SPACE L.T.-OLDS. MONDAY, MAY 13, 1963 (Richard C. Hottelet substituting; L.T. on New Guinea trip) Everything is ready at Cape Canaveral tonight -

for that leap into orbit tomorrow. Everything, that is - except the weather.

Astronaut Cooper - is ready. His space capsule - the Faith Seven - is ready. And his silvery Atlas rocket is ready. All - I in a "completely go condition" Eager to be off on that twenty-two orbit trip covering five hundred and seventy-five thousand miles around the globe.

But - the weather? Who can tell? At the moment indications are that clouds - may cause trouble. But preparations for the blast off - are still going

on.

VIEWERS WITH SPACE

More than forty-million Europeans will watch Astronaut Gordon Cooper's flight into space - on a Europe-wide television relay. Including four Soviet bloc countries - Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and East Germany.

But Russia has turned down an offer - to hook up too.

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INTRODUCTION TO TAPE

By now, Lowell Thomas has reached - the ancient lands of the Middle East. What about those lands - Lowell?

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Hello Everybody:

I am in Persia tonight -- the boom city of Teheran. I'm sure you have both heard and read about the changes taking place in Iran, the social revolution reported to be sweeping this country. I've had a long talk with the Shah of Shahs and he tells me that the changes for which he himself is largely responsible are greater, and will be greater, than the changes in the economic life of his country over the past three thousand years, since the days of the great empire of Darius, since Alexander the Great swept across Asia and conquered what was then the vast Persian Empire. Shah Mohamed Reza Pahlevi tells me that in recent months he has turned virtually all of his royal crown lands over to his people. Some three million five hundred thousand acres. recently.

Shah - 2

While he knows what he is doing is not a complete cure for all of his country's ailments, he tells me that the feudal system is now virtually at an end here in Iran. Or, he hopes it will be soon. His plan is to break up all big estates. I was interested to hear him make a comparison with America. He may have been kidding just a bit. At any rate, said the Shah "We no longer will have great estates like your King Ranch in Texas."

Some months ago you may recall there was an earthquake disaster here in northeastern Persia. In the city of Meshed alone, more than twelve thousand people were killed. The Shah tells me that they are now making the area around Meshed a model agricultural community.

Then he spoke about farms in the in the United States - how our American farms are getting larger and larger because of mechanization. The Shah says they hope to use all the latest methods right here in Persia, but he doesn't think that their farms will be on such a large scale, at any rate not for fifty or one hundred years partly because of the mountains.

And he tells me that his dream is for Iran to be a country with no privileged class. I wonder.

His capital city, Teheran, he expects to have a population of four million within ten years. And he adds that he deplores this doubling of the number of people in Iran, but he just doesn't know what to do about that.

I found the Shah most cordial. And we chatted for a little while about his various visits to America, and he was telling me about what a wonderful time he had on the last one. He particularly likes to Ski at Sun Valley and he is actually promoting this sport in Iran, especially on glorious Mount Demavand right behind us. Here he is planning to put a gondola up to an altitude of around ten thousand

feet.

Shah - 4

I'm not really making a full stop in Iran. This

is simply a hesitation as I push on across Asia.

Solong,

FOLLOW L.T.

Well, Lowell, you may not be making a full stop -in Iran. But you've given us a rather full statement - on Iran.

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BIRMINGHAM

The Federal Government will not move its troops into Birmingham - unless local authorities can no longer handle the situation. But three thousand troops are standing by - at military camps in Alabama. Trained to handle street riots and ready to move into Birmingham the moment the President gives the word. If - he does.

President Kennedy says flatly that he will not permit "a few extremists on either side" - to sabotage the agreement hammered out last week.

White and Negro leaders are also anxious - to keep the agreement in effect.

The city itself is quiet today, with police trying to find out - who planted those bombs.

The President's action in sending troops to Alabama - was challenged against tonight by Governor George Wallace of Alabama as unconstitutional. But President Kennedy refers to "the United States Code Relating to the Suppression

BIRMINGHAM - 2

of Domestic Violence" - to prove that he does have the necessary authority. And, in fact the duty - to use it.

Despite what has happened in Birmingham in the past month, President Kennedy will go through with a scheduled visit to Alabama next Saturday, when he attendedceremonies marking the thirtieth anniversary of the TVA.

DOM1NICAN

The Dominican Republic is pulling back its troops tonight - from the Haitian border. Thus restoring to the island of Hispaniola - some measure of peace and quiet. For the moment - anyway. But the Dominican Government says firmly that its armed forces are still - "on alert." Ready - for anything.

Meanwhile the Haitian government-pending the arrival of the O.A.S. truce team - is keeping a sharp look out for opponents of President Duvalier. Opponenta who say they are making this a "week of decision" - in their efforts to throw him out of office.

EVEREST

Wore Americans are climbing Mount Everest tonight. This time attacking the peak - from two sides. One team moving up the South Col, the other on the West Ridge. The teams hope to arrive and shake hands on the summit on May Twenty-first. Why May twentyfirst? Because the South Col half of the expedition doesn't have enough oxygen to stay any longer - at these altitudes.

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MOSCOW

Speculation is rife in the capitals of the world tonight - over the meaning of one man's promotion. His name -Dmitry Ustinov.

And it may well be that the biggest speculation is among the top Communists of the Soviet Union. Excepting, of course - Nikita Khrushchev. In practical terms - the Kremlin's Crown Prince, Frol Kozlov, has dropped out because of illness. Western experts have been picking names out of the hat - trying to guess who would be tapped to replace Kozlov as Khrushchev's heir.

The sudden appearance of Ustinov at Moscow functions makes it appear that he may be the lucky man.

SAILORS

If you think that it's a good idea to send the ships of the U.S. Navy on goodwill voyages to foreign ports - well, you can't prove it by the skipper of the aircraft carrier "Coral Sea." Ten days ago - the "Coral Sea" arrived at Sydney, Australia. Today she sailed - minus nearly three hundred of her crew. Reason - too much good will. American sailors and Australian girls, passing in review - through the Sydney marriage bureau. The gals Down Under, causing

the men of Uncle Sam's fleet - to give-up the ship.

CHINESE

The Chinese Reds have promised as we know - to hold peace talks with Russia. To clear up ideological and political differences - which have split the two countries.

But maybe they should take time out - to agree on what they mean by peace.

At any rate Chinese President Liu Shao Chi **XXXXX** gives notice that he is still entirely opposed to peaceful co-existent with the West. Which he calls a fantasy. And that he is very much in favor of - a more militant policy. Which does not exclude - nuclear war.

PLANE

Arab

That United/Airlines plane crash, which killed thirty-four people including two Americans - was due to air turbulence.

The plane taking off from Cairo in a raging dust storm and crashing about twenty miles north of the city. A Sahara dust storm - latest hazard on the list known to have caused air disasters.

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for the space flight continued in the hope that word