

L. F. Buick - Fisher, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1964

FLOODS

From Oregon, Idaho and California - good news.

Those torrential rains of the last three days - finally over. With a cold wave - sweeping down from the North, refreezing the melting snowpack at higher elevations - the melted snow responsible for much of the flooding.

As for the devastation left by the flood waters - it was a real disaster, says Oregon's Governor Mark Hatfield. With more than twenty dead and seven thousand homeless. Twenty five bridges down in Oregon alone - Many major highways still blocked. Many people still cut off from help - Property damage - more than two hundred million dollars.

WATER

Here's a reverse side of the coin. With the waters of Lake Erie - now at an all-time low, the New York Central Railroad tonight reports a new rain-making technique - that could fill it to overflowing - so they say.

The weather-mechanism explained by officials of the railroad's Cleveland Technical Center. Artificial water to be triggered by high tension power lines. The power lines emitting positive ions into the air - to cause rain. Or, conversely, sending out negatively-charged currents - to prevent rain.

Sound a bit far out? Not at all - claims the railroad. Heavy industry in Buffalo, New York, and La Porte, Indiana - said to be creating their own artificial weather right now.

DOCKS

AN UNEASY PEACE TONIGHT - ON U. S. DOCKS FROM MAINE TO MEXICO. THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSOCIATION - PLEDGED TO A TRUCE THROUGH THE HOLIDAY WEEK END. BUT BANK AND FIRE MEN - OPENLY DEFIANT AT GULF COAST AND ATLANTIC PORTS. THE DISSIDENT LONGSHOREMEN DEMANDING A SETTLEMENT - NOW - OR A STRIKE. AT GALVESTON AND HOUSTON TODAY - EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE LONGSHOREMEN - REFUSING TO WORK. AND THE PORT OF BALTIMORE - STILL TIED UP BY A WILD CAT WALK OUT - AS TALKS ~~CONSUMED~~ GO ON.

BLAST

~~at~~ DUSK - IN SAIGON, WHERE ARE DOZENS OF AMERICAN FIGHTING
MEN ~~were~~ PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES IN THE U. S. OFFICER'S BARRACKS,
~~AND THEN~~ - A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION - RIPPING THROUGH THE LOWER FLOORS OF
THE SIX STORY BUILDING. AT LEAST TWO AMERICANS - KILLED INSTANTLY -
ONE AN ARMY OFFICER - THE OTHER A CIVILIAN. THE INJURED INCLUDING -
MORE THAN EIGHTY PERSONS. MOST OF THEM AMERICANS - BUT A FEW VIETNAMESE -
AND AUSTRALIANS AS WELL.

THE BOMB BELIEVED PLANTED - BY THE COMMUNIST VIET CONG.
THE CHARGE APPARENTLY HIDDEN IN A U. S. ARMY JEEP - PARKED IN THE
OFFICERS GARAGE AT GROUND LEVEL. POLICE SEIZING A VIETNAMESE YOUTH -
AS HE FLED THE SCENE. THE BOY CARRYING WHAT APPEARED TO BE A PLUNGER -
FOR AN EXPLOSIVE DETONATOR. THE LATEST - AND WORST - IN A SERIES OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS BY THE COMMUNIST VIET CONG.

UNITED NATIONS

In the United Nations today - renewed red-hot debate on the Congo question. Soviet Ambassador Morozov again calling the U.S. and Belgian airlift to Stanleyville - an act of "armed aggression". Morozov claiming the rescue of some two thousand hostages was unwarranted and unnecessary. Comparable to Nazi aggression - under Adolph Hitler, said he.

U.S. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson responding - with a blistering, point-by-point denial of the communist charges. Stevenson attacking what he called the double standard - of the communist bloc. Admitting on one hand - that they help the Congolese rebels, but denying the right of other states to answer the Congo call for help.

However, Stevenson singled out the African nations themselves - for his most stinging rebuke. Centering his counter attack on African claims that the U.S. had set up a trap in Stanleyville - and baited it with innocent human beings that, said Stevenson, was perhaps the most outrageous - the most despicable charge of all.

CONGO FOLLOW UNITED NATIONS

Meanwhile
~~AT THE SAME MOMENT IN~~ LEOPOLDVILLE - THE CONGOLESE

~~CAPITAL~~ THREATENED FOR THE FIRST TIME BY REBEL ATTACK. THE

REBELS MOUNTING AN OFFENSIVE FROM BRAZZAVILLE - ACROSS THE

CONGO RIVER, OR SO THEY SAY. THE ASSAULT SLATED FOR NINE

A. M. CHRISTMAS DAY. TONIGHT - THE CONGOLESE CAPITAL IN A

STATE OF ALERT. THE GOVERNMENT ASSURING THE ~~REB~~ POPULACE -

THAT ALL MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN TO FORESTALL THE REBELS.

NEVERTHELESS, BELGIAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS SAID TO BE MAPPING

PLANS FOR A MASS EVACUATION - JUST IN CASE.

WAVE

THE DEATH TOTAL FROM THAT INDIAN TIDAL WAVE - STILL MOUNTING
TODAY. AT LEAST FIVE HUNDRED FEARED DEAD - HUNDREDS MORE MISSING.
MOST OF THE VICTIMS TRAPPED IN A CUSTOMS SHED - AT DHANUSKODI -
— the Coromandel Coast,
~~REDCREK~~ ON THE SOUTH EASTERN COAST OF INDIA, UNABLE TO GET OUT
WHEN ~~THE~~ GIANT WAVES - ~~DEBUNKED~~ - INUNDATED THE
DOCK AREA WITHOUT WARNING.

DHANUSKODI - AN ISLAND CITY AND TERMINUS OF THE FERRY
BETWEEN INDIA AND CEYLON. ~~AND~~ TONIGHT - ISOLATED. A RAILWAY
BRIDGE - SOLE LINK TO THE MAINLAND - WASHED OUT. MORE THAN THREE
THOUSAND PERSONS - MAROONED. THE INDIAN AIR FORCE - AIRLIFTING
SUPPLIES TO THE STRICKEN CITY _ WHILE AN ATTEMPT IS MADE TO
RESTORE COMMUNICATION.

HANDY

This next item - a hundred years old - but still as good as new the Central Character - Benjamin R. Handy.

Handy - catapulted to fame as a divinity student when he wrote the enduring - and endearing - "Darling Nellie Gray"/. Now, nine years later, Handy forced to leaved his church, for daring to introduce musical instruments into worship services. The thirty-one year old Handy thus forced to return to song writing - and barely able to support his wife and children.

From this dismal setting - in Christmas week of eighteen sixty four - Handy composes a rollicking Santa Claus song, sung publicly for the first time on Christmas day - by a children's choir in Richmond, Indiana. The rest is fold song history.

And so tonight - in Handy's home town of New Paris, Ohio - that's just a few miles from my own birth place in near Greenville, Ohio - they are celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of that immortal Christmas song.

*A joyful tune - that will be heard tonight throughout the
world up on the house top, Click! Click! Click! Down
through the chimney - with good St. Nick and a Ho, Ho,
Ho to you, Dick.*

CHRISTMAS

I hear that at this moment bus stations, railway depots, airport waiting rooms are filled to overflowing. Highways crowded. Everyone who can - going Home. And the National Safety Council warns well, it's grim. So - make sure it's a happy and merry Xmas at your home!