

L.T.-OLDS. MONDAY, MARCH 7, 1960.

(Given by Walter Cronkite, L.T. in Hawaii)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Donald Chapman isn't out of jeopardy yet. He is the young free-lance Nebraska photographer who was a passenger on the ill-fated French munitions ship that blew up in Havana harbor.

The Cuban government seized him, held him for two days - even Castro interviewed him. They thought they might link this American to the ship explosion. But yesterday they released him, said he was free to go.

This evening he was escorted onto a Miami-bound plane. Then, just as the doors were about to close, Castro's militia stormed aboard the plane, took Chapman back to the airport building.

The American Embassy official who had escorted him to the airport was still there. He intervened - and at a late hour tonight, the argument was still going

on as to whether the Cuban government could regain custody of Chapman again, or whether he is under protection of the U. S. government.

Meanwhile, American Secretary of State Herter called Cuba's top diplomat to his office and read the riot act to him. Herter angered by Fidel Castro's implication that the United States somehow caused the ammunition ship explosion.

Herter used language far more blunt than that normal in diplomacy. He said Castro's attitude was "unfounded and irresponsible," his charges "baseless, erroneous and misleading." And further, said Herter, the United States is finding it increasingly difficult to believe Cuba wants better relations with this country.

The reporters there say the Cuban diplomat obviously was shaken when he left the 20-minute dressing down.

GAS

In Washington, an all-around denial - of a sensational story published in London, today. The Daily Express - declaring that the U.S. Government wants to publish information about a new poison gas, developed by British scientists, and now being produced - in a plant at Newport, Indiana. A chemical substance - a thousand times more deadly than the "nerve gases", which the Germans have devised.

They say the British chemists, working on insecticides, discovered the new gas accidentally.

The London paper states that Washington has brought pressure to bear - for publication. Arguing - that, if it were known that this ultra-deadly gas were being produced in quantity, it would keep any hostile power from resorting to war. Another deterrent - in the arsenal of the West.

At the Pentagon in Washington, a spokesman says: "It just isn't so." The State Department officials declare - they've never heard of any proposal to publicize poison gas.

These denials are supported by British government officials -
who say they don't know anything about the published report.)

GERMAN BASES

The British government is willing to let West Germany have bases for missile firing - in the Hebrides Islands, off northern Scotland. Bases - where the West Germans can train rocket-firing crews. Today, a government spokesman in London stated - that all Nato members had been invited to use training sites in the Hebrides.

The West German government says - it welcomes the offer. ~~Defns~~ Defense Minister Franz Josef Strauss explaining that the West German army needs a much larger area for maneuvering. In training - for ~~modern~~ ^{rocket} modern war. Which, of course, applies to the controversy over West German attempts to establish military bases in Spain.

EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower will make a radio-television report on his tour of South America, tomorrow, at seven P.M.

Back in Washington, today, the sunburned President looked cheerful and rested. After four quiet days in Puerto Rico recuperating from that strenuous tour. Rid of the throat irritation and hoarseness - which resulted from all the travel and speech-making. You'll be able to judge for yourself, when he's on CBS radio - at 7:00 P.M. tomorrow, New York time over most of these stations.

EISENHOWER - BAND

The Navy, today, replied - to Democratic National Chairman Paul Butler, who, yesterday seemed to blame President Eisenhower for the Air crash in Brazil in which nineteen members of the U.S. Navy band died. Butler, in a bitter statement, criticized the President, denouncing the fact - that the Navy band was participating in his tour of South America.

Today's retort comes from Admiral Arleigh Burke, Chief of Naval Operations, who said - that he, and he alone, decided to send the Navy musicians on the trip. Admiral Burke adding: "The South American tour of the Navy band was not scheduled by, or at the request of, the White House."

He explained that the band was to have gone to South America, anyway, on a mission of good-will. Which, as it happened - coincided with President Eisenhower's trip. So the Navy decided - to make the musicians

available to play for official ceremonies of welcome for the President, In addition to the public concerts - which had been intended, in the first place.

This is followed by a public apology from Chairman Butler. Who says - he regrets any inference that he was blaming the President for the tragedy at Rio.

The Senate filibuster was on again, today - after the harried lawmakers took a rest on Sunday. The Southerners resuming their round-the-clock effort against the Civil Rights Bill.

Today, Republicans made a move toward possible action to stop the filibuster. Stop the talkathon - by slapping on a gag rule. With the approval of Vice-President Nixon, G.O.P. leaders polled the Republican Senators, on whether they would vote for cloture.

Democratic Leader Senator Lyndon Johnson of Texas told news reporters - that he would not think it possible to impose a limitation of debate at his point.

PRIMARY

That New Hampshire primary tomorrow which doesn't really mean very much, heated up a bit on the eve of the voting.

Vice President Nixon's state campaign manager, Governor Wesley Powell, accused Democratic hopeful John Kennedy of being soft toward Communism.

Kennedy complained immediately to Nixon, and tonight the Vice President's office disowned the Powell charges in blunt language. Nixon agreed that Kennedy agrees with him in their unalterable opposition to Communism.

HOLLYWOOD

The guess in Hollywood that the strike of movie actors may last - from six to ten weeks. But the major studios are said to have enough of a back-log of pictures - so that the public will not notice the effects of the walkout.

Today - all quiet on the Hollywood front. The quietude - of tied-up studios, with picture-making suspended. Fourteen thousand members of the Screen Actors Guild are out - all the way from fabulously paid stars to bit players and extras.

RINGS

From the New York area, we have news - of a hunt for jewelry in snow-banks. Valuable rings - in deep drifts.

At Rockville Center Long Island,

~~xxxxxxx~~/ a couple of robbers looted a jewelry store. The police after them, they tossed incriminating evidence away. A dozen high priced rings - scattered in the banks of snow, along the street.

The crooks were caught, and the cops, today - were busy recovering the rings. Melting half a block of snow - with hot water. Recovering - twelve rings, and hoping to find a dozen more.

In Brooklyn,

And, ~~at Rockville Center Long Island~~, Thomas

McCauley and Joyce Mullan - were still hunting, in a snow-bank, for a two thousand dollar engagement ring. First reports were, that the ring was thrown away in anger - the climax of a lovers' quarrel. But this was denied later by Thomas and Joyce, who said - the ring had slipped from her finger, and landed in the snow.

Anyway, the two thousand dollar ring is still missing - somewhere in the snow-bank, apparently.

SATELLITES

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology announces that it has confirmed - the first exchange of radio signals by way of artificial satellites. These - used as a relay. The radio signals - bouncing off two man-made moons.

So who are the scientists? Two 17-year-old boys - both freshmen. Ralph Solfer of M.I.T. and Perry Klein, at a ~~high school~~ school in Bethesda, Maryland.

The two lads, tracking satellites, figured that a couple of them would pass over our Atlantic coast, simultaneously, on February Fifth. America's Explorer Number Seven and Russian Sputnik Number Three - one hundred and fifty miles off Atlantic City, New Jersey. So the two sent radio signals to each other - bouncing ^{them} off the Explorer and Sputnik. It worked - and they completed the exchange.

The boy at Massachusetts Institute of Technology made a ~~technical~~ report on this, and it's now verified. By Dr. Jerome Weisner, Director of ~~MxTxTx~~ an M.I.T. research laboratory.

INDIANS

The Supreme Court ruled against the Tuskarora Indians, today. Holding - that they must give up thirteen hundred and eighty-three acres of their land for a reservoir. Part - of the huge Niagara power project.

The land was condemned by the New York Power Authority, and the Indians were offered three million dollars for that portion of their reservation. This they rejected, claiming - that, under a tribal treaty with the United States, their land could not be condemned.

The Tuskarora contention was upheld by a lower court, but that is now reversed by the high tribunal.

CUBA

The United States is preparing a sharp new protest against the latest frantic extravagance in Cuba. The charge - that the United States ^{was} ~~is~~ responsible for the blowing up of ^a ~~the~~ munitions ship in Havana harbor.

Castro started it in one of his television harangues, although he didn't make the accusation directly. But hinted at it - in a weasel-worded surmise. The Castro press - taking ~~up~~ the cue, and screaming the charge, blaming the United States for the explosion.

^{An} ~~The~~ American photographer, who was a passenger aboard the French freighter, has been released. After a couple of days in Cuban jails - where he was questioned by Castro himself.

He's Donald Chapman of North Bend, Nebraska, and he got out of Cuba as fast as he could. Going, promptly, to a barber shop - and getting a shave. He arrived with a beard, which he grew in France - one of those Castro beards. And today he said: "I sure wanted to get rid of that thing."

BOY

Over in Germany, Colonel Juergens explains - he didn't know what Ricky was up to. When, on the parade ground in Munich - the nine-year-old boy - inspected the regiment. Ricky - dressed in the pint-sized uniform of a lieutenant. Complete - with gold braided cap and a row of service ribbons. Marching down the line of soldiers, and criticizing their deficiencies.

The Colonel was inspecting the regiment - Ricky strutting along behind him. Which the Colonel says - he didn't notice.

"I wasn't paying too much attention," he explains. "An inspection officer doesn't have a chance to notice anything beyond what he is doing."

A further explanation is that Ricky was tailored in full style as a lieutenant - when the regiment adopted him as a mascot. ~~But, anyway, the Army over in Germany - is investigating.~~ But one of the soldiers inspected by the nine year old - complained. And the Army says - it won't happen again.