

EISENHOWER

L.T.-DELCO. TUESDAY, DEC. 2, 1958

(Given by Allan Jackson, L.T. in Zanzibar)

President Eisenhower got a big send-off -- when he left Augusta, Georgia, today. A crowd of about a thousand - turned out at the airport. Applauding the President - shouting, "We like Ike!" Mr. Eisenhower, visibly pleased - waved, gave the "V for Victory" salute, and said a few words of thanks. Then he boarded his plane, the Columbine Third, for the flight to Washington. In the national capital, he went straight to his White House desk - to have a look at the mail. Tonight, he's settling down to his preliminary work - as he prepares for a round of critical conferences - beginning tomorrow.

BERLIN

The Berlin crisis may produce - a limited war. So say informed sources - in the Western sector of the city. These sources believe - Communist planes might attack an Allied airlift. But the shooting probably would be confined to the corridor used by the airlift. In other words, neither side would spread the fighting - by striking at air bases in the rear. So the ~~fact~~ fate of Berlin could be settled - by an old fashioned air battle in a strip of sky, a few miles wide. West Berliners are saying - they're confident the Allies ~~will~~ ~~would~~ have enough planes - to prevent any ~~of their~~ airlift from being grounded.

PRAVDA

Here is a hint that the Kremlin is about to crack down on Soviet journalists. Pravda, coming out with a terrific blast against some members of Russia's fourth estate. The Kremlin mouthpiece complains - that too many newspapers are ignoring the Seven Year Plan - announced by Khrushchev last month. Pravda calls the editors "intolerably slow" - in boosting the Khrushchev plan. And says they seem to prefer serial fiction - when they ought to be urging Soviet workers to work harder. Western diplomats in the Russian capital predict - these delinquent Soviet newspapers will soon blossom forth - with pages of copy about Comrade Khrushchev and his Seven Year Plan.

HUMPHREY

A Senator from Minnesota spent eight hours - in the Kremlin ~~today~~. Senator Hubert Humphrey, conferring with Khrushchev. Then, emerging from the Kremlin - to tell newsmen he's "cautiously optimistic" about the cold war.

Well, eight hours should have given Khrushchev and Humphrey plenty of time to talk over the world situation.

According to ^{Humphrey} ~~the Minnesota Democrat~~ - his Kremlin conversation covered everything from the Berlin crisis to Marxist philosophy.

Senator Humphrey refuses to give many details. He wants to report to the White House first. But he does say that he and Khrushchev reached complete agreement on one thing - ^{the desirability of} Soviet-American cooperation in medical research.

FIRE

Chicago police believe the fire at Our Lady of the Angels elementary school - was touched off accidentally. There is nothing definite yet. But the best guess is that one of the boys was smoking in the basement - and tossed a lighted butt into one of the trash cans.

The blaze then raced through ~~h~~ the old building - causing Chicago's worst fire in half a century. The city is stricken tonight - as it prepares to bury eighty-seven children and three nuns. The tragedy, so appalling - that messages of sympathy are pouring into Chicago from all over the world. Including one from ~~the~~ Pope to ^{John the 23rd of the Vatican.} ~~Archbishop Meyer - in whose~~ ~~archdiocese~~ the catastrophe occurred.

SPACE

The reported compromise over who should control our space scientists - looks like this. The rocket men would remain in the Army. At the same time, they would be available - to work with the Civilian Space Agency. The Army is said to be satisfied with this ~~arrangement~~ ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ arrangement - because two thousand scientists would stay on their present military assignments. The Space Agency, going along with the idea - because it could call in the Army experts for special projects.

SCIENTIST

This year's winner of the Enrico Fermi Award - is Professor Eugene Wigner. Born in Hungary, Professor Wigner emigrated to this country - and became famous for his work in nuclear physics. He was the guiding genius behind - our plutonium production plant in Hanford, Washington. Cited today as one of the great scientists of his time - Professor Wigner received a gold medal, and fifty thousand dollars.

STEER

This year's king of the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago - is a seventeen year old Iowan. Chuck Wood, of Spencer, Iowa. He won the championship with an Aberdeen angus steer - called "Holy Cow." Six hundred entries challenged for the ribbon - with "Holy Cow" selected by the judges as the best in the exposition.

The owner is going to get - a lot more than a ribbon. His steer will be sold on Thursday - and Chuck Wood should pocket - over thirty thousand dollars.

INTRODUCTION TO RECORDING

Tonight, we have a report from Lowell Thomas - on his way to procure material for another television show. Lowell give us - what might be pages from a diary, made with tape recording.

On this jaunt, flying around the world again - on the Atlantic part, I thought of the heroic era of trans-Atlantic flying of thirty odd years ago. The Lindbergh, Chamberlain and Byrd flights for example - and the endless gossip at that time.

At last we have an authoritative account, answering one question: what was the relation between Bert Acosta and Bernt Balchen? Acosta, the pilot, Balchen, the co-pilot on the Byrd flight. The answer - appearing in Bernt Balchen's thrilling book, "Come North With Me"; which tells of the adventures of that modern Viking - identified so much with both the Arctic and the Antarctic.

Bert Acosta, one of the greatest of the old-time aviators in the pioneer days, had a number of shortcomings. And Bernt Balchen tells how, several days before the trans-Atlantic take-off, he and Acosta took the Byrd plane out for a test flight. They were flying through a solid

cloud bank, when the instrument board showed - they were in a spin.

"I quickly reach for the wheel," Bernt relates, "and Acosta let his hands drop from the controls in relief.

"This is one thing I don't know anything about," he confessed. "I'm strictly a fair weather boy," said Acosta.

He didn't understand instrument flying, blind flying. He was a "seat of the pants" aviator, the best.

Well, the plan was to make the trans-Atlantic flight in bright weather - so it didn't seem to matter much

Bert Acosta performed an exploit of instinctive flying. When he took the over-loaded plane into the air - for the take-off. But then, out over the Atlantic, they ran into the thickest kind of weather. Acosta at the controls, and the instruments show - the plane in a

downward spin. So Balchen seizes the controls, and gets the plane out of the spin.

"Acosta," writes Bernt, "slumps in the left hand seat, his arms folded. 'This instrument flying is one thing I never bothered with', he says.

"I feel sorry for Acosta," Balchen adds. "Especially as he's disarmingly honest about his lack of experience in blind flying."

So that was why Bernt Balchen was at the controls, and made a landing - that was an historic thriller. The Byrd plane was completely fogged in - and Balchen found a hole in the clouds. Through which - to come down in the water, just off the coast of Normandy.

GYPSIES

54:53:20

In Bilbao, Spain - there was a royal wedding today.

The bride and bridegroom - Betty and Codry. Those names may not sound very regal. But the point is - Betty and Codry belong to the aristocracy of the gypsies.

Betty is the daughter of the chief of Spain's gypsies - the Loravia tribe. Codry is the son of the chief of France's gypsies - the Saba tribe. So this was a real royal wedding - as far as the colorful nomads of Europe are concerned. Tonight they're still serenading Betty and Codry - who stand to become king and queen - of all the gypsies of France and Spain.

54:00