

L.T.-OLDS. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1962

(L.T. on South Sea Islands, Antarctica, Asia, Europe trip. Bc. given by Doug Edwards of CBS.)

GOOD EVENING:

President Kennedy made a twenty-five hundred mile flying inspection tour today of the military manpower massed in the southeastern United States during the Cuban crisis, and he assured the men who answered his call that they were not forgotten. The President decorated two of the air reconnaissance units that took pictures of Russian missile bases in Cuba.

In visits to bases in Georgia and Florida, he thanked both the officers and enlisted men for their preparedness, but he warned that the danger was not over, and that this country would face similar crisis at least for the remainder of Nineteen Sixty.

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In New York tonight, top U.S. negotiators and Soviet representatives will attend a dinner meeting at the United

Nations for further talks on a Cuban settlement. Soviet Deputy Premier Mikoyan, who has just returned from talks in Havana with Premier, Castro, will head the Russian group but no Cubans will be present.

Officials in Washington, meanwhile, have given a somewhat chilly reaction to Castro's offer to allow U.N. inspection of the withdrawal of offensive weapons from Cuba if the U.N. would also confirm the dismantling of bases from which anti-Castro exiles are conducting their operations. Washington officials say privately they have no intention of agreeing to Castro's proposal which would put the Southeastern United States, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territory under U.N. inspection. Mikoyan, on arriving in New York from Havana today, said there is the possibility of improved relations between the United States and Cuba.

DEFENSE

Despite the easing of the international situation, it looks as though the nation will continue to increase its military manpower. The Pentagon today authorized a temporary increase of twenty thousand in ~~the~~ Army manpower by next June Thirtieth. Slightly increased draft calls during the next six months will be used to boost the Army's total strength to nine hundred and eighty thousand instead of the present ~~pl~~ planned nine hundred and sixty thousand.

The Pentagon announcement said the move is intended to help offset the loss of trained manpower which will take place upon the expiration of the terms of service of ~~of~~ draftees now in the Army.

INTRO. TO L.T.

Well now let's hear from our Wanderer. One of the world's greatest. I first heard him all over the country -- and the world -- and with great pleasure.

So tonight Lowell Thomas is on another trip -- another big one. But let's hear it from Lowell.

LOWELL THOMAS

SOUTH PACIFIC - #1

GREETINGS, DOUG, AND TO ALL YOUR AUDIENCE:

Wherever I happen to be someone invariably comes up and says: "Where have your travels taken you lately, Lowell? And, where next?" Nearly everybody seems to think I am an incurable traveler, always going somewhere, and much of the time hopping from continent to continent. Maybe so. At any rate, here I go again. And each day, like I am doing right now, I'll try and get through to you from wherever I am. But only for a minute - or two minutes at the most - with a bit of news, or a feature item that I pick up as I set forth on another flight around the world.

At the moment I am out over the Pacific, in a big jet, with an all French crew, bound for the South Seas, heading for several groups of islands that are included in what your map calls French Polynesia.

Actually, the plane is the latest turned out by Donald Douglas who made the first planes ever to fly around the world - the first world flight, in 1924, of which I was the historian. At that time, the original world cruiser, flew at seventy miles an hour. Tonight, here above the ocean, near the equator, we are at an altitude of forty thousand feet, above the weather, flying at a speed of more than six hundred miles an hour.

Exactly where are we headed for? It isn't any secret; but I'll only tell you that when the sun comes up in the morning I hope we will be looking down on those misty isles of legend, the Marquesas, and by the time we've had breakfast, I hope the pilot will be telling us that he's starting to let down ~~for~~ a landing in the Society Islands fifteen hundred miles south of the Equator, and nearly four thousand miles southwest

L.T.

of the coast of California.

So tomorrow night, if all goes well, I will be greeting you from one of the most romantic spots in all the South Seas, under a palm tree, with the sound of the surf in the background. Now for a bit of sleep - I hope. So long.

FOLLOW L.T.

We'll be hearing more from Lowell during his journey.

## CONSTRUCTION

The Commerce Department considered the nation's construction outlook today and found it - nothing but booming. The Department predicts the total amount of money spent in the building industry next year will be a record sixty-three billion, three million dollars. This would be a rise of more than three per cent over the Nineteen Sixty-Two figure which in itself, is expected to set a new record before New Year's Day rolls around.

## COLLISION

There was a tragic, mid-air collision of two airplanes over Brazil today that took the lives of twenty-seven persons. A Brazilian airliner, flying over a mountainous area with twenty-three aboard collided with a small private plane, causing both aircraft to crash. Four persons were aboard the small plane. There were no survivors and all the victims were Brazilians.

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In Washington, investigators for the Civil Aeronautics Board said today that a large bird -- a swan -- probably flew into the stabilizer of the United Airlines plane which crashed on a Maryland farm last Friday, killing all seventeen persons aboard. Although investigators appear to have decided that the swan actually caused the crash, a final ruling is being withheld, pending an examination of the plane's flight recorder, which was recovered intact.

## BIBLE

According to a Reuter's story from London, a botanist, one of Britain's greatest, has discovered the Bible, and wants to change it. Dr. Tetham Whitehead tonight challenges the biblical belief that Eve gave Adam an apple - in the garden of Eden. He says it was an apricot. Dr. Whitehead points out that the apple is not native to Mesopotamia, reportedly the site of the Garden of Eden. He figures it was an apricot that "un-did" Adam. Whatever it was, Doctor, it worked.

And let's put Dick Noel to work, right now -- which is another pretty good trick.

KICK

The background came from Rome -- where it happened last night.

One Roldolfo gave his playmate Roberto a playful kick in the pants -- and kicked off an explosion that sent both boys to the hospital. Just before the two met in front of a movie house, Roberto had bought a handful of explosive torpedoes and stuffed them in his hip pocket.

The wounds will heal in about a week. Meantime, goodnight, and I'll be back tomorrow.