

LT BUICK, FISHER, FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1965
(Richard C. Holtelet substituting; LT in Africa)

CHURCHILL

The world over today - black headlines blared the sad news. "Churchill gravely ill". "Churchill suffers stroke?". "Churchill in coma".

As the greatest Englishman of all lay near death, members of his family rushed to his bedside. And the prayers of the free world centered on his London home.

Sir Winston Churchill - last of the three men who guided the fate of the Allies in World War II. A man who sprang to the leadership of Great Britain at her low point, and led her in her finest hour.

In word and deed, Churchill has already assured himself a place in history. Rarely in the history of man has such fire been struck from the English language as it was by this man.

Three days after he was appointed Prime Minister, he said: "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil and sweat".

After Dunkirk, he said: "We shall go on to the end. We shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight... in the air. We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills. We shall never surrender".

During the savage Battle of Britain, fought and won by the RAF, he said: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few".

And when Russia later clamped a ruthless hold on Eastern Europe, he said: "From Stettin on the Baltic to Trieste on the Adriatic, and iron curtain has descended across the continent."

Yet it remained for British Field Marshall Montgomery to pay Churchill the supreme tribute. Said Montgomery: "Let future generations remember how he took tyranny by the throat - and tore freedom from its grasp".

Sir Winston Churchill-statesman, soldier, author, painter and indomitable English bulldog who lies near death.

COMMUNISTS - FOLLOW BOMB

~~On another front, however,~~ The Kremlin today announced a summit meeting of East European Communists the first since the ouster of Nikita Khrushchev. The Kremlin said Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin and Communist Party Chief Leonid Brezhnev would meet in Prague Tuesday with the leaders of seven satellites pledged to the Warsaw Pact - the Communist counterpart of Nato.

Principal subject of the meeting, according to Kremlinologists, probably will be Soviet plans for countering a multilateral nuclear force under NATO, [as proposed by the U.S.] However, the Communist talks will also serve as a prelude to the International Communist meeting scheduled for March first - ~~that meeting~~ to consider the ideological split between Russia and Red China.

VIET NAM

There were more reports today on American involvement in the war against Communist North Viet Nam.

In Saigon, usually reliable government sources said U.S. planes and warships had provided protective cover for South Vietnamese air and sea strikes on military targets in North Viet Nam.

In Washington, U.S. officials said simply that no American air or naval units had "Physically taken part" in any attacks on Communist targets.

Whether actually U.S. supported or not, the raids were said to be hit-and-run in nature - apparently intended more than anything else to demonstrate a government determination to carry the war to North Viet Nam - come what may.

222 Tonight Lowell Thomas calls in from the East Coast of Africa - with a

story of a new foreign legion -- Lowell

Here on the East Coast of Africa people are talking about the new Foreign Legion. Of course we've been hearing about it in America and in Europe. The Foreign Legion that has been fighting in the Congo. As you of course know it has nothing to do with the famous old French Foreign Legion that DeGaulle forced to disband. This new unit better be called the British Foreign Legion. At any rate, the head of the outfit is a former Major in Rex Muzey's Tank Corps, and Britishers have been flocking to it from various parts of Africa, along with some Africans, Belgians and Portuguese. Many representatives of the old colonial powers. I hear there are even a few Indians in this new Foreign Legion. No Americans, as far as I know. Actually this is the Congolese Foreign Legion. Premier Tshombe is urging the Europeans to form a detachment to fight the Belgians mainly in Katanga Province. And what is the pay for a mercenary soldier these days in Africa in the new Foreign Legion? One hundred pounds a month. And a lot of good meals and lodging in the Congo. Looking for a battle and for that hundred pounds a month.

By Lowell Thomas

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Solorg.....

OCTOPUS

If you're looking for adventure you might explore - the "Kingdom of the Octopus". Which you can do without getting hurt - by reading Frank Lane's book with that title. "Kingdom - of the Octopus".

For those of you who prefer to be literal about it - it means living with danger. Frank Lane has gathered a whole chapter of stories - about underwater encounters between man and the octopus. All too often the winner has been - the squiggly denizen of the deep with those terrifying eight arms.

Captain John Craig - many of you have heard him tell it in person - almost lost his life when he met an octopus - in the waters off San Benito Island, California. A giant - with arms eight feet long.

Craig remembered to remain still - as the fearsome creature passed its tentacles over his body. When it pulled away - he shot toward the surface. But the octopus was too quick. It wrapped itself around him -

BOMB

The Soviet Union today detonated a nuclear blast that may have been the first known underground explosion of an H-Bomb.

The explosion, deep in Asiatic Russia, was monitored by scientists at Uppsalla University in Sweden. It registered 6.9 units on the Richter scale - the equivalent of a strong earthquake. According to Swedish experts, that would indicate a bomb with the force of at least a thousand kilotons - ten times the power of this country's biggest underground nuclear explosion to date. Thus, they said, it was "almost surely" the first known underground explosion of an H-Bomb.

In any case, the Kremlin maintained its usual silence on the matter. As yet, the Soviets have never acknowledged underground nuclear tests.

HALLECK

Charles Halleck of Indiana today became the first member of the House of Representatives to move into the new eighty-six-million dollar Rayburn Office Building. But not as originally planned.

The former House Minority Leader had expected to occupy a huge, high-ceilinged suite with an unparalleled view of the Washington Mall and the Capitol Building beyond. Instead, Halleck today picked a plush, but rather modest three-room suite, overlooking Independence Avenue.

The larger quarters go, by virtue of office, to Gerald Ford of Michigan, the new House Minority Leader, who last week deposed and dispossessed Halleck - at one and the same time.

That's news - as LT
would say - so long until
Monday -

INDONESIA

After sixteen months of violent opposition, Indonesia and neighboring Malaysia seemed in agreement on one point today - their differences cannot be solved by war.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio was the first to hold out the olive branch. In a striking departure from past Indonesian policy, Subandrio said Indonesia was ready to hold peace talks with Malaysia "immediately". He said President Sukarno would, in fact, welcome arbitration of the Indonesian-Malaysian dispute by an Afro-Asian Commission.

However, Malaysian officials were understandably cool to the peace gesture. Perhaps mindful of long-standing vow Sukarno's/~~threat~~ to crush Malaysia, Prime Minister

Tenku Abdul Rahman said this: "If Sukarno can convince me he wants nothing but peace, I would be happy to welcome his terms". But Rahman ~~added,~~ ~~however,~~ in the meantime, Malaysia will continue to strengthen its defenses.

WEATHER

CONNOR

The North and U.S. slipped and shivered

U.S.

As expected the Senate today confirmed the appointment of John T. Connor as Secretary of Commerce.

The former president of Merck & Company thus succeeds

Luther H. Hodges of North Carolina in the first

Cabinet change since the November election.

WEATHER

The North and East slipped and shivered today under a sheet of snow and ice stretching from Maine to Minnesota.

The Arctic cold wave dropped temperatures to thirty-four below at International Falls, Minnesota; thirty-five below at Boonville, New York, and fifty-two below at Wakefield, Michigan. And with treacherous driving conditions already prevailing over much of the area, additional snow warnings were posted tonight for Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Southern Wisconsin.