

L.T. -DELCO. FRIDAY, DEC. 6, 1957.
(Given by L.T.Jr., L.T. in Africa)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

That explosion at Cape Canaveral, Florida, today - was no louder than the uproar, which follows. Members of Congress taking the lead - in denouncing the publicity given the attempted launching of the American earth satellite. The more so - as there had been expert prediction that it would fail. Typical is the statement by Senator Lyndon Johnson of Texas, Democratic leader in the Senate.

"What happened," says he, "is one of the best publicized - and most humiliating failures - in our history."

Senator Russell of Georgia, Chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Committee, agrees in these words: "It would have been better to make our first few trials in the middle of the night - and without fanfare."

On the other side, a contrary view is put forth by Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy. "It seems better," he argues, "to give too much publicity rather than too little in a country like ours." Meaning, of course, that we can't compete with ^atotalitarian despotism, like Soviet Russia - in keeping things a dark secret. ~~with~~ ^{The} Soviets, of course, not having given out any word of their Sputnik experiment - until they found it worked.

In Europe, there's a good deal of comment - that the Soviets, probably, didn't succeed the first time. A British rocket expert saying: "The Russians, undoubtedly, had teething trouble, in the early stages of their satellite development."

But, in Europe, as well as in this country, there's plenty of agreement - that the failure today was another blow to American prestige.

In Moscow, the Soviet Radio put out a quick bulletin. Which, however, was a mere flat statement, with no editorial comment. Failure of the American satellite attempt -

nothing more.

Meanwhile, at the testing ground, Cape Canaveral, the explanation is that, for some reason or other - the pressure in the first stage rocket failed. That is, the powerful thrust of liquid oxygen, which was to have hurled the rocket aloft, simply didn't work. The seventy-two foot, three-stage rocket rose a few feet from its platform - with a burst of orange flame. Then toppled over, sidewise - and exploded with a huge roar and cloud of smoke. Fortunately - nobody injured.

In any such spectacular event, there's likely to be an element of irony. Well, in the explosion of the rocket on the beach, the satellite was knocked off - and went rolling into the ocean. When they fished the small sphere out of the water - the radio was still sending signals; - the way it would have sent them - had it reached its orbit in space.

The Vanguard attempt will be made again. How soon - we don't know. The word is that there are several other Vanguard rockets at the Cape Canaveral base, but it probably will be several weeks before another launching is attempted.

FOLLOW SATELLITE

But here's news of another sort - about a launching at Cape Canaveral, last night.

While they were preparing for the Vanguard event - a Snark went buzzing out over the Atlantic Ocean. The Snark - an intercontinental guided missile. It flew the full range - and landed in a target area. Far down in the South Atlantic.

KHRUSHCHEV

More Satellite news. This time a surprise from Moscow. Khrushchev declaring - the rocket of Sputnik Number One came down last weekend, Sunday. And fell - on American territory. The United States - keeping this a secret, so that American scientists might have a chance to examine it.

The Russian Communist boss made the statement, talking to newsmen - at the Finnish Embassy in Moscow. A reception there - Khrushchev in his usual talkative mood.

"We know," Khrushchev told the reporters, "that the carrier rocket fell over the United States. But - they do not want to give it back to us."

One of the newsmen asked him - if he was joking.

"I am absolutely serious," Khrushchev replied.

In Washington, a spokesman for the satellite program - laughed and said: "We don't know anything about it."

As a sidelight, the United Press gives a reminder - that, in California, people at the towns of Oxnard and El Centro reported seeing a bright object. Which - went streaking across the sky. The police - receiving a stream of inquiries by telephone. The bright object - reportedly sighted on Saturday evening. The exact minute given - seven eleven P.M. That would be Sunday morning in Moscow - six eleven A.M. in the Soviet capital. And Khrushchev said - Sunday.

Could it be that Khrushchev based his information - on this report?

EISENHOWER

There's word in Washington tonight that President Eisenhower plans on going to Paris ten days from now. Unless his doctors are firmly against it. Administration officials are represented as declaring - that plans are being made on the assumption that the President will attend the meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

But, at the Eisenhower home in Gettysburg, White House Secretary Jim Hagerty denies that any such decision has been made. It all depends - on medical advice.

STEVENSON

Word has come and, now, that
~~It's now revealed that,~~ several weeks ago, the
turned down
administration ~~rejected~~ a proposal by Adlai Stevenson -
that he make a fact-finding trip to Europe - In behalf - of
good relations with our Allies. He thought it might help in
showing - this country's continued interest in Europe. Also -
develop the European views on how to meet the Russian
missile-satellite challenge. Stevenson - offering the
suggestion to Secretary of State, John Foster Dulles. But it
was not accepted.

This ^{took place} ~~transpired~~ before the titular ~~xxx~~ head of the
Democratic Party was appointed - a special consultant for the
meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Paris.

No indication, ^{though} ~~whether~~ whether the rejection of the tour he proposed
had any part in the Stevenson decision, not to go to Paris, →
Unless - "compelling" reasons should arise.

POLAND

News ^{news of} From Red Poland - ~~about~~ a riot at the town of Gorzow. Where a crowd of three thousand people ^{took on} assailed the Communist police. Bombarding them - with stones and bottles.

The reason for the riot - an example of explosive conditions in a country restless under Communism.

A Red police car hit a woman riding on a bicycle - Knocking her down - and injuring her only slightly. ^{But} The rumor spread quickly - that she had been killed. Whereupon the crowd gathered - raging and storming, attacking the Red police. The rioting quelled - only when the police gathered in force, and sprayed the crowd with tear gas.

TEAMSTERS

The AFL-CIO today - tossed out the Teamsters Union. At Atlantic City, President George Meaney told the delegates to free the working Teamsters from what he called, a "dictatorship" and "corrupt control." And the AFL-CIO delegates responded by voting five-to-one - to expel the nation's largest Union.

INTRO. - RECORDING

Tonight, another recorded report from L.T. - on his way
to gather material for his television series, High Adventure.
With a warning to those - who stay put, ~~and~~ inactive. People -
of a sedentary life.

L.T.

Would you like to hear a little more about President Eisenhower's doctor, the famous heart specialist with whom I have been traveling? I've been trying to talk him into writing a book - not on heart trouble. He already has done that. Dr. White ought to write the story of his own life - with anecdotes about the great, the near-great and the people of many lands whom he has known. For Dr. Paul Dudley White is more than a great physician.

He has just been telling me about the first medical college - the first formal instruction so far as we know. In the city of Salerno - about the Year 1000.

The Salerno rules for health were so famous that Henry VIII, along about 1541, had them published in England. One of these rules was:- If you want to sleep well eat a light supper. Another: Take regular exercise. And - avoid exposure to anger and worry!

Dr. White does not object to the discovery of new cures and new medicines. But he does believe that we are losing sight of something more important - living healthier lives. He believes in fewer inoculations and more exercise - eat less and eat right. He says a six mile walk or a round of golf will do far more for an unhappy business man, or anyone else, than reading philosophy and taking tranquilizers. He adds that several hundred years ago they paid more attention to health than to disease. Now, just the reverse. He believes we should put more emphasis on positive ways of keeping fit. Preventive medicine. And then he quoted the following from the poet John Dryden, written in 1680:-

By chase our fathers earned their food
Toil strung the nerves and purified the blood.
But we their sons an effete race of men,
Have dwindled down to three score years and ten.
Better to hunt in fields unbought
Than fee the doctor for noxious draught.
The wise for cure on exercise depend,
God never made His work for Man to mend.

Next stop East Africa, and after being cooped up continuously in an airplane for 8,000 miles, the one thing I long for most is exercise: I'm a disciple of the post Dryden, and President Eisenhower's Dr. Paul Dudley White!

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FOLLOW RECORDING

Sage advice from the Poet Dryden. But it ~~is~~ possible
to be a little too lively - as indicated by this next bit of
news.

STUDENT

At Harvard, Student Maurice Thompson was arrested by the Cambridge police, and put in jail. (Now released - on bail of one thousand dollars.) But he's lucky - he's alive, - After a merry prank of students - that really was going too far. *Another Harvard man, was Student Morgan Wheelock, - playing Santa Claus -* Wearing a red coat and white whiskers - Kris Kringle. Standing on a Cambridge street corner, with a bell and money kettle. - When jokester Maurice Thompson walked up, and punched Santa ~~Claus~~ in the nose! The haymaker - cleverly staged. Thompson, then - grabbing the money kettle, and running away.

The farce was to have been completed by another student - playing the part of a policeman. Chasing the make-believe thief -- in a cop-and-robber act.

But the trouble was - that a real policeman was nearby. Patrolman Warren Jackson -- who saw the robbery of Santa Claus, and thought it the real thing. So he chased funny-man Thompson. The policeman - pulling his gun, shouting, stop or he'd shoot!

Today, Patrolman Jackson said - the only reason he didn't shoot was because of the crowded street - afraid he'd hit a bystander. So he chased and caught the student - without firing.

Tonight, at Harvard, there's one humorist - who'll think twice, before trying any more jokes. Ha, Joe - I see there still studying hard at Harvard!

END

ANNOUNCER: And now Lowell Thomas, Jr. with a oddity.

L.T.Jr.: - Hollywood announces - the cast for a new film feature. The stars, who will play important roles - in a motion picture drama.

They include: two dogs, three cows, three deer, twenty-five pigs, half a dozen buzzards, eight racoons, two bears, one wolf.

That - for a beginning. The list of actors and actresses also including - one mule, three frogs, one catfish, and three mocking birds!

Oh yes! - and seven human beings. Wonder why they dragged them in?

And, So Long Until Monday.