

L.T. -OLDS. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1962

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

One of nine new astronauts - must feel right at home. For Neil Armstrong is already entitled to wear - the insignia of those who ride the rockets through space. He's a civilian test pilot, who zoomed up to the edge of space - in the X-15; going through many of the experiences - of the rocket astronauts - such as - weightlessness.

The other eight in this new group of astronauts - they were introduced to the country in Houston, Texas today - have much in common. Age of the youngest thirty-two. Oldest - thirty-five. Seven of the nine are from the Armed Services - Army, Navy, Air Force. Besides Neil Armstrong, one other civilian pilot - Elliot See of Dallas, who has been flying planes for General Electric.

All nine are really picked men. Survivors of a stiff winnowing that began - with two hundred

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likely candidates. They've been in training - for
over a year. Which means they now step right into -
the operational side of our space program. Each,
hoping to be - aboard the first rocket to the Moon.

off rocket flights - because of an old heart ailment. His
disappointment, however, was tonight - because of his new
assignment. He'll be the boss of astronaut training, flight
personnel and so on. Still a key man in the space program -
New Stanton, the ground school attendant.

SLAYTON FOLLOW ASTRONAUTS

By the way, the single grounded astronaut - got some good news today. Deke Slayton - named coordinator of Astronaut activities.

You may recall ^{how this} ~~that the~~ Air Force Major was taken off rocket flights - because of an odd heartbeat. His disappointment, somewhat less tonight - because of his new assignment. He'll be the boss of astronaut training, flight personnel and so on. Still a key man in ^{the} ~~our~~ space program - Deke Slayton, the grounded astronaut.

CUBA

The problem of Cuba covered a wide area today - even apart from Cuba. They were talking about Castro and his ~~men~~ comrades - in Washington, ⁱⁿ Miami, ^{at} Mexico City, and ⁱⁿ San Juan, Puerto Rico.

In Washington, Congress began debating - the terms of an anti-Castro resolution. The ~~USA~~ nation's law makers, determined to go on record - against Soviet penetration of this hemisphere. One prominent suggestion - that the Monroe Doctrine be emphatically reaffirmed. And interpreted to mean - that we will move in, should the Russians ^{go much farther in} ~~take over~~ Cuba.

In Mexico City, a struggle between - Castroites and anti-Castroites. The Reds, demanding a policy of - "hands off Cuba." ^{with} Their opponents, arguing that something must be done - to restore Cuba to the Cuban people. ~~Begin~~ Beginning with -a boycott. This argument, re-enforced by the news from Calabria, Italy - where the crew of an Italian freighter refused to sail to Cuba with a Soviet cargo from the Black Sea.

In Miami and San Juan - defiant statements by
the Cuban freedom fighters ^{who's} ~~their~~ leaders, repeating that
~~that~~ they intend to go on shooting up Communist installations
- along the shores of Castro's domain.

ASSASSIN

The ringleader of the plot to assassinate Charles ^{Pres.} DeGaulle - an engineer in the Paris Air Ministry. ^{In fact} Chief Military engineer, Jean Thiry - ^{with} ~~whose~~ rank was equivalent to a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force. And, they say ^{he} ~~that~~ ~~in~~ Thiry was in line for - promotion.)

But he got ~~sent~~ derailed into - something with less security. Namely - the plot to get rid of the President ~~in~~ of France. Thiry, helping to plan the attack - on the presidential motorcade. ^{and} He was even in one of the speeding cars that opened up on DeGaulle's car - with machine guns. Hitting the car - but missing DeGaulle.

French detectives ^{who} ~~quickly~~ infiltrated + the anti-Gaullist movement. ^{found} The trail ~~led~~ ^{led} them to the Air Ministry in Paris - ^{to} ~~and~~ would be assassin, Jean Thiry.

NEW YORK

At the New York Democratic Convention in Syracuse - as forecast it looks like Morgenthau. The son of F.D.R.'s Secretary of the Treasury - an overwhelming favorite. In fact he's likely to be nominated on the first ballot; - to be the Democratic candidate for Governor of New York.

In Buffalo - there's no doubt at all, with the Republicans, - all set - to renominate Governor Rockefeller.

LIVESTOCK

In Chicago, a farm leader said today - "this is W-week for us." A clumsy paraphrase of familiar expressions - like D-day and H-hour. But a lot of mid-west farmers agree - that this is indeed "W-week" for them. The next few days, to be decisive - in their drive for higher livestock prices. Today, they were out in force - at ^{many} ~~the~~ stockyards, ^{with} ~~the~~ biggest demonstration ^{at} ~~in~~ Indianapolis.

The farmers of the corn belt warning - that their income is going up. Or else, they'll shut off the flow of cattle and hogs - to the cities.

RACE

The yacht race on Saturday was a thrilling spectacle of the sea - even though the winner crossed the finish line far in the lead. So thrilling, that one professional sailor may return to Newport waters - for some of the later heats. President Kennedy, deciding - that he'd like another look at the competition for the America's Cup.

As for the upcoming second race, it was put off until tomorrow - at the request of the Australians. The men from Down Under, working like fury tonight- trying to put more speed into the challenger, the "Gretel."

The American crew, standing pat with the "Weatherly" - after taking the first race by a margin of three minutes.

MANITOWOC

The city of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, is interested in -
something Russian. The Board of Alderman demanding - part of
a Soviet sputnik, ^{that} ~~The~~ fragment of metal ^{- the piece} that fell on Manitowoc
- a couple of weeks ago.

~~Our~~ scientists have been studying the fragment, -
~~for scientific information.~~ But - who owns ^e ~~this~~ chunk of
metal? The Russians at the U N have disowned it. So the
^{guess} ~~supposition~~ is that it ^{may} ~~might~~ end up - in the Smithsonian, in
Washington.

Ah, but not if those Wisconsinites - have anything
to say about it. Their city was the first in America, ever
to be ^{hit} ~~bombarded~~ - by a disintegrating Soviet sputnik. And
they want the visitor that began in Siberia, arched through
outer space - and then came plummeting down on Manitowoc.

CAVE

Here's the story of - the greatest cave man of them all. Michel Siffre (pronounced Seeffray) of Nice, France - spent sixty two consecutive days in a cave. An underground cavern that he discovered in the Alps - four-hundred-and-twenty-six feet down.

Siffre descended into his cave - on July Sixteenth. Until today, his only connection with the outside world - was a field telephone. He stayed there - day and night. All one long night.

Gradually, his universe shrunk - to the dimensions of his cave; the loneliness - almost unbearable; he forgot - what colors looked like; lost track - of the days; and thought it was - still August. Lost - his appetite. Lost his speech - became confused.

His friends, knowing this - decided to go down, and carry him out. First, covering his head with a hood - for protection against the sunlight.

- DICK -

Recuperating tonight, Michel Siffre - modern caveman.

SOLDIERS

An American who received a notice from his draft board today - says that he'll answer it. That sounds - rather straight forward. You don't say "no" when Uncle Sam beckons. But the point is that Cliff Wagner of Silver Springs, Maryland - is already nineteen years late. You see this notice was posted - in Nineteen Forty Three and has been bouncing around in the mails - ever since.

Meanwhile, Cliff joined up - and fought in World War Two, and the Korean War; and even now is on duty - in Frankfort, West Germany - where he says - sure he'll report to his Maryland draft board, some day, when he returns. The draftee - who already is a master serpeant.