

Good Evening Everybody:

The flags that are flying at half-mast tonight - are a spontaneous demonstration. There's nothing in the law that provides for this kind of mourning - after a death in the First Family. But there is national sorrow - over the passing of wee Patrick Bouvier Kennedy, who struggled for life for two days - but couldn't overcome that respiratory ailment.

The President was there - at the end. Looking haggard after his sleepless vigil - of the past twenty-four hours. But at least he was spared the anguish - of breaking the news to the First Lady. Mrs Kennedy learned about it from her physician - who put her under sedation.

LEAD - 2

One irony in this tragedy - is the messages of condolence that are pouring in - many of them from people who sent their congratulations - only two days ago, when the baby was born.

DEATHS FOLLOW KENNEDY

If you wonder how many presidents have lost children while in office - the answer is "five" - John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Calvin Coolidge and John Kennedy.

Willie Lincoln was the eleven year old son of the Civil War President, who caught a malignant fever - after riding his pony in the rain. A ~~br~~ eavement that his father never got over.

The latest - sixteen year old Calvin Coolidge, Jr., the President's son - ignoring a blister he picked up on the tennis court, dying of blood poisoning - a few days later. That was thirty-nine years ago - in nineteen twenty-four. The last - until Patrick Bouvier Kennedy - today.

Not even the President of the United States is immune to the poignant tragedy - of a child's death.

HAITI

The truth about Haiti - seems clear tonight. The invasion - was a complete fiasco. At any rate, so says an American business man - the first eye-witness to reach Port-au-Prince.

His version - goes like this:- The invaders crossed the border from the Dominican Republic - armed with pistols, grenades, riffles and machine guns. They held up plantations, executed twelve followers of Haitian strongman DuValier - and pushed down the jungle road to Fort Liberte.

There, a skirmish took place. "Lots of shooting, but no real fighting" - according to the American eye-witness. The garrison of the Fort, routing the invaders - who fled into the jungle, and straggled back across the Dominican border.

But anti-DuValier spokesmen in Santo Domingo still insist that the main invasion force is

continuing to operate inside Haiti. One tip-off seems to be that Du Valier has re-opened the so-called war zone - to foreign newsmen.

VIETNAM

The directive issued today in Saigon - could only have been formulated in the Orient. Where else but in the inscrutable East, would you have to warn people - not to burn themselves to death?

The Buddhist leaders of South Viet Nam - are doing just that. They are ordering the monks who follow the teaching of Lord Buddha - to abandon the practice of self-immolation, dousing their saffron robes with gasoline - and then setting themselves on fire.

The Buddhist leaders are saying this is too drastic and no solution to - the political crisis in South Viet Nam.

NUCLEAR

The latest count shows that about one-third of the nations of the world - have signed the nuclear test ban treaty. Diplomats from Ireland to Iran, from Algeria to Australia - putting their signatures on the document. Almost all of them, expressing the hope - that this will be more than a piece of parchment. That it's the symbol of a genuine search for peace - between East and West.

RUSK

~~The~~ Secretary of State ^{Dean} Rusk was talking today - about Georgia ^{in fact} ~~More exactly~~ two Georgias. The American State - and the Russian Province.

The point being that Dean Rusk comes from Georgia - in Dixie. And has been conferring with Khrushchev in Georgia - on the shores of the Black Sea.

How is it that two places so different, and so far away from each other - should have the same name? Answer - a classical allusion. Names like "George" and "Georgia" come from the Greek - meaning "farmer". And both Georgias are famous - for their lush farm land.

Hence, the interest ~~in~~ of the American Secretary of State - in the Soviet Province. Dean Rusk, telling Khrushchev "I am trying to find out everything about Georgia." One thing he didn't have to find out - and I'm sure Khrushchev didn't mention it today - the best-known ~~of~~ son of Soviet Georgia was Joseph Stalin.

ROBBERY

The first mystery about England's ~~the~~ great train robbery - is the loot. Yesterday we heard that one million pounds sterling - ~~the~~ were scooped up by the robbers. Tonight the belief is that it may be *— more than \$10,000,000.* almost four million. No one is quite sure yet - because the mail ~~the~~ sacks were full of over-age greenbacks. They were bound for the incinerator - but the gang got there first. Hijacking the mail car, making off with the mail sacks - in one of the smoothest operations in the history of crime.

An inside job? Looks like it. Will the bandits - be caught? They may already be ~~in~~ on the continent. One report states that a plane was seen taking off - near the site of the ~~the~~ hold-up. Using an abandoned airstrip - of World War Two vintage. A relic of the R A F - and the battle of Britain.

They seem to have modernized the art of robbing trains - those bandits of Leighton Buzzard, England.

ROMANCE

A dispatch from New Malden, England - makes me wonder if the age of romance is really over.

Practically everything - has been mechanized. And now Lorraine Poad of New Malden is mechanizing - her love life.

Lorraine, announcing that she'll marry Reggie Parsons - if a mechanical brain approves.

She's going to feed a mass of data into the computer - at a New Malden Atomic Laboratory. And then say "yes" or "no" depending on the verdict of the machine.

A blushing damsel used to tell her swain - "you'll have to ask Papa". What Lorraine is telling Reggie - over in New Malden, England, now Dick - she says - "you'll have to ask my friend - who is the mechanical brain".

JUDGE

In Aix-en-Provence, France - the gendarmes picked up Gaston Prival last week. Gaston, accused of being - the local cat burglar. The second-story man who looted apartments from one end of the city to the other. His own apartment, full of other people's belongings - silverware, watches, rings, cuff-links, jewelry, and so on. They caught Gaston red-handed, and today the judge sent him up - for three years.

What's the story? Why - Gaston was a Judge himself - until last week, until the trail from his last job - led to his apartment. Gaston, banging the gravel - by day. Picking locks - by night. Sentencing robbers - when he wasn't robbing his fellow citizens in Southern France, near the Mediterranean.