

WEATHER FOLLOW ASTRONAUT

*L.T. - Tues. May 2 - '61,*

*Today's*

*- as you prob. know -*

The postponement of the astronaut launching was caused by - a cold front moving across North America. Masses of frigid air, sweeping southeast - from our great central plains, pushing low pressure air - down into Florida.

Result - thunderstorms and a murky sky. Two heavy cloud layers, ~~a~~ sitting up there - one at thirteen thousand feet, and the other at twenty thousand, ~~feet~~. Visibility - poor. That was the decisive factor - in calling off the rocket flight. Rockets can fly through - cloudy skies. But there would have been some trouble finding the capsule - after it had been ejected. Endangering - recovery of the astronaut from the Atlantic. A needless chance, - ~~that no one was going to take.~~

Naturally, the weather story would have - an ironic ending. An ~~hour~~ hour after the test was cancelled - the sun burst through the clouds. Turning the day - warm and sunny. Perfect for everything from surf casting - to a rocket ride.

ASTRONAUT

*As for*  
~~Tonight~~ Navy Commander Alan Shepard *tonight he is* - sweating it out. Who could blame him for feeling a bit tense - after that last-minute postponement, ~~of his rocket flight?~~

Commander Shepard ~~was~~ all set to go - when the weather interfered. The shot, declared - too risky, ~~for him~~. Put off - *for* forty-eight hours. Giving our first astronaut another two days to wait - with all the tension *that* implied <sup>s.</sup> ~~by that statement.~~

*as you know,*  
~~still~~, Commander Shepard *was* hand-picked -- from seven astronauts. Tapped for the flight - because of his ~~superior~~ physical and psychological stamina. So, when the count-down begins again -- *it is expected* ~~you can be sure~~ that Alan Shepard will be ready again.

Meanwhile, the other six astronauts are at Cape Canaveral - to help him. Marine Colonel John Glenn - standing by as an alternate. The others, performing special jobs like briefing Shepard - and getting ready to fly search planes after his rocket, as it roars down over the Atlantic range.

LAOS

The administration attitude toward Laos appears to be -  
watch the situation ~~very~~ closely, without optimism or pessimism.

Democratic leaders in Congress who were at the White House for

breakfast this morning, told newsmen <sup>^</sup>we haven't "written off"

*We have*  
Laos. Not decided to abandon it - to the Communist rebels.

~~We're~~ Disappointed in Khrushchev's stalling - with regard to a

*- that we are.*  
cease-fire. At the same time, there's word of a partial

cessation of hostilities - on the Laotian front facing Vang

Vieng. This, while the Reds keep driving - at other points

along the battle-line.

~~Laos, in a turmoil. The issue - doubtful. Our  
government, still ready to attend a peace conference - if a  
Laotian cease-fire can be arranged.~~

CUBA

The dispute between the dictator of Cuba and the United States has boiled down to - Guantanamo. Secretary of State Rusk says 'we have no intention of attacking Castro. —  
Unless <sup>- unless</sup> he attacks our big naval base. <sup>As for</sup> Castro? He says he still wants Guantanamo - but hopes to get it by peaceful means.  
<sup>all of</sup> Which looks like - a Mexican standoff. ~~Or should I say~~  
a Cuban standoff?

As for Cuba itself, the idea of a free election - is definitely gone. Castro buried it in today's speech - when he said an election would bring back the old regime. Castro, virtually admitting that the Cuban people would vote him out - if ~~they were~~ allowed to decide the form of government they'd prefer.

UDALL

The Secretary of the Interior today was using epithets like - "stunned, appalled, flab<sup>b</sup>bergasted." Secretary Udall, applying the epithets - to himself. His reaction to charges that he asked a friend - to round up guests for a Democratic fund raising dinner. The operation, alleged to have taken place - among officials of the oil and gas industry.

The ~~refer~~ reference to Udall is in a letter written by Jack Evans - of the oil industry. Evans, stating that Udall asked him to ~~write the letter~~ *undertake the mission* "as a personal favor."

Udall's reply is - that he never asked Evans for any such favor. And ~~he~~ demanded recall of the letter - when he heard about it.

EICHMANN

Today's declaration in the Jerusalem court emphasizes one point about the Eichmann trial ~~is~~ that is bothering jurists around the world. Four witnesses for the defense will not be ~~be~~ given a safe conduct to and from Israel - because they were Nazis. The Israeli prosecutor warns ~~that~~ they'll be arrested - and put on trial themselves.

So the defendant is deprived of what is usually considered - a basic legal right. Still, the Israeli court is trying to allow Eichmann - ~~in~~ the testimony he needs. The judges, suggesting - deposition. The ex-Nazis, to testify - before a West German court. Their evidence, to be forwarded - to Jerusalem.

## HUSSEIN

Have you heard about the young King of Jordan announcing he is going to marry - an English girl? In Amman today street crowds were cheering King Hussein's statement about his forthcoming marriage. The girl, Toni Gardner - daughter of Colonel William Gardner, stationed in Jordan with the Royal Engineers. How this must surprise his grandfather, King Abdullah and his great uncles King Feisal of Bagdad and King Ali of Mecca, and his great grandfather - old King Hussein of the Hedjaz. But they are all dead;-and in these few years how the world has changed - since law of Arabia road with the sheiks of Araby.

So, if you happen to be introduced to Jordan's Queen, Mouna el Hussein - you'll know how once upon a time before she became a queen, she was Toni Gardner - of Ipswich, England.

## QUEEN

Today in Rome, they gave us a good example of - the fine Italian hand. Solving a question of protocol - in suave Latin style.

The question - which room in the Quirinal Palace should be assigned to Queen Elizabeth the Second? Here's the point. Two rooms are set aside - for state <sup>visits</sup> ~~visits~~. One for - the actual head of state. The other for - the consort.

First occupant of these two rooms - Napoleon and Josephine. The Emperor asked for a soldier's bivouac - or at least the nearest equivalent. Spare, stoical - without frills. Josephine? Ah, she had to have - the most luxurious apartment they could provide.

The two rooms are now as they were - one for a man, the other for a lady. The catch this time - the visiting head of state is a lady. So Her Majesty had to have - Napoleon's old room. Josephine's ~~is~~ going to ~~R~~ - Prince Philip.

So - what <sup>were</sup> ~~could~~ the Romans do about it? ~~well~~, they escorted the royal couple - each to the room indicated by



protocol. Then left them to switch, if they want to - since  
there <sup>is</sup> a connecting door.

I wonder if Queen Elizabeth is sleeping like a soldier  
tonight - in Napoleon's room? <sup>austere Spartan-like</sup> And is Prince Philip in that  
lavish apartment - that once belonged to the Empress Josephine?

ART

Benjamin Franklin has just entered - the White House.

That is, an artistic representation of - our philosopher-scientist

*ladies man. It's*  
statesman. An allegory, showing Franklin seated on the clouds -

and dressed in a classical Roman toga. He is portrayed speaking

to the goddess Athena - asking her protection for America.

An appropriate piece of symbolism where Franklin is concerned -

since Athena stands for wisdom.

The pencil sketch was made by <sup>a</sup>~~the~~ French master,

~~Jean Fragonard~~ - when Franklin visited Paris in Seventeen

Seventy-Six. Philadelphia's Ben, pulling off one of the great

coups of diplomacy - persuading the French to enter the

Revolution on the side of the Colonies.

Where does the White House - come in? Oh, just that

Mrs. Kennedy has accepted the sketch - and is going to hang it

on a wall in the executive mansion, <sup>Dick</sup> The First Lady, giving her

approval to Franklin - ~~and Fragonard~~ - *his French portrait* - on a

*cloud - with Athena.*

## SINGER

Old time opera fans will feel nostalgic - about this story. In Aberdeen, Scotland, Mary Garden announces - she'll make a film about her career. One of the great careers - in the history of opera.

Mary Garden, a scintillating star in the era of stars - Caruso, Ponselle, Geraldine Farrar and the others. Mary's specialty - her role in "Peleas" and "Melisande" by Debussy. The great soprano used to say - that Debussy himself applauded her when she sang in his opera. Everyone else did. When Mary Garden hit high C at the Met. And how she could hit that high C - the way today Jerome Hines hits that low low C.