

WEATHER

L.T. - ~~Wes~~, Fisher. Wed. Nov. 18 - '64.

New England has just passed the twenty million dollar mark - in drought damage. So says a special report - from the Agriculture Department. Which puts the loss of hay alone - at eighteen million. Potatoes - one million. Both crops, withering under - the pitiless dry spell. Harvest, ruined - from Maine to Connecticut.

The situation, so critical in New Hampshire - that a professional rainmaker is being called in. Governor King, commissioning ~~Doctor~~<sup>Dr.</sup> Wallace Howell of Lexington, Massachusetts - to "seed" the clouds with iodide crystals, in the hope of starting - a downpour.

## WATER

The latest agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union - concerns an age-old dream of mankind. The obtaining of fresh water - from the sea <sup>— which is</sup> ~~It's~~ more than a dream - today. <sup>It has become a real</sup> demand - because of the population pressure on our natural sources of drinking water.

American and Russian scientists already know how - to desalt the sea. But the process is - too expensive. So they will work together - to find new methods. <sup>With emphasis on</sup> - nuclear energy.

If they succeed - and no one doubts that they will - then we'll all be drinking from the oceans of the world.

## McNAMARA

Among the many things that Secretary McNamara said at his news conference - a "yes" and a "no" deserve special attention.

"Yes" - more military bases and shipyards are going to be shut down. The number of shipyards - not yet made public. But the Secretary of Defense puts the number of military bases - at ninety-five. That many, considered - superfluous. To pass into oblivion - in the name of economy.

"No" - McNamara has nothing to say about the American plane that Red China claims to have knocked down. So we still don't know - whether the plane was a reconnaissance drone, or whether it had a pilot - who bailed out, <sup>just</sup> or who sent this aircraft - over mainland China.

However, American military sources in Saigon say that we not only possess - reconnaissance drones. But are using them - over Communist territory. Which leads to the surmise - that such a drone may have gone haywire, crossing into Red China - instead of staying within the air space of Viet Nam.

McNamara did have a comment - on the American plane lost over Laos. A sabre jet - escorting a photo reconnaissance jet. The kind of mission that we have said will continue - as long as the Red rebels are getting help from North Viet Nam. The escort plane was hit - by <sup>anti-aircraft</sup> ~~anti-air~~ fire. And crashed - in the jungle. The fate of the pilot - not yet known.

## ECONOMY FOLLOW McNAMARA

The White House is taking particular care to prevent - local panic over the closing of so many military bases.

President Johnson, sending a personal memorandum - to Capitol Hill, Explaining that the federal government cannot continue to run - obsolete facilities, And pledging to help the localities involved - absorb the loss of military revenue.

Suggestions for doing so are in - the booklet to which the presidential memorandum is attached. The booklet, pointing out that military installations have been closed in the past - without any permanent damage to the civilian economy. For example, the land can be used for a number of civilian needs - from industrial plants to university buildings.

CONGO

The American Embassy in Leopoldville has finally got through to - the leader of the Congo rebels. By way of Bujum-Bura in Burundi. Bujum-Bura, passing on our warning - with regard to medical missionary Paul Carlson. The warning that should anything happen to Carlson - we will hold <sup>Rebel leader</sup> Gbenye responsible. Because the missionary - is exactly what he claims to be. No spy - as Gbenze has been charging.

The American message also covers - the rest of the Americans who are trapped behind the rebel lines. More than sixty - at the mercy of the rebels.

Meanwhile, the Congolese government is pressing - the advance toward Stanleyville. The advance spearheaded by the white mercenaries - who are fighting strictly for money.

## BOMB

The bomb that exploded in a Saigon cafe would have caused a holocaust - except for a concrete beam. The beam on which - the bomb was hidden.

The machine was timed to go off at lunch time - when the cafe was full of American servicemen. Also - many Vietnamese. A mass of humanity, sitting at the tables - or lined up at the counter, <sup>all</sup> unaware that on the concrete beam above their heads - the bomb was ticking away.

It went off with a shattering blast - that rocked the building. But the beam - took most of the impact. Result - twenty injured. But - no fatalities.

## SPACE

The first passengers to take an extended tour through outer space - will be a family of mice. At least, that's what the Air Force is proposing to the Space Agency. The plan, revealed at the San Antonio Symposium - by Major Herbert Reynolds.

~~Here is~~ <sup>is that</sup> The point ~~our~~ scientists need to know a lot more ~~is~~ about the effects of space travel on living organisms, ~~and~~ on - their descendants. Mice are good for this kind of experiment - because they breed rapidly. So the varmints that are so irritating at home - are tapped to be the original long distance space travelers.

A family of them, to ~~go~~ be rocketed into orbit - for one year. By the time they get back, there should be several new generations - in the space capsule. Young mice - born in outer space, <sup>and then</sup> descending into a fantastic new world - on the earth.



## MYSTERY

The Italian police appear to have a real mystery on their hands - in the person of Youssef Dahan. He's the individual who was plucked from <sup>that</sup> a crate - <sup>the crate the</sup> ~~that~~ two Egyptian diplomats were attempting to load aboard a plane bound for Cairo. Dahan, found inside the crate - with his hands tied. A gag - in his mouth. And a dose of drugs - in his bloodstream.

The two Egyptians have been given the boot - by the Italian government. But the puzzle about their victim - remains. One report makes him - an Israeli agent. But Israel calls him a criminal - who defected to Egypt. According to another report - he's a double agent. With a record of spying - for both Israel and Egypt.

It seems that the more the carabinieri learn about Youssef Dahan - the more enigmas they turn up, <sup>sticks,</sup> A real puzzler ~~the~~ mysterious man in the crate.

## FORTUNE TELLING

A dispatch from Washington states that an ancient art - if you can call it that - is going to be studied by modern science. The art - fortune telling. Palm reading. The science <sup>that</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>works on this to be</sup> computers; Mechanical brains.

For thousands of years - ever since ancient Babylon - psychic persons have been reading palms, ~~And~~ claiming - to foretell the future. Nowadays, we tend to smile - at the claim. But Uncle Sam feels ~~that~~ there may be something in it. For example, a correlation between the lines over one's palm - and a predisposition to certain ailments.

To find out, one hundred thousand sets of palm prints - will be fed into a computer. And the answers that come out - should be decisive. If ~~it~~ favorable to palm reading, <sup>will</sup> that ~~would seem to~~ put the gypsy in the tea garden - one up on the rest of us?