

Tuesday, June 25, 1974

From Damascus.....

From Gangtok.....

From Sikkim.....

From Manila.....

comes today's news.

Good evening everybody. This is Lowell Thomas for CBS News. Just back from Alaska, another brief visit to my favorite part of the world. And for some days now I have been rather overwhelmed by people on streets, in hotels, airports and so on, asking me about the adventure I had up north in a hotel fire. Incidentally, visiting Alaska has been a regular part of life for me for a period of over sixty years; and, it's the state where our only son, Lowell Jr., present majority leader of the Alaska Senate, also has been visiting and living in some thirty-four years.

As for ^{the} hotel fire, at Juneau, for one thing, it resulted in the abrupt adjournment of a special session

of the Alaska legislature. This was because so many of the legislators were in the same hotel fire. There isn't time, this evening, for more on this; but now that I am back down in what Alaskans call the South Forty Eight, I hope I'll have a chance to tell you more about the fire from which I was lucky to escape; and, more important, tell you about what I saw and learned, up North.

CAIRO-STATE

Those eight black September terrorists convicted yesterday of killing two Americans and a Belgian in Khartoum - were flown to freedom today in Cairo. U S reaction - a statement of condemnation from Acting Secretary of State Sisco; who said Sudanese President Jaafar Numiyy had failed to live up to "repeated assurances - that his case would be handled in a just manner." Adding: "We are dismayed - we cannot accept the virtual release of confessed murderers - as adequate punishment."

The present U.S. Ambassador to Sudan - was also instructed to return home "for consultations."

DAMASCUS

At Damascus - an attempt today to justify that overnight Arab terrorist attack - on the Israeli village of Nahariyya. A Palestinian guerrilla spokesman saying: "This operation was a quick reply" - to earlier Israeli raids into southern Lebanon.

From Jerusalem we hear more reprisals may be in the offing. Israeli premier Yitzhak Rabin saying that "Lebanon has the means - to prevent this terrorist activity," and must "carry the responsibility."

The latest: Israeli heavy artillery reportedly opening fire tonight - on three border towns in Southwest Lebanon.

PRESIDENT

For President Nixon - the start of another "journey for peace." The President flying today to Brussels - for a meeting with fellow NATO leaders; and then it's on to Moscow for the main event - the summit meeting with Brezhnev.

The President setting his Kremlin's goals - in a brief airport speech. "First" - said he - "we expect to strengthen the bilateral relateral relations - between the two strongest nations in the world; second, we hope to develop areas of cooperation to displace confrontations in other areas of the world; and third, we hope to make more progress - in limiting the threat of nuclear weapons."

The President adding, in short, he intends "to make progress" on this long but vitally important journey - not only for America but for all mankind.

BRUSSELS

On arrival at Brussels when 'he President received a royal welcome from Belgium's King and Queen, he paid tribute to the "great principles" of the NATO alliance; calling NATO "indispensable in keeping peace in Europe - for the last twenty-five years."

MOSCOW

*Moscow today announced the successful launching -
of an unmanned Salyut space station. And - the Soviets
are expected to launch a manned Soyuz spacecraft - to
dock with the Salyut during the Nixon visit.*

HOUSE

By a vote of twenty one to seventeen - the House Judiciary Committee today killed a requested investigation - of fellow congressmen. This in connection with campaign contributions - from the nation's milk producers. The seventeen supporting such an investigation - all Republicans; the twenty one opposed - all Democrats.

GANGTOK

The beleaguered ruler of the Himalayan kingdom of Sikkim - was among the missing today in Gangtok. King Palden Thondup Namgyal - hurriedly flying to New Delhi to appeal directly to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi - for a restoration of some of his lost powers.

MANILA

From Manila - a report today telling of three apparently coordinated Moslem rebel attacks - in the Southern Philippines. The biggest of these - at Cotabato; where the rebels were finally turned back - after losing an estimated one hundred and fifty to two hundred men.

NEW YORK

The coming fashions for Fall and Winter - on display this week in New York. The new look for Geoffrey Beene - described as "loose, flowing, easy;" including an evening gown - made with thirty-seven yards of chiffon.

A number of designers also featuring the style - called, quote, "the big top." Nothing to do with the circus - and doesn't imply any clowning around.

And now this message...

So long until tomorrow. This is Lowell Thomas for CBS News.