

ESTES

L.T. - Alas. Wed. May 23<sup>rd</sup>. '62.

The man of the hour - if you can call him that - hardly looked the bold bad buccaneer, when he appeared in a Texas court today. Billie Sol Estes, haggard and tense instead of the strapping figure he used to be. No longer - jovial. No longer - the loquacious conversationalist. Today, he said - hardly anything. Telling the El Paso court, his name, home address, office address, and where he files his income tax. To every other question, he pleaded - the Fifth Amendment.

A remarkable display of reticence on the part of ~~Wheeler~~ - dealer Billie Sol Estes from the Pecos. But then, <sup>who</sup> ~~imagine~~ you wouldn't feel like saying much - if you saw before you, row upon row of creditors? More than two hundred of those - to whom Billie Sol Estes is in debt. And who stand little chance of collecting from the former tycoon - who now appears to be bankrupt.

Meanwhile, the agriculture Department in Washington agrees with the jury hearing in Franklin, Texas. There's a

common belief - that Henry Marshall was indeed murdered. Marshall, who got so close to breaking the Estes scandal wide open - only to be found dead, riddled with five bullets. The original verdict of "suicide" - is rejected by the pathologist who performed an autopsy. Three suspects - under surveillance.

In Paris today, Gen. Raoul Salan sentenced - not to death as many had expected. He has been given life imprisonment.

ASTRONAUT

At Cape Canaveral tonight - ~~high~~ optimism. The word "go" is being repeated - over and over. Also the equation "sixty-forty." Meaning - astronaut Scott Carpenter probably will ride his rocket into orbit tomorrow. ~~The only possible hazard at the moment - weather, and it looks good.~~

Tonight, the "Aurora Seven" - is ~~standing~~ on ~~the~~ launch pad. Most of the fuel - already in the tanks of the big rocket. Every last bolt, piece of wire, and item of equipment - checked out.

As for the astronaut - ~~he's also ready to blast off.~~ Scott Carpenter, "A-O.K." - making his last minute preparations - as he has done so often on dry runs. Hoping that this time - it's the real thing.

The first phase of the countdown - already completed. The second phase - to begin later tonight. If the countdown proceeds to zero - Scott Carpenter will be on his way into orbit. You can follow the ~~action~~ astronaut from blast off to return - ~~on~~ over CBS, beginning at seven-thirty Eastern time tomorrow morning.

## KENNEDY

President Kennedy today further emphasised and backed his plan to put medical care under social security. What about Monday's counterattack - by the American Medical Association? He said he didn't recognize his bill - described by the A M A spokesman; and he castigated the A M A - charging that it once opposed social security, for the same reasons.

The rest of the news conference - covered obvious items, in quick succession. Billie Sol Estes? The administration has no proof - that it lost any money through his financial shenanigans. But the Agriculture Department is moving grain from his warehouses - because of the circumstances.

What about - ammunition for our troops in Thailand? He said it was absurd to demand that all rifles always be loaded, when our troops are in a friendly country, as they are - in Thailand. But he said

their ammunition is stored - all ready for them, should they go into action.

The common market? We still wants to see the British join - the alliance of continental nations. But whatever London may decide - our plans call for close cooperation ~~with~~ with the common market.

Closer home - Mr. Kennedy would like to see continued planning by government, business and labor. All three, having the same stake - in the economy, and the nation.

The Hong Kong refugee problem? We says we can absorb some thousands of refugees - from Red China; fugitives, who would have to go back to the misery of Mao's China - if we refused to give them sanctuary.

## VIET NAM

The news from Saigon shows how determined we are - to save South Viet Nam. Sending our officers and men into the jungle fighting - along with the Vietnamese troops. <sup>Which is</sup> ~~That's~~ why victories are being won - and why the U.S. Army is suffering casualties.

The top ranking American officer to be hit by enemy fire - Colonel Frank Clay, son of General Lucius Clay. The Colonel, and three of his aides - were flying across the battlefield in a helicopter. Helping ~~to~~ guide the Viet Nameese - to their biggest victory over the Red guerrillas.

The Americans got so close to the tree tops - that the guerrillas fired at their helicopter with automatic rifles. The eggbeater, splattered - with bullets. The four Americans inside - wounded. None - seriously. But its enough to prove to both sides that we don't mean to spare our own soldiers. Not if that's what it takes - to keep South Viet Nam from being over run by the Reds.

PLANE

I suppose that the least important fact about last night's crash of a jet liner - is that the tragedy broke the companies perfect record. Continental was the only major airlines - with an unblemished safety performance. Not a single fatal accident - in the firm's twenty-eight year history.

Then, ~~came~~ last night <sup>the</sup> - "Golden Jet" flight.

The big plane, enroute - from Chicago to Los Angeles.

Flying into aviolent thunderstorm - thirty-nine thousand feet above the Missouri-Iowa border. The pilot, only twenty-five minutes from touchdown at Kansas City - when his radio went dead.

The theory - some sudden, shattering catastrophe.

Probably the plane - struck by a bolt of lightning. Rocked by - atmospheric turbulence torn apart in the sky - ~~falling~~

~~in pieces~~ <sup>with</sup> of wreckage <sup>straw</sup> across northern Missouri and

Southern Iowa. No survivors - among the forty-five on board.

## SCOTLAND YARD

Over in London, The Home Office has summoned the men from Scotland Yard. The crime - office girls, having their handbags stolen. Hardly seems the kind of thing - for the world's most famous crime fighters. The Yard, specializing in things like murder - and the theft of the crown jewels.

Here's the point. Scotland Yard is a branch of The Home Office <sup>and is the top</sup> ~~the highest~~ police agency in Britain.

The girls who have been robbed - are assigned to one job. Recording crime statistics. They use typewriters in one room - leaving their handbags at their own desks.

In other words, while the girls are getting out facts and figures on crime - more facts and figures are accumulating behind their backs. Right - in the next room. A criminal at work <sup>, picks, with</sup> - in the British police agency, Scotland Yard <sup>now</sup> trying to pick up clues <sup>as</sup> to his identity.



RUSSELL

The spectacle of a noble lord being called up on the carpet by a lot of ruddy socialists - could only happen in Britain. Could only happen to Bertrand Russell. The political party to which the philosophical Earl belongs - doesn't like ~~his~~ "ban to bomb" campaign. And today the British peer was ordered to defend himself before a committee of laborites - or be expelled.

Socialist orders to a peer of the realm - Bertrand Russell.