

L.T. - DELCO. MONDAY, DEC. 8, 1958.
(Given by Allan Jackson, L.T. in Zanzibar)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

From Moscow - word that General Ivan Serov has been removed from his job as head of the Soviet secret police. Why? We aren't told yet - only that Serov has been "transferred" to another post.

It was Serov who replaced Beria - in the job to guarantee that there would be no serious opposition to the Communist regime in the Kremlin.

Serov's name was linked in the West with mass executions and purges - and mass deportations of people to Siberia. Now - he has been - transferred.

GENEVA

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At Geneva, there's a turn for the better. The Soviets, today, reversing their policy of obstruction in the negotiations for a ban on atomic testing.

The Moscow delegation ~~accepts~~ ^{accepts} an agreement - according to which they'll cooperate with the United States and Britain in a control organization to police a test ban. A technical group to be set up - with the Russians participating.

(This follows an earlier weekend agreement - in which the British and Americans joined the Russians in pledging - a ban on the testing ~~of~~ of atomic weapons.)

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Communist East Germany, today, changed its interpretation - of the municipal election in West Berlin. Previously, Red Premier Grotewohl had stated - that the balloting would be a test of public opinion.- concerning the Soviet proposal that West Berlin be made a "free city." The East German Reds believing - that the Communists would poll a large vote. Endorsing - the "free city" scheme.

Yesterday's election in West Berlin, however, was a disaster - for the ^{Reds.} ~~Communists~~. In the balloting for local officials, they got - less than two per cent of the vote.

So that's what changes the Communist interpretation. Red Premier Grotewohl - reversing his previous declaration. Now stating - that the election was not in any way an expression of public opinion about that "free city" business.

(In Washington, today, the State Department pointed out the obvious - that the West Berliners voted overwhelmingly against the scheme. Which might be a step - toward Communist control.)

Senator Humphrey says he's brought two "secrets" back from Soviet Russia. Which he'll give to President Eisenhower - tomorrow. ¹¹ Recently, the Senator had an eight-hour interview with Khrushchev in the Kremlin. The Soviet Premier disclosing to him those - "secrets/." One - concerning the problem of German unification. Khrushchev, - sending the President, ~~a~~ ~~message~~ through the Senator, a message on that point. The other item - information about Russian atomic and military progress.

The Minnesota legislator gave his opinion - that the Soviets don't want a war in the next seven years. Desiring peace - while their economic plans are being carried out.

ROMANIA

Red Romania will stage - a wholesale trial of churchmen. That's the word in Bucharest, following the arrest of the patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church. Patriarch Marina Justinian - charged with anti-Communist activities. Scores of other churchmen have been arrested - in preparation, apparently, for one of those Communist show-case trials. For the purpose of crushing religion in Romania.

IRAQ

The government of Iraq announces - the crushing of a plot. A scheme - to overthrow Premier Kassem. The account of the Baghdad Radio is vague - with little intimation of who the plotters might be. Except - that they were backed by foreign elements. Which, according to some indications, might mean - Americans.

U.N.

At the U.N., Israel today accused the United Arab Republic of - an "act of war." ~~Which~~ Which refers back to the news we had last week - of ~~Syria~~ Syrian artillery bombarding Israeli villages near the border.

Today, the Israeli Ambassador told the ~~Sec~~ Security Council - that Israel will retaliate, unless the world organization does something effective in this matter of aggression.

COURT

Today, the Supreme Court gave a ruling - important for millions of people. Natural gas pipeline companies - allowed to raise prices. On a "quickie" basis. That is, they may put an increase into effect, without waiting for approval from the Federal Power Commission. Then, if the Commission decides a hike is not warranted - the ^{companies} ~~company~~ would give the customers a refund.

(This "short cut method" was adopted by the Federal Power Commission, and is now upheld by the Supreme Court. The decision - expected to have large effects in the natural gas industry.)

TRUMAN

Former President Harry Truman - has one political ambition. He'd be interested in going to the Senate - under certain conditions.

The former President made the revelation today, in an address at the National Press Club in Washington. Where he made reference to the possibility - that Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri might become the next president. In which case - Symington's place in the Senate would be vacant. H.S.T. declaring - he might like to take Symington's place, and serve the remainder of the term, four years. But the veteran of political wars - said he'd want to be appointed to the Senate seat, and not run for election.

So that might be a new political future for Harry Truman. Depending on - Symington for president.

WEATHER

Now, the story of three fugitives - who left their trail on the snow. Telltale footprints, leading for a mile and a half - on the frozen white surface. Pursuers - tracking ^{them} across the snow. Finally - trailing them down.

Sounds like an episode - in the northern wilderness.

But it happened in Chicago. The trail in the snow - a ~~copy and~~ cop and robber affair, in the second largest American city.

Chicago, getting the brunt of the mid-western blizzard.

Streets piled with snow - more fit for sleighs than automobiles.

The traffic snarl - a nightmare.

But, in one case, at least, the police found the snow a benefit. Three burglars robbed a store - and made their get-away down a street covered with fresh snow. Which made it easy - for the cops to follow the robbers, and catch them.

The huge blizzard extends all along the line on the Great Lakes - with Oswego, New York, in a state of emergency. The city completely tied up by four to five feet of snow.

INTRO. TO RECORDING

Lowell Thomas, tonight, describes an experience -
with that newest marvel of commercial aviation. On his
way to the Indian Ocean, he took - a jet airliner.

(Recording: 2½ mins.)

(SCRIPT NEVER RECEIVED IN OFFICE)

MOTTO

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In Los Angeles there's a group called - the "Let's Have Better Mottos" Association. Which may sound inspiring - but it's the other way round. Those Californians are cynical - about mottos.

They held a contest to pick a saying for the month, and here's the prize-winning motto.

"It's A Nice Day - Let's Louse It Up In Some Way."

Deplorable, shocking! The worst of it being -/that motto is usually so true.

54.00