

KHRUSHCHEV

L.T. - ~~Old~~ Friday, Apr. 26-'63,

Here's a curious phrase - that we're going to hear from now on. The phrase "Lame-duck Dictator." Sounds like a contradiction - a dictator who is simply playing out his string, preparing to make way for - his successor. But that seems to be the position - in which Nikita Khrushchev finds himself tonight.

The boss of the Kremlin, already feeling the backlash - of what he said yesterday. Namely - that he can't last forever, and may soon drop some of the jobs he's ^{handled} accumulated since he ousted his opponents in ^{a Kremlin} ~~their~~ struggle for power.

Today every world capital ^{was} ~~is~~ buzzing [^] about all this. Especially Moscow - which ~~is~~ is generally the last, to hear of the dark intrigues inside the Kremlin. ~~The~~ Kremlinologists everywhere - are having a field day. Producing enough theories - to satisfy everyone.

The consensus - goes something like this: - ^{that} ~~the consensus~~

Khrushchev is still - firmly in control. His remarks of yesterday, simply reflecting the fact that he's heading toward his seventieth birthday. His purpose in ^{speaking out?} ~~making them~~ -
To lay the ground work for a hand-picked successor. And to get the Soviet people used to the idea - that the post-Khrushchev era is ^{approaching.} ~~coming up.~~

So far - Khrushchev the Dictator. But, also - a "lame duck" - who won't be taken so ~~se~~ seriously any more. Certainly not by the Soviet leaders - who are already jockeying for position. Their strategy would seem to be obvious. Those Russians who approve Khrushchev's choice for a successor - will begin to gravitate around that successor. Those ~~one~~ who oppose him - will start conspiring against him. In short, few experts doubt- that the struggle for power is on in Moscow.

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Khrushchev - a "lame ^l duck dictator."

LAOS FOLLOW KHRUSHCHEV

In the meantime is
At any rate, Khrushchev is calling the Soviet shots [^]
If so,
on Laos. ~~But just~~ what he's aiming at - isn't clear. The
declaration he signed with Averell Harriman - calls for "a
neutral and independent Laos." *And that* which repeats the Vienna
[^]
agreement - between Khrushchev and Kennedy.

However The real questions - have not been answered.

Publicly - anyway. It's possible that ~~Mr~~ Harriman will bring
back to Washington - some more definite response from the
Soviet leader. But in the meantime - the puzzles remain.

Is Khrushchev willing to act in Laos - to make the Reds stop
shooting? Is he able to act ^{on this?} - or has the play been taken
away from him by the Chinese Reds?

The answers to these two questions - may decide
the outcome of the Laotian crisis. *In fact* →

FIGHTING FOLLOW LAOS

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→ The fighting is fiercer than ever tonight in the plain of Jars. The Reds - opening new fronts. Attacking the neutralists and the rightists - in four places. Apparently out to force - a full scale civil war. If so - they may get their wish. Right wing General Phoumi Nosavan is bringing up reinforcements - for his beleaguered outposts.

Neutralist Prince Souvanna Phouma will tour the Plain of Jars tomorrow - in an effort to halt the hostilities. Souvanna Phouma, who was not at all averse to pro-Communist remarks - when he became head of the coalition government. And ~~who~~^{he} now blames the Reds - for this armed assault on his regime.

What about those Soviet accusations - that Americans are stirring up the trouble in the Plain of Jars?

all "Propaganda, misrepresentation"! says the neutralist Prince of Laos.

ESPIONAGE

The Czech Ambassador to Buenos Aires is being expelled - because his language became a little too violent for the Argentinians. Ambassador Scolka, protesting the arrest of - four spies attached to his Embassy. All four were caught - Red-handed. But Scolka refused to examine the evidence at the Buenos Aires Foreign Ministry. Instead, he left the building - in a rage, And held an impromptu news conference - on the steps. One of his assertions - that "normal relations between Czechoslovakia and Argentina are now impossible." - ~~said Scolka.~~

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Buenos Aires agrees - as long as this undiplomatic diplomat represents Czechoslovakia. Hence, the Argentinian boot - for comrade Scolka.

MINE

The disaster ~~at compass number two mine~~ in the West Virginia coal fields - was caused by a ~~shattering~~^{an} explosion. ~~The blast,~~ so violent - it blew the coat off a mine ^{working} in a tunnel four miles away. Another miner a mile away had a shovel torn from his hands, just before he ~~was~~ was knocked flat by the concussion.

The victims - had no chance. They were either killed - by the blast, or asphyxiated - when flames whipped through the tunnels and burned up the ~~the~~ oxygen. They were also - unlucky. The lethal explosion occurred, only two minutes before their shift was due to knock off work.

SATELLITE

The latest satellite launching at Vandenburg Air Force base - another hush-hush affair. The Air Force, describing the booster rocket - as a Thor. The orbit of the space capsule - polar, ^{both} Crossing the North Pole and the South Pole - on each swing around the earth. ~~We have~~ That much ~~we~~ ^{are told} ~~information~~ and no ~~more~~ more.

Is this satellite - another in the Discoverer series?

Perhaps designed to keep an eye on - Soviet rockets?

DUKE

I suppose you've heard about the picture of Prince Philip in his underwear. We hear the Queen's consort can be seen thus attired at the art festival in New Rochell, New York. A painting in primitive style - that shows the Duke of Edinburgh as a paper doll. Surrounding him - the various outfits he wears:- Naval uniform, tartan kilt, polo togs-and so on.

This is the painting that caused a sensation when it was unveiled in London. It was finally sold to an American, and now on this side of the Atlantic some people are having a view of the Royal Family that few of Her Majesty's subjects will see. Prince Philip - in his underwear.

CATS

After the "lend bees for Brita in" that we heard about last night - should we use the prase - "lend cats for Tristan Da Cunha"

The inhabitants of Tristan Da Cunha, as you've heard, or read - are back on their island in the South Atlantic. Returning after two years of exile, following the eruption of their volcano.

Among their problems - enough rats to baffle the Pied Piper of Hamlin. Hence - their S.O.S. The message "send us more cats". The U.S. Navy acting fast in this crisis. The Flagship of Task Force Eighty-eight, racing toward the scene of the disaster with - two hundred cats - Dick - for Tristan Da Cunha, on that lonely, volcanic isle in the far South Atlantic.

poverty-stricken part of the island. Its capital, Port-au-Prince - a colorful seaport, popular with tourists on Caribbean cruises.

The latest quarrel has developed because the Dominicans say Haitian troops have seized their Embassy