

L. T. -OLDS, FISHER, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1964

MARS

Today's Thor rocket fired from Cape Kennedy, if the flight is a success, will connect - the third and fourth planets in our solar system.

The Earth and Mars -- Mars being the nearest of our planetary neighbours.

"Nearest" - has to be taken in an astronomical sense. Both of course are hurtling through space - in their orbits around the Sun. Which means that this rocket to Mars has to make - an extended curve through space travel some - three hundred and fifty million miles. Do it in eight months. This means the scientists hope the rocket and the plant will reach their point of rendezvous together - next July. And - they hope the cameras aboard the rocket will function properly and send back closeups - of the Martian surface - including the canals of Mars - if there are any.

But they still don't know for sure that it's really on its way!

BURCH

The Republican under heaviest fire in the wake of the G. O. P.

defeat - National Chairman - ~~Dean~~ Burch, who is being blamed right across the country. Most stringently by Robert Smylie - the Republican Governor of Idaho. Smylie claims that the National Committee under Burch - did not do its best by Barry Goldwater; to say nothing of - other candidates who ran as Republicans.

The Governor of Idaho not only wants to get rid of Burch - but has a candidate to replace him. John Anderson - who is retiring as Governor of Kansas. Smylie himself is being mentioned - as a possibility.

NIXON

The most forthright of the Republican leaders who oppose any further division of the party - Richard Nixon. The former Vice - President calls Nelson Rockefeller, "The principal divider." Adding that the Governor of New York got "his pound of flesh" - from the defeat of Barry Goldwater.

The Nixon formula is to bring all groups together - without reading anyone out of the Party. Where would that leave - Goldwater? In Nixon's view - he would remain "the titular head only if he represents a consensus within Republican ranks."

ALASKA

The biggest of our states - unique in so many ways - deserves a special footnote in this election. Alaska, the only one of the fifty - where the Johnson-Humphrey ticket was labeled "Republican". The Goldwater-Miller ticket - "Democratic". The candidates switching parties - due to a printer's error on the ballot. But the error was corrected just in time says Editor Bill Snedden of the Fairbanks News-Miner.

The Johnson sweep of Alaska was almost complete. The Democrats taking the entire state legislature. But Alaska's lone Congressional seat remains undecided. That is the only close Alaskan race. So close-its a photo finish not to be decided until 4500 absentee ballots are counted next Thursday.

BOLOVIA

The military junta has taken over in La Paz, Bolivia. Led

by - General Alfredo Ovando. Maintaining order - with tanks and

bayonets. So far in the street fighting - around forty - dead, one

hundred and fifty injured.

BERLIN

B. and K. declaring that British planes flying from London to West Berlin - must have the approval of the East German regime.

The kind of menace from Moscow that is heard - almost every time the Allies increase their traffic through the air corridors.

The guess in West Berlin that the new men in the Kremlin are simply saying - what is expected of them, a sort of ritualistic thing.

CHOU EN-LAI

When the Premier of Red China arrived in Moscow, he was greeted - well, it was more like - the sparring of a couple of adversaries. Their handshake so brief - it almost went unnoticed. They barely -smiled, and exchanged - a few perfunctory words.

No honor guard, no brass band - no flowers. Members of the diplomatic corps. Newsmen, barred - except for two reporters from Pravda and Izvestia.

Chou En-Lai must have felt - the Moscow chill.

TIBET - AUFSCHNAITER

Many of you will remember a non-fiction best seller that came out ten or twelve years ago -- Heinrich Harrer's "Seven Years in Tibet." If you do, you may remember that his companion in Tibet was a veteran Austrian mountaineer, Peter Aufschnaiter. Harrer, after seven years, returned to Europe. Aufschnaiter stayed even longer in Tibet, and ever since then has been in the Himalayas -- for twenty-five years. After all that time he made a hurried trip to his home in Europe, and I have just talked to him as he passed through, returning to the Himalayas.

Mountaineers, and many others, will be interested in several things he told me. He says that King Mahendra's brothers are busy building new hotels in Shangri-la, that is, in Katmandu. The second prince, Prince Hāmalaya, is building a two-hundred-bed hotel. And then there is another. Actually, the second one is being constructed by an ex-wife of the third prince, Prince Basundhara.

Aufschnaiter was most enthusiastic in his praise of the recent American Mt. Everest expedition, in Nineteen Sixty-Three, the one led by Norman Dyhrenfurth. For one thing, he said that when two of our climbers, Unsolt and Hornbein, scaled the hitherto unclimbed west ridge, to the summit and then went down the south side, they did something the seemingly impossible.

Regarding the Tibetans, and their sorry plight under the heel of the Chinese Reds, he told me what the Chinese are doing in Tibet is indeed genocide -- wiping out a people and their wonderful culture. He told of a thousand or more Tibetans who recently crossed the border, in the high Himalayas, crossing over into Nepal; between a thousand and two thousand of them living on the verge of starvation, in an exceedingly remote region where there is no landing strip and where it would take seventeen days to make it on foot from Katmandu. He believes something should be done about these unfortunate people, and wishes someone in America would help him find a solution, Dick.

Aufschnaiter, by the way, can be reached simply by writing to him in care of the Royal Hotel in Katmandu, Nepal.

YEMAN

Cairo reports a cease-fire in - "the worst war in the world".

That title has been given to - quite a few armed conflicts. But some of the wildest fighting this past year - has been in Yemen, in southwestern Arabia.

Yemen, with its lofty mountains and its part of the Arabian desert. Where for two years. Yemeni monarchists, backed by Saudi Arabia have battled Yemeni republicans, backed by Egypt.

Apparently both sides now agree - on the futility of it all, and have called a halt to what they call "the worst war in the world".

A cease-fire - in Yemen.