

L.T.-OLDS, FISHER. MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 1964

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Panama crisis still unresolved: But the collision between Panamanian mobs and American soldiers -- that seems to be over.

Under Secretary of State, Thomas Mann, back in Washington, tells of negotiations that will put it all in the lap of an O A S Peace Commission. A board of Panamanians, Americans and neutrals -- to work out a solution.

Panama wants the borders of the Canal Zone pulled back. President Chiari demands a reduction of the ten mile stretch -- on each side of the Panama Canal -- more for Panama.

President Johnson has called the members of the Peace Commission to the White House for a session tonight.

## CASTRO

Meanwhile Moscow is non-committal--about Castro's visit. The Kremlin giving out nothing more than the usual about "consultations on the mutual interest of the two nations." But the guess is that their talks feature two matters:--Cuban economy, and Panama.

As for Cuban economy we hear Castro has run the finances of his island into the ground and needs such Soviet help. But Khrushchev is having economic troubles of his own.

As for the question of Panama--Castro and Khrushchev no doubt are delighted--to see Uncle Sam in hot water. But they may not agree--on how to exploit this. Some westerners in Moscow believe that Castro is making an all-out bid for strong Soviet help in Panama, and elsewhere in Latin America. His argument being that this is the opportunity for the Reds to move in on the Latin American democracies.

Western observers are inclined to doubt that

Khrushchev will buy that. Sounds too much like--the hard line from Peking. Also that Khrushchev will not want the economic burden of another Cuba in Latin America.

## JORDAN RIVER

IN Cairo, the Arab summit conference is discussing that basic problem of political geography, the status of a river that flows through more than one nation. Specifically -- what right has the nation that controls the headwaters of the river?

If the headwaters are tampered with--the lower reaches are affected. The nation at the mouth of the river-- may suddenly find its water drastically reduced. Which is why the building of a dam or a canal--is often a subject for endless negotiations.

In the case of the Jordan River--negotiation is well high impossible, for Jordan has no diplomatic relations with Israel. Hence, the Israeli decision to tap the headwaters of the Jordan for irrigation is unilateral. And the Arab heads of State in Cairo are trying to decide what to do about it.

## INDIA

In India tonight, ominous memories of the late nineteen forties, when the sub-continent of Hindustan became independent. Two great new states replacing--the British Raj. A development that millions look back to as the culmination of the campaign head by Mahatma Gandhi.

Why should the memories be ominous? Gandhi as we know was an advocate of non-violence. Yet, the independence he worked for--produced some of the worst violence in modern history. With fighting--between Moslems and Hindus and perhaps millions of casualties, as whole populations shifted north and south and east and west over new frontiers. The frontiers between--Indian and Pakistan. Hindus--fleeing to India. Indian Moslems--fleeing to Pakistan.

Those who did not migrate to join their co-religionists--remained as minorities. Especially in Calcutta --the great seaport up the Hoogli from the Bay of Bengal. Hundreds of thousands of Moslems decided to stay in Calcutta--

for personal or economic reasons. And the city has been relatively quiet since the mob rioting at the time of partition

That quiet--now shattered. Violence reupting because of--the desecration of a Moslem shrine, more than a thousand miles from Calcutta at Srinagar, capital of disputed Kashmir. Kashmiri Moslems blaming Hindus from India--that rumor touching off a religious battle far to the southeast in Calcutta.

A mob of Moslems surged through the streets toward one Hindu district. The Hindus came swarming out--to meet them. There was a pitched battle--that raged until the riot police broke it up. The mob dispersed only to continue the battle with wild melees in side streets.

Sporadic fighting has continued for five days. And --is still going on. The toll mounting by the hour. Unofficial reports say--that more than one hundred have been killed. Hundreds injured. Tonight parts of Calcutta a shambles.

## ZANZIBAR

The first Commonwealth government to be overthrown seems to be a victim of African nationalism. Zanzibar, in the Indian Ocean off the coast of East Africa -- has been inhabited by two different peoples since the Middle Ages. Africans moved across the Strait from Tanganyika and occupied the island first. Later after the rise of Islam, Arabs sailed down the East African coast and made it their home, and created the colorful Sultanate of Zanzibar.

During the Middle Ages and the Renaissance it was known as the fabled spice island -- sending cloves to Europe -- still does. Later the Sultanate of Zanzibar became a part of the British Empire. Then -- gained its independence last month.

But the winds of nationalism are sweeping across Africa. And last night they blew into Zanzibar. An African insurrection -- overturning the government. Forcing the Sultan to flee. This version of the affair is corroborated -- by the

immediate reaction on the mainland of Africa. Kenya -- newly independent itself, is the first nation to recognize the revolutionary government. And there no longer is a romantic Sultanate of Zanzibar.

## WEATHER

What's the next step up from a blizzard? Some say the answer is "two blizzards." For instance the two that hit the East today. One out of the Rockies. The other coming up from Florida. Some parts of the East getting both.

A record 12 inches of snow in New York City. With more due tonight. Drifts many feet high in some places. Planes grounded. Trains behind schedule. Cars and busses -- slowed to a crawl. Dozens of traffic accidents including a fifteen car chain accident in Brooklyn. Wind still blowing. Still snowing in the East. While out in the Rockies, forty-three below at Frazer, Colorado.

Dick Noel is reported lost in the snow drift of Long Island. So -- here is Hal Sims in his place.

## MARCO POLO

I've just been re-reading the greatest of travellers - the Venetian who visited China in the Thirteenth Century -- Marco Polo. On his way home to Venice, Marco Polo stopped off -- at Madagascar. There he heard a description of the strange island to the North -- a description of Zanzibar.

Marco Polo describing the common people of Zanzibar as given to the worship of pagan idols. Their main pleasure, next to war, getting drunk on a heavy concoction of sugar, rice and spices. When they were sober they hunted elephant for ivory - which their chiefs sold to Arab sea captains who sailed to Zanzibar from India and Arabia.

During the thirteenth century Zanzibar was in the throes of -- civil war. Arab sheiks, fighting for -- domination of the island. Waging war with elephants that carried miniature castles on their backs -- says Marco Polo. Castles holding -- twenty men apiece. And both men and elephants going into battle slightly intoxicated by the spicy stimulant that took the place

of wine.

**Drunken armies. No wonder Zanzibar was not  
conquered by any Arab Napoleon -- in the time of Marco Polo.**

The official American position on the Panama crisis is that we intend to maintain control of -- the Panama Canal; but will negotiate concerning the complaints of Panama -- as soon as the good neighbor atmosphere is restored. President Johnson made both of these points clear -- in today's White House statement.

Meanwhile, the Secretary of the Army reveals -- that Castro Guevarita moved into the disturbances. Words from Cuba are coming on -- the Panamanian side. According to Cyril Vance, two of three Castroites -- have been arrested by the Panamanian police.

As for the treaties affecting the Canal Zone -- there's a call for revision on Capitol Hill. Past articulators -- Senator Morse of Oregon, who points out that the Canal treaty is sixty years old, and should be brought to date in the interest of -- both Panama and the United States.