

VENEZUELA LT.-Belcor. Wed. Jan. 1 - '58.

I
A revolt in Venezuela - this New Year's Day. An insurrection - breaking out at the air force base ^{at} Maracay, sixty miles ~~is~~ from Caracas.

The first word was a government radio message announcing what it called a "small armed movement," confined entirely to Maracay.

Later the Caracas radio said a rebel airplane had been shot down over the capital city. Anti-aircraft fire was heard - guns blazing away at rebel jet planes.

A violent way to start the New Year - in that South American republic, ^{so} rich in treasures of oil. The government, with its royalties from oil -- a multi-multimillion dollar prize worth fighting for.


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The revolt is against President Perez Jimenez, the Venezuelan strong man - who took office five years ago by military decree. Holding power since then - and resorting to a curious form

of election, to legalize his position. Having the Venezuelan Congress enact a law-providing for a presidential plebiscite, instead of a presidential election. The plebiscite held a couple of weeks ago. The people merely voting - whether or not to keep Perez Jimenez in power. "Yes" or "No". About ninety percent - voting "yes".

But that was countered by political action in New York where exiled Venezuelan political chiefs called the plebiscite a farce - and proclaimed a unification of parties hostile to Perez Jimenez.

Tonight, there's a supposition that the present rebellion may be one result of plans worked out by Venezuelan exiles in New York.

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In any case, revolt has broken out at Maracay - an Air Force base. And the question would seem to be - does the Venezuelan Air Force think it can overthrow the government. Or - are ~~is~~ other elements of the Venezuelan armed forces involved also?



Here's a later dispatch saying - that infantry units are in the revolt, along with the Air Force. The Army involved - at least in some degree.

KHRUSHCHEV

President Eisenhower, today, sent New Year's greetings - to the leadership of Soviet Russia. Replying - to a message from Khrushchev, Bulganin and Vorishilov. The President - expressing earnest wishes for better understanding between East and West.

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All of which follows a New Year's party in Moscow last night - where Khrushchev went out of his way to be friendly toward the United States. The big boss of the Kremlin - proposing three toasts. One - to the Soviet Army. Another - to the Socialist countries of the world. In toast number three, Khrushchev raised his glass of champagne - to salute President Eisenhower and the U.S.A.

Khrushchev adding - "If the Soviet Union and the United States can get together and reach agreement, most of the world's problems would be solved."

At this point, United States Ambassador

Llewellyn Thompson and Mrs. Thompson walked over to Khrushchev - and clinked glasses with him.

Loud applause - ~~fixxx~~ from the crowd at the reception in the Kremlin.

PLANE ALBANIA

A British Air transport - intercepted by fighter planes of Red Albania - and forced to land at an Albanian base. Another incident in the sky - along the Iron Curtain.

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The British plane - a skymaster, carrying freight, with a crew of six aboard, flying - from London to Rangoon, Burma, non-stop. On its way down the Adriatic Sea - when the Italian air base at Brindisi received a radio message, saying - the skymaster was being intercepted by jet fighters off the Albanian Coast.

Later, the Red Albanian radio said - the plane had been forced down at an air field called Vlone. Which is right across the narrow mouth of the Adriatic from the Italian base at Brindisi.

One important point being - that, along that section of the Albanian coast, Soviet Russia has a submarine base.

Normally, the course of the skymaster would have kept it clear of Albanian sky. But the weather was cloudy, visibility poor - and it may have strayed from its course.

ISRAEL

The political crisis in Israel continues with David Ben Gurion still trying to line up a new coalition. He resigned yesterday - in protest against actions by left-wing elements in his former cabinet. Intending - to form a new line up.

But Ben Gurion is having trouble and word is - that, if he can't form a new government in a week, he will ask for a dissolution of Parliament. With a call - for new elections.

GENEVA

An international conference has ended, after setting a record - for long drawn out futility. The interminable series of meetings, at Geneva - between the U.S. Ambassador to Prague, Alexis Johnson, and Chinese Ambassador Wang Ping - Nan. ^P Remember how long that has been going on?

^ They began their meetings in December, Nineteen Fifty-Three, and really got going in August, Nineteen Fifty-Five. Since which time the two Ambassadors have met again and again for "Ambassadorial talks". Seventy-three meetings - in two-and-a-half years.

Two topics - under discussion:- One - the release of Americans held prisoners in Red China. There were forty-one to begin with - and six are still in Communist jails. The other topic - a renunciation of war-like measures in the Formosa dispute. The discussions on that point, ending as they began - in a complete stalemate.

The talks now end, because Ambassador Johnson is leaving ~~at~~ his post in Czechoslovakia and returning home. Which automatically terminates his task - of negotiating in Geneva.

SOUTH POLE

Sir Edmund Hillary - has run into trouble on his way to the South Pole. The last we heard from him, the conqueror of Mt. Everest and his fellow New Zealanders - were pushing along in great style. Their snow-tractors - grinding along over the vast glacier of the Antarctic.

But now, a mere hundred miles short of the Pole - they have run into deep snows. Which their tractors are hardly able to get through.

Hillary reporting by radio "Deep bottom snow has proved too much for our tractors, and they bogged down time and again."

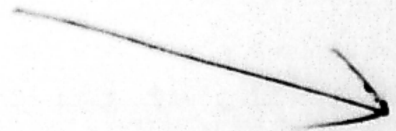
For thirteen hours, on December thirtieth - they could move only a ~~xi~~ few miles. Jumping out every few minutes - to shovel snow away from under the tractors. Mighty tough work - at high altitudes on the lofty polar plateau. In temperatures - down

to twenty-five below zero. *It's mid-Summer down there now - the warmest time of the year.*

They've had to jettison food and gasoline.

Doing this - every few miles to lighten the loads on the snow tractors.

When they started out, they had four cargo sledges, pulled along by the tractors - but have ~~x~~ had to ditch two sledges, with fuel and food. Hillary now reports - gasoline running low.



Meanwhile, the British party pushing ^{on} toward the Pole from the other side of Antarctic - is making slow progress across ice fields, with mazes of treacherous crevasses. They, too, ~~are~~ having their troubles.

However, U S planes, flying to and from South Pole village - are keeping track of the party. ~~The whole thing - very~~ ^{all so} different from those grueling expeditions of Scott, Mawson, Shackleton and ~~Scott and~~ Amundsen; In the days - when they trudged across the ice on foot. No airplane - to keep a watch on those early explorers.

MIAMI

Miami - has a weird sort of mystery. The police, today - looking for a sniper ^{who} took pot shots at people celebrating the New Year. Wounding two - and narrowly missing several others.

The sniper in an automobile - prowling the streets of downtown Miami. Slowing down, shooting - then speeding away. A bullet hit a man in the shoulder - as he stood in front of his home. A few minutes later, the gun^{man} fired three shots at four persons, on ~~the~~ their way home from a New Year party. An eighteen year old girl - wounded.

The sound of gunfire not noticed - in the noise of the New Year's celebration.

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BOYS

Piracy - among the Florida Keys. Buccaneers - capturing a forty-foot yacht. Holding a husband and wife and four children - as hostages. The sea robbers - three teen-age boys from San Antonio, Texas. Ranging in age - from ten to fifteen.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sias and their children were aboard the yacht "Siesta" at the upper neck of the Florida Keys, when the three boys, ~~with~~ a rifle, held them up. Telling them - to steer for Mexico.

Learning there wasn't fuel enough aboard the "Siesta" for the voyage to Mexico, the young pirates ordered their captives to pick up fuel at the island of Islamorada.

The command, at the point of a rifle was obeyed - and, at Islamorada, the yacht took fuel aboard. But Mrs. Sias was able to slip a note to a fisherman - telling what had happened. The fisherman - informing the sheriff.

By now, ^{with} the "Siesta" ~~was~~ heading for Mexico. The sheriff ^{gave} ~~sent~~ chase in a motor patrol boat.

There was a pursuit among the Florida Keys.
Ending, finally - with the ~~exp~~ capture of the yacht.
And - the arrest of the four teen age buccaneers.

GIRL

From Italy, a story of a lover's revenge.
She spurned him - and he said, "Vendetta".

42
Nineteen year old Carla Musso was invited
to a New Year's party. The spurned lover wanted
to take her - but she preferred another guy. Which
according to all appearances - he took in a
chivalrous way. Sending Carla some beautiful roses
to wear to the party.

So Carla, getting dressed, pinned on a
couple of fragrant flowers. Then - went to sleep.

For those ^{were} roses ~~she~~ sprayed with chloroform. The
fumes of chloroform - mingling with the flowery
fragrance.

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~~Don~~ ^{Don - Carla} slept for hours - waking up long after
the party was over. ~~Vendetta~~