

L.T.-OLDS. THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1962.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

I suppose that all newsmen feel tonight - as I do. Of course, there would have been mass sorrow in the country, and around the world - if Scott Carpenter had been lost. But there's a special reaction that hits you - when you have to write the news about an overwhelming tragedy.

And that's what it looked like - for those agonizing forty minutes today. The Space Administration announcing - that our second astronaut had over-shot his target; zooming two hundred miles too far - down the Atlantic. Whereupon - the suspense was indeed intense.

Had something gone wrong - inside the space capsule? Was there enough fuel left - to trigger the

retroactive rockets? What about the position - of the capsule? Was it coming down backwards - in which case, the heat shield would not prevent it from burning up in the atmosphere.

All these questions, underlined - by the loss of contact. We all wondered - whether we'd ever hear Scott Carpenter's voice again. And then came the thrilling news - that the capsule had been sighted. The Astronaut, riding his life-raft - beside his space vehicle. And this turned out to be one of the most exciting stories of our time.

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Scott Carpenter, aboard evidently, in good shape, went right into the tests that are routine after a space flight. Scientists and psychologists - getting his impressions down on paper, while they are still fresh.

CAPSULE FOLLOW ASTRONAUT

Can you picture a space capsule, bobbing up and down out there on the Atlantic? The astronaut inside, releasing himself - from his seat? Opening his escape hatch - slipping out onto his life-raft. Then - waiting to be picked up. Scott Carpenter - back on this planet. Also his "Aurora Seven." But look where they were!

As soon as the descent became known - as you know - ships and planes began to converge on the area; all hoping to be first to make a rescue. The lucky ship - "The Intrepid". The lucky plane - a helicopter, from the carrier, picking up the astronaut - transporting him to the ship.

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CAPSULE FOLLOW ASTRONAUT - 2

The "Aurora Seven" - is receiving some special attention. "Waterwings" were quickly attached to the capsule - to keep it from sinking. And this space traveler, too - will be getting a meticulous going over.

His first trip around the earth, apparently uneventful - by astronaut standards. Then on the second one something goes wrong. Fuel supply - being used up too rapidly. Carpenter, switching to the hand-controls - to conserve fuel. His superiors on the ground, making a quick decision - not to bring him down at that point. The astronaut, to orbit for a third time - as scheduled.

Scott Carpenter also agreed on that. So around he went another time, so he continued to report his condition, and that of his space capsule - to tracking stations on the ground.

FLIGHT FOLLOW CAPSULE

The beginning of it all - that moment of beauty and excitement. The big Atlas rocket, rising from its launch pad - amid that burst of flames and smoke; gathering speed - thundering into the sky, in a perfect flight arc. And then - Scott Carpenter was in orbit.

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Among other things, he released that colored balloon we had heard about, to see how it looked being towed through space. His finding - the balloon bounced up and down, as if behind a car on the highway. Showing - that a ride through space can be turbulent - not so smooth. Carpenter also learned that orange and silver - are the colors most easily distinguishable up there a hundred miles above the earth.

Oh yes, and he saw those same famous "fireflies", gleaming and fluttering past the window, the "fireflies" Titov and Glenn saw. "Like snowflakes" - according to Scott Carpenter.

YARBOROUGH

On Capitol Hill, both Republicans and Democrats are supporting - Senator Yarborough. The Texas Democrat admits that he accepted Seventeen hundred dollars - from Billie Sol Estes. Yarborough's explanation - just another political contribution. The kind that most politicians accept - when running for office.

The Senators colleagues - seem satisfied with his explanation. Mansfield of Montana, a democrat, says - "Senator Yarborough has laid his cards on the table." *Said Sen.* Goldwater of Arizona, a republican; - "all of us in politics have this problem."

SALAN

The Paris verdict on Raoul Salan is rather mystifying - for several reasons. The most obvious - why did the leader of the OAS get life, when his subordinate, General Jouhaud, was sentenced to death? Again, the tribunal mentioned "extenuating circumstances" - in the case of the man who frankly assumed all responsibility for the atrocities of the O.A.S. Moreover, in spite of the "extenuating circumstances" - Salan was found guilty on every count. Finally, the prosecution had demanded more insistently than in the case of Jouhaud - that this defendant be sentenced to death.

In any case ~~it's a stiff sentence~~ for Raoul Salan, ~~life imprisonment~~ for the old soldier who used to be called - "the most decorated man in the French army," *the sentence - prison for life. Which probably means until a new government releases him*

BOAT

An auction in Cincinnati brings to port - the last of the old time riverboats. Sold under the gavel - the "Avalon", a steam-propelled sternwheeler. For almost half a century, the "Avalon" has been - a familiar sight on the Mississippi. Her whistle, a familiar sound *comin' round the bend on her way* from New Orleans to St. Paul - from Natchez to Pittsburg.

In her heyday, she carried - thirteen hundred passengers, *and* ~~also~~ a troupe of minstrels to entertain them. ~~Minstrels, who began in the lyrical Stephen Foster vein. And evolved with Mississippi music,~~ *that gave* ~~rag time and jazz.~~ *rate*

Today, ~~But the~~ competition has become too tough. The legendary ~~Riverboats~~ *Riverboats* - gradually disappearing. Today, the last of them - auctioned off. The "Avalon" - sailing into oblivion, *- Dick* taking with her *↑* a whole era of American history, The era of - the Mississippi minstrels.

ROOSEVELT

Mrs. F.D.R. - contradicts the author of a play about her late husband. Did, or did not, Mrs. Roosevelt receive compensation for aiding Dore Schary? The playwright says "yes". Schary saying that Eleanor gave him anecdotes and so on about F.D.R. - for "Sunrise at Campobello;" at a hundred dollars an hour.

Mrs. Roosevelt retorts - "not so." And offers to prove that she never was paid for helping MM on "Sunrise at Campobello."