

LAOS

LT. - Alas. Wed. May 3 - '61

The mystery of Laos - is still with us. The mystery of why the shooting continues - in spite of the cease fire that has been agreed upon. Today, Communist forces in the jungle, - ignored their own radio. Launching attacks after the Red announcer asked them - to ground arms. In fact, there ~~is~~ fighting tonight at points along the battlefront - that were quiet last night.

~~Is it~~ A matter of - poor communications in the jungles? Or - duplicity on the part of the Communist leaders? Or - is it that the Communist soldiers are simply refusing orders?

Who knows?

CUBA

Cuba's drift toward Communism became stronger today - with Castro's announcement that he's sending a thousand students to Moscow. To study Agriculture - and the dogmas of Marx and Lenin. At the same time - the Cuban dictator is bringing three-hundred Soviet technicians into Cuba.

What about - the Catholic Church? Castro is trying to muzzle it - by rounding up priests, ^{and} warning ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~the rest~~ to toe the line.

The anti-Castro rebels? They've been hit harder than ever - by the capture of Manuel Artime, top civilian leader of the abortive invasion.

BOURGUIBA

The President of Tunisia ^{gets} ~~is receiving~~ the red carpet treatment - in Washington. Habib Bourguiba, arriving ^{from} ~~/~~ Ottawa - to the blaring of bands, and the booming of guns; Honor guard - and all the trappings. Bourguiba and his wife, welcomed at the airport - by President Kennedy and the First Lady. Mrs. Kennedy presented Madame Bourguiba - with a bouquet of American Beauty roses. The two statesmen, shaking hands - exchanging compliments. Then, all four drove to the White House - through streets lined by cheering crowds.

INTELLIGENCE

The man who ^{now} will ride herd on the Central Intelligence Agency - is a former official of the Eisenhower administration. Doctor James Killian, who served as special scientific adviser, to President Eisenhower. Now Doctor Killian ^{now to} ~~is~~ returning to government service - at the request of President Kennedy. His job is to examine our ~~present~~ procedures in gathering information - on which our foreign policy is based. ^{Look for an answer to that big question - "What Went Wrong In the Cuban Fiasco?"}

SPY

The latest British spy trial - was one of the briefest. Former diplomat George Blake, pleading guilty - to the charge of spying for the Russians. The judge at London's historic Old Bailey, sentencing the defendant - to forty-two years. The harshest jail term for espionage ever handed down - in a British court, in peacetime.

George Blake used to be called - "The Bright Boy of The Foreign Office." He was vice-consul in ~~a~~ Korea - at the time of the Communist invasion of 1950. The Reds captured him - and he spent eight years in their prison camps.

He admits that he started passing state secrets to the enemy - during his captivity; ~~And he~~ kept at it - after he returned to London. Joining an espionage ring that sent official information from Britain - to Moscow.

TP He was a useful agent ^{for the Russian Reds} because he served on British

military missions in West Germany and the Middle East.

Now, the "Bright Boy Of The Foreign Office" -
disappears for forty-two years. Old Bailey, writing
finis to the spy career of - George Blake.

PLANES

The big bombers are not obsolete - according to the House Armed Services Committee. The members, unanimous that our defense should continue to be - a mixture of missiles and planes. Reason - bombers are more flexible than missiles. Result - a vote on Capitol Hill, to keep building B-52 and B-58 bombers.

The Titan, rearing up - in a blast of smoke and fire. Soaring - thousands over the Pacific. Working from side to side - in a durability test. The missile, passing the test - then destroyed from the ground.

The Titan - a success. First payoff - on a hundred-million dollar gamble.

MISSILE

Here's a vivid simile - "It Looked Like A Giant Roman Candle Shooting Out Of A Tin Can Buried In The Sand". Meaning - our Titan missile; Ninety-eight feet tall - capable of hitting targets at long range. Today they launched one of these missiles from an underground silo - at Vandenberg Airforce Base, California.

The Titan, roaring up - in a blast of smoke and fire. Zooming - ~~transmits~~ over the Pacific. Rocking from side to side - in a durability test. The missile, passing the test - then destroyed from the ground.

The Titan - a success. ^{This the} First payoff - on a hundred-million dollar gamble.

SPACE

The House Space Committee awards fifty-million dollars - to Apollo. That much to speed up - an American visit to the Moon. ^aThat [^]space ship, designed to hold three men - who are expected to fly around our ~~lunar~~ ^{lunar} ~~natural~~ satellite in 1967. [^]Before the Russians - we hope. But no matter who gets there first - it's basic in Washington that our space program must be pushed. [^]Now [^]One of the most important things on the agenda - the space project called Apollo.

EXPLOSION

The cause of the explosion in Caracas - is still unknown. The place - a fireworks factory in the basement of a private home. One firecracker suddenly went off - starting a chain reaction. The basement full of fireworks, mushrooming^{into}/- a gigantic blast that tore the building apart. And destroyed twenty-five houses - an entire block in Caracas. The toll - about thirty dead. Injured - more than fifty.

One irony - in this disaster. The victims trapped in the debris were calling for help - while rockets and Roman candles arched gracefully into the sky above them.

SHIP.

The sailing ship that sank in the Gulf of Mexico - never had a chance to send an S.O.S. Hurricane winds, hurtling into the "Albatross" -breaking the hull. She went down like a stone - within a minute after she began shipping water. Those below decks - unable to get out. So says her skipper - Captain Chris Sheldon.

The "Albatross" was a unique school - for prep-school boys. Captain Sheldon operated her for two years - until she ran ~~in~~ into that sudden storm. Now the "Albatross" - is at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico. Thirteen - survivors. Six - missing.

Clarence Barrow?

Anyway, a life sized statue of Bryan - used to occupy a pedestal in a Washington park. It was removed to make way for a bridge. The Department of The Interior couldn't figure out what to do with - six feet of bronze. But Salem, has come up with - a solution.

BRYAN

The town of Salem, Illinois, has accepted a statue of - Salem's most illustrious son; William Jennings Bryan, who was born in Salem - on March 19, 1860. Bryan left Salem, went into politics - and was three times an unsuccessful candidate for President. Today, the Great Commoner is remembered best - for his electrifying "Cross of Gold" speech - at the Democratic convention of Eighteen-Ninety-Six. Or is Bryan more familiar for his part in - the Scopes Monkey Trial of Nineteen Twenty Five? That scene in the court room at Dayton, Tennessee - when he crossed swords with Clarence Darrow?

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The statue of William Jennings Bryan, to stand in - an appropriate place. Bryan Memorial Park. What were Bryan's immortal words, Dick? They shall not crucify us on a cross of Gold?

COLLEGE

The President of the United States has finally caught up with the First Lady. At least - in the matter of getting a degree from George Washington University in Washington. Mrs. Kennedy attended that college as a coed - and took her B.A. eight years ago. Today, Mr. Kennedy received a George Washington ^{Univ.} degree - to hang beside his wife's. An Honorary ~~degree~~ Doctor Of Laws.

~~The President wore the usual academic robe and mortar board. His acceptance address - dealing with the bond between government and education in a Democracy. The need for knowledge - where the people are free to debate ~~public~~ political issues. To criticize the government.~~

OYSTERS

This story could only come from - London. We all know about - that famous British fondness for animals. In fact, it's ~~a~~ sometimes alleged - that they prefer their pets to their children. I wonder.

The issue this time - oysters. Not a very exalted type of animal - the lowly bivalve. But when half-a-million oysters are suffering from thirst - well, by jove, thats enough to arouse the Royal Society For The Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals.

The oysters, arriving from Portugal - aboard a British vessel. The cargo, stuck in the hold - because of a dock strike. The fresh water, quickly used up - by half-a-million thirsty oysters Word got~~m~~ out that they'd be dead in forty-eight hours if they weren't moved.

So the R.S.P .C.A. called a quick meeting with a the tough stevedors - of the London docks. The stevedors, ~~e~~ melting - touched by the ^{plight} ~~plight~~ of the

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oysters. Agreeing to break their walkout - long enough to unload the shellfish. Yes - it could only happen in London.