

CUBA

L.T. - Olds. Tues. Jan. 10 - '61.

~~These~~² three Americans sentenced in Havana today - are accused of espionage. Castro's prosecutor, charging - that they gathered information about the Red China news agency. The key evidence - a wire-tapping device. The defendants are said to have used it - to record Communist calls to Mao ~~xxxxxx~~ tse-Tung's news editors.

~~Meanwhile~~, Castro's war scare ^{*continues*} - ~~goes on~~. At least - for those who take seriously his prediction of an imminent Yankee invasion. Among those who believe the dictator - one battery of anti-aircraft gunners. The members of the battery, so trigger happy - they shot down one of their own planes today; ^S which Castro called ~~it~~ - "a painful confusion."

He's also rather pained by a dispatch from Washington - telling him that a number of Cuban diplomats are asking for political asylum. Members of the Cuban Embassy and consulates - due to return home, now that diplomatic relations have been broken off. Instead of going back to Castro's Cuba - they prefer to stay here, on the Yankee mainland.

CONGO

Tonight the Congo is threatened with - another outbreak of violence. This one involving - Luá'aba and Katanga. Luá'aba - the new state just founded by Lumumba's followers. They're trying to hold the area for - the deposed Premier, ^{and are} ~~They're~~ defying - Katanga's Premier Tshombe. Today Tshombe demanded that the U.N. intervene - in Luá'aba. Adding, if the U.N. doesn't act - he'll send Katanga's army across the border. Deal with the Lumumba faction - himself.

Meanwhile - more trouble for Colonel Mobutu, back in Leopoldville. Reports coming in ~~from the equatorial rain forest~~ ^{ing} tell of more tribes breaking away from the central government. More Congolese - proclaiming their independence. Saying they'll defend their independence against Leopoldville - and the U.N.

AMBASSADOR

Today's meeting between Secretary of State Herter and Soviet Ambassador Menshikov - was only one in a series for the Ambassador. ~~Comrade~~ Menshikov has been working hard to maintain contacts - with the Eisenhower administration. And to forge contacts - with the incoming Kennedy administration. Menshikov's diplomatic activity, indicating - that his boss in the Kremlin is anxious for some kind of settlement. But always, of course - on Khrushchev's terms.

Subject of the Herter-Menshikov get-together today -- Laos. Neither would discuss details afterwards. But a good guess is that they discussed - reinstating the international commission for Laos. This, to prevent - a conflict between Russia and America on Laotian soil. Prevent - another Korea.

~~Later, the White House announced that President Eisenhower has sent a personal letter to the Prime Minister of India - on the subject of Laos. Eisenhower, telling Nehru - we want a peaceful solution. But it has to be a solution that will safeguard - Laotian independence.~~

EISENHOWER

If today's word from the White House is correct, the fiscal record for President Eisenhower's two terms - will balance exactly. Eight years in office, Four budget surpluses, Four deficits.

The final one - on the black ink side of the ledger. The President, telling Congressional leaders - he'll send a balanced budget to Congress before leaving office. He admits it won't be a big surplus - but there will be something left over, after the expenses of government have been met.

Meanwhile, Mr. Eisenhower is sending a lot of other documents - to Capitol Hill. Presidential nominations - hundreds of them. Most, routine - like new promotions in the Military and Diplomatic services. The biggest single batch of ^{new} Eisenhower ~~new~~ nominations - eleven hundred postmasterships.

INTEGRATION

Tues. Jan 10-61,

The integration crisis at the University of Georgia is more tense tonight - following that ruling by a federal judge. Judge Bootle, harring the state of Georgia from cutting off - university funds. The judge, setting aside a Georgia law passed in Nineteen Fifty-Six.- specifically to keep Georgia education segregated.

The crisis is acute because many Georgia ~~segregationists~~ segregationists are opposed to closing the university. They want to find some other ^{solution} way - of keeping Negroes out. The trouble is that, as in previous integration crises throughout the South - segregationist reliance on the courts is a broken stick. The judges ruling in favor of integration.

The two students involved at the University of ~~Georgia~~ completed their registration today. Charlayne Hunter - entering the School of Journalism. Hamilton Holmes - the School of Arts and Sciences. They were escorted on campus by two University deans - who defied a hostile mob in order to guide these two would-be students of the University of Georgia.

SPIES

In London, Scotland Yard says - "No comment." The same silence from - the Foreign Office, the Army, and the Navy. The Prime Minister? ^{The same} ~~He isn't saying a thing.~~ All of which intensifies the speculation in the British capital - that a massive spy hunt is under way. A spy hunt, ^{as a result of} ~~triggered by~~ yesterday's arrests at the Portland Anti-Submarine Research Center.

Three men and two women - accused of violating the Official Secrets Act. Meaning - they passed top secret information to a foreign agent. The agent, a Russian - presumably. The accused, British and Canadian - apparently. But it's all - very mystifying.

The refusal of the British authorities to discuss this case - suggests it's only part of a wider conspiracy, ^{with} ~~Hence the spy hunt - said to be under way.~~ Clues, being run down - in Britain, Canada, and the United States. ~~And the possibility that the real explanation - lies in Moscow.~~

WRITER

Mystery fans everywhere are sighing mournfully - "no more Nick and Nora." Meaning - the "Thin Man" stories have come to the end of the line. Their creator - won't be turning them out any more.

Dashiell Hammett, one of the most successful detective story writers of our time - although he never intended to become one. He started out as - a messenger boy. Later became a stevedore, an advertising man - and worked at various odd jobs. Down on his luck - he took a job as a private detective. And started to write - on the side. His experiences as a private eye, giving him enough material - for several books.

Hammett hit the jackpot in Nineteen Thirty-Four -- with "The Thin Man". A best seller - later a famous movie. Remember William Powell and Myrna Loy - as Nick and Nora Charles? The author followed his "Thin Man" triumph - with a series of books about the same characters. ^{also} ~~And he managed to~~ ~~turn out~~ other celebrated thrillers - "The Maltese Falcon", "The Glass Key", and so on.

A great career, coming to an end today in New York -
with the passing of Dashiell Hammett at the age of sixty-six.

REFUGEES

Three refugees from East Germany are safe in the free world - after playing a beautiful confidence trick on the Reds. In fact - two confidence tricks.

First they hitchhiked in a Soviet Army truck; telling the driver, they were on their way home - to East Berlin. The Russian, not suspecting a thing - giving them a lift.

In East Berlin - they were stopped by Red border guards. Here the refugees told another story that they had just run away from their homes in West Berlin. Confessing - it was just a lark; nothing - political. The Reds, growing suspicious - afraid to let them stay. Putting them aboard the next train - for West Berlin.

The three refugees, getting through the Iron curtain with the help of the Communists.

KHRUSHCHEV

Nikita Khrushchev is in trouble - down on the farm.

It's official now - even in Moscow. Khrushchev, calling in

his henchmen who ^{boss} ~~handle~~ agriculture in the provinces;

~~Demanding~~ an explanation for the fifty per cent slump in

production - over the past five years. A sore point with

Khrushchev - who boasted so loudly of expanding Soviet

agriculture with his plan for sowing wheat on the steps of

Siberia.

Around Moscow, a new word - is being heard more often.

The word - "agrorod". It means, literally - "farm city",

~~And~~ refers to Khrushchev's scheme to build agricultural

collectives - as big as cities. ^{- Dick -} Nikita, to turn Soviet farms

into - "agrorods."