

Like a bolt from the blue - streaming fire all the way - it came from outer space. The U.S. Apollo-Nine thundering back into the earth's atmosphere - as you have doubtless heard by now. When its power was finally spent - drifting to a gentle splashdown in the Atlantic.

The first sight that greeted astronauts McDivitt, Scott, Schweikart - a helicopter from the waiting U.S.S. Guadalcanal. Hovering over head and bearing the words: "Hello dere, Gumdrop." Even a dunk in the sea for two of the spacemen - failing to dampen the thrill. Dave Scott later summing it up - calling the mission "a great flight - a great recovery."

Ground control at Houston - agreeing wholeheartedly. Calling the flight of Apollo-Nine - "as successful as any of us could have wished for - as successful as any of us have ever been." Or as President Nixon put it, a demonstration "that the spirit of man and his technological genius - are eager to begin an age of adventure; an age which will benefit - all the people of this good earth."

CORONADO ~~W. BOLLEN CORONADO~~

~~AT~~ Coronado, California - the Pueblo inquiry draws to a close. Hearing today a final statement - from Pueblo skipper Commander Lloyd Bucher; declaring unequivocally that "at the time the ship was seized, we did not have the power to resist."

The matter now in the hands - of five Navy admirals. They are expected to take about ten days reviewing the evidence - and then submit recommendations - on what action the Navy should take on the Pueblo case.

WASHINGTON FOLLOW CORONADO ~~TOP SECRET~~

Washington - success at last. After eight months of stalemate - the Senate overwhelmingly approving that treaty to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. The vote - ~~XXXXXXXX~~ eighty-three to fifteen. Setting the stage for President Nixon's expected decision tomorrow - whether to proceed with development of an anti - ballistic missile system. Senator Fulbright remarking - "I cannot believe that the President - in the face of this vote - would go ahead with deployment of the ABM."

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE

As you know - Lowell Thomas is off again - in pursuit of high adventure. Meantime, a special report he left us. Lowell....

## LAST MOUNTIE DOG PATROL

Hello Dallas.....and good evening everybody:

This time when you hear my voice I probably will be - inshallah - in Norway. Arctic and Antarctic explorer Bernt Balchen, one of our legendary airmen, is with me. We flew over for one of the most spectacular events staged anywhere in the world. More about it later.

Just now I'd like to tell you about a radio message that has caught up with me from the other side of the Arctic. Col. Balchen is as much interested in this message as I am because for years he worked with Canada's Royal Northwest Mounted Police, those tall dashing chaps in the red coats and the stiff-brimmed campaign hats.

A fellow member of the Juneau, Alaska Press Club radios from White Horse in Yukon territory - and this will bring back nostalgic memories to some of you - he says the last Mountie Dog Patrol is now on its way to Fort McPherson, the mouth of the MacKenzie River on the Canadian Arctic Coast.

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The meaning of this item? Oh, obviously it's the end of another era. Eskimos will continue to use dog teams in the Arctic but even they are trading their Arctic furs for this new thing, the ski-mobile.

There's ~~just~~<sup>but</sup> one thing for sure - no ski-mobile will have the same instinct for finding its way home through a storm as a well-trained husky or malamute lead dog.

Solong,

PARIS

Half-a-world away - In Saigon - another casualty  
On the peace front - Paris - another session of  
report today. Listing seven hundred and eighty-nine  
expanded talks today - one of the shortest yet. Ending  
American dead - fifty-two hundred wounded - - over  
in a report of "no solid negotiations - no progress."  
the first two weeks of the current Red offensive.  
About the only meeting of minds - we are told - an agreement  
to meet again next week.

## SAIGON FOLLOW PARIS

Half-a-world away - in Saigon - another casualty report today. Listing seven hundred and eighty-nine American dead - fifty-two hundred wounded - - over the first two weeks of the current Red offensive.



## RAWALPINDI

At Rawalpindi, Pakistan - another milestone in the career of President Mohammed Ayub Khan. Having already agreed not to run for re-election next year - Ayub bowing again to political pressure. Agreeing today to restoration of a Parliamentary system of government as "early as possible."

But even this - perhaps not enough. With Ayub's chief foe - former Foreign Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto - boycotting the meeting that led to today's decision. He wants Ayub out now - and no waiting. All of which threatens a continuation of nationwide violence - fast approaching anarchy in parts of East Pakistan.

## FLYING SAUCERS

The case against flying saucers - presented forcefully today by one of America's top scientist. Dr. Hudson Hoagland of the American Association for the Advancement of Science - placing UFO's in the same category as ghosts. Recalling that the U.S. was once gripped with an obsession - over so-called "extoplasmic emanations." Spirit <sup>a</sup> bodies - like flying saucers - since refuted by the great weight of scientific evidence.

What about reported saucer sightings - that remain as yet unexplained? These - said Dr. Hoagland - perhaps attributable to "lack of data, false reporting, wishful thinking, delusions" - maybe even lies and outright fraud. In any case - said he: "Unexplained cases are simply unexplained - they prove nothing."

An argument that will cut no ice with those who believe in USO's.

Good Night.