

L.T.-DELCO. FRIDAY, DEC. 20, 1957.
(Bc. given by L.T.Jr. - L.T. in Africa)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

President Eisenhower is back in the White House - after his flight from Paris. The "Columbine" landing at Washington National Airport this morning - three hours late because of headwinds, over the North Atlantic.

Mr. Eisenhower came down the ramp wearing a blue topcoat - and a silk scarf, carrying his hat in his hand. As he did so the honor guard snapped to attention - and a crowd of Washington dignitaries swarmed around the plane. Leading them, was Vice-President Nixon, who shook hands with Mr. Eisenhower, and said, "Welcome home, Sir." The President walked along the reception line - shaking hands and smiling. Then he waved to the welcoming delegation, got into his car, and was driven straight to the White House.

His aides say he's in fine shape. The President, in their words, "roaring around like a rocket." His

first act was to swear in Sumner Whittier, as Veterans' Administrator.

Then he buckled down to a day's work on the address he'll deliver over radio and T.V. on Monday evening. That's when he'll make his personal report to the nation - on the Nato summit conference.

DULLES

Secretary of State Dulles was in Madrid today - conferring with Generalissimo Franco. Their talk ranged over a whole series of problems - including Spain's economic situation, and developments in North Africa - where Moroccan rebels are fighting the Spanish army around the city of Ifni. Speaking to reporters, Secretary Dulles refused to give any details of the meeting. But he did say - there was no mention of American missile bases for Spain. What the conference amounted to - was Dulles giving Franco a first-hand report of the Nato summit meeting in Paris.

After that, our Secretary of State drove to the American Embassy in Madrid - to join Mrs. Dulles - then on to the airport for their flight home.

RUSSIA

Over in Paris, Western diplomats predict - Russia will accept that Nato offer of a Foreign Ministers' conference on disarmament. Khrushchev, expected to say, "yes", for two reasons. First, the Red boss of the Kremlin won't want to miss a chance to make a lot of propaganda. And second, he's expected to make an attempt at slowing down the effort of the free world to catch up in the field of missiles.

The members of Nato are not unanimous - about this proposed conference of Foreign Ministers' American officials are frankly skeptical - although we're going along with the majority. Some members of the international organization think the first approach should be made through the United Nations. Failing that, they want the Foreign Ministers to get together - as the next best thing. The British appear to be about as hopeful as anyone - that something might be achieved in further talks with the Russians.

The general Nato feeling is - we ought to listen to Khrushchev once more - without being too optimistic.

SPENDING

Our Secretary of Defense reveals ^{that} ~~7/~~the Eisenhower administration will ask Congress for an extra billion dollars. Neil McElroy, saying most of the new money will be put into missiles and other defense projects. One ~~xxx~~ reason for the big appropriation - costs are rising all the time. The government can't buy what it needs at anything like the prices of a year ago. In other words, Uncle Sam needs more weapons - and they're more expensive than ever. The net result - another billion to be added to the budget.

One thing seems sure - this puts an end to any hope of tax cuts
a ~~substantial increase~~ in the near future.

BRITAIN

Great
A

Britain approves of American ~~having~~ missile bases on her soil. - The House of Commons putting its okay on the measure - by a majority of thirty-eight. The vote came after a stormy debate - in which Laborite Aneurin Bevan demanded a British veto over American missiles on British soil. Prime Minister Macmillan assured him that London would have the veto - no missiles to be fired solely on the initiative of American commanders. After that, came the vote - in favor of the bases.

EAST GERMANY

The East German Reds are playing a familiar role again this year - the role of "Scrooge." Like the miser in "Christmas Carol" Dickens' ~~character~~ the Communists aren't happy when they see Christmas being celebrated. So, as usual, the East German border guards have started confiscating presents - sent in from West Berlin. Anyone carrying a Christmas present ^{any Santa Claus} is called a smuggler. With the food shortage in East Germany - many Christmas packages contain food. The Reds ^{already} seizing more than forty thousand eggs ~~already~~ - and three thousand pounds of meat. The "smugglers" - hustled off to jail.

The Christmas blockade of the border is always unpleasant - because many German families are divided, ^{and} those in the West would like to help their relatives behind the Iron Curtain. But just as in every past year since the end of World War Two - the East German Reds are determined not to have a celebration of Christmas in their domain - if they can help it.

SPACE

American scientists now say they can put a manned space station six hundred miles above the earth - by Nineteen Sixty-Two. It will be one of the decisive steps -- in a program that eventually will take us to the moon. No time-table is set for the last part of this project -- because reaching the moon is many times more difficult than getting a ^{manned station} ~~space station~~ into outer space. But the Americans point out that scientists in Russia are pushing for a ^{full-scale} ~~wholesale~~ moon project. ~~and so~~ America will have to keep pace with them -- with that space station by Nineteen Sixty-Two, a key factor.

UNIONS

The AFL-CIO today ordered all state and city members -
to ~~expel~~^{oust} Teamster locals at once. The order, signed by
President George Meany. It's a follow-up to the crack-down of
two weeks ago - when the Teamsters were voted out - because they
defied orders to clean house. One local affected by the order
is Number Two Ninety-Nine in Detroit - headed by ~~Jimmy~~^{James} Hoffa.
~~That~~^{That} local will now be kicked out of the Michigan Federation
of Labor, which seems appropriate, because the Teamsters
brought expulsion on themselves - when they declared they would
stand by Hoffa, as well as Dave Beck, and other officials →
accused of violating the ethical code of the AFL-CIO.

HOODLUM

John Montana, of Buffalo, New York, claims to be a friend of Vice-President Nixon. John Montana, who was picked up by the New York State troopers - during their raid on that underworld gathering at Apalachin, New York.

Montana insists he was not a guest at that conference. According to his story, he was on the premises - only because the brakes of his car gave way. He says he stopped for help - while on a business trip.

So why did he race into the woods - when the police raid began? His story is that he started to run because he heard a commotion near the house, taking off on foot - because his car was too dangerous to drive.

But one thing Montana didn't explain today - was why he never called a mechanic to have a look at those brakes.

Vice-President Nixon, by the way, says he doesn't recall ever meeting Montana - much less being his friend.

AUCTION

Over
/In Cairo, - another spectacular auction of the personal belongings - of ex-King Farouk. The auction, held in what used to be the royal palace. Up for sale, - some of Farouk's most prized possessions. - including dozens of monogrammed silk shirts, five hundred wine glasses with the royal crest, and thirty bottles of claret wine, vintage Nineteen Forty-Three. ^{Also} /Five of Farouk's cars are ~~included in the auction~~ to be auctioned off. And for the ladies, something special - the jeweled vanity case once used by ex-Queen Narriman.

The auctioneers ^{say} ~~expect~~ they expect to ^{take in some} ~~realize~~ sixty thousand dollars - by selling the things Farouk had to leave behind, when he ^{fled into} ~~departed for~~ exile in Nineteen Fifty-Two.

LASSETER

I have a cable this evening from my father in Australia - giving a little more information about the unriddling of Australia's number one mystery. The disappearance, twenty-six years ago, of the American explorer, Harold Bell Lasseter. The Lowell Thomas television expedition - finding that Lasseter perished in the depths of the great Australian desert.

Lowell Thomas and his party succeeded in making the hazardous journey to the Never Never Land - after elaborate preparations that began with an aerial survey - covering thousands of square miles. The survey, made at low altitude, to determine the best way for the party on the ground to get through to one of the least known areas on earth.

My father cables that old-timers in the Australian bush had warned him - that a trip across the desert was dangerous at any time. Doubly so now, during the Australian summer - because of the intense heat.

The expedition consisted of twenty-six members - eighteen Australians, one Englishman, six aborigines, and L.T. They went in with special trucks. One - carrying a large deep freeze.

The Australian government loaned them a surveyor-navigator, whose job was to keep them from getting lost - and do map work.

They found new mountains, uncharted passes, and unexpected rivers - not on any map. They also discovered that Australia's number one natural wonder, a giant structure of stone twenty-six hundred feet high, called "Ayers Rock" - is misplaced on existing maps. Had they corrected this.

They were amazed, too, to find that so little was known about the inner areas of a continent, parts of which have now been settled for a century and a half.

Well, Joe, before zooming off to the Moon - perhaps we should finish exploring our own planet.

END

ANNOUNCER: And now Lowell Thomas, Jr. with a final oddity

L.T.Jr.: Tonight's oddity - is a fish story. It comes from Professor R. A. Jubb, a Biologist of Rhodes University, in South Africa. Professor Jubb was classifying the fish - at the headwaters of a South African river - when instead of a fish he pulled in an eel. And it turned out to be a species native to the Pacific, around New Guinea. And that eel was seven thousand miles from home.

Well, experts on marine life know that eels travel great distances - sometimes as much as three thousand miles. But seven thousand miles - is unheard of. How did it happen? Jubb's theory is that this particular eel got turned around when it left the spawning ground. While its brothers and sisters - headed in the right direction, for the Pacific, the confused member of the eel family - swam the other way. And it didn't stop swimming until it hit the rapids in a South African

river - seven thousand miles from where it should have been.

So long until Monday.