

L. T. - OLDS, FISHER - FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1964

(Juneau, Alaska)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The news from Laos is causing more top-level conferences - in Washington. The President and his advisors - keeping in close touch with developments in Southeast Asia, preparing our next moves - if diplomacy fails. That is if it fails to halt the Communist advance.

Photographs taken by reconnaissance planes are in Washington where they are being given detailed scrutiny - to see exactly how much territory the Reds have occupied, and where they seem to be heading.

Meanwhile, in Laos itself, neutralist General Kong Le announced that he may ask for American military aid, because he doesn't have the men or the equipment - to beat the Reds. So President Johnson may have to make a decision. Do it - soon.

VIET NAM

In Saigon, Operation "DOXA" - is being called one of the biggest victories of the war. Four Vietnamese columns, converging on the Red stronghold at DOXA - deep in the mountains of South Viet Nam. Capturing the base - after some fierce fighting, then fanning out over the jungle trails that lead toward North Viet Nam, disrupting the Communist supply lines.

What does "Operation DOXA" mean - in military terms?

They say it means that the time table of the Red Guerrillas - has been set back at least six months.

FORMOSA

Hush hush Intelligence operations appear to be the order of the day - in the far Pacific. Operations that don't get into the news - unless something happens. As in the case of the two pilots who have just returned to Formosa - from Red China.

They took off - an American and a Nationalist Chinese - on a reconnaissance flight across the China Sea, then had to make a forced landing - on the mainland. Where they were hidden by members of - the anti-Communist Underground.

Radio messages between the Underground Headquarters and Taipeh - arranged a rendezvous. Last night, a Junk sailed out from the Chinese Coast - for a meeting with an amphibious plane from Formosa. The two pilots climbed from the Junk - into the plane and tonight are back in Taipeh, with a story that shows - a widespread resistance movement in Red China. Resistance - to Mao Tse-Tung.

KHRUSHCHEV

The Boss of the Kremlin is up to his old tricks.

Khrushchev, criticizing - the people who are entertaining him as a national guest. In Egypt, on a farm near Alexandria, he told the farmers:- "We do a better job in Russia." However, he didn't mention the recent mess in Soviet Agriculture. Then, in one town - he looked at a row of new houses - and termed them "silly". Why? Because the Egyptians had built individual houses, instead of Moscow-style flats. Told that Egyptian houses last longer, Khrushchev snapped - "That's just talk"

In recent years the Soviet Premier may have learned some hard truths - about the fallacy of MARKISM - LENISM, but his manners - are as bad as ever.

BULGARIA

The latest Red nation to admit it's in trouble --

Bulgaria. The Bulgar Hierarchy, confessing that Communist ideology doesn't go down well any more. The Comrades of the rank and file, confused by a split between Russia and Red China. Some of them, even becoming satirical about what they term - "The myths of Marxism - Lennism."

What - to do about it? Why, purge the party - say the Red bigshots of Bulgaria.

DOOLITTLE- BEAR

The legendary General Jimmy Doolittle is back in Alaska this week. General Doolittle is an Alaskan - born at Nome, some sixty-seven years ago. Jimmy not only is one of the most famous airmen of all time, also a top executive, an expert on rockets and space, he also is a mighty hunter. This time he and Jack Parker, one of the heads of General Electric, have flown in to try and get a record brown bear - one of the largest animals in the world.

I hope they have better luck than Jack Lee, an Anchorage Guide, who has just had a close call with a giant Kodiak bear right where Jimmy Doolittle is taking his friend - at Cold Bay, far down the Alaskan Peninsula - with a live volcano for a background.

Jack Lee was guiding for a hunter who had come North to get his bear. The hunter wounded a big one. Jack Lee followed it into some alders to finish it off. In a flash,

the huge Kodiak was upon him. He had the guide's head in his immense jaws. The hunter from the outside? Instead of staying to help by shooting the bear, he dropped his gun - and ran - for help I guess.

Now comes the miracle:

The Alaskan, Jack Lee, had the strength and the presence of mind to shove his fist and his arm - his head still in those jaws - shove his arm into the bears throat; got his head out - and the bear collapsed.

It took Jack Lee six hours to get to a hospital. But he's alive and says he'll be hunting those big brown ones again - next season.

Rugged people up here in our forty-ninth state. Earthquakes and being charged by bears that weigh a ton - that's all part of being an Alaskan. It's all yours, Dick.

MOTHER-IN-LAW

There are a lot of good mothers-in-law jokes. It seems to be one of the basic jokes. But the one perpetrated by Ennio Cocco of Montosia, Italy - isn't funny. Even Ennio Cocco isn't laughing any more.

Here's the story. The Italian funny-man decided to play a trick on his wife's mother by appearing as a ghost. So he dressed up in a sheet, entered her bedroom in the dead of night - and gave a piercing shriek. The old lady woke up, gazed at the ghost in horror, and fainted. Whereupon, the prankster stole away chuckling to himself.

Unfortunately, his victim had recognized who it was. She reported him - to the Carabinieri. She also died of shock - a few days later. Tonight the Montosia Merry-Maker is in the lockup. He doesn't think it's funny at all - that joke of the mother-in-law and the ghost.

So long until Monday.