

L. T. OLDS, FISHER. FRIDAY, 18th OCTOBER 1963

(Richard C. Hottel)

BRITAIN

The official announcement came from Buckingham Palace. It stated, briefly - "The Queen has received the Earl of Home in audience, and invited him to form an administration". 12 minutes later, Lord Home up to that moment Foreign Secretary - arrived at Number 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister's official residence. And by then all of Britain - and now the world - is wondering what kind of Prime Minister Lord Home will be, providing he can form a cabinet. The wealthy Scottish nobleman - a descendant of Scottish cattle-rustlers and rebels - rocketed from virtual obscurity to the highest political post in Britain. Three years ago, before he became Foreign Secretary, Home stayed in the political background. In the early 1930's he was

in the House of Commons - then he became private secretary to Neville Chamberlain - of the Munich appeasement. In 1951 Home's father died, and he succeeded to the Earldom, entering the House of Lords.

That title - as custom dictates - will be discarded now that he's Prime Minister Designate. Then the new leader of the British government would be known as Alexander Frederick Douglas-Home. His abilities at the post - of course - will have to await many a test.

INTRODUCTION TO TAPE

**Tonight - Lowell Thomas tells us about
his visit to a well-known Australian city. Lowell ...**

DARWIN I

HELLO DICK, GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

When someone mentions Darwin, what picture does that bring to your mind? When I see that name Darwin, I think of somewhere at the end of the line. I think of Timor Sea; those Neanderthal looking people, the Australian aboriginee; giant turtles, too, turtles so big you can ride them; pearling luggers -- and, of course, World War Two. For Darwin was bombed sixty six times. They say here in Darwin that a million American fighting men serving under Douglas MacArthur, passed through this place during the war. Sometimes there were as many as one hundred thousand Yanks in Darwin at one time. Today - it's still the end of the line. After the War Darwin went to sleep for a while. Now it seems to be getting lively again. There are at least twenty nationalities living here. It's the capital of the Northern Territory. It is the home of the largest cattle stations - ranches to us - in the world.

DARWIN I - 2

Alexandria, in the southeastern corner, near Queensland - is now number one, up on the Berkeley Table Lands. The largest of them all. Wave Hill is number two, they say.

Brunette Downs, three; and famous Victoria Downs perhaps the fourth. Each the size of some of the smaller countries of Europe. Up to fifteen thousand square miles to one station.

Sir Roger Nott, the "Administrator" they call him, is appointed by Canberra. He's the Governor. The population of Darwin, the twenty thousand odd, it's made up of Australians, a great many young people, perhaps a thousand or more half castes, from six hundred to a thousand pure aborigines in a settlement on the outskirts called Bagot Compound. Also, perhaps a thousand Italians, an equal number of Greeks and Chinese. No Japanese - not one. There are some Germans, Hungarians, and Czechs, and Poles, and so on - even a few Malays, although the Malays legally are not permitted.

When young Australians in the larger cities head for

the Frontier, they may go to Broken Hill for a while, they may drift on to Alice Springs, and finally Darwin, the end of the line.

Lucky Stewart, an Australian with a lot of personality - he used to be a top public relations officer in the Army, ended up a Lieutenant Colonel. After the War Lucky handled public relations for the Hilton people when they became involved in a skyscraper hotel project in Sydney. And then Lucky drifted to the Back of the Beyond - winding up in the Bush, living with the aborigines, in Arnhem Land, here near Darwin. We've been with him lately.

The big jets on their way to and from Australia stop here at the Darwin air base to refuel. I've often come through with them. But this time I'm staying long enough to visit Arnhem Land and the buffalo country, and the home of the Kangaroo, the wallaby and the crocodile too. And, the last stronghold of the aborigines.

SOVIET

It's pretty safe to assume that many of us in this country felt that efforts to ease cold war tensions were moving along at a good pace.

The nuclear test ban treaty was put into effect, an agreement to ban nuclear weapons in outer space was accepted in the United Nations, and - with the exception of recent incidents in Berlin - conversations between the United States and Russia seemed to be getting results.

But that isn't the way Soviet foreign minister Gromyko sees it.

He stopped off in Scotland today en route back to Moscow, and told newsmen that talks on international matters "couldn't be worse". From the Soviet diplomat's comments, it is likely that the next stress from Moscow will be on a solution - on Kremlin terms - of the Berlin problem.

ASTRONAUTS

Two particular qualities were emphasized in making today's announced selection of 14 new astronauts. Those qualities - youth and education. All 14 have been termed "the most highly educated" of the three groups of American spacemen - two of them are research scientists. As for age, the new pilots average just over 31. The youngest will be 28 next week.

It appears all the new astronauts may be assigned - exclusively - to the Apollo moon program, since Project Gemini - designed to put two men into space in one capsule - is already well underway.

ELEPHANT

This one could be called "a shaggy elephant" story. It all started innocently enough, when U.S. District Court Judge Joseph Perry asked workers to enlarge the pond in his back yard. The job hadn't gotten too far along before one of the workers came staggering up the path to Perry's house with a huge bone in his arms - the kind that would be enough to make any mongrel dog's mouth water.

Obviously too big to have been buried by a canine creature. Natural scientists were called in - and they identified that bone as a femur - or thigh bone - of an ice-age elephant. 70 other such bones have been uncovered - a great find for the Chicago Museum of Natural History. But Judge Perry had once been known as Illinois' "Mr. Democrat". He was also a Democratic County Chairman and a Democratic Circuit Judge. Now

ELEPHANT - 2

**he gets no peace. That skeleton in Judge Perry's closet -
a Democratic closet - just happened to be the well-known
symbol of the Republican Party.**

**As Lowell Thomas would say - "So long until
Monday"**