

L.T. - DELCO, MONDAY, OCT. 27, 1958
(Given by Walter Cronkite, L.T. in So. Pacific)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

There were four puffs of black smoke, today - from the chimney above the Vatican. Which meant - two things.

One - that the conclave of Cardinals had still failed in electing a new Pope. No candidate - getting the necessary two-thirds plus one. Four ballots taken yesterday, and four today - with no result.

The other meaning was - that measures had been taken to remedy the trouble yesterday. When a cloud of white smoke, that should have been black - spread the false report that a Pontiff had been chosen. Something went wrong with the old method of burning ballots with damp straw to make black smoke.

So, today, the Vatican procured a couple of smoke generators from a fireworks factory outside Rome. One - to make black smoke. Signalling no result. The other - white smoke, indicating the election of a Pope. So there was no confusion, today. The clouds of smoke from the chimney - unmistakably black.

The failure to elect after eight ballots - would seem to indicate a stubborn division among the Cardinals. Rumors in Rome are - that the seventeen Italian Cardinals are insisting on an Italian candidate - who would be "transitional". That is, the election of an aged Cardinal, whose papal reign would not last many years. The Italians, we hear, also want a "pastoral" Pope. Devoted - more to church work and less to international affairs.

The thirty-four non-Italian Cardinals, says the rumor, prefer a non-Italian Pope, who would take a strong stand against Communism. For example, Cardinal Agagianian - the Armenian prelate who was born in Russia. His native land - now a Soviet republic.

Another candidate being mentioned is Cardinal Roncalli, the seventy-six year old patriarch of Venice. Who might be - a compromise.

Reports are that at least one of the Cardinals in the conclave - may be ailing. There are signs of medical activity -

including the presence of an ambulance. Several of the prelates are of great age. Two, at least, were ill in some degree - when they entered the conclave. The rumor in Rome is that the medical attention is for Cardinal Canali, eighty-five years old, the senior Cardinal deacon. Who, by tradition, would announce the election of a new Pope, from the balcony of St. Peter's.

But, it should be made clear, all such reports from Rome tonight are purely speculation - informed as they may be.

The balloting in the Sistine Chapel will be resumed again, tomorrow. Balloting - at the rate of four a day, until a Pontiff is chosen.

ATOMIC

Soviet Russia, today, rejected the offer from the United States and Britain, to suspend atomic tests for one year. The suspension would have begun next Friday, when talks at Geneva begin, for a permanent ban on testing.

At the U.N., today, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Zorin stated - that the Russians intend to continue their own atomic testing - until they've matched the number of explosions touched off by the British and Americans since ~~the atomic bombing of Nagasaki~~ last March Thirty-First.

PAKISTAN

Pakistan, tonight, is under the absolute rule - of a General. At Karachi, today, President Iskander Mirza turned all official power over - to General Mohammad Ayub Khan. Who assumes office - of Prime Minister.

Only a few weeks ago, President Mirza overthrew the previous government of Pakistan. But now - steps aside in favor of a top military man.

INTRO. TO RECORDING

Tonight Lowell Thomas reports on a remarkable project.

Which is also an adventure - in the Far Pacific. At - Danger

Island.

(Recording 2:25)

L.I.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Once again my voice is coming to you from one of the most remote spots on earth. If you can call the waves of an ocean a spot. You may be getting a bit weary of hearing me say I am at some remote place. I've been saying it for many years now - that expedition to Tibet, in 1949, and rather often during the past eighteen months - from cannibal country deep in New Guinea; from an ice island at an I G Y North Pole base in the middle of the Arctic Ocean; from the Lost World region between the Orinoco and the Amazon, in South America; from an unmapped section of the Australian desert; from the Southern Sahara and Timbuktu; from an icefield amid the glaciers of Alaska; and recently from the Mountains of the Moon country in Equatorial Africa. All remote - off the beaten path.

But rarely if ever have I been in a remote area farther off the beaten path than from where I am now. The event this time is an all-scientific expedition, to the

South Seas, between the Equator and the Tropic of ~~Capricorn~~
Capricorn. Oh, not quite all scientific. There are
some sailors too - and at times they give it a non-
scientific flavor - the sailors and the Polynesian girls.
More about that later. That's a separate story. The
scientists on the expedition were sent out to study a
total eclipse of the Sun; astronomers, physicists, and
astro-physicists. The astronomers ashore, on an atoll
called Danger Island. I chose to stay aboard The U S S
POINT DEFENCE, with the astro-physicists. Because of
their plans to attempt something spectacular never before
done by man. Send rockets into outer space to a distance
of 150 miles, to study the sun. One of the most important
events in history. of study that they call Rocket

But a bit more about where we are; approximately
2000 miles due south of the Hawaiian Islands; 3000 miles
due west of the nearest point in South America, where
Peru bends out into the Pacific; New Guinea 1600 miles due

west of us; while 1500 miles to the southwest is the nearest point on the coast of Australia. To the south? Nothing - but water. Not even a speck of land between us and the Antarctic Continent.

U.S. Navy Captain Edwin Woodhead, skipper of the POINT DEFIANCE, estimates the equipment involved in the expedition is worth between 25 and 30 million dollars. Also, more scientists than ever took part in any previous expedition, anywhere. Half of them with complicated apparatus - never used before. Some from the coral beach of Danger Island. Astronomers and physicists there. The astro-physicists on the ship, with six huge rockets never fired before except in tests. This time to launch a new era in a new field of study that they call Rocket Astronomy.

The rockets before me here on the deck, leaning against tall tripods. Looking as though impatient to take off on their mission into Outer Space. From where they

are to radio back reports concerning the Sun; something that until now has never been done. When they are touched off, each of these sleek 22 foot tall, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch emissaries of Man is expected to soar through our Earth's atmosphere, on through the ionosphere, for a distance of 150 miles, to a region of vacuum - comparative vacuum - from where instruments mounted in their glistening needle-like cones will radio new information down to more instruments aboard this ship - tell us things about our Sun that we do not know, and open up a new world to us. That's the idea, about which I will give you some rather more thrilling details in my next.

Until then - So long.

Goodnight.

NEWCASTLE

It can be sad - when we have to bid farewell to familiar old sayings. For example, the one - about carrying coals to Newcastle. Which city - was in times gone by, the chief center of British coal production. It would have been the height of silliness to take coal there, but the old saying has long been losing its meaning - as coal mining in Newcastle has diminished. The veins of coal - worked out. And now - the end.

Today, the Montague Colliery, the last coal mine in Newcastle - announced that it's closing. The seams of coal - exhausted, after having been worked for some four hundred and fifty years.

So they'll have to carry coal to Newcastle - or the poor old town will freeze.

Goodnight.