

L.T. - DELCO. TUESDAY, AUG. 20, 1957.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Tonight the situation in Syria is confused - and dangerous. Reports coming out of Lebanon say - the civilian head of the Syrian government has resigned. We are told that Shukri El Kuwatly handed over the government to the Reds - before he flew to Egypt on Sunday. According to this report, Kuwatly's resignation is being kept secret in Damascus - to avoid complications about choosing a successor at this point. The one thing that seems sure - is that Syria is now under the control of a Communist junta, led by the Army Chief-of-Staff, General Afif El Bizri.

In London, it's believed that the Soviet Union now has another satellite - with Khrushchev moving to set up a submarine base on the Syrian coast. This would be a grave threat to the West - since it would put the Russians right in the Mediterranean.

If the Kremlin holds Syria - the southern flank of Nato will be imperiled. And Turkey will be flanked by Communist satellites on three sides - Russia to the north, Bulgaria to the west, and Syria to the south.

Tonight the nations of Nato and the Baghdad Pact are deep in consultation. And diplomatic sources in London report - Anglo-American talks will go on until the Syrian situation becomes clearer.

One difficulty - the Eisenhower Doctrine is not applicable to Syria - because that nation has not been invaded. The sudden coup, was arranged from the inside - by home-grown Reds. The anti-Communists had no chance to ask America for help.

CONGRESS

Congress will be in session all of next week - and probably the following week too. So announced by Senate Republican leader, William Knowland - following a meeting with President Eisenhower at the White House. The California Republican refuses even a guess - about when he and his colleagues will be allowed to go home. He merely says, it will take a lot of breaks - to allow Congress to adjourn, by the end of this month.

As we know, it's the Civil Rights Bill that is snarling things up. G.O.P. leaders told Mr. Eisenhower this morning - they'll fight for an effective bill against discrimination - if Congress has to stay in Washington right into September. House Leader Joseph Martin, noting - the leaders of his party are open to compromise - but they still refuse to go all the way with what Martin called "the Southern led Northern liberals" in the House.

That's the reason for the deadlock. The Southerners, and their new allies - say any attempt to pass a stronger bill - would mean, no civil rights legislation this year. The opposition arguing - even if the House passes a stronger bill - the Senate will not accept it.

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And he brought back a lot of new information about the problems human beings face - what they get that way up in the stratosphere. The flight by major Starns in a

BALLOON

Man's longest tour into the stratosphere - has ended. Major David Simons of the Air Force - bringing his balloon down - after it had climbed above a hundred thousand feet. The Major says he wanted to stay up longer - to continue his biological and psychological experiments on himself. But he was ordered down - when the weather turned bad.

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And he brought back a lot of new information about the problems human beings face - when they get that far up in the stratosphere. The flight by major simons is a

major step toward man's conquest of outer space.

... in the jungle of New Guinea. It tells us
... about a tribe of people - just reported to

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INTRODUCTION TO L.T.

Here's the latest recording by Lowell Thomas - from deep in the jungle of New Guinea. It tells us some more about a stone age people - just exposed to civilization.

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L.T.: The New Guinea people of the large Sepik River village of Timbunke, have just seen their first motion picture, except for some of the men, who 12 or 13 years ago, during the war, went down to the coast and worked for the Australians or our people, at Wewak or Madang. A big screen was hung between two tall cocoanut plants, a projector set up on a platform, and a power line run from the special generator that is carried by one of our ex-pearling luggers.

Bob Daugherty, the Assistant District Officer, described what was happening, on the screen, to the crowd, in New Guinea pidgin English. The audience

laughing at all the wrong places. Someone shot, they laughed. Someone dying, they roared with laughter. When the heroine fell off her horse and was about to be carried away by a rushing torrent they howled with delight.

I was particularly interested in the way word went up river to Timbunke that pictures were to be shown that evening. In the middle of the afternoon the message was sent up stream from the village of Tambanam, on the big drum, a hollowed tree trunk called the garamut, which is used all over New Guinea for sending messages. And they must have a complicated code, because our Skipper "Spook" Snook says they can get a message to one particular native in an area inhabited by thousands, do it just by the way they beat out the message on the big drum.

"Spook" also thinks that they are gifted with mental telepathy. His theory being that primitive man

had this remarkable gift, and then lost it when he became civilized.

Missionaries have been busy on this, the so-called greatest of all the cannibal islands, since one of the first, a distinguished Reverend - Chalmers lost his head and was eaten in the Fly River country. Today, in this United Nations Mandate part of New Guinea, there are two types of missions, one Catholic, and the other 7th Day Adventists, with Lutherans in some coastal sections. The top Catholic personality is a tall, lean, bond Iowan. Father Leo Arkfeld, Bishop of the Sepik River Diocese of the Order of the Divine Word. He comes from the small town of Harlan, in the tall corn country of Shelby County in Western Iowa.

Under him are around 100 other Europeans, priests, nuns, and so on, of many nationalities. Once you enter the Order of the Divine Word, which specializes in missionary work, you stay in the field for the rest of

your life. According to the standards set by the Church of Rome, this young Iowan must be a remarkable man, because he became a Bishop when he was only 35. Ten years later he still looks no older. Much of the time, and all alone, he flies over this wild region of swamps, jungles and mountains, piloting his single engined Cessna.

He says that the native children are exceedingly bright, pick up languages quickly, and appear to be as intelligent as any children. But he adds that when they reach 16, or 17, or 18, that from then on, for some reason they make no further progress. He says that above all they don't like to work, and that if the White Man pulled out it would only be a matter of a year or two until they would revert to their original savage state. He believes the climate on this great equatorial island is largely responsible for this.

Although we have visited several villages where

all the missionary work is done by the 7th Day Adventists, so far we have not met any of their representatives. But their villages seem to be the cleanest - the best organized.

There is always that argument in the mission field as to where emphasis should be placed - whether people should be left in their natural state, or whether they should be given the sometimes dubious benefits of what we call civilization. I guess no one has the final answer to that. So long.

PILOTS

The Air Force admits it may lose almost half of the men - just beginning their pilot training. The reason - that new policy in the Air Force - demanding that pilot trainees sign up for five years instead of three. The order, applying to aviation cadets, graduates of the Air Force Academy, and members of the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

The Air Force declares - it can't afford to train pilots, and then have them quit after only three years of service. This old procedure, was too costly. Because it takes about a hundred and fifty thousand dollars to train a pilot. So now the Air Force wants to be sure that when it sends a trainee on a basic training course for pilots - he's going to stay with the Service for five years.

At the same time, the Air Force started a survey - to see how the men feel about it. According to the

survey, fifty-two per cent of those new being trained as pilots - will keep going. The rest, almost half - say they'll give up their flying careers. They'll take ground jobs instead - so they'll be out of uniform in three years.

The top generals of the Air Force point out - the situation isn't quite as serious as it looks. They told newsmen - they're sure of building up a back-log of men willing to serve five years. In other words, the Air Force won't gain as many pilots - but it will keep them a lot longer.

FLU

The Surgeon General of the U.S. Army, warns the American people - to prepare for a possible epidemic of the Asiatic flu, that is now so prevalent in many places of the world. General Leroy Burney told newsmen - the flu is expected to break out around the end of this fall. The Surgeon General, predicting that it may sweep across the country within six weeks. His estimate of the possible number of victims - thirty-four million.

The armed forces are taking special precautions - against the Asiatic flu. Volunteers are being put through special tests - to see how they respond to vaccine. The normal dose of vaccine - is one cubic centimeter. These military guinea pigs are getting twice as much - double shots of vaccine, to see if they will become immune.

BOY

Tonight the police of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, - are holding an extortionist named Carl Harris. The point is - he's only sixteen years old. He embarked on a ~~■~~ one-man crime wave - under his own power. But he didn't get very far.

He chose as his victim - Marvin Selden, the Vice-President of a Cedar Rapids Bank. He demanded twenty-five hundred dollars from the Vice-President - threatening to kill members of the Selden family, if he didn't get the money. The young extortionist, writing to his victim, "Twenty-five hundred dollars is a small sum - to pay for a loved one's life, no?"

Selden turned the letter over to the police - who set a trap for the extortionist. And Carl Harris walked into the trap. He says he was the brains behind the plot - and feels quite proud of it, describing himself as "a person with some intelligence." He also says, he has no scruples against homicide - so the police are just as happy they caught him - before his extortionist plot went any further.

ABEL

The alleged master spy of Soviet espionage - gets a lawyer. James Donovan, assigned to defend Colonel Rudolf Abel. Donovan, who helped prosecute the Nazi war criminals at Nuremberg. Now a member of the New York law firm of Watters and Donovan - he was recommended by the Brooklyn Bar Association. Judge Matthew Abruzzo, accepting the recommendation. So James Donovan will be the defense counsel when Colonel Abel goes on trial, September Sixteenth - accused of espionage, facing a possible death penalty, if convicted.

HOFFA

The crown prince of the Teamsters Union - has finally appeared before the Senate Rackets Committee. Jimmy Hoffa, called a "study in brown" - when he took the witness chair. He wore a chocolate brown suit, a shiny brown tie, and light brown shoes. He also carried a brown leather case. Unlike the President of the Teamsters Union, Dave Beck - Hoffa did not invoke the Fifth Amendment. He told the Committee - he was ready to answer pertinent questions, if he knew the answers.

One of the first points that came up - a company known as "Hobren". It's a firm that leases trucks to Commercial Carriers of Flint, Michigan. Hoffa, telling the Committee - his wife is a co-owner of Hobren. And that the Company made a hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars by leasing equipment to Continental Carriers, which had a contract with the Teamsters.

Hoffa insists he has no personal connection with

Hobren - doesn't help run it, and he doesn't own any stock. But he admits he and his wife pool their income - for income tax purposes. And though he doesn't see any conflict of interests, he claims he's going to liquidate the connection between his Union and his wife's company - to conform with the ethical practices code of the AFL-CIO.

ELVIS

Elvis Presley did a lot of rocking and rolling last night - only he wasn't in front of the microphone. The hero of the bobby-sox brigade - in a real life drama. It started, when the Presley family were awakened by a gang of teen-agers who had slipped into the estate near Memphis, Tennessee. The invaders, carting off some of the lawn furniture - piling it in their car - then speeding off.

But by this time, the star of the show was on stage. Elvis Presley, racing downstairs, jumping into his Continental - pursuing the thieves' car through Memphis traffic. Near the city limits, he caught up with them - and forced them off the road.

He says that the boys began to cry - so he let them go - after taking down their license number. But he brought his furniture back - just like the hero of a movie, rounding up the cattle carried off by the rustlers.

BEAR

And now, let's shed a tear for the teen-ager who lost her pig-tails - to a sh^aggy black bear. Sharonne Gouch of Norris, Tennessee, was camping with her family in the Great Smokey Mountains. Last night, the rest of the Gouch family was suddenly awakened - by loud screams coming from Sharonne's tent. Mrs. Gouch hastily turned on a flashlight - and saw a bear nibbling at Sharonne's head. Mrs. Gouch promptly rushed over - and socked the intruder on the nose with her flashlight. Then, in her words, "He sat back, rolled out of the tent, rubbed his nose, and walked away."

But not before he had eaten the crowning glory of Sharonne Gooch. Tonight, she's recovered from the fright - but her pig-tails are gone - swallow~~e~~d by that black bear who invaded her tent, out there in the Great Smokies of Tennessee.