

L.T.-DELCO. MONDAY, DEC. 1, 1958.
(Given by Allan Jackson, L.T. in Zanzibar)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

That tragedy in a Chicago parochial school - was caused by a fire in one corridor. The children at "Our Lady of Angels" grade school - were about to be dismissed for the day. Suddenly the blaze swept through the corridor - causing a panic. Many of the youngsters jumped from second story windows. Others, trapped inside. The toll - more than 68 dead, with dozens injured, and hospitalized.

EISENHOWER

Good evening

This will be a critical week - for President Eisenhower. The President, ending his vacation today - returns to Washington tomorrow. He'll plunge into his work on the Administration program - that will go up to Congress next month. Mr. Eisenhower has scheduled a round of conferences - with his top advisers. After which, he'll hammer out the measures - he hopes to see approved on Capitol Hill - in spite of those Democratic majorities in both Houses. Around Washington, the guess is - President Eisenhower will consult the Democrats more - about domestic policy. Foreign policy being - already bi-partisan.

EAST GERMANY

The Communists of East Germany deny - that the Western powers have any legal right to travel through their territory - to Berlin. The Foreign Minister of the Soviet puppet regime - challenging Britain, France and America. He claims that all of Berlin lay originally - in the Russian occupation zone. And now belongs to East Germany. In his opinion - there are no signed agreements to the contrary. Hence the Communist demand - for the Big Three to get out of West Berlin.

In West Berlin itself - officials are not worried about any sudden attack. They say the Reds are all wrong - about the legal status of West Berlin. All these officials want - is a clear statement from the Allies that a Communist invasion would mean war. And that seems pretty clear - from yesterday's declaration by General Hodes. Our commanding general in Europe, warning East Germany - his men will defend themselves, if attacked.

BERLIN

The forthcoming conference of Western Foreign Ministers will meet in Paris. Britain, France, West Germany, and the United States - getting together before a gathering of members of Nato. The Foreign Ministers will discuss - the future of Berlin. It's taken for granted that this conference will end with - a strong four-power declaration -- that the West does not intend to be forced or cajoled out of West Berlin.

FRANCE

Today's statement by the President of France - sounds ordinary enough. President Coty, saying - he won't stand for reelection when his term runs out this month. The point is, of course - that Coty is stepping aside because of Premier DeGaulle's tremendous victory - in the elections. With his backers controlling the National Assembly - DeGaulle can have the presidency, if he wants it. All the indications are - he wants it.

DeGaulle's strength in the French legislature - looks like this. His own Party holds one hundred and eighty-nine seats in metropolitan France. He can count on virtually all seventy-one deputies from Algeria. And over a hundred Conservative Independents - have promised to support him. So DeGaulle will have a voting bloc of about three hundred and eighty -- in a chamber of five hundred and forty-six. A commanding majority - for the leader of the Fifth Republic.

MEXICO

The new President of Mexico took office today - amid all the traditional pomp and circumstance. Adolfo Lopez Mateos, beginning a six-year term -- with an address before an international audience. Among those present - the entire Mexican Congress, and delegations from fifty-two countries. Representing the U.S.A. - Secretary of State Dulles.

A former educator, President Lopez Mateos concentrated his remarks on ignorance and poverty, - calling them, "our two great national problems." And the President of Mexico pledged to support - the "good-neighbor policy" in the Western Hemisphere.

HEALTH

Our government is going to investigate - what exhaust fumes do to our national health. So says Arthur Fleming - Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. There have been charges that polluted air - causes cancer of the lungs. Including - the exhaust from automobiles. Secretary Fleming describes himself as worried enough - to launch a full-scale research program. He told his news conference today - the place will be - the Robert A. Taft Center in Cincinnati.

PLANE

Tonight the world's aviation ~~an~~ experts are still buzzing about - that Soviet plane, powered by nuclear energy. Does the plane really exist, or not? Western diplomats in Moscow say - they have no information about it. In Washington, Defense Secretary McElroy describes himself as - "highly skeptical." Meanwhile, Aviation Week Magazine stands by its story - insisting the Russians are already testing their atomic plane.

X

INTRODUCTION TO RECORDING

50:00

Lowell Thomas is off on another of his long journeys, gathering material for another television show. So now, on a recording, we have him starting out.

50:12

52:30
~~2:45~~
~~50:12~~

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53:15

L.T.

This trip that I'm on is quite a contrast to the last one. I'm heading for Asiatic lands of ancient tradition - while the previous jaunt was with a party of astronomers. Who made - an ultra-modern study of the solar eclipse in the South Pacific.

One of the scientists - Dr. John Rush, an astrophysicist from the High Altitude Observatory in Colorado. Who has a flair for putting complexities of science in simple, everyday language. As is proven - in his book just published, called "The Dawn of Life."

When you get to a Polynesian atoll, thousands of miles from civilization, you feel you're in a new world. Then, to sit on the beach in the moonlight, under a coconut palm, talking about worlds hundreds of millions of miles away - that's quite an experience also.

Does life exist on the planets of our solar system?
Are there living beings on planets revolving around stars out in sidereal space?

Well, Dr. Rush points out that life on this earth is based, essentially, on the element - carbon. In connection with water. Under moderate conditions of - temperature.

But couldn't life be based on another element? Like - silicon? Under conditions, perhaps - of extreme heat? In his book, "The Dawn of Life", Dr. Rush remarks that such weird forms of life might exist in outer space.

"Maybe," he writes, "there are little men with big brains, who navigate saucer-ships through space. Or - queer little beasties that exhale silica dust instead of carbon dioxide. And - cool themselves in live steam. Nobody knows."

The death of Sir Hubert Wilkins - removes one of the great explorers of the Twentieth Century. Sir Hubert, born in Australia - became a pioneer in both the Arctic and the Antarctic. He was with Stefansson at the North Pole - and with Ellsworth at the South Pole. In Nineteen Thirty-one, Sir Hubert Wilkins made a daring attempt - to sail under the Arctic icecap. His old-fashioned sub, the "Nautilus", ^{might} ~~would~~ have anticipated our atom powered "Nautilus" - except that one member of the Wilkins expedition became sick. And had to be rushed back for emergency treatment.

Knighted by George the Fifth in Nineteen Twenty-eight, author of several books, active till the end - Sir Hubert Wilkins now dead at the age of seventy.

5400

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