

L.T. OLDS - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, 1963

Good Evening Everybody:

The latest rocket-rattling in Moscow - is having no effect in Washington - so we are told. Maybe Marshall Malinovsky talked a little too tough. After all, the nuclear annihilation that he threatened to rain on the United States and the West would boomerang on the Soviet Union. Sending clouds of poisonous radiation across Russia - even if there was no American counter attack. And Malinovsky knows as well as anyone that there would be an American counter attack.

As for Khrushchev going to war over Cuba - it's doubtful that even Castro is taken in by that kind of propaganda. That's what Khrushchev said before he bowed to the American blockade of the Island. Malinovsky could talk loudly today because he knows America does not intend to attack Cuba.

McNAMARA

The Administration position on Cuba -
is to get rid of both Communism and Castroism.

So testified - by our Secretary of Defense ~~Robert~~
McNamara, ^{before} ~~telling~~ the House ~~XXXXXX~~ Armed Services
Committee, during four days of secret testimony.-

That the evacuation of the island by the Russians is
only our first objective. The long range target -
to bring democracy to Cuba. Self determination -
for the Cuban people. The right to decide, whether or
not they want the bearded dictator - who shows no
signs of ever permitting the free election that he
promised so often.

CUBA

The defense of the Castro regime in the shrimp boat affair - is to deny everything. Havana, insisting that no shots were fired - at the American craft. This, in spite of the fact - that the MIGS made several passes. The two American fishermen, hitting the deck - when the MIGS opened up with machine guns.

Our State Department is demanding - a prompt and unequivocal explanation. And the Air Force has planes standing by - in case Castro orders any more attacks on American ships.

STRIKE

Yesterday, President Kennedy criticized
- the head of the striking union in New York. Mr.
Kennedy, terming Bertram Powers "obstinate" - for
keeping the newspapers closed down.

Today, the President of the Typographers
Union - struck back. ^{Elmer} ~~Edna~~ Brown, calling the
President - "unjust, unfair, incorrectly and ~~tax~~ in-
completely advised." Who is to blame - in this
walkout? The publishers, ^{only the publishers, says} ~~according to~~ the President
of the Typographers Union.

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But three non-striking newspaper unions
are backing the President's proposal - that a third
party be brought into the dispute. Someone who could
bring the typographers and the publishers - closer
together.

EARTHQUAKE

The toll of the Libyan earthquake is still being counted. Preliminary estimates - five hundred dead, one thousand injured. But those figures now are revised upwards, with the discovery of more victims.

The town of Barce, on a plateau some fifty miles from Benghazi, devastated by the quake.

British troops were quickly flown in from the British base at Benghazi. Also, Americans, from Wheeler Air Force base near the city of Tripoli. Rescue workers, digging frantically in the rubble of the town of Barce, in Libya, North Africa.

LANDSLIDE

Can you picture five million tons of earth and rock? Sounds like a small mountain? Five million tons of earth and rock in a tremendous landslide moving down on the town of Merano, Italy, near Naples, on the coast. Torrential rains, loosening five million tons of earth laced with boulders. The gigantic mass, beginning to move, gathering speed, crunching down over Merano like a juggernaut. Snapping trees and telephone poles like match sticks. Crushing houses and public buildings as if they were toys. No one injured because the people were warned. But tonight, all that's left of Merano is being carried over a 600 foot cliff, into the sea.

SUBSTITUTE ST. AUGUSTINE

For a moment let's go back to the year fifteen sixty-five. A Spanish ship, dropping anchor off the coast of Florida. Pedro Menendez de Avila going ashore, claiming the territory for the King of Spain. Taking possession of the spot where St. Augustine now stands. St. Augustine, oldest city in the United States, where my wife is tonight.

A history lesson? If so it's dramatic history. And it's also news. For President Kennedy has just appointed a commission to handle the birthday celebration in nineteen sixty-five when St. Augustine, Florida will be four hundred years old.

WEATHER

The Weather Man reports that more records were being set today for frigid weather. Baltimore 9 above, unheard of farther South. Charleston, North Carolina - one below. Coldest ever for Washington's Birthday.

But those readings would amount to a heat wave north of the Mason-Dixon Line. Where I am tonight near Franconia, New Hampshire, some thermometers have dropped to thirty below. Eighteen inches of new snow falling on upstate New York. In the Mid-West, the Mississippi is frozen over again, from St. Louis right across to Cairo, Illinois. Chicago, Dick, enjoying it's twenty-second day of sub-zero temperature for this winter.

WASHINGTON

This was "save the doors day" in Washington. Meaning - Washington's Birthday. The annual sale, when the stores open early - to keep their doors from being battered down.

There was just no controlling the crowds - today. Not with sports coats going for - one buck. Sewing machines - ninety-nine cents. Typewriters and power mowers - twenty-two cents. Car radios - seventeen cents.

The stores in the nation's capital - and in a lot of other cities too - look as if they have been hit by a tornado. A tornado made up of thousands upon thousands of feminine hands - reaching toward those bargain counters. *And so - Monday.*