

Sept. 10, 1969  
Dallas Townsend

## PROJECT RULISON

*Good evening everybody. Project Rulison finally took place late today in western Colorado. Deep underneath Battlement Maysa - near the town of Grand Valley - a Forty-Kiloton nuclear device was detonated after six days of delay. Project Rulison - designed to shake loose vast underground deposits of natural gas. The resulting tremor - felt several miles from Ground Zero. Conservationists had tried in vain to prevent the blast - fearful that it would contaminate air and water supplies - but Atomic Energy Commission Scientists said those fears were groundless - adding that the explosion would provide new proof that man can use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.*

## VIETNAM

*On the battlefields of Vietnam - the guns of war remained strangely silent today. For a few hours, at least, both sides informally extending that cease-fire - marking the death of North Vietnam's President Ho Chi Minh. This in spite of predictions from South Vietnam's President Thieu - that the enemy will now come back more determined than ever.*

*Communists finally agreeing on Saturday for the next session*

## PEACE TALKS FOLLOW PARIS

*In Paris, an argument over the date for the next session of the Viet Nam peace talks. The Viet Cong asking for a delay from tomorrow to Friday - because the period of mourning for Ho Chi Minh lasts until then. The allies - saying that Friday would be inconvenient - held out for Saturday. That prompted a lengthy hassle - with the Communists finally agreeing on Saturday for the next session.*

*then the White House. Main reason - we hear - to ensure*

*complete concentration solely on ending the war.*

## WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW PARIS

*In Washington - the White House trying to quell reports - telling of a so-called "deterioration of relations" between Washington and Saigon. Nothing of the sort - said White House ~~NEWS~~ News Secretary Ron Ziegler.*

*As for the President's planned high-level strategy meeting on Vietnam - it's still set for Friday. However, the site of the parley - now expected to be Camp David rather than the White House. Main reason - we hear - to ensure complete concentration solely on ending the war.*



## MIDDLE EAST

*In the tense Middle East - a return-to-the-scene - Israeli jets blasting Egyptian targets in the same Gulf of Suez area - where yesterday the Israelis staged a big assault by land, sea and air. This - said an Israeli spokesman - in retaliation for "further Egyptian cease-fire violations along the Suez Canal" - only this morning.*

## WASHINGTON FOLLOW MIDDLE EAST

*A related development - back in Washington. Secretary of State William Rogers announcing plans to meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko - when both are in New York next week for the United Nations General Assembly. An effort - we are told - to get the ball rolling again - toward a Big Four Mideast peace formula.*

## DIRKSEN FOLLOW WASHINGTON

*Elsewhere in Washington - thousands more paid their final respects - to the late Senator Everett Dirksen. First - as the body lay in state at the Capitol Rotunda. Later - at funeral services in Washington's National Presbyterian Church. And now the Senator begins his final journey - back home again to ~~Peoria~~ Pekin, Illinois.*

(SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED "TRIVIA")

What with Lowell Thomas off again in pursuit of many  
the rare, the exciting, the unusual - it's time again for  
another special report he left us. Topic for tonight -  
trivia around-the-world. Lowell...

10

2.40



TRIVIA (Some Oddities)

*One of the minor problems of reading, traveling, talking to interesting people - is that you pick up so many interesting tid-bits, little things you want to share with others and you never seem to have the time to do it.*

*Well, tonight - let's take time. The capital of Saskatchewan is the city of Regina; so named in Eighteen-Eighty-Two - after Victoria REGina, Queen of England. A regal name, indeed - especially considering the city's former name. It was previously known as The Pile of Bones.*

*And another: The Caribbean isle of Barbados - named by early Portuguese Explorers. Originally, Los Barbados - meaning the Bearded Ones. Bearded Indians? Oh no. Los Barbados referred to all those bearded fig trees that grow wild down there.*

*And a final note: The great blue whale - as we all know - is the biggest living thing on earth. Often attaining a weight of a hundred and fifty tons - or thirty-five times*

*as big as an elephant.*

*Hard to imagine anything so big - isn't it? But  
maybe this will help. The tongue of a blue whale - the  
tongue alone often weighs over three tons. As for cheek,  
oh, a lot of that, too.*

*Solong.....*

BAN ( SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED "TRIVIA")

The Far East again - Bangkok - an announcement today

from the **Thank you, Lowell.** And now - from tongue-in cheek -

back to the news. officials have reached tentative agreement

on the number of American troops to be withdrawn from that

country. However, the initial pullback - expected - involves

only about three thousand men; and these - mainly engineers

and logistic forces.

## BANGKOK

**The Far East again - Bangkok - an announcement today from Thailand's Prime Minister Kittikachorn; an announcement that U.S. and Thai officials have reached tentative agreement on the number of American troops to be withdrawn from that country. However, the initial pullback - expected to involve only about three thousand men; and these - mainly engineering and logistic forces.**



## CASTEL GANDOLFO

*At the summer Vatican - Castel Gandolfo - an expression of rare candor. Pope Paul admitting that he may have seemed unsure of himself - in dealing with church turbulence over the past year or so. The Pope saying: "I am only human - therefore, it would not seem strange if I seemed lacking in confidence."*

*However, the Pontiff denied - that this in any way mitigates his recent rulings. Adding that he is possessed of "an internal certainty" - that erases any and all "external impressions."*

## STOCKS

**The New York Stock Exchange today turned in its best performance in more than five months - the Dow Jones Industrial average went up almost twelve-and-a-half points. Prices also climbed sharply on the American Exchange - and William McChesney Martin, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said "We may be getting near an end of the period of very high interest rates."**

**And on that encouraging word - and encouraging word from Warren Moran.**

## BRIDGEHAMPTON

*Here on our own shores - a visit today from the world's greatest woman driver. Namely - Pat Moss Carlsson of Britain; sister of the legendary road racer Sterling Moss - also, a champion long distance rally driver in her own right; winner of more than five hundred prizes - including a recent "Driver of the Year" award over the best of all male competitors.*

*Purpose of Mrs. Carlsson's prexent visit; To check out - for possible British entrants - North America's Million-Dollar Can-Am road racing series; latest event of which is scheduled this weekend - at Bridgehampton, New York. Not that she herself plans to compete. Indeed, Mrs. Carlsson confesses to just one turn to date - on a closed course racing circuit. And that/with her brother - who proceeded to set a new lap record for a car with passenger.*

*Exciting - yes; but never again - said the lady driver. Adding - with ~~feminine~~ <sup>feminine</sup> logic: "I never even saw the road - I just closed my eyes." Dallas Townsend saying good night.*