

"PIONEER"

L.T.-OLDS. FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1960

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

Let's take a look at some of the figures involved in "Pioneer V" - our rocket now hurtling ~~thru~~ through space toward the sun.

"Pioneer V", a Thor-Able rocket in three stages. Standing ninety feet - on its launching pad. Weight - over a hundred thousand pounds. Powered by liquid fuel - with a thrust of - a hundred sixty-five thousand pounds. Pay-load - about the size of a beach-ball. Full of sensitive instruments - including a radio.

The launching at Cape Canaveral - was perfect.

The Thor-Able rocket - rising straight up from its pad.

Zooming into the sky - trailing flame. Visible - for over a minute. Then, roaring toward outer space - at twenty-five thousand miles an hour.

Destination - the sun. The rocket will circle the sun - in an orbit between Venus and the earth. And may stay in orbit for - a hundred thousand years. The closest it will get to Venus - is six million miles. Closest to the sun -

"PIONEER"

seventy-four million miles. It's designed to send back radio messages - over a distance of - fifty million miles.

Our scientists expect to keep in contact with "Pioneer V" - for five months. Then it will come closest to the sun - and fall silent until its orbit takes it back toward - Venus and the earth. Contact should be renewed - in Nineteen Sixty-Three.

The instruments in the pay-load -- have a life expectancy of almost three thousand hours of continuous use. The plan is to tune in on them - only a brief time each day. Giving the instruments several years ~~of~~ - of usefulness. Which means that today we put a major space probe - up into the sky. The most spectacular exploration of the solar system - ever undertaken. ~~America, moving ahead of the Russians with "Pioneer V".~~

CUBA

In Cuba, ^{Fidel} Castro has opened his attack on - American industries. Today his men took over - three sugar mills, and a railroad. Value - ten million dollars. The Cuban government calls the move "intervention". Meaning, temporary occupation. But no one in Cuba doubts - it's the first step toward outright confiscation of American holdings - worth three hundred million dollars.

Meanwhile, the anti-American campaign - goes on. Castro's radio broadcasters, ranting about - "Yankee imperialism." They seem especially incensed by yesterday's announcement - that we intend to beam news ~~bx~~ programs - that ordinary Cubans can pick up on their radio sets.

EAST GERMANY

The Russians are endangering - the forthcoming summit conference. So says Francis Tulley of the State Department. Tulley, referring to - the latest restrictions on travel by allied missions in East Germany, Moscow, trying to force the West - to deal directly with the East German Reds.

Britain, France and the United States have retaliated - by restricting the movements of Soviet military missions in West Germany.

WEATHER

In West Jefferson, North Carolina, a State Trooper remarked today - "I've never seen snow like this." Probably no one ~~in North Carolina~~ ^{in North Carolina.} ever has, either, / Drifts in the Blue Ridge Mountains - are twenty-five feet ~~i~~ deep in places. Scores of families marooned - without food or fuel. Governor Hodges, calling the situation - "critical." Disaster units are working - around the clock. Using Army "weasels" to cross the snow - into the Blue Ridge Mountains.

North Carolina is - the worst off. But Tennessee and Virginia - are getting their share of this storm. You can judge how far south the snow has gone - by what happened today in Augusta, Georgia.

Augusta's famed golf course - suspending the Women's title match. The reason - an inch of snow on the course. It's impossible to play - under conditions like that. So the officials of the club called off - today's round. Bowing to a hazard - they hardly ever meet. The hazard of - snow. Which is hitting a lot of other places - besides Augusta, Georgia.

GOLDFINE

A dispatch from Boston mentions - a familiar name. Bernard Goldfine. The Boston manufacturer has just been indicted for - income tax evasion. Indicted along with him - Mildred Paperman, his "girl Friday".

The industrialist is accused of evading taxes totaling - eight hundred thousand dollars. Bernard Goldfine - whose relations with Sherman Adams - caused Adams to resign as special assistant to President Eisenhower.

MAIL

President Eisenhower's recommendation for new postal rates - looks like this. The cost of an ordinary letter would jump - from four cents to a nickel. Postcards and Air Mail letters - a penny more. Second class mail - newspapers and magazines - would go up forty per cent. Third class mail - advertising circulars, and so on - would go up twenty-five per cent.

President Eisenhower is hoping to bring the government - an added five hundred million dollars. Enough to take care of - the Post Office's yearly deficit.

COREY

When Earl Corey of Portland, Oregon, was working for the Agriculture Department - his office awarded contracts to a firm - in which he was a "silent partner." Corey so testified today - before a House Sub-committee. Adding, he had an interest in - three other companies, doing business with the government.

Corey insists he didn't know about government conflict-of-interest regulations -- at the time. Says when he found out about them - he decided to drop his silent partnership.

MINE

There's been another hitch in rescue operations - at West Virginia's Island Creek coal mine. Hope hasn't been given up - for the eighteen trapped miners. But ~~easy~~ today a blockage of air - added to the hazards. Work parties had to bring in fans - to start the current of air moving through the mine shaft. All told, they've had to fight - fire, smoke, carbon monoxide gas, and falling slate. The problem of fresh air - now becoming acute.

AGADIR

Survivors of the Agadir earthquake - are still returning, as if from the dead. Two more were rescued - today. Pulled to safety from the wreckage - that buried them twelve days ago. They were so weak, they could hardly speak. But Army doctors say - they'll be okay. And the hunt for more survivors - is being pushed, with as much speed as possible.

Now a word from Dick Noel.

MAUGHAM

It seems appropriate that the first writer to break through Russia's "royalty curtain" should be - Somerset Maugham. Britain's literary elder statesman - has always been popular in the Soviet Union. His masterpiece - "Of Human Bondage" sold hundreds of thousands of copies during the Stalin era. And it's still selling in Khrushchev's Russia, along with other Maugham works like "Rain" and "The Moon and Sixpence."

Until now, the catch has been - no royalties from the comrades. Moscow demanding - that Westerners come to Moscow to collect - in rubles. Hemingway, ^{STEINBECK} Faulkner, ~~Murphy~~ Evelyn Waugh - all in the same boat. Read by the Russians - but not paid by them.

Maybe - Russia is changing. Anyway, the Soviets announce - they'll pay Somerset Maugham, back-royalties - on millions of copies of his books. How much will he get? Moscow calls the sum - "considerable."

Now as Lowell would say - s - l - u - t.