

KENNEDY

L.T.-OLDS. WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1963

(Richard C. Hottelet, substituting;
L.T. in New Guinea)

I suppose that every newsman knew in advance what the first question would be - at President Kennedy's news conference. Namely - what to do about the integration crisis at the University of Alabama? Specifically - will the President send Federal marshals to protect Negro students?

I suppose that Mr. Kennedy's answers - might also have been predicted. He fervently hopes that Governor Wallace - will accept the ruling of the courts. But should the Governor bar the door of the University to qualified Negro students - then the President certainly will send Marshals to their aid. In fact, President Kennedy emphasized - ~~that~~ it will be his duty to do so.

The obvious moral drawn by the President - is this. It won't be his fault if Governor Wallace turns Tuscaloosa, Alabama - into another Oxford, Mississippi.

The second big topic today - wheat. That administration defeat - in the referendum. The President deplored the vote - on the ground that free planting means growing surpluses. With - a decline in prices. But he added that his administration will try to live with - the decision of the farmers. And there's this much consolation for the President - he doesn't think that there will be any great effect on the consumer.

What about - the Secretary of Agriculture? Orville Freeman's place in the administration - is as strong as ever. His boss credits him with raising farm income - to the highest level in a decade. And isn't about to get rid of him because of what they both consider a mistake in the farm belt.

The other points - were covered more quickly. Cuba? The pace of Soviet withdrawal is not satisfactory.

we are not arming the exiles - and we are not planning to give up Guantanamo.

The most appropriate question - in view of the hoopla surrounding Astronaut Cooper - concerned future space flights. Will we send up another Mercury space capsule - or wait eighteen months for the Gemini Program? President Kennedy is leaving that decision - to NASA. As for the astronauts - they want another Mercury flight.

ASTRONAUT

The crowds poured today like a mighty river - into Mercury Way. That part of New York is sometimes known as - Lower Broadway. But you can't prove it by any of the New Yorkers who turned out today - to cheer L. Gordon Cooper.

Some wits thought that Orbit Alley - would have been a better name. This, a reference to - the ^{cheers} ~~noise~~ that bounced and boomed along - the canyons of Manhattan.

Business-men, office-workers, secretaries, housewives, school-children, some playing hookey, - it seemed that everyone who could possibly manage it was there. Converging by subway, bus, train and taxi. Teen-agers were there with banners bearing the legend "Gordo You're Great", and vendors selling buttons the size of a telephone dial - with pictures of the astronaut in his space suit.

The sky above the city - alive with swirling

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streamers, whipped by the wind and dancing in the sun.

A rip-roaring, joyful, enthusiastic welcome in New York today - for astronaut Cooper and his family.

In fact the only unhappy New Yorker seemed to be a man from the Department of Sanitation - who leaned on his broom and watched the paper piling high. But even he began to cheer - when New York's hero hove in sight. No one could restrain himself - or wanted to restrain himself - on Gordon Cooper's day.

All of which drew a charge from U.S. Ambassador Francis Plipton - that Russia is repudiating its obligations and trying to drive the U.S. to bankruptcy.

U.N.

Russia is determined to be no help at all - to the General Assembly of the U.N. - the largest summit conference. The Assembly is holding a special session - trying desperately to save the U.N. from bankruptcy. Today the Soviet Ambassador announced that not only would Russia refuse to pay for - peace-keeping operations in the Congo and Middle East. It would also cut off payments for U.N. bonds, Korea, Palestine - and technical assistance projects.

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ADDIS ABABA - 2

Tonight in Addis Ababa, Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, is playing host to - the largest summit conference in history. Selassie's speech is being

The Conquering Lion of Judah today opened a conference of Heads of State - from thirty African nations. A conference which he himself organized.

He urged his listeners not to leave the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ conference without creating - a single African organization. This, his opinion, is the one act that must emerge from the conference - if it is to have real meaning.

Taking a realistic view the Emperor conceded that unity of the continent - must be gradual. But he insisted that the foundations be laid - now.

Only Kwame Nkrumah, President of Ghana - called for immediate unity. Nkrumah often suspected of hankering after leadership of the African Colossus - will

probably produce his own program during the four-day conference.

Meanwhile Haile Selassie's speech is being hailed as his most important, since his famous appeal for help before the League of Nations - during the 'Thirties. The Emperor of Ethiopia, begging the League - to vote sanctions against the invading Italians.

The voice of Haile Selassie went unheeded - a generation ago. He hopes for better success - this time.

POPE

The news of Pope John's ill health - is causing anxiety throughout the world tonight.

And many pilgrims from many nations, who had come to St. Peters for a General Audience today - were disappointed when the Pope's doctors had it cancelled at the last moment. But the eighty-one year old Pontiff tried to mitigate the disappointment - by blessing the crowd from his window above St. Peter's Square. Now he is to begin a period of absolute rest - again on doctors' orders.

BIRMINGHAM

Federal Judge Clarence Allgood refused today to stop Birmingham school board officials - from expelling or suspending the thousand or so negro high school students arrested in the demonstrations last week. His argument being that you cannot tell a Board of Education to do nothing about it - when its orders are disobeyed. The children in all Birmingham High Schools, says Judge Allgood, were warned by their Principals - not to cut school during the weeks before examinations.

You can be sure the Secretary of State East is not displeased with the outcome of this resolution. No nation has been pushing harder for a strong state than the United States. No diplomat has defended it more strenuously - than Dean Acheson.

NATO

MAY 23, 1963

(Richard [unclear] substituting;
[unclear] in New Orleans)

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The Nato Council meeting in Ottawa - took the big plunge today. Setting up - an international nuclear force. American polaris submarines, British bombers - and aircraft to be contributed by eight other members.

The decision came after pleas for unity - across the Atlantic. Canada's Prime Minister Pearson set the theme - with his welcoming address. The Secretary General of Nato, Holland's Dirk Stikker - took it up. So did - Britain's Lord Home.

You can be sure that Secretary of State Rusk - is not displeased with the outcome of this session. No nation has been pushing harder for a strong Nato - than the United States. No diplomat has defended it more strenuously - than Dean Rusk.

his Nato audience - that Khrushchev is finding Castro a very expensive luxury. So the bearded dictator