

L. T. OLDS, FISHER. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1963

(Hottel substituting)

What President Kennedy said at this morning's news conference - is pretty generally known tonight.

So it's worth emphasizing something - that you may not have noticed. Namely - the tone of the conference.

The President was more outspoken about the Soviet Union - than he was in a long time. At recent presidential news conferences - Mr. Kennedy has played down difficulties with Moscow. Apparently reluctant to upset negotiations that are going on - to test the chances of reducing tension.

Today he suggested that negotiations are not in themselves the most important thing. And he gave the reason - for his change of attitude. The arrest of Professor Frederick Barghoorn - by the Soviets. President Kennedy flatly denied that the Yale scholar -

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*was on an intelligence mission. Termed his detention -
"unwarranted and unjust". And added that the Barghoorn
case - has "badly damaged" relations between Moscow
and Washington.*

BARGHOORN FOLLOW KENNEDY

As for the Barghoorn case, we know that President Kennedy personally gave the order - cancelling negotiations for a new cultural exchange. The President, saying that the talks would be hopeless - when a top figure of American culture is in a Soviet jail. Professor Barghoorn, still incommunicado. After six attempts by American officials in Moscow - to see him.

One famous American - is telling the Russians what he thinks. John Steinbeck described himself as "mad and shocked". Calling the Soviet government - "irresponsible".

John Steinbeck is well-known in the Soviet Union - as a critic of American society. They're beginning to know him - as a critic of the Soviet system.

At any rate, they seem to realize - that

they misjudged the American reaction to the arrest.

Reporters describe officials at the Soviet Foreign

Ministry as - "embarrassed and downcast". Refusing

to say anything - because they don't know what to say.

Some Americans in Moscow are predicting tonight - that the treatment of Frederick Barghoorn will turn out to be one of Khrushchev's biggest blunders.

NHU

The widow of the late strongman of South Viet Nam - was rather subdued when she arrived in Rome. Leaving Los Angeles yesterday she was still blaming the United States - for the overthrow of the Diem regime. Today she was more moved by maternal solicitude. Overjoyed to be reunited with her three youngest children - who had been flown from Saigon to the Eternal City.

Will Madame Nhu - return to this country?

She says - she will. And President Kennedy adds that her visa is waiting - whenever she wants it.

CONGRESS

President Kennedy also took a forthright stand - on matters closer to home. As close as - Capitol Hill. He castigated the members of Congress - who are holding back some of his most important bills. Tax cut, civil rights - and foreign aid.

The President used the epithet "unfortunate" when he admitted that his tax and ^{civil} ~~XXXX~~ rights proposals - are unlikely to pass Congress this year. He became even more vehement - on foreign aid. And charged that some Members of Congress - don't understand the measure. Because - they don't have to decide our foreign policy.

ROMNEY

Political pundits are trying to estimate the future of the Governor of Michigan - following his defeat today in the Lansing legislature. George Romney has been mentioned - as a possible dark horse of the GOP. He has a Republican majority - among the Michigan lawmakers. But the chamber voted against the Governor today - killing his tax reform program.

The blow is not a light one - for George Romney. But a Romney man of the GOP has come up with a phrase to cover the incident. "Don't count Romney out" - is the way he puts it.

ATOMIC

The atomic bomb exploded today at the Nevada test site - was a small one. Less powerful - than twenty thousand tons of T.N.T. Which means that our nuclear physicists are continuing - the series that began two years ago.

When the Russians violated the test moratorium in nineteen sixty-one - Washington announced that we would resume testing low-yield atomic devices. That we would keep touching them off underground - as long as the explosions added to our understanding of atomic science.

Presumably our experts - are still learning. Hence, today's nuclear blast - underground - in Nevada.

FORCES

The Defense Department is stressing the fact that bringing thirty thousand men home from Europe - will not mean weakening our combat strength. Most of them - are from the rear echelons. And the rest will be compensated for - by increased firepower. Newer planes, replacing those that are obsolete - better automatic weapons, replacing the old one - and so on.

The point - is to cut the cost of maintaining our forces overseas. Cut the cost - but not the strength.

historic Mason-Dixon Line.

TURNPIKE

COLLISION

The stretch of highway that President Kennedy dedicated today - puts the final piece into place. The Delaware Turnpike, making it an all-expressway drive - from New York to Washington. No intersections or traffic light - ~~XXX~~ from the moment you reach the New Jersey Turnpike - until you pull off the Washington-Baltimore Parkway at our national capital.

President Kennedy arrived by helicopter - and was greeted by Governors Carvel of Delaware and Tawes of Maryland. The ceremony, taking place - on the historic Mason-Dixon Line.

COLLISION

It's nice to be able to report - no fatalities in the collision of two ships off Buzzard's Bay, Massachusetts. The toll could have been horrendous - when the "Fernviciw" hit the "Dynafuel". The freighter nearly cutting the tanker in two - just behind the pilot house. Bursting into flame - fed by the oil aboard the tanker.

The miraculous thing - is that all sixty-two crewmen got off safely. They were picked up by the Coast Guard - which also put out the fire.

One casualty of the collision - the record of the "Dynafuel". The tanker had gone for twelve years - without losing time at sea because of an accident.

VOLCANO

Now let's take a look at a different quarter of the Atlantic Ocean - four miles off the southern coast of Iceland. The surface of the Atlantic - is seething like a cauldron. Jets of boiling water - gushing high into the air. Mixed with the water, steam, ashes and gigantic boulders. And a pall of black smoke hangs over the area - to an altitude of thirty thousand feet.

In short - that phenomenon of nature - an underwater volcano. Tons of blazing lava - erupting into cubic miles of sea water. Churning the Atlantic into a frenzy - off Iceland.

RUSSIA

The assertion that there are too many drunks in Moscow - comes from Moscow, Specifically - from Izvestia. The Soviet government newspaper referring to - medical treatment for Muscovites who hit the bottle. And arguing - that free treatment should be stopped.

Moscow's municipal sobering-up stations, like all Soviet hospitals are, of course - controlled by the state. Which is the reason why drunks can demand attention - for nothing. But their numbers have grown to the point - where the hospitals are overloaded.

Izvestia's prescription - make the Russian rummies pay for the right to sober up in the hospital.