

L. T. OLDS, FISHER: FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 1963

Good Evening Everybody:

In Washington and Saigon tonight - unanimity of belief. Practically everyone taking it for granted - that a showdown is coming. A showdown between the United States - and the Diem regime.

The tipoff - Diem, removing gold from the Vietnamese banks to the presidential palace. Judging by what other heads of government have done - the reason seems obvious. Is the President of South Viet Nam preparing for the possibility - of exile, making sure that if he has to flee - he'll have a nest egg? And then some. Getting it from the logical place - the national treasury.

Meanwhile, the last Vietnamese diplomat in Washington has resigned. Every member of the Embassy, on down - refusing to serve President Diem any longer.

KHRUSHCHEV

If you can imagine Khrushchev with a tear in his eye - you get the picture in Velenje, Yugoslavia. Nikita, becoming emotional about his youth - when he worked in a mine. "A capitalist mine" explained the boss of the Kremlin. His moral? The workers a lot happier - now - under Communism, says Nikita. Meaning Soviet Communism of course. Not Red Chinese Communism - which Krushchev again termed "idiotic". Not the Albanian variety of Communism either - which he termed "childish".

On the other hand, Yugoslav Communism got an accolade from Khrushchev - who during the Stalin period castigated Tito as "a running dog of imperialism".

The Kremlin needs Tito - in the quarrel with Mao Tse Tung. So in the Kremlin version of the Communist story - Tito is now one of the good guys.

TURNCOAT

There's an American in Hong Kong tonight - who both agrees and disagrees with Khrushchev. Albert Belhomme of Ashland, Pennsylvania - the latest of the turncoats to return from Behind the Bamboo Curtain.

This former Sergeant in the U S Army - agrees with Khrushchev that Red Chinese Communism is pretty atrocious. But he disagrees with Khrushchev - that Soviet Communism is any better. Why did Belhomme choose freedom this time - when he chose Communism at the time of the Korean war? In his words - "My children will have a better future in the free world."

AID

President Kennedy's news conference today at Hyannisport - was impromptu. The President, summoning reporters to the vacation White House - to hear him talk about a single subject. Namely - foreign aid.

Why couldn't it wait - for the regular presidential news conference in Washington? The President feels that foreign aid - needs national support, and needs it right away - to counteract the vote in the House. That reduction of the administration request by a billion dollars. The President hopes that pressure from the American people - will cause the Senate to put that billion back in the bill.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The newest resident of Folcroft, Pennsylvania - is making one thing clear tonight. He has no intention of moving. Horace Baker, declaring emphatically - that he will not surrender to the segregationists. He and his wife, to move into their new home - despite everything from insults to bombs.

Folcroft is one ironic note amid news reports of peaceful integration. For instance, Negro pupils today attended formerly all-white schools in Charleston, South Carolina. Did it - without incident.

MYSTERY

The mystery at the mine in Hazleton, Pennsylvania - began with a television camera. It was lowered into the underground cavern - where Dave Fellin and Henry Throne were trapped for two weeks. And the picture that the camera flashed to the surface - startled everyone who looked at it. Because it seemed to show - a third man down in the cavern. Yet Fellin and Throne - had been there all by themselves.

Naturally, the hope rose - that Lou Bova had managed to dig through after they were rescued. Bova - who has been trapped by himself in another part of the mine. The wall of debris - too massive for Fellin and Throne to handle. Had the third miner somehow managed to break into - the compartment they had just vacated?

Quickly the decision was made - to send a volunteer down the shaft. What would he find at the bottom? A man? A body? A pile of clothes? No one knew, everyone wondered.

WEATHER

As for the weather in Tennessee, eight inches of rain, falling on Shelbyville - within twenty-four hours. Five inches - at Murfreesboro. Three inches - at Nashville. Flash floods everywhere - in the Volunteer State.

In the southwest - tornadoes. Twisters, tearing up telephone poles - along the highway outside Plainview. Blowing the roofs off barns - around Texarkana. Leaving a layer of dust - over a dozen cities.

Up near the Great Lakes - a chilling fog that cut traffic to a crawl at Oshkosh and Duluth.

LIFE

Now for a scientific theory - that sounds like something from Dante's *inferno*. The time - four billion years ago. Our planet, just settling into - its orbit around the sun. The surface - still red hot.

Suddenly, a meteor - comes whirling across the solar system. A meteor, half-a-mile - in diameter. Moving at - twenty-five thousand miles an hour. As it reaches the vicinity of the earth - it sends titanic shock waves through the atmosphere, and then plunges into the primeval sea - with an explosive force equal to four hundred hydrogen bombs. Whipping up waves - of incredible size and violence.

Doctor Adolph Hochstim of the National Bureau of Standards - things that that was how life began. The impact of the meteor, creating organic molecules - that evolved into tissue. The first step up the biological ladder - toward man.

ROBBERY

Britain's great train robbery has produced a cast of characters - right out of a grade-A thriller. Glamorous blonde, bad baronet, underworld informer, silversmith known as "The Weasel" - and so on. Tonight, one more - the wild Irishman. Name - John Daly. Born in Dublin, lived in London - until the day the Glasgow - London mail train was looted. Scotland Yard describes John Daly as - "fond of wine, women and song, and money". At the moment they feel sure the wild Irishman can afford wine, women and song, with his part of the seven million from the mail train.

MOONSHINE

We've all heard moonshine called "fire water" and in Clanton Alabama, they have the evidence to prove it. Sheriff Ralph Mims is quite a bird dog when it comes to sniffing out mountain stills. As a result, his office is filled with - kegs of evidence.

And that's why - the paint is peeling in the office. The fumes from the moonshine - seeping into the walls. Which are beginning to curl up.

Enough to set the jail on fire - Dick - the fire water they distill in the hills of Alabama.

HOLIDAY

With the Labor Day weekend beginning - the usual warning is in order. The National Safety Council, asking drivers - to help reduce the number of casualties - which the council estimates may go as high as five hundred and twenty. Nearly all accidents that could be avoided. Like letting some one else drive - if you've had one too many.

MARRIAGE

The other night we had the story of the British sailor - who used a cablegram to save himself from matrimony. Having a buddy radio his girl friend - that he had been lost at sea.

Tonight we hear from Mount Vernon, Illinois, about a pair of teenagers who eloped - and then ran out of money before they could get married. She left the car - to telegraph for twenty bucks and when she got back - the car was gone. Said she forlornly - with the wisdom of all her seventeen years - "I guess the so and so got cold feet.