

The thing that has everybody wondering is, of course - Khrushchev's talk about a fantastic new weapon. Which, he said - the Soviets have in process of development. What kind of new weapon? ^P The statement was made at a meeting of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow. ~~With~~ With Khrushchev announcing - ^{a cut} ~~a~~ reduction of Soviet ground forces, ~~To~~ to be reduced - by one-third. The cut, made possible - by increased Russian power in the field of missiles and hydrogen bombs. So much so - that the Soviets will rely mostly on nuclear-missile armament. Which statement was climaxed - with a mention of the new weapon, more formidable than anything previously. "Fantastic", said the Soviet Premier.

They haven't got it, yet, he added. The mysterious weapon - still on the drawing boards of the scientists.

In Washington, they say they have no real information - of what Khrushchev may have meant. But there's no tendency - to ridicule his claim. It's pointed out that, after all - we, too, have weird ultra-modern armament in process of development. There are "fantastic" weapons - on the drawing

boards of American scientists.

One surmise is put forth by Atomic Scientist Ralph Lapp, who says - Khrushchev may have been talking about an "orbital" H-bomb. That is, a satellite with a hydrogen bomb in orbit around this earth. Which, on signals from the ground - could be sent on down to ^a ~~the~~ target. American scientists have been considering such a project, and some of them are doubtful about it. The "guidance" of an H-bomb satellite, plunging down to earth - enormously difficult.

Dr. Lapp, himself, thinks - an "orbital" H-bomb might not be so effective, as a military weapon. Not as effective - as a super-powerful ^{inter} ~~trans~~ continental missile. But he adds - it might have a fearful psychological effect. Suppose a hydrogen missile were put into orbit in peace-time, and everybody knew it was up there - going round and round. Ready to come down, on command. That "orbital" H-bomb -- would be a "terror weapon."

Today's comment, not so spectacular, concerns the

political aspects of Khrushchev's move. Propaganda - to impress the world ~~af~~ with Soviet power. The announcement of the reduction of Russian ground forces - part of the Khrushchev peace offensive, ~~Intended~~ - to counter that vast impression made by President Eisenhower, as a man of peace.

At the State Department, there's an immediate challenge, calling on Khrushchev to prove Soviet sincerity - by agreeing to an effective system of disarmament.

EISENHOWER - SPACE

Today, President Eisenhower ordered - full speed ahead with Saturn. That is, the Saturn rocket program - for sending missiles into planetary space. The President instructed the head of the National Space Administration, Dr. Glennon - to make an immediate study, Looking to the possibility - of providing extra funds for our space program. Put more money into it, if necessary - to speed up the production of super-booster rockets. Also - devote "additional over-time" to the Saturn project.

This coincides with a statement made at a space conference over on the French Riviera, at Nice, Where the Russian delegate, today, declared - that Russia intends to send rockets towards Mars and Venice, Equipped with instruments - to determine whether there is life on those planets.

EISENHOWER - AMBASSADOR

Soviet Ambassador Menshikov visited the White House, again, today. President Eisenhower - interrupting a Cabinet meeting to talk with him. The Ambassador said the subject was - that projected Eisenhower visit to Russia. They talked about such matters - as date and arrangements.

CRASH

There's an intimation of possible sabotage - in the air disaster near Bolivia, North Carolina, last week. Thirty-four persons - killed in the crash. ~~Todayx~~

Today, an official of the Civil Aeronautics Board gave evidence before a Senate Committee, and stated - that one ^{dead} of the passengers carried a huge amount of insurance. Julian Andrew Frank of ^{newport, Conn.} ~~New York~~ having taken out, last year, insurance amounting to eight-hundred-and-eighty-nine thousand dollars. Enough - to ^{raise} ~~cause~~ possible suspicion. But no positive claim was made - that the crash of the airliner was caused by a bomb.

Later, however, Committee Chairman Senator Mike Monrooney of Oklahoma told newsmen - he was convinced that a bomb exploded in the wash-room of the doomed airliner. This - based on signs of explosion in that section of the plane.

LYNCH

At Biloxi, Mississippi, a federal grand jury, today - refused an indictment, in a lynching - last April. A Negro named Mack Charles ^{Parker} accused of rape - seized and killed by a mob.

The FBI presented a lot of evidence, but the grand jury reported - they were unable to present an indictment.

ICE FLOE

Emergency rescue - to take thirteen men off Ice Floe Charlie. That scientific station in the Arctic, - ~~which has been in the news now for several days~~ [^] ~~Some days ago~~ [^] ~~we heard~~ - that [^] ~~the huge cake of ice was breaking up.~~ Some scientists - removed. Others remaining - trying to save technical equipment, ~~with which~~ - they had been gathering data concerning the polar sea. Rescue of the equipment - going on ever since. But a lot remains - on Ice Floe Charlie.

~~However~~ never mind that - get the remaining men off in a hurry! That was the Air Force order, today, as word came - that the ice floe is disintegrating rapidly.

Brigadier General Gordon Austin, in command up there, states: "Charlie is completely shattered. It could [^] go at any time."

The sheet of ice, on which the scientific expedition was established in the spring - is now little more than a square mile in size. Less than one-fifth - of its former magnitude. Hence the hurry-up evacuation - today.

VOLCANO

In Hawaii, a cataclysmic spectacle - fire versus water. A tremendous clash, of those two elements - following a new volcanic eruption.

The fire mountain, Kilauea, in a series of explosions, beginning last night - and continuing today. The crater, itself - quiet. The eruptions - blasting along one side of the volcano, the lower slopes. Ten fountains of molten lava - spouting out, ~~Pouring forth - rivers of incandescent rock.~~

Resulting - in a huge stream of liquid fire,
Moving down hill, at the rate of two miles an hour - through fields of sugar cane and coffee, ~~Headed - for the ocean.~~

Hence the spectacle, weirdest of all - when the river of molten lava pushes into the waters of the Pacific. Creating a raging inferno - of hissing and rising steam. A conflict - fire versus water.

PRINCE

Here's the latest - from the rose-covered fields of romance. A royal Prince - ready to give up his claim to a crown, All - for love. ^{Oh,} But it's a crown - that has been abolished. A claim - cherished by royalty-in-exile.

Prince Victor Emanuel is the son and heir - of Ex-King Humbert of Italy. The former monarchy - now, of course, a republic. But one-time sovereigns ^{rarely} ~~never~~ give up hope - of regaining their throne.

Word is that Prince Victor Emanuel, twenty-two years old, wants to marry a commoner. ^{Though,} hardly - a poor girl. Dominique Claudel - a French heiress. Even among royalty-in-exile marriage to a commoner - is forbidden. So he'll have to give up his claim to the st crown [^] which his family doesn't have, ^{To be} succeeded - by a distant cousin, ~~MIXERS~~ As Crown Prince - in exile.)

SKIER

We all know - there's nothing like honest candor. Telling the truth - about one's own self. So here, for your admiration, is an advertisement printed in the London Times, today. It reads: "Lady, thirty-five -- but moderately well preserved, Would like - to join a private ski party. She is - an unbelievably bad skier," the ad concludes.

Well, the lady should not be discouraged, ^{Dick,} / at any ski resort you'll see - a due proportion of unbelievably bad skiers.

CLERGYMAN

In Tokyo, today, a statement by the Right Reverend Stephen Bayne - who is on his way to London. To assume the direction - of ^{the} Advisory Counsel on Missionary Strategy for the Anglican Church. Sounds exceedingly solemn - and you'd expect a solemn statement. However, the Right Reverend Stephen Bayne is an ecclesiastic - with a sense of humor. Describing the way he feels about his new accelerated post - he said:

"I am rather like a mosquito - in a nudist camp.

I know what I ought to do. But, I don't know where to begin."

"A mosquito in a nudist camp". - ^{How's that for a graphic} ~~quite~~ figure of

speech!