

L.T.-DELCO. THURSDAY, OCT. 30, 1958

(Given by Walter Cronkite, L.T. in So.Pacific)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A shipment of American tanks arrived on Formosa today. The number - is a military secret. But we're told the tanks weigh twenty-four tons - and are of the latest design. Meanwhile, the Chinese Reds were easing up their bombardment of Quemoy. Fewer than four hundred shells fell in the area today. The lowest number in four days.

FRANCE

Left wing newspapers in Paris report - Premier

DeGaulle is in communication with representatives of the

Algerian rebels, attempting, it is rumored around the

French capital, to set up a meeting with them in Tunis.

MINE

Tonight rescue workers are digging frantically at the clogged passages of the Cumberland mine in Springhill, Nova Scotia, although they have little hope that any of the still missing miners will be found alive. Only a near miracle allowed the rescuers to save those twelve - who were entombed for six days. So no one around Springhill wants to call off rescue operations now.

The twelve who were brought out - are in good condition. Only two of them suffered serious injury - one has a wrenched back and the other a broken leg.

EDUCATION

The Virginia Education Association today called on Governor Almond - to save the state's public school system. The resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority - of the eighteen hundred delegates attending a convention in Richmond. The educators asked Governor Almond - to ^{summon} ~~call~~ the state legislature into a special session. The purpose of the session - to enact laws that would allow the Virginia public schools to operate.

~~One delegate expressed a common sentiment, when he described himself as opposed to integration - and then went on, "But we are paying a price, and the situation can't continue, as it is."~~

ATOMIC

Today's atomic explosion in the Nevada desert - was one of the biggest. American scientists, touching off a blast - equal to twenty thousand tons of TNT. The bomb was placed underground - almost nine hundred feet beneath the surface of the earth. The explosion jolted the top of one mesa. Millions of tons of rock were dislodged - and a dirty cloud of dust spiraled up two thousand feet. Earth tremors could be felt more than four miles from the scene of the explosion.

Later there was something of a radioactivity scare in Los Angeles. Counters showed radioactivity twice the published safe minimum. There were hurried calls to Washington, and a confusion of signals about whether the scientists would call off one remaining test.

Then other scientists pointed out that the published minimums still are 10 times below the really dangerous level - and there wasn't any hazardous ~~xxx~~ contamination in Los Angeles after all.

CONFERENCE

British and American scientists in Geneva for the opening of a conference on atomic energy tomorrow - are ~~optimistic~~ optimistic. They say there's a good chance for success - now that Moscow has agreed to keep the ^{proceedings} ~~discussions~~ secret. The experts from the West believe this means - Soviet scientists have come to Geneva for serious discussions - and not merely to use the meeting as a sounding board for Communist propaganda.

Meanwhile, the United States said that it was going ahead with its plans to halt atomic tests beginning at midnight tonight... and would not resume them unless Russia fired off more blasts of her own.

The Russians have turned down a formal commitment to ~~suspend~~ ^{suspend} ~~beginning~~ ^{beginning} tests/tonight as the United States and Great Britain had proposed.

INTRO. TO RECORDING

Here is another report from Danger Island - with Lowell Thomas continuing his description of science in the South Pacific.

(Runs 2:44)

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L.T.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

My task this time is to perform a miracle. And I'm not a performer of miracles. But I'll take a shot at it. That is I'll try and give you, in 2½ minutes, some idea of why this South Pacific Danger Island Expedition, has turned out to be a new milestone in the history of Man. Someone, somewhere, announced that the expedition was a failure. The Russians trying to sabotage it? No. The expedition was divided into two sections: one group on the nearby island. The other, scientists aboard the U.S. Navy Point Defiance. Word went by short wave to the States, from the Island, that the scientists there failed even to catch a glimpse of the Solar Eclipse. Which was true. But only 40 miles distant at sea the other group of scientists had all the breaks. The Sun and Moon putting on a perfect show for them.

This was great luck, because rocket scientists Friedman, Lindsay, Chubb and their associates, attempted

to do, and did, something never done before. They sent huge rockets 150 miles into the heavens towards the Sun. Spinning through the Earth's atmosphere, and on through the Ionosphere, out into space, to a region of vacuum from where instruments for the first time had a complete view of the Sun - which Man never had before. The six great Nike-Asp rockets, fired from the flight deck of the U.S.S. Point Defiance, carried photo-electric detectors in their nose cones, and flashed back reports on what they discovered, things that Man till now had no means of finding out.

I ought to stop here and attempt to explain - attempt I say - the ionosphere, what knowledge science has had up to now concerning the Sun, its heat, its radiation of ultra-violet light, and X-rays and so on. The corona, the chromosphere, spectrum. But, there isn't time for that. The instruments in these rockets reported back that the Sun is not only larger than we thought but it's

far brighter around the rim than it is in the middle.

This is new knowledge. For to the human eye the Sun looks darker around the rim. But this expedition has

~~that~~ discovered that the Sun wears a bright X-ray halo -

that about 10% of the X-ray emission from the Sun continues

to shoot out even when the Sun is entirely blacked out,

as it was in this total eclipse that could only be seen

from here in the Far South Pacific.

On the other hand the eclipse did completely block out all ultra-violet light from the Sun. Which apparently means that no ultra-violet rays come from the corona. They must all come from the disc of the Sun. All of which is of great importance to Man because of the ionosphere, that region in our upper atmosphere some 60 miles about the Earth, where electrical currents are moving back and forth in a way that causes short wave long-distance radio signals to bounce back towards the Earth. This study is

of vast importance to the airliners that now circle and criss-cross all the continents and oceans. Also of great importance with regard to modern communication in general.

As a result of these rocket experiments off Danger Island in the South Pacific we know that the green light that comes from the Sun's corona signals the shooting out of X-rays. From this scientists can judge the condition of the Earth's ionosphere which is created by the X-rays and ultra-violet rays from the Sun. This will enable experts to provide forecasts to mariners, to air crews, and the military - telling them what frequencies will give them good reception; what frequencies to avoid. All of which is a vast importance to modern Man.

These men have been engaged in what is usually referred to as "pure Science." Pure Science is sometimes referred to as what scientists do when they don't know what they are doing!

But it seems to me that pure science almost invariable becomes "applied science." At any rate these rocket experiments, conducted by Scientists Friedman, Lindsay and Chubb, have given Man a window forty times greater with which to look at the Sun. Surely that's making history in a big way. For Man depends upon the Sun, for light, and life. So long.

SOLDIER

In Canterbury, England, Lance Corporal Michael O'Brien, is in the regimental doghouse tonight. Corporal O'Brien is attached to a famous outfit - the Buffs, who have fought for King and Country, all around the globe. Part of the tradition of the Buffs is to keep - a Book of Remembrance in Canterbury's historic Cathedral. The Book of Remembrance, containing names of officers and men of the Buffs - killed in battle.

Periodically, a man of the regiment is detailed - to march alone through the streets of Canterbury. He enters the Cathedral, salutes - and then turns one page of the Remembrance Book. This time, Corporal O'Brien was picked for the honor - of representing his regiment. As usual, a crowd lined the streets - for the ceremony. But the Corporal never showed up. They found him having a snooze in the barracks. His explanation, the classic one - "I just forgot."

Corporal O'Brien
The Colonels will have some trouble forgetting /