

KENNEDY

L.T. - Olds. Fri. Apr. 28-61.

President Kennedy is in Chicago -- to deliver his first political speech since he entered the White House. To address five thousand members of his party - at a banquet in Chicago's brand new Exposition Hall. To the top Democrats of the Windy City.

Before leaving New York, President Kennedy took the time to consult two great Americans. A half hour with former President Hoover, and about an hour - with General Douglas MacArthur. We hear the main subject of both meetings - Laos. President Kennedy, sounding out two men whose advice he respects - our number one elder statesman Herbert Hoover and General of the Armies Douglas MacArthur.

## ALERT

In his address to the Civil Defense Workers of America - President Kennedy pointed out that we do not expect war. But we must be prepared - for the worst that could happen. Today's alert, in the President's words - "common prudence."

The Presidential statement was broadcast over Conelrad - the special communications system that goes into effect during an alert. No doubt you know how America responded today - with radio and TV shutting down - for half an hour, sirens going full blast in all cities, millions of ~~mm~~ people taking cover. The whole apparatus of civil defense ~~put~~ put into action. A success says Washington.

## SPACE

Two stories on the news wire show how we are speeding up our exploration of space. In Washington, Vice President Johnson has called a special meeting for Monday; to discuss a study he has been making - of our achievements so far; presumably to air his own views - on overtaking the Russians. Meanwhile at Wallops Island, Virginia there has been another successful "Mercury" launching. A "Little Joe" rocket, carrying a capsule - - thirty thousand feet into the sky. Then - triggering the escape mechanism; the capsule, ejected - coming down by parachute. One more step in making sure that our first astronaut will survive - if anything goes wrong with his rocket.

## LAOS

The problem of Laos has boiled down - to one question. Was Khrushchev sincere - when he agreed to a cease fire? The Soviet boss says he wants - the shooting to stop. But somehow, his puppets in Laos - keep on shooting. The Red rebels, opening a big offensive - in reply to the government offer to ground arms at noon *today*.

The loyalist forces, compelled to fight back or be over run. Result - western pressure in Moscow. Britain and America, trying to get a straight answer - from Khrushchev. Does the Dictator in the Kremlin - really want the Laotian crisis to end? That's the question.

FUNERAL FOLLOW LAOS

Meanwhile, <sup>from</sup> in Luang Prabang <sup>we hear how</sup> ~~an example of how~~  
~~the Orient so often puzzles the West,~~ <sup>this an example.</sup> Enemy guns are only  
about six miles ~~away~~ from the city - and yet Laotian leaders  
took time out for a state funeral. The Buddhist cremation  
of - former King Sisavang Vong.

You could understand it - if Sisavang Vong had died  
a couple of days ago. Actually - it was a couple of years  
ago. The King's body preserved in a sandalwood coffin -  
since Nineteen Fifty Nine.

Today, a Buddhist funeral pyre was erected - in  
the center of Luang Prabang. The pyre, painted in bright  
colors - gaudy red and gold. Surrounded by - twelve white  
umbrellas. Buddhist monks reverently lifted the coffin to  
the top of the pyre - which was then lit from below at several  
places. The flames, roaring up - consuming the remains of  
King Sisavang Vong. The crowd, chanting Buddhist prayers -  
while the thunder of artillery echoed across the city ~~from~~  
from the jungle battlefields.

The key sentence from the State Department news conference <sup>that</sup> "Communism in this hemisphere is not negotiable."

This, our official reaction to Castro's proposal - that our differences with him be ironed out at the conference table.

State Department spokesman Lincoln White told newsmen - that some kind of agreement might be worked out on issues of economics. For instance - the nationalization of American property in Cuba. <sup>Some are</sup> ~~We're~~ not demanding a return to the old system of - American business interests. No opposition by our government - to the economic revolution. <sup>That we are</sup> ~~We're~~ as anxious as Castro - to see the Cuban standard of living raised.

The ~~main~~ nub of the dispute - Soviet penetration of Cuba. Khrushchev helping Castro to set up - a Red police state. Advising him about the most effective method - of destroying Democratic freedoms. Arming him with the latest weapons - from behind the Iron Curtain.

The Castro tyranny - intolerable to us and our  
allies. Communism in the Americas - not negotiable in  
Washington.

FRANCE

The noun used in tonight's dispatch from Paris -  
is "purge". The adjective - "massive". The two words adding  
to - a ruthless crackdown by DeGaulle. Two thousand anti-  
gaullists have been arrested - in metropolitan France.  
Another thousand - in Algeria. The round-up -- continuing.  
The President of France, making an example of - his  
opponents who seized control of Algeria. Who threatened  
France with Civil War.



WEATHER

Major League baseball games are "rained out" often enough. But how often are they - "snowed out"? *It* ~~That's what~~ happened ~~to today's game~~ - at Wrigley Field, in Chicago. The Cubs and the Dodgers - snowbound in their hotel rooms. The diamond - covered by a blanket of white two inches thick. *Snow falling*

*over* ~~so~~ much of the mid-west. ~~Snow falling~~ from Indiana to Colorado. The weather, ignoring the fact - that May is only four days away.

## UNIVERSITY

Today one of the oldest universities in the world saluted - one of the youngest. The old institution - Bologna - in central Italy. The University of Bologna goes back to the early Middle Ages; in fact - to the eleventh century. It was famous for the study of law - in the days of Dante and Chaucer.

The young institution - young by European standards - Johns Hopkins - founded in Eighteen Seventy-six. John Hopkins quickly achieved - a world-wide fame of its own - in medicine and other fields. It's President today - Doctor Milton Eisenhower, brother of Dwight D. Eisenhower

Milton Eisenhower today was at Bologna - for the presentation of honorary degrees. Receiving one himself - doctor of laws. The citation, mentioning, his "intelligence and tenacity;" in raising his university to the highest level; and admitting there is none better anywhere in the world - for liberal arts, than John

Hopkins.

The tradition the ancient University of Bologna played a part - when Johns Hopkins was founded. So its appropriate to find Italy's famed medieval university taking notice of Johns Hopkins; and of - the president of Johns Hopkins.

I wonder what Virgil would have said - if he had been in the Harvard Yard <sup>today</sup>. Maybe he'd have commented with the famous opening line of his "Aeneid", Arma Virumque cano - "I sing of arms and of the man". If you can call the Harvard rioters - men, <sup>with a dash</sup> it is a hard one to qualify as a man.

What took place at Harvard - sounds just as  
scholarly. A movement to keep the Latin- on diplomas.  
Prevent <sup>any</sup> the coming switch - to English.

~~But~~ But the scholars - weren't too much in  
evidence. Unless you can believe that five thousand rioting  
undergraduates are passionately interested in - Cicero and  
Virgil. They <sup>crowd</sup> attacked the Cambridge police - with eggs,  
beer cans, and stones. It took eight tear gas bombs - to  
disperse them.

I wonder what Virgil would have said - if he had  
been in the Harvard <sup>today.</sup> Yard. Maybe he'd have commented with -  
the famous opening line of his "Aenid". Arma Virumque cano -  
"I sing of arms and of the man." If you can ~~be~~ call the  
Harvard rioters - men. <sup>Dicks. And</sup> If ~~an~~ egg and ~~a~~ beer can<sup>s</sup> - qualify  
as arms.

## ART

A lot of American art lovers are mournful tonight - because of the word out of Venice. Peggy Guggenheim, announcing - she won't leave her art collection to any American museum or gallery. Instead, it will go to - the city on the Lagoon. Ex-patriate Peggy's adopted home - Venice. A decision that some of us consider - fitting enough. After all, Venice produced - one of the ~~ga~~ greatest schools in the history of art. So why shouldn't the Venetian old masters be joined by - the moderns, collected by Peggy Guggenheim? Why shouldn't Titian and Tintoretto hang side by side - with Picasso, Kandinsky, and Jackson Pollack?