L.T.-OLDS. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1962

(L.T. on his way to South Sea Islands and Antarctica. Bc.given by Doug Edwards of CBS.)

GOOD EVENING:

Diplomatic sources in Havana said tonight that officials of the Castro regime are insisting that no Cuban merchant vessels of any kind will submit to any type of cargo inspection. Although no Cuban ship is known to be in the Atlantic enroute to Cuba at this time, the sources said the reported Cuban policy raises the possibility of a confrontation between the U.S. Navy and Cuban ships on the high seas. This word came as the Defense Department announced in Washington today that the Navy has intercepted five Soviet ships, outward bound from Cuba, and that three of them apparently were carrying missiles back to Russia. Assistant Defense Secretary Arthur Sylvester said responsible people in the U.S.government are satisfied that the cargoes included missiles, but final determination will await a study of pictures which were taken during the inspection operation.

BERLIN

A bit of a bassle in Germany today when the Russians held up a Berlin-bound American army convoy for an hour and a half. U.S. officers rejected a demand that the Russians be notified in advance of such military movements and guards finally let the convoy through. This is the second incident involving an American convoy using the German autobahn in eight days.

Meantime, a fact-finding mission from the American Senate, commissioned by the President, toured the Berlin wall and watched Soviet troops manning observation posts on the other side of the barrier.

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CHINA

Along the Himalayan front, that mountain border area between India and China, an armored battle appears to be shaping up - in the Ladakh sector. Both the Communist Chinese and the Indians are reported moving up tanks to bolster forces massing around the strategic Indian airfield at Chushul.

In New Delhi, Prime Minister Nehru has announced that India has asked Russia for military aid to press its fight against the Red Chinese invasion. But he says that so far there's no reply from the Russians. Nehru thanks America, Britain and other countries for their arms help.

Nehru also says that India is at war with Communist China although there has been no formal declaration. And he predicts that the Peiping regime will have an atomic bomb in a year or so.

SOUTH VIET NAM

A touchy diplomatic situation developed in Southeast Asia today with the announcement that South Viet Nam has broken relations with Laos because the Laotian coalition government has given diplomatic recognition to Communist North Viet Nam. South Viet Nam thus became the second country to sever relations with Laos for similar reasons.

Nationalist China broke with Laos recently, when the Laotian government recognized Communist China.

MRS. ROOSEVELT

United Nations tribute today for the woman hailed as the "First Lady of the World/" Nations of all political persuasions, from the giant powers of East and West, to the new-born states of Africa and Asia, joined in the final homage to Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. She gave much of her recent life to the building of the United Nationsl There was a moment of silent prayer. And American Ambassador Adlai Stevenson, in tones that reflected his personal grief, said: "I lost more than a friend. I lost an inspiration." And he said: "I do not think it amiss to suggest that the United Nations is in no small way a memorial to her and her aspirations."

Mrs. Roosevelt will be buried at Hyde Park, New York, overlooking the Hudson River, on Saturday, beside her late husband, at the Roosevelt ancestral estate. Among those present will be President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy, and former President Harry Truman and Mrs. Truman. X-15

The X-15 rocket plane flipped over twice and crashed in an emergency landing in Nevada today, but Test Pilot John McKay escaped serious injury after being trapped upside-down in the wreckage. Doctors said, however, McKay was suffering from nervous shock and probably would have to be hospitalized for twenty-four hours. The landing took place in the dry bed of a mud lake after the X-15 lost its power on being dropped from the mother plane at a height of forty-five thousand feet.

SIPLE

Here's an item I'm sure my good friend, Lowell Thomas, would find very intriguing. The well-known geographer and explorer, Doctor Paul Siple, who has been a member of four expeditions to the Antarctic continent - somehow managed to lose his way in the middle of Atlantic City, New Jersey. Doctor Siple showed up twenty minutes late for a speech hewas to make before the New Jersey Science Teachers Association. The explorer explained that he couldn't find the hotel where the Association was meeting.

ROCKY FEATURE

There's a house in Big Bear Lake, California, that has been stoned for some four months. Why? Nobody knows. It has happened to the home of the W.M.Lowe family and finally, on Hallowe'en night, they gave up and moved out.

They report the rocks were falling from all directions. Something that happened about four times a week - at all hours of day and night - rocks up to four inches long raining on the dwelling and, for that matter, an area of about two city blocks around. The police say they've found no pebble tossers. One theory - perhaps the wind is blowing the projectiles off a rocky ridge a tenth of a mile away - the closest hill. Mr. Lowe gives perhaps the best answer for the move - "The house isn't really big enough anyway, what with five kids." But at last reports, the rocks were still falling. Pebbles from heaven, or somewhere.

WOMEN CANDIDATES

Women candidates, running for everything from coroner to Congress in last Tuesday's elections, suffered some setbacks in the national contests but they scored numerous successes in seeking offices at the state level. As a result of the losses in the national races, the next session of Congress will have only thirteen women in its membership - the smallest total since Nineteen Fifty-Three. During the session of Congress just ended, there was a record number of twenty women in the House and Senate. Seven of them, Dick, decided to retire and not run again.

ELECTION

Elections have a way of making the winning candidates happy, but some elections make nobody happy simply because there are no candidates. The town of Gillette, Arkansas, has a population of six hundred and ninety. When the town election was held last Tuesday, there were no candidates for the city offices and therefore there were no nameson the local ballot. Mayor Joe Cloud, who had served two terms, said he didn't choose to run again. And so did the Town Recorder and all members of the Town Council. And none of the voters took the trouble to write-in any candidates of their own choice. The result is that Gillette, as things stand now, will have no town officials when the present terms expire in January. The only explanation Mayor Cloud had for the situation was that "apparently nobody wants to bother with the problems the jobs would bring." It figures.

Goodnight, and I'll be back Monday.