a search was ~~was~~ begun along the Syrian coast. With no result - until now. Syrian archaeologists have found the lost harbor of "Semira" - and dug up ancient articles, pottery, clay tablets, ~~indicating~~ - that "Semira" was a Phoenician seaport, ~~which~~ for some reason or other, was abandoned about five ~~xx~~ hundred B.C. and ~~was~~ covered by coastal sands.
~~the wind-blown sand dunes of the coast.~~

BRINK'S

Today

A Boston Grand Jury indicted three men, who were seized yesterday + along with one hundred thousand dollars, taken as loot in the record-breaking Brink's robbery, six years ago. The three are charged with being - accessories after the fact. Two of the prisoners were arrested in Boston, one in Baltimore.

ZOO

The news tells of a fine lot of horse traders - in Chicago. A scientific meeting, supposedly - the eleventh annual convention of the International Union of Directors of Zoological Gardens. ^{IP} From all over, the non-Communist world, the directors of zoos have gathered - for highly scientific discussion, supposedly. But how do they spend most of their time? - talking up trades! - my hyena for your turkey buzzard! They sit around swapping animals - like a bunch of horse traders!

~~Ralph Graham, Assistant to the Director of the Brookfield Zoo in Chicago, insists: "We don't try to rook each other. Buy each one like's to feel he's making a deal worth crowing about." Of course, if he does happen to rook the zoo director from ^{Sydney Australia,} ~~Pakistan~~ - well, he doesn't exactly weep.~~

Marlin Perkins, Director of Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo is boasting of a deal that he closed with H. Hediger of the Zurich, Switzerland zoo. So what did he swap?

Professor Perkins hands over two American Marmots, likewise known as woodchucks - or in other words, groundhogs.

And I don't blame him for crowing, if he can trade off two ground hogs. But what does he get in return? Two Alpine marmots - Swiss ground hogs.

I looked up the marmot question in the encyclopedia today, and saw a picture of an Alpine Marmot. It looked exactly like our old friend, the American ground hog. So there's the inspiring swap: two ground hogs for two ground hogs.

Professor Perkins has another bright idea, too. Saying "what I'd really like to do is to trade off some of our surplus rattlesnakes for a Canadian lynx." He really is a horse trader - he offers you rattlesnakes.

ARMED FORCES

Now here's a picture that certainly would seem like a strange one, if you ever saw it. Soldiers and sailors, but you can't tell them apart; an Army camp - dressed like sailors; On the deck of a warship - dressed like soldiers. How come? Why the same uniform for Army and Navy; also - Air Force and Marines.

That's the picture evoked in Congress, today, with Senator Ellender of Louisiana - echoing a proposal made by Thomas Finletter, political adviser to Adlai Stevenson. On Sunday, Finletter called for a complete consolidation of all our Armed Force. Make 'em alike. That is, a service - with one Chief-of-Staff. Today, Senator Ellender went that one better. Saying - that the different services should wear the same uniform. But, there are many - a great many - who hope the day will never come - when you can't tell a soldier from a sailor - or an airman from a marine.

AIRLINES

A Congressional sub-committee okayed a bill, today - to ban the serving of liquor on airlines. Among the witnesses at the hearing were airline hostesses, one of whom declared that, on nearly every flight, "some gentleman with too much in him" as she put it, tries to pin me against the wall".

Another stewardess told the sub-committee - how she had to lock herself in the wash room to escape an inebriated male passenger.

The bill to outlaw the serving of liquor on airlines now goes to the floor of the House; while I head for the air port to board a plane, Henry to see what my hostess on this night flight has to say about the subject!