

L.T. -BUICK, FISHER. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1964

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

That space race to Mars is shaping up as a real horse race tonight. U.S. Mariner-Four -- still out in front. But the Russians probe two -- launched forty-eight hours later -- now reported closing in fast. The Russians said to be capitalizing-- on a revolutionary new control system. Russian scientists ~~is~~ claiming the use of electric jet engines -- in conjunction with conventional jet systems. The new controls keeping the Russian missile -- right side up and dead on course. At mid-afternoon, the Mariner Four's lead -- reduced to just a hundred thousand miles. Sounds like a lot. But in the space race to Mars -- thirty million miles away -- it's neck and neck.

CANAL

Getting back to Earth -

^ For years, shippers, engineers and military

men have dreamed of a new Canal linking the Atlantic and the Pacific. A new sea-level canal - to replace the existing Panama Canal - with its antiquated series of locks. Today - the dream moved closer to reality.

President Johnson announcing that the United States and other interested nations - have agreed to join together ~~to~~ in the building of the new canal. Four sites are now under consideration, said the President. Two in Panama - one in Colombia - and one that runs through Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

SPIES

A taste of American justice today - for two Soviet spies. John Butenko, an American engineer, and Igor Ivanov, a Russian chauffeur - up for sentencing before a Federal Judge in Newark, New Jersey. The two men convicted of plotting to steal top-secret plans - details of the nation's world - wide air defense system.

But For Butenko, the American - thirty years in ~~of~~ a federal prison. For Ivanov, the Russian - twenty years. Little ⁴hough at that. It could have been death.

HALLECK

For six years now - the weekly "Ev and Charley Show" has been the toast of Republicans on Capitol Hill. '

Ev, of course, being Everett Dirksen of Illinois - minority leader of the Senate. Charley being - Charles Halleck of Indiana - minority leader in the House.

But like so many shows this year - the Ev and Charley show is suffering from rating trouble.

Representative Gerald Ford has called a press conference for tomorrow morning - presumably to declare himself a contender for Halleck's job. Ford the leading candidate - of the "Young Turks" in the Republican Party. The young Turks already claiming enough votes - to unseat Halleck at the Republican caucus on January Fourth.

For the Ev and Charley show - will it be the end of the line ?

CHINA

From Formosa tonight - reports of another major shakeup in the Communist World. China's Mao Tze Tung - said to be ready to step aside as Red party leader. His hand-picked successor - to be President Liu Shao-Chi.

According to Red experts - Khrushchev's ouster was conditioned on the removal of Mao - his implacable enemy. The removal of China's number one Communist will this end the feud between Moscow and Peking?

Mao himself is said to have triggered the talk of retirement. The seventy year old Red leader first discussing a possible successor - last September, encouraging similar discussions in party meetings at lower levels.

A definite decision - one way or the other - is expected at the third Red Party Congress - Sunday in Peking. Will it be the end of the road for Mao Tse Tung, the Red Boss who has held more power over more people - than any other man in the history of the world?

TIBETAN CHILDREN

A most unusual art exhibition has just been moved from one gallery in New York to another. It's a collection of paintings made by Tibetan school children, small sons and daughters of Tibetans now living in exile ~~in~~ in the Himalayas, on the Indian side of those lofty mountains. When I saw the pictures I just couldn't believe my eyes. They are actually painted by children who are only four, five and six years old.

The collection is now being moved to the United Nations^S Plaza, on the New York East side. They will be displayed in what is known as the Dag Hammarskjold Lounge.

Colonel Ilia Tolstoy, a ~~ka~~ nephew of the legendary Count Tolstoy, author of War and Peace, ^{Col. Tolstoy} is largely ~~respon~~ responsible for the exhibition. He was the one who suggested it. Colonel Tolstoy lead an expedition across Tibet, during the war, ~~on~~ some twenty five or more years ago, a special mission for the President.

TIBETAN CHILDREN-2

Although these children were born after their parents fled from the on-coming Chinese Reds, the pictures are definitely Tibetan -- some of them striking indeed.

I wouldn't have believed it possible for children so young to do paintings like these were it not for the fact that 2 years ago I visited the schools in the Himalayas where these youngsters are now getting their education; and, I came away feeling that they were just about the most remarkable, children I had ever met. They did their songs and dances for me, all with the same something that you will see in these paintings if you visit the exhibit.

Liushar Djaza, one of the Dalai Lama's advisors now in New York, had the pictures brought to this country -- at the suggestion of Colonel Tolstoy.

FIRES

That massive Arctic air flow - tonight covering more than a million square miles. Cold wave warnings posted in every state of the union, except Florida and California. And as always with icy temperatures - a series of tragic fires - spreading across the nation, many of them caused by over-heated stoves and furnaces.-- In ~~at~~ a nursing home at Fountaintown, Indiana - some twenty patients killed by fire. To get water to fight the fire - firemen forced to crack a hole in the ice of a creek nearby. In the staff dormitory of another nursing home - ~~at~~ Winfield, Illinois - four persons dead. And in Eugene, Oregon - a father and his three daughters - ~~killed~~^{lost} in a fire that leveled their home.

STRIKES

An end today -- to that wildcat strike at Cape Kennedy. The one that crippled work -- on more than one hundred million dollars worth of space construction. But from overseas -- news of two more labor disputes -- though both somewhat less serious in nature.

One -- in the Welsh City of Neath. More than one thousand workers on strike -- at a metal box factory. The cause -- suspension of a woman machinist, who was penalized for putting on a Beatle wig -- and doing a jig -- at tea break. Her fellow employees -- leaving their jobs in protest. Calling their factory bosses -- "a lot of old saurpusses".

The other strike -- a newspaper walkout in Rome. Rome, the stamping ground of the papparazzi -- those roving bands of newspaper photographers, and scene of La Dolce Vity -- the sweet life. Newsmen in Rome demanding more money -- a five day work-week -- and assorted fringe benefits. Judging from some recent Italian movies -- those fringe benefits might include Sophia Loren -- or perhaps Gina Lollobrigida. But not so -- say the

newsmen. La Dolce Vita, they claim, no longer what it used to be.
Dick. The sweet life -- suddenly turned sour.

TAXES

Now, taxes - again! Taxes! - Some philosophers have called them - the price we pay for civilization. This news item isn't about philosophers - it's about robbers.

But - taxes? The connection?

Three masked bandits today invaded an office building in Marseilles over in France - escaping with nearly thirty thousand dollars in French currency. Victim of the holdup - the local tax collector. The French bandits apparently agreeing with millions - of beleaguered and over-charged American tourists that the cost of French civilization has been a bit over-priced.