

L. T. - DELCO. THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1957

(Given by Ned Calmer)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A mystery in the air - an explosion in a commercial passenger plane high above the Mojave desert today, one man catapulted from the plane to almost certain death. The FBI immediately stepped into the case to try to find out what exploded and why. The blast ripped a seven by four foot hole in the side of the Western Airlines ship near the rear of the passenger cabin. S. F. Binstock, of North Hollywood had just gotten out of his seat and was standing near that part of the cabin. He was sucked out of the plane. Airline officials are puzzled over the incident because there are no fuel tanks near that part of the fuselage, and the baggage compartment - where a bomb could be placed - is in the forward section of the plane. The other fifteen people were not hurt and the plane made a safe landing at Victorville, California. There is one theory on what happened - a theory advanced by the FBI - that Binstock

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shot himself and the bullets he fired ripped through the fuselage, weakening it so that the pressure inside the cabin forced it to tear loose. But the pilot and airline officials discount this possibility.

## SCHOOL AID

There will be no Federal school aid bill again this year. The house voted to kill the bill after an anti-segregation amendment was put into it. The bill would have committed the government to spend one and a half billion dollars to help build schools over a five year period. But the House - by a narrow margin of two hundred and eight to two hundred and three - voted against the bill. So for the second year in a row a school aid bill is dead.

## ATOM TEST

Another atomic test shot in the Nevada desert today, the tenth atomic explosion in the current series. It was set off from a balloon five hundred feet in the air and - code-named "Owens" - was relatively small. Equivalent to something under twenty thousand tons of T.N.T.

The flare was so bright, the fire-ball made the sun dim, the fire-ball glowing in the sky for ten seconds - with the mushroom cloud rising beneath it. The explosion, so terrific - it sent clouds of dust swarling across the desert far below.



## BEY OF TUNIS

Right on schedule, as predicted, Sidi Mohamed Al-Amin, the ruling Bey of Tunisia, today was kicked out. That desert country was proclaimed a republic by the constituent assembly. Premier Habib Bourguiba is the new president. The assembly acted after several hours of emotional speeches in which deputy after deputy rose to denounce the Bey as a man who liked to "enrich himself" at the expense of the people. Thousands of Tunisians milled about El Bardo palace, where the Bey once held court, while the speeches were being made inside the throne room. Armed police ringed the old building keeping everyone at least three hundred yards away. When the voting was over the Deputies rose and many shouted: "Throw the Beys into the sea. Long live the Republic of Tunisia."

## CIVIL RIGHTS

The civil rights debate in the Senate rumbles on.

In spite of the major surgery performed on the bill yesterday - in which the bill was stripped of all enforcement powers except in the case of voting rights - Senator Knowland thinks the administration still has "a good civil rights bill." Knowland, however, has come out strongly against the jury trial amendment. This will not preserve the right to vote, he thinks. Knowland is of the opinion that any amendment to water down the right to vote provision of the bill will be defeated. But Senator Johnson, Democratic leader of the Senate, has a different opinion. He thinks a jury trial provision will be written into that section on the right to vote.

CUBA

The Batista government of Cuba is apparently cracking down hard on attempts by the Cuban rebels to sell bonds to finance their cause. This became known today when one of the fund raisers - an elementary school teacher in Matanzas - in the Western part of the island - was shot and killed by Batista's soldiers. The bond-seller is said to have fired at the soldiers when they trapped him, and in the exchange, a ninety-four-year old bystander was wounded.

## IKE PASSPORTS

President Eisenhower wants everyone who goes abroad to be an American good-will ambassador. Beginning August first, every passport issued by the State Department will be accompanied by a letter from the President asking the holder to conduct himself so as to prove to the world that the United States is a friendly country "dedicated to the search for world peace."

The White House says the letter is intended to carry out the spirit of the "people-to-people" campaign undertaken by private organizations -- with the government's blessing -- to encourage friendly contacts between Americans and the people of foreign lands.



GRANGE

The Galloping Ghost of Illinois - wants to keep pro-football as it is. Red Grange, testifying before a House Anti-Trust Sub-Committee. The subject - that controversial draft - which allows each team of the football league to claim certain college players. Once a player has been selected - he must play for the team that chose him - or else he is outlawed from professional football.

Today Red Grange testified that the draft has made pro-football what it is. The best college players are available to all the teams - and that keeps the leagues balanced - no one team running off with the championship every year. Besides, the players prefer this system. So says the greatest broken-field runner in the history of football - Red Grange.

## ROCKET

This September a rocket will be launched thousands of miles into space. The statement comes from Dr. Ernst Krause, of the Aeronutronic Systems Company, which is working for the Air Force.

According to Dr. Krause, the experiment will be carried out over the Pacific. A balloon will carry the rocket up for the first twenty miles. The balloon, two hundred feet in diameter - able to carry rockets weighing twelve hundred pounds. As soon as the balloon reaches twenty miles, a four stage rocket will be touched off electronically.

The first rocket blast will drive straight through the balloon, high into the stratosphere. After that, the second, third, and fourth stage rocket engines will take over. The last, driving the rocket at seventeen thousand miles an hour - thousands of miles above the surface of the earth. The rocket will carry a set of complicated scientific instruments - to send messages back to the ground.

## HAIR-CUT

Airman Donald Wheeler of Cortez, Colorado - isn't going to serve any time in the guard-house after all, even if he did refuse to get a "white sidewall" hair-cut. A court-martial found him guilty of disobedience - sentenced him to four months at hard labor and a fine of two hundred dollars.

Today Colonel Charles Johnstone, his top commander, set aside the sentence. Colonel Johnstone saying he found errors and irregularities in the conduct of the trial.

The airman says he still won't get a "white side-wall" hair-cut. The Air Force adds - there's no need for him to - since the close clip is being abandoned.

All the Air Force is demanding of Wheeler now - is strict obedience to his commanding officers in the future.

## SAILOR

But if Wheeler is out of trouble, a seventeen year old sailor from the aircraft carrier "Bennington" is in jail - after searing himself, and a lot of other people too. Charles Highsmith of Fort Worth, Texas - A.W.O.L. from his ship. He's had some flying experience - but he had never soloed. He picked last night as the time to start.

Choosing a Cessna One Seventy - at Medford Airport in California, he jumped into the Cessna and took off - headed west. After flying for about a hundred miles - in the darkness - he decided to come down and see where he was. He found the Pacific Ocean.

That was when he got scared. His compass failed. And all he could do was fly around in the darkness - until he saw some lights.

He maneuvered his Cessna into Ukiah Airport - with less than an hour of gasoline still in his tank.

But there was a welcoming committee for him on the ground - led by the county sheriff.



## DISARM

Harold Stassen, the American disarmament representative today began the detailed outline of this country's plan to control rockets and guided missiles. Informants in London say that Stassen told the five-power conference that the United States wants to set up a world-wide system to insure that such weapons will be used only for peaceful and scientific purposes. Russian delegate Zorin reportedly listened to the Stassen proposal with interest and promised to study it carefully. And so the arms talks drone on.

## OMAN

Warfare in the desert. For the second day, British jets hurled modern day rockets into an Arab mud fortress in the rebellion-torn states of Oman and Muscat on the Persian Gulf. The jets blasted a mud fortress where rebel bands had established a headquarters. This time the attack was on the great round fortress at Nizwa where this morning the personal flag of the rebel leader was flying. But reports from the area seem to indicate that the fortress was deserted when attacked so violently by the British planes.

## BRIDGE

That private enterprise bridge built across the Colorado River without notice to the government is in trouble. It was put up by nine Arizona farmers near the California line to get their cotton and grain to market. They just ignored the federal and state agencies they were supposed to consult. Now they're charging tolls, and business is great. But today the Army Corps of **Engineers** found out about the bridge and told the builders they'd have to make a path for boats on the river.

POZNAN

Behind the Iron Curtain - Poznan, Poland, where last year very serious anti-Soviet riots broke out, again was the scene of a riot. The cause of the trouble isn't clear, but it was evidently of some proportion because it is reported the police had to use tear gas to break up the concentrations of young people who roamed through the streets of the city appealing for help. A Communist newspaper in Warsaw, which first revealed the incident, said many of the youths were under the influence of drink - a fact hard to check.



## ENDPIECE

A professional wrestler picked up by the police of Syracuse, New York - says he turned to crime, because wrestling doesn't pay. Richard O'Reilly weighs ~~over~~ three hundred and thirty pounds. He's met some of the famous gladiators of wrestling - including Gorgeous George and the Elephant Boy. But he claims the profession damaged his personality - he found that his bouts were always fixed. The winner - picked in advance.

So he turned to crime instead. And he ran up a pretty good score. He's now wanted in states all the way from Michigan to Mississippi, accused of forgery, larceny, robbery, car theft, and probation violation.

In spite of the record, he didn't make a success of crime. So today, he surrendered to the Syracuse police. Wrestler O'Reilly telling them - "crime is no better than wrestling."

FOOTNOTE

The law of the jungle is changing - apparently. The Deputy Director of Germany's Frankfurt Zoo, has just returned after five months in the heart of Africa - in the Belgian Congo. And this is what he says he discovered. The lion is not always king of the beasts. The giraffe does make sounds - which will be news to a lot of us. The silent giraffe, says Dr. Dieter Backhaus, makes a noise like the bellow of a cow whose voice is changing. And as to the old belief that the lion is king, he says he once saw a lion try to frighten a herd of antelope - which ignored him. Another time, two elephants came up to a lion who was feeding - and chased him away.

And now, as Lowell says, s---- l----- u----- t-----