

L.T.-K. AUGUST 31st, 1953

ITALY

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The government at Rome, today, was informed that if the Yugoslavs try to seize any part of the area of Trieste - the western Big Three will consider it a breach in the Italian peace treaty. This was conveyed by the Ambassadors of the United States, Great Britain and France -- the assurance given to the new Italian Premier, Pella.

There was an uproar in Italy, over the weekend, following indications that the Yugoslavs might seize part of the disputed area now under international control. The Roman government ordered ships and troops to the region of Trieste.

FOLLOW ITALY

The latest <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ Yugoslav charge that Italian troops "invaded" Yugoslav territory today. Saying - that soldiers with rifles and machine guns pushed across the border.

## SUB GERMANY

The West Germans are having a troublesome prologue to their elections. At latest reports, five thousand invading Reds have been arrested, Communist youth infiltrating West Germany to sabotage the balloting. At the same time, there were Fascist riots today. At Nurenberg, a mob of pro-Nazis battling the Police.



## SUEZ

London has a mystery- pertaining to a dangerous international crisis last month. At an R.A.F. station in Middlesex, airman Anthony Rigden is being held, incommunicado. He was picked up in Paris.

Rigden was the central figure in a Suez Canal flare-up. He disappeared in Ismailia, and the British claimed - he had been kidnapped by the Egyptians. Which the Egyptians denied angrily. British armor moved into Ismailia, the town sealed off. There was a search everywhere, the situation so tense - an outbreak of hostilities was ~~ix~~ feared.

They never did find Rigden, not at Ismailia! - This weekend he was found in Paris. ~~How~~ How he got there - that's the mystery. There are rumors that, in Ismailia, he drifted into a section out of bounds for British soldiers. And there - ~~fell~~ <sup>evil</sup> in with <sup>one</sup> companions. All of which <sup>as to how he got</sup> Egyptians ~~still, they~~ gives no hint ~~to the puzzle~~ of to Paris -- maybe as an Egyptian!

Sounds like the ridiculous end of an international crisis.

## PRISONERS

There was a formal understanding, today - that all prisoner-of-war, who want to go home, will be exchanged. This puts an end to Communist insistence - that allied captives, put in jail for alleged crimes, should serve out their sentences. The truce commission had a meeting at Pan Mun Jom today, the Communist members agreeing - that prisoner sentences don't count. All who so desire - will be repatriated.

Meanwhile, a remarkable air lift is on. Five thousand soldiers from India taken to the neutral zone near Pan Mun Jom -- without touching South <sup>Korean</sup> ~~XXXX~~ soil. They <sup>are</sup> to guard prisoners-of-war who refuse repatriation. Thousands of these - to be held at a camp in the neutral zone.

Syngman Rhee objects to the <sup>troops from India</sup> ~~troops~~, and we promised - they would not land in South Korea. So we are keeping that pledge, with a helicopter lift.

Indian troops - taken aboard giant army helicopters which operate from a U.S. carrier. Fifteen

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helicopters ~~xxix~~ in operation at one time - five on the carrier deck, five circling to land, five on their way to Pan Mun Jom. The oddest airlift - on record.



# ATOMIC

Washington announces another atomic explosion  
in Soviet Russia. This one - on August twenty-third.  
It was what they call a "fission" explosion. Meaning <sup>an</sup> ~~a~~  
A-bomb, rather than H-bomb. Earlier in the month, <sup>^</sup> ~~The~~ <sup>told us</sup> ~~atomic energy commission confirmed the statement~~ that  
the Russians had detonated a hydrogen bomb.

This latest ~~explosion~~ is described as of about  
the same power as our tests on the Nevada desert.

## SUB WEATHER

While the eastern half of the country is having a record-breaking heat wave, southern Texas has been having floods. The latest - an inundation that hit Uvalde, home of former Vice-President Cactus Jack Garner.

One spectator in describing it says:- "We were standing on a bridge, looking at a perfectly dry creek bed. Then we saw a six foot wall of water rushing toward the bridge. Never saw anything like it before."

Mountaineer Benno Rybiska - writes me from Central Europe about the cold, rainy summer over there. And so it goes. The Weather man always taking us by surprise.



FOLLOW WEATHER

Here's a dispatch - from a pleasant place. The Northernmost weather station - an Ellsmere Island, *way up* ~~away~~ *— near the Pole. There* in the Arctic *^* they've just received a ~~lot~~ shipload of supplies - after a U.S. Navy icebreaker battered its way through one of the heaviest polar ice packs ever seen. The ship broke its way among ice floes forty feet thick - taking five days to navigate *a mere* ~~a~~ two miles of the frozen sea.

## ALTITUDE RECORD.

A new altitude record -- eighty-three thousand, two hundred and thirty-five feet. Set by a rocket powered plane - flown by a Marine Corps pilot. Carried aloft by a B-29 bomber, and turned loose at thirty-four thousand feet. Then shooting aloft, driven by rockets - faster than the speed of sound. Until the rocketplane ran out of momentum - and came down in a long glide, landing back at its base, the dry lake at Muroc, California.

Who was the pilot? Well, when I saw the name in the news dispatch, it sounded <sup>quite</sup> familiar. Lieutenant Colonel Marion Carl - wasn't he the Leatherneck pilot who did madcap flying in World War Two? I referred back to a book I <sup>had published a few yrs. ago --</sup> ~~got out in those years~~, THESE MEN SHALL NEVER DIE. ~~Remember~~ - "The Flying Fools" of Guadalcanal. Marion Carl was one of them. So now he was that all over again - the flying fool hurled by rockets, all the way up, sixteen miles high.

The tragic story of the American failure to conquer K-2 is being told. At Rawalpindi, in Pakistan, today -- *co-leader with Bob Bates,* Dr. Charles Houston said that, at first, the weather was fine. The climbers -- in good shape when they camped at the twenty-five thousand foot level. Then -- the nightmare, frightful Himalayan blizzards. The shrieking gale so violent -- tents were flattened out as if by a giant hand. The wind blew out the fires they built. They suffered from thirst -- the cold so intense they couldn't melt snow for water.

The brilliant young geologist, Arthur Gilkey, came down with a clot of blood in his leg. He fainted, when he tried to stand. "After a few days," Dr. Houston relates, "we realized we must get him down if he was to be saved."

They searched for the safest way down -- in a terrifying world of treacherous crevasses and shifting glaciers. Carrying Gilkey on a stretcher, they were inching their way down, when a mass of ice and rock, dislodged by the hurricane wind -- came roaring down





conquest of Everest, the highest peak in the world. K-2, the second highest, beating back the climbers, with all the mountain fury of the Himalayas.

## TREASURE

Here's a solution of the mystery of the salvage of sunken treasure -- from the Flying Enterprise. Last week, we heard how bundles of soggy money had been brought up from the wreck - aboard which "Stay Put" Carlson made a heroic headline last year. The skipper -- who wouldn't leave the ship, until she was about to sink.

Today, we hear, that "Stay Put" Carlson probably didn't know about the treasure he was carrying. Nor did the Isbrandsen Company, owners of the Flying Enterprise.

The salvage was ordered by British and Belgian Insurance firms, which had insured sacks of money aboard the Flying Enterprise. They <sup>(suffered)</sup> ~~suffered~~ heavy losses in the wreck, and decided to get back what they could -- by ~~xxxxxx~~ salvage.

The money, shipped by banks in Switzerland, was sent through the mails. Bundles of British and American currency stowed in ordinary mail bags, and nobody would guess what was in them. The contents of the



bags of mail would not appear on the ship's manifest. So there was no reason why "Stay Put" Carlson or his company should know about them.

After the shipwreck, the London Insurance people got in touch with salvage firms, but were told - the wreck was too deep under water, two hundred and forty feet deep. ~~So~~ No go, until they contacted the Italian salvage company, Sorima. Which the British insurance people call -- "probably the most expert deep sea salvage operators in the world.

The job was done by the salvage vessel Rostro, equipped with a type of diving bell capable of withstanding enormous pressures. The divers had to get through masses of cargo, before they could reach the sacks of money. With grappling irons, the Rostro took out cases of typewriters, porcelain, even automobiles. The latest is that they recovered seventy thousand dollars worth of currency, and expect to fish out the rest <sup>of the</sup> ~~two~~ two hundred and eighty thousand dollars aboard the Flying Enterprise.

The Rostro, to complete this exploit of salvage, will try to bring up sixteen hundred tons of pig ~~xxx~~ iron. That's the finishing touch.

At Fraser, Colorado, the local people are waiting -- for President Eisenhower to leave. They want to go fishing in the stream -- in which the President has been fishing. Which may sound something like the famous old line: "Shake the hand that shook the hand of John L. Sullivan." Actually, however, the local folks are more materialistic than that.

Shortly before the Presidential arrival at the Aksel Nielsen Ranch, there were busy doings at St. Louis Creek. They stocked it heavily with rainbow trout -- just pouring in the fish. Some -- weighing up to four pounds. To make sure the Presidential angler would catch something.

So that's why the local people are waiting -- eager to get a crack at that over-stocked stream.

I wouldn't want to make invidious comparisons, but it does remind one of the classic story -- of Anthony and Cleopatra. How, when Marc Anthony went fishing in the Nile, divers would hook a fish onto his line -- so he'd catch something. That was fine -- until



Cleopatra had a diver attach a salt herring to Marc Anthony's line. The "triple pillar of the world", as Shakespeare called him -- catching a salt herring.

Today's dispatch tells of one thing to make us envious, sweltering in the heat wave. So cold up there *in those glorious Colorado* ~~in the~~ mountains -- the Secret Service men on duty, in the open at night, are wearing Alaskan parkas.

The news reporters were warned about the mountain chill, and told to dress accordingly. Which they took to mean -- dress up in Western style. So they appeared -- in cowboy pants and ten gallon hats. Like heroes out of that old classic -- "Riders of the Purple Sage."

Presidential Press Secretary Jim Hagerty took a look at them, *in horror and said: --* ~~and screamed~~, "No, not that!"

Whereupon Frank Holeman of the New York Daily News replied with dignity, "We are the writers of the purple page."

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The purple page -- with puns, *miles!*