

L.T.-DELCO. FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1957

(Given by Walter Cronkite - L.T. in  
New Guinea)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A Syrian diplomat in Rome charges - his country is being turned into a Communist military dictatorship. Military Attache', Ibrahim Hussein, referring to the pro-Leftist government of Premier Sabri Assali.

The government in Damascus has ordered Hussein to return home. He's accused of being part of an American plot to overthrow the regime. This afternoon, he told newsmen in Rome - he knows nothing about such a plot. He says he's against the Eisenhower Doctrine for the Middle East. But at the same time, he accuses Assali of wanting to turn Syria into a Soviet satellite. He's afraid Syria is close to disappearing behind the Iron Curtain.

Will he go home? He said he couldn't answer that question - because he hasn't made up his mind yet.

SYRIA

In Damascus, the American Embassy is under a close watch by the Syrian Security Police. And from Egypt we hear that today an American plane was forced down - when it violated the air space over Syria.

OMAN

A dispatch from Bahrein, Arabia - states that some of the rebels fighting for the Imam against the Sultan - were trained in Saudi Arabia. Two prisoners, taken by the British - say they were hired to take part in the rising. The arrangements, made when a brother of the Imam was rounding up men willing to serve.

The two prisoners say they were sent to Saudi Arabia for seven months training. They describe themselves as soldiers of fortune - ready to fight for anyone who will pay them. According to their story, they were armed with rifles and ammunition inside the domain of King Saud - and then sent back to Oman, to take part in the rebellion against the Sultan.

SPY

The man accused of being a master spy for the Russians - got a lesson in democracy today. Rudolf Abel, standing in the New York courtroom of Judge Matthew Abruzzo. Abel, saying he has not yet found an attorney - asking the judge to let him have some of the twenty-one thousand dollars seized by the authorities - when the alleged spy was picked up. When Abel asked for fifty dollars - Judge Abruzzo told him he could have two hundred and fifty - if he wanted it. His Honor remarking, "You're in a democracy here - and that's the way we do things."

Then the alleged top figure of Soviet espionage - got a lesson in capitalism. The judge saying, the court would arrange to have Abel defended - his Honor adding, that the attorney might do a better job, if Abel paid him a fee.

AID

The Republican leader in the Senate visited the White House this morning - to give President Eisenhower his opinion of what could be in store for the administration's foreign aid program. Senator Knowland of California telling the President - that last night's vote in the House of Representative may not be the last word. As we know, the House chopped more than eight hundred million dollars from the sum the President asked for. It was a severe rebuff for Mr. Eisenhower - who had appealed repeatedly for stronger support in Congress.

This morning Senator Knowland told the President - the Senate may restore a substantial part of the cut made in the House. The one condition laid down by Knowland - help must come from the Democrats. Tonight, there's some indication - the Democratic support may come. Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana saying - some members of his Party may give the administration program enough strength - to bring the bill closer to what the President wants.

## CARRIER

Secretary of the Navy, Thomas Gates, announces that we are going to build the first atomic powered aircraft carrier. She'll be the largest ship ever constructed. A thousand and eighty-eight feet long - longer than the Forrestal type aircraft carriers. She'll weigh eighty-five thousand tons - twenty-five thousand more than the Forrestal. This atomic powered carrier, to cost more than three hundred million dollars. This launching, scheduled for Nineteen Sixty-One.

This is the latest step taken by the Navy - to create an atomic age fleet. The nuclear powered aircraft carrier, to be the key vessel of future naval warfare.

## BLIMP

The crash of that Navy blimp off the coast of North Carolina - was caused by weather. The airship, on a routine flight from Glynco Naval Station at Brunswick, Georgia, to Lakehurst, New Jersey - when she ran into tremendous thunder storms. Says Pilot R.D. Dempsey, of Burlington, New Jersey - "The ship began bouncing around - until we lost control of her." As soon as the blimp began to lose altitude - Dempsey sent out frantic distress signals. Then he came down in the sea - near Oregon Inlet, North Carolina.

All nine members of the crew managed to get into lifecrafts. They stayed put all night - while the Coast Guard mounted an air and sea search. The survivors, picked up this morning by a fishing boat.

REPORTER

The Polish Communist government expells a staff correspondent of the United Press. Anthony Cavendish, ordered to leave the country within a week. The reason - his coverage of the strike of street car workers in Lodz.

Cavendish said in his story that at least five persons had been injured during the strike. Today, he told Polish authorities - he saw the hospital certificates of five patients - injured by the police. The official Communist answer is - Cavendish should not have used the phrase, "at least five". Because he implied there were more than that. The Communists, accusing him of tendentious reporting - telling him to get out of Poland.



## SCOTLAND

Tonight Scotland is disturbed by the question of - the kilt. The reason, that new look in the British army. Under Prime Minister Macmillan's plan - a number of outfits will be merged - some losing their identity. Two of them - the Highland Light Infantry, and the Lowland Royal Scot Fusiliers.

Macmillan wants to transfer the Highlanders to the Lowland brigade. And that's where the question of the kilt comes up. The Highlanders want to keep it. But the Lowlanders wear military trousers. So, who should give way?

And that's not the end of this dispute. The Highlanders wear the MacKenzie tartan. The Lowlanders, the colors of the Campbells. So which tartan - should the combined outfit wear? There's no agreement on that either.

The Prime Minister says - the merger will have to be worked out between the two forces. But a lot of observers doubt it will work - regardless of what the men wear. Today Colonel Sir Thomas Moore of the Lowlanders remarked: "Highlanders are like oil and water - they just won't mix."

## CAMPBELL

A famous speed boat racer failed to break the world's record today - but he was lucky, because he escaped with his life. Donald Campbell, son of the great Sir Malcolm Campbell - racing his jet hydroplane "Bluebird" across Lake Canandaigua, in up-state New York. He averaged around two hundred and nine miles an hour - sixteen short of his own world record.

But the important thing about today's run - was that the jet hydroplane almost tipped over at one point. Donald Campbell, driving his "Bluebird" at around two forty - when he hit a swell caused by a boat crossing his path. The speedboat went up in the air - and sailed for about two hundred feet, before Campbell could set it down again on the surface of Lake Canandaigua.

Afterward, he told newsmen - he was lucky to come through alive. He added - he's going to make more attempts to break the record - that he himself set last year in England.

## SHOOTING

That shooting in Mansfield, Texas - sounds like something out of an old-time thriller. The victim, pleading for his life during a hectic ten-minutes, in which he had a gun waving under his nose. The incident, involving two of the top officials in Mansfield.

The trouble began last Tuesday - when Mayor Roland Turck ordered a detailed audit of the books. That order caused a furious outburst by the City's Secretary, J. D. Hayes.

Today Hayes telephoned Mayor Turck - asking for a nine o'clock appointment. When the Secretary got to the Mayor's office, he pulled out a pistol - and said he was going to shoot the Mayor. Hayes adding, before shooting - he intended to let Turck know just what he thought of him.

For the next ten minutes, Mayor Turck tried to argue Hayes out of shooting. The Mayor, pleading for his life - and praying that someone would come into his office.

Finally, he saw there was nothing for him to do - except run. So the Mayor dashed out of his office - with Hayes

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after him. The Secretary, firing a fusillade of shots at the Mayor. Turck was nicked in the hand. Hayes, using the final bullet in his gun - to commit suicide.

## KIDNAP

Today a Missouri highway patrolman pulled off one of the most astonishing rescues - in the history of American crime. Patrolman John Davis, stopping a car for a routine check.

Then, noticing a hand waving from the trunk. When he forced the trunk open - out came the owner of the car - Airman Carl Wagner and his wife.

They told Davis they were driving along near St. Louis last night - when they picked up a hitchhiker named James Essen. Soon afterward, Essen pulled out a gun, beat Mr. and Mrs. Wagner over the head, and then forced them into the car trunk.

The couple had little hope of surviving - until the car stopped - and they heard their kidnapper talking to Patrolman Davis. Wagner quickly pried up the corner of the trunk - stuck his hand out - and waved frantically.

So tonight, Essen is in the hands of the police. He's described as a notorious criminal - who escaped from a jail in Ohio, where he was serving time for murder.

INTRODUCTION TO L.T.

And now a weird story from New Guinea - Lowell Thomas reporting on possible fearsome developments in the dark jungle.

## NEW GUINEA

L.T.: - The man who has the over-all responsibility for the Sepik River country, here where we are in New Guinea, is an Australian Government official, by name Frederick Kaad. He is the District Officer, with headquarters at the coastal town of Wewak, the nearest place where there are any number of Europeans -- officials and their families, traders, and a few other white men, the frontier types you find in any New Guinea town.

The Sepik, one of the World's largest rivers, and one of the least known, on whose shores still live head hunting cannibal tribes - the Sepik winds around in the lowlands in such a way that here where we are at the native river village of Angoram, we are nearer Wewak than we would be if we were at the mouth of the Sepik.

District Officer Kaad, standing on the verandah of a thatched house, built on stilts, has just made us a speech - a speech of advice, and warning, to the members of our expedition.

While we flew here from Madang, off to the East, in an old war-time tri-motor corrugated German Junker plane, he flew up from Wewak in a small single engined American plane, a Cessna 170. There were twelve of us aboard ours, along with all sorts of expedition gear, none of which was latched down. Our plane crew, a couple of Australian youngsters, bush pilots who fly without benefit of instruments or radio -- by the seat of their pants.

Although it was cool in the air, a great relief from steaming Madang, I wasn't unhappy to get out of their plane, because it was difficult to avoid thinking of what might happen in case of a forced landing - with all those loose crates.

You constantly hear New Guinea people say there haven't been many air accidents flying over this wild island. But, could that be whistling in the dark? Last night at the bar in Jack Gilmore's pub, in Madang, this topic came up in a conversation with veteran flyer Tom Diegan. He was boasting



about how safe New Guinea flying is, when Lee Robinson, of "WALK INTO PARADISE" fame, spoke up and said: "Tom, how many have you killed?" To which Diegan replied: "Oh, the most at one time, twenty-seven."

And often when some missionary's name comes up in conversation, the comment will be that Father So-and-So when down in the Kukukuku Mountains in that single-engined plane.

When we landed on the short grass strip at Angoram, a strip that runs right up to the edge of a high embankment overlooking the Sepik, the plane in making its landing came to a stop within a few feet of the embankment. No one seemed to think anything of that.

There are some airstrips here in New Guinea, in narrow valleys where no pilot is permitted to fly in a passenger until he has made at least five test landings on that strip -- because you have to spiral in!

At any rate when we piled out of our pre-war Junker

we were met by District Officer Kaad, several other officials, and a couple of hundred nearly naked New Guinea villagers.

From here on we go by boat. Actually, a small flotilla, including three under power of fair size, and two rafts made out of dugout canoes. They are to be our home, our base, from here on. So long.

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