

L.T. OLDS. TUESDAY, 16th APRIL, 1963

Good Evening Everybody:

For a week, have you been waiting for that other shoe to drop? The steel shoe? Many have been asking what U.S. Steel would do after the hike by Wheeling Steel last Tuesday. The point being, that as U.S. Steel goes - so goes the industry. And much of the nation too. The giant of American steel corporations, directly influencing the industries dependent on steel - cars, appliances, railroads, in fact, steel is one index to the entire national economy.

That's why today's decision is so important. U.S. Steel, raising prices on a selective basis - about four dollars and eighty-five cents a ton.

The word - "selective" means that so far one key demand by President Kennedy is being met. No across-the-board increase in steel prices.

## CUBA

The Kennedy administration has not changed its hard line - on Cuba. So says the State Department in rebuttal to the charge of some Cuban exiles, the charge that we have decided to tolerate - a certain number of Soviet troops on Castro's island.

According to the State Department - President Kennedy is still pressing Khrushchev to remove all the Russian military forces in Cuba. Nothing less than that acceptable.

The administration, in turn, has some negative remarks about the activist Cuban exiles, including the flat assertion that Washington is not going to let hit-and-run raiders mess up American foreign policy, which is global, and concerns many more hot spots than Cuba.

LAOS

As for the Laotian crisis, there's more evidence tonight - that the Russians are in an embarrassing position, ~~Trying~~ to end the fighting - without seeming to take an anti-Communist position. In other words, Khrushchev doesn't want - a full-scale civil war in Laos. Especially since the Chinese Reds - might be able to control the Laotian Reds. But, how can the boss of the Kremlin - say all this?

He can't. And the news from London pictures Khrushchev - working hard for a quick settlement, ~~Hoping~~ to end the Laotian crisis - before Mao Tse-tung gets any ideas about intervening militarily, <sup>and</sup> before Mao again hangs the "appeaser" tag - on Khrushchev.

## CANADA

In Ottawa, the only question is at what moment will the office of Prime Minister of Canada actually shift from John Diefenbaker to Lester Pearson. What's holding this up apparently, is the Pearson's problem of forming a new Cabinet. The new P.M. to start serving as Prime Minister as soon as he and his Cabinet are ready.

## BRITAIN

In London when the British Prime Minister interrupts his Easter vacation for a quick return to 10 Downing Street, Britishers know something is stirring in government circles. This time - no doubt about that "something". Harold MacMillan is back at "Number Ten" tonight because of a leak somewhere in his administrative Hierarchy. Was it a leak near the top - because that permitted a vital classified document to become public.

The secret of the headquarters from which the Prime Minister would operate in case of a nuclear war. The demonstrators who call themselves "Spies for Peace" got hold of the document. Ran off a batch of copies. And have been handing them around to pedestrians on the streets of London - even on Downing Street.

"THRESHER"

The testimony today at the Navy Board of Inquiry in Portsmouth, New Hampshire - did nothing to dispel the mystery of the "Thresher." ~~The witness, Admiral Lawson Ramage - one of four living submarine commanders who hold the Congressional Medal of Honor.~~

*Admiral Mahan* ~~two~~ points: First - that a Norwegian fishing vessel was seen in the area of the tragedy. Second - that mysterious electronic signals were picked up two days later, by the submarine "Seawolf." But neither the trawler nor the signals - had anything to do with the "Thresher."

One point however - was clarified today. Why no quick S.O.S. - from the escort ship "Skylark"? The Admiral's answer - no one aboard the "Skylark" could believe that the difficulty of the "Thresher" was anything more than temporary. "They thought they'd come up" - said he.

## WEATHER

A dispatch from Goodland, Kansas - sounds like an echo of the thirties. Remember - the Dust Bowl? The wind, picking up the layer of topsoil from farms in the Midwest? Blowing it away?

We hear they are having dust storms of the same magnitude in Kansas, tonight. The air - clogged with dust. Visibility - reduced to half a mile.

The Dust Bowl all over again? Not quite. No, just winds of hurricane force whipping across the Sunflower State - winds powerful enough to kick up dust and earth anywhere.

D.A.R.

The Daughters of the American Revolution often have been criticised. Which makes all the more striking this year's message from the White House. President Kennedy, applauding the ladies of the D.A.R. and urging them to keep up the good work. Especially their labor in behalf of underprivileged children, and their historical activities - D.A.R. museums, plaques, publications - and so on.

The President, pointing out that the American revolutionary idea is still alive, and helping to transform the world - in our time. Which he says gives a special significance to the organization devoted to the memory of The American Revolution. A salute to the D.A.R. from the President of the United States.



## KENNEDY

One of today's announcements from the vacation White House - uses the phrase "rare understanding". Those words, applied to the Rome government - because of its agreement to a change in President Kennedy's travel plans. The June trip to Italy, to be a "working visit" rather than a visit of state.

The change, because the First Lady is expecting her third child. So - Rome won't see Jackie in June. Unlucky Romans.

But just a postponement. The President and the First Lady, to pay a joint visit to the Eternal City later. So, later, if you happen to be in the Coliseum or on The Spanish Steps - you just may see something new in Roman history. Namely - one particular brunette from Washington, Dick, Beautiful Jackie.

TIMES TOWER

Here's good news for those who want to preserve the historic landmarks of New York. The Times Tower - ~~is going to~~ <sup>will</sup> remain standing. Moreover, it will continue to flash news bulletins - ~~across the~~ <sup>on that</sup> famous electrical sign.

No, the New York Times hasn't bought back - its Council." Cardona, threatening to precipitate a showdown - old headquarters. The buyer today - Allied Chemicals. But ~~we~~ <sup>we</sup> were told ~~that~~ the silhouette of the building - will remain as it is, ~~And~~ <sup>And</sup> that we'll still be able to read the news - by standing in Times Square, and gazing up at the Times Tower.

In Washington, it's flatly denied - that Cardona has been threatened with deportation, but there is talk - of ending the American subsidy to the Revolutionary Council. That subsidy amounts to - almost one and one-half billion dollars.

A sad turn of events - as the second anniversary of the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.