

L.T. SUSTAINING, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1967

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Latest from Mount McKinley up in Alaska: Another setback today -- in efforts to make contact with that seven-man climbing team attempting the first winter ascent -- of America's loftiest peak.

Famed bush pilot Don Sheldon -- trying to land his light plane on a glacier at the Eight-thousand-Two-Hundred foot level, where two members of the team -- are currently manning a base station. Hoping to proceed from there to two other members of the team who earlier flashed a distress signal at the Ten-Thousand foot level. And perhaps joined up with the Three-man assault team -- the Three who may have made it to the top. However, Sheldon was unable to put down his ski plane because of high winds and cloud cover that shrouded the mountain. At last report -- waiting impatiently to try again -- as soon as there is the slightest break in the weather.

BIMINI

Powell strikes back. The story -- from Bimini in the Bahamas, where Harlem Democrat Adam Clayton Powell -- today opened his bid for re-election to Congress; beginning with a blistering attack on his newly announced opponent -- Republican James Meredith.

When asked for comment on the Meredith candidacy -- Powell at first replying: "Meredith, who?" Later -- in deadly earnest -- Powell declaring that Meredith is neither a formidable opponent nor even a bonafide civil rights leader. Said Powell: "The picture of James Meredith -- sitting with a white man who asked him to run against Adam Clayton Powell -- that tells the story."

SACRAMENTO

Governor Reagan of California on the hot seat today in Sacramento and throughout the Golden State, after calling for new taxes to meet a record state budget of nearly a Billion dollars. A figure said to represent -- the largest spending program ever undertaken by any Governor -- in the entire history of the nation.

Reagan blaming most of the tax problem -- on the man he succeeded, former Governor Pat Brown. Nevertheless -- stoutly defending his overall tax program on the grounds that Californian's must "confront and solve" their fiscal problems -- before it's too late. "Given unquestionable evidence that their money will be wisely and efficiently used -- I feel certain the people of California will shoulder this additional tax burden -- said he.

However, the Democratic controlled State Legislature replying in effect: "We'll see about that."

INDIANAPOLIS FOLLOW SACRAMENTO

Speaking of state politics -- this next from Indianapolis, capitol of Indiana, where the Indiana State Senate today put forward and passed -- a novel resolution, to say the least. One -- said the Senate, -- that would reduce the "cost of State government" -- expediate the "Indiana legislative process" -- and create " a modern and efficient Indiana General Assembly."

The idea -- as approved by the Indiana State Senate, to abolish the Indiana State House of Representatives. A trick that can be accomplished, however, only if the House agrees to go along -- which it won't.

As you may have guessed by now -- Ho Ho -- the Senate is controlled by Democrats -- the House by Republicans; Ha Ha!

RED CHINA

Red China's current "cultural revolution" is marked today by the reported arrest of more than a thousand persons in Canton. Many of them said to be Red Guards -- accused of flaunting the authority of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung.

This apparently a continuation of the Army purge -- under personal direction of Red China's Premier Chou En-Lai. With those arrested reportedly taken quickly by military transport -- to some unknown destination. Leaving Canton and most of surrounding Kwangtung Province -- under the complete control of Pro Mao Army forces.

A later report: The Army now said to have appointed Lin Li-Ming -- as acting Governor of Kwangtung Province. Lin -- a high government and party official who was earlier purged by the Red Guard, at a time when the militant youth raged unchecked -- throughout the land.

MOSCOW FOLLOW RED CHINA

A related item comes today from Moscow. A Soviet newspaper Sovietskaya Kultura -- telling of fanatical acts of violence committed by the Red Guards, in the name of Mao's "cultural revolution."

In one case -- the Red Guards alledgedly breaking both wrists -- of Chinese pianist Liu Shih-Kun, the man who finished second to America's Van Cliburn -- in the Tchaikowsky competition, in Moscow in Nineteen-Fifty-Eight.

The newspaper also arrying reports -- previously printed abroad -- accusing the Red Guards of driving "many other" Chinese artists to commit suicide. These said to include such world famous personalities -- as playwright Lao Sag, actor Sho Sin, composer He Lu-Tin, and movie actress Bai-Wan.

VIETNAM

In Vietnam -- U.S. Marines are dug in grimly tonight -- just south of that phony de-militarized border zone, holding back an estimated three divisions of would-be Viet Cong infiltrators. This despite one of the most intensive mortar barrages the enemy has ever launched in Vietnam.

By actual count -- the Viet Cong pouring some Fifteen Hundred rounds of fire -- into three key American positions -- in slightly more than three weeks. All of which has served, however, only to strengthen American determination. With men and materials pouring now north to re-inforce the U.S. defenses.

Meanwhile, Red mortar men were also at work today in the Mekong Delta. One of their deadliest attacks to date in that Area -- severely battering two U.S. infantry positions. Killing six -- wounding ⁹ twenty-five.

CAPE KENNEDY

At Cape Kennedy -- a perfect blast-off today for America's third and latest sun-watching satellite; a many eyed moonlet -- that quickly achieved perfect orbit.

Its mission -- to keep track of deadly solar storms and resulting solar radiation. This perhaps to enable scientists -- to devise some form of protection for future astronauts especially when our Apollo astronauts -- hope to fly to the moon in Nineteen Sixty Nine.

DAMASCUS FOLLOW ADEN

Not far away -- a big, bold and brassy parade today in Damascus. Marking the fourth anniversary -- of Syria's new Socialist Baath party government.

The event including first a public display of Syria's so-called "peoples' Army" reportedly formed a year ago "to protect the socialist revolution". Also -- to join in the future "liberation" of Palestine. Besides students, peasants, and workers -- the force including scores of girls -- not yet in their teens; each armed -- with a small calibre rifle.

The entire performance -- taking two and a half hours. Later hailed by radio Damascus -- as "syrria's answer to imperialism."

RIO

From Rio De Janero -- a possible answer at last today -- to the whereabouts of Ernesto "Che" Guevara, Fidel Castro's right-hand man -- who vanished from sight nearly two years ago and who has since been rumored active in revolutionary circles -- throughout Latin America.

According to Brazilian authorities -- Guevara has been masquerading as a Dominican priest; hiding behind the robes of the order -- to preach violent overthrow of the government wherever he goes. Most recently -- in Argentina. With an occasional excursion -- they say -- across the border into Brazil.

As yet -- police unable to catch the Cuban Guerilla leader. But they are waiting -- hoping -- and daring him to show his face again.

MILAN

A problem common to our own shores -- is held responsible today for an uncommon riot in Italy. The story -- from Milan -- as follows:

A mob of around two hundred Italian beatniks -- boys and girls -- marching to Milan's Cathedral Square; there to dramatize their protest -- against a ban on street demonstrations. There they met, head on, a cordon of riot police in a free-for-all that ended with the police winning out, arresting forty five of the demonstrators and carting them off to jail. For a time -- it was nip and tuck with officers later explaining that every time they went to crack a long-haired beatnik head -- they had to check first to see whether it was a boy -- or a girl.

UTRECHT

At Utrecht in the Netherlands -- a surprise bonus today for Prince Claus of Holland, in his first official job -- since he married Crown Princess Beatrice, last year.

The former West German Diplomat -- climbing into a trench for a few seconds, to lay the cornerstone -- of a new industrial exhibition hall. A task for which he was later presented -- two dollars and twenty-four cents in cold cash; the standard hourly rate -- for Dutch bricklayers.

Considering the time involved -- a "Princely" sum, you might say? And so long until tomorrow.