

L. T. OLDS FISHER, JUNE 4, 1963

(Richard C. Hottelet substituting,
L. T. in New Guinea).

President Kennedy's decision with regard to civil rights - is no snap judgment. The President wanted to have all the necessary facts on his desk - before making up his mind. And that's why he waited until today - to tell the American people what he intends to do.

As expected, Mr. Kennedy is sending - a special message to Capitol Hill. We don't have the contents of the presidential message. It will not be made public until after delivery, next week. But an educated guess - is circulating in Washington. Most of those close to the Administration and the Congress - feel sure of two clauses. One, a request that the Justice Department be granted authority - to file integration lawsuits. As of now, the Attorney General

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cannot act - until a plaintiff has gone to Court.

The second clause would be based on -

interstate commerce, barring discrimination by any

business using products - that cross state lines.

Which covers practically everyone - who serves the

public.

Meanwhile, President Kennedy's Executive

Order - goes into effect immediately. Forbidding

discrimination in the hiring of workers - for Federal

projects. Including private construction that receives

support from the U.S. Treasury.

demonstrators enter segregated facilities - in different

places, at different times. And there was a mass protest

at the Jackson City Hall - leading to more than thirty

arrests. Including a housewife - from far away Concord,

Massachusetts. Mrs. Barbara Massar - who says she wants

to do her bit for civil rights.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The civil rights issue is focussed tonight - on Alabama and Mississippi. But - in different ways.

Alabama is waiting to see - what happens tomorrow. Will Governor Wallace be enjoined by the Court - from enforcing segregation at the State University? If so - will he obey the Court? These questions are pointed up by - the University's acceptance of a third Negro applicant.

In Mississippi - more direct action. Jackson, the State Capital - hit by staggered protest demonstrations. That's the system whereby groups of demonstrators enter segregated facilities - in different places, at different times. And there was a mass protest at the Jackson City Hall - leading to more than thirty arrests. Including a housewife - from far away Concord, Massachusetts. Mrs. Barbara Massar - who says she wants to do her bit for civil rights.

INTRODUCTION TO TAPE

For an introduction to Lowell Thomas

tonight - maybe I should quote Rudyard Kipling. That

line about being - "East of Suez".

is the city of Colombo,

to be with me here in

and only man is vile?

the old missionary hymn

off the tip of India.

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ago, when I saw on a world tour, telling the

of Arabia, the story recently distorted in

CEYLON

Good Evening, Everybody:

My dateline tonight, Dick, is the city of Colombo, on the Equator. How would you like to be with me here in Ceylon, where every prospect pleases and only man is vile? You may recall that was the way the old missionary hymn described this tropical paradise just off the tip of India. You've all heard the remark that if you were in love with, entranced with some place in your youth, you'd better be wise and stay away from that spot in later life, because it might not live up to your expectations. I should have heeded this. I should have stayed away from Ceylon.

My wife - she was then my child bride - and I, had a glorious time on this lush equatorial island, back in the days long, long ago, when I was on a world tour, telling the story of Lawrence of Arabia, the story recently distorted in

a motion picture that you may have seen, a film completely unfair to Lawrence and to me, for that matter). In those days of long ago, some forty years ago it was, Ceylon was indeed a Garden of Eden, and we were Adam and Eve, at least I thought I was Adam. Almost everything about it was exotic - temple bells, the fragrance of blossoms, monks in their saffron robes, elephants, rickshaws, the special pageantry of the British of that era. Clean streets, and the Gulface Hotel, looking out over the Indian Ocean. Then it was one of the world's most luxurious. And Ceylon was a place where you could bathe in the surf and sit under a palm tree and dream. But now, well, I hardly recognize it today, the city of Colombo is so drab. The traffic western now, no elephants, hotel run down. Even the picturesque natives of Ceylon, Sengalese, the men no longer wear their hair in a top knot, held in place by a handsome high tortoise shell comb. However, it still is the jewel center of the world,

I guess, and perhaps it's worth a visit to Ceylon just to see the sapphires, the emeralds, the zircons, the pigeon blood rubies from Burma, and the opals from Australia.

New York World's Fair President Bob Moses had asked me to stop off in Ceylon and repeat the invitation for this glorious island to build a pavilion at the World's Fair.

Acting American Ambassador LeRoy Lutkins introduced me to the island's famous Prime Minister, Madame Bandaranaike, who has been in office since the assassination of her husband. She says that her still glorious tropical isle simply can't afford it, especially since her government has expropriated American oil interests here, and we have cut off our foreign aid to Ceylon. Of course, I first saw this island through the rose-colored glasses of youth. So maybe when you come out East of Suez, maybe you had better put Ceylon on your itinerary.

Former President of Mexico, Peres Gil and family

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have just been telling me that they find it a big improvement over India, from whence they have just come.

My next stop - Australia, once more, and in this jet age that means not a two weeks voyage from Ceylon as it did on my world tour forty years ago. It means a mere matter of hours. So tomorrow or the next day, let's meet at Darwin, on the north coast of Kangarooland.

Until then, solong,

ROCKEFELLER

END OF TAPE

The Governor of New York told his news conference

Okay Lowell - Darwin it is. - If - we can

today - "I think that politics should be discussed."
catch up with you.

His audience took him to mean - that his recent marriage
should be discussed. And - it was.

Nelson Rockefeller's attitude - is this. He

knows that his divorce and remarriage - have made him

unpopular with some Americans. He's having a poll taken

- to find out how he stands with the voters. And while

that's going on - he's keeping an open mind about his

chances for the G.O.P. nomination in nineteen sixty-four

PLUG

All that remains of the late Pope - is in Saint Peter's tonight. The catafalque was carried to the before. The phrase - "Body by Fisher". The point Basilica from the Papal Palace - by the same eight men tonight - as you probably know already - is that the Fisher Body Division of General Motors is joining this program as a co-sponsor.

You must have something to say about that - Catholic Church. And all around, a vast crowd of mourners - numbering at least one hundred thousand.

The darkness in the Basilica is almost tangible - beyond the flickering candles. The silence, extending up and up - to the wonderful dome of Michelangelo. Amid the darkness and the silence of Saint Peter's - lying in state - the mortal remains of Pope John the Twenty-Third.

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POPE

All that remains of the late Pope - is in Saint Peter's tonight. The catafalque was carried to the Basilica from the Papal Palace - by the same eight men of the Papal bodyguard who used to carry the Pope on his throne. Behind them, a solemn procession of Cardinals, bishops, - and lesser prelates of the Catholic Church. And all around, a vast crowd of mourners - numbering at least one hundred thousand.

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CRASH

The word from Anchorage, Alaska - is that there probably will be no survivors of that plane crash in the Gulf of Alaska. For one thing, no human being could last for long - in the icy waters of the Gulf. Secondly, the DC-7 hit with an impact so shattering - that there may never have been any survivors.

The debris was found scattered - over a square mile of water. Some of the dead, picked up from among suitcases, uninflated life rafts, and parts of the plane. The fear being that all one hundred and one persons aboard the transport - were killed when their plane came down in the Gulf of Alaska.