

L.T. OLDS. MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1962

(L.T. at South Sea Islands, then Antarctica, and Europe. Bc. given by Doug Edwards of CBS.)

GOOD EVENING:

Assistant Secretary of State Averell Harriman told President Kennedy today that India's struggle with Communist China is likely to be a long one -- perhaps requiring long-term military aid to India from the United States and other Western countries. Harriman, who has just returned from a two weeks' mission to India, said virtually all Indian officials with whom he talked, regard the dispute with China as more than merely a border affair. They instead consider it a long term Chinese assault on India's way of life.

Officials in Washington said no decisions have been formally reached on whether to give India long-term military aid -- but it's being considered.

In New Delhi, Indian Prime Minister Nehru said today the Chinese appear to be withdrawing some troops from the

northeast frontier area, but he didn't consider the operation a complete pullback. And there was no word of Communist troop withdrawals from the Ladakh area in the West.

CUBA

The Pentagon announced today that Russia has begun removing its jet bombers from Cuba -- one of the remaining issues that has been blocking the way to a complete settlement of the Cuban crisis. A Defense Department spokesman said photographs taken of a Soviet ship, showed the fuselages of three of the bombers on board. More than thirty Soviet jet bombers had been reported in Cuba at the height of the crisis.

INTRO. TO L.T.

Tonight we have another report from Lowell Thomas.

Where are you now, Lowell? And - what's going on?

TAHITI

Hello Everybody:

I am still in Tahiti, where, as one writer puts it, "come South Sea explorers, men of God, poets, artists, and adventurers". Luis Marsden calls this the "Isle of Illusion", "somewhere beyond the horizon!" The golden dream of every man! ... where the sea breaks like thunder against the reef and white plumed waterfalls spill down the green mountains".

Ah, but all is not perfect in Paradise! The movement for freedom that has become so contagious all over the world, is even making life difficult for officialdom in French Polynesia, and the leader of the Home Rule Movement has been hustled away into exile. Even if France did give up her empire in North Africa, she has no intention of giving up this South Pacific Elysium. In an attempt to quiet down the Polynesians, they are buying up plantations, and turning them over to the Tahitians and their neighbors.

Thirty-seven years ago, a wealthy southerner sailed into Tahiti aboard his yacht. A man named Kellum. On board was his son, who fell in love with Tahiti, as every visitor does. And, he talked his father into buying for him a large tract of land on the glorious island of Morrea, running his big plantation. I have dined with Medford Kellums several times, and today they signed the papers selling their Morrea plantation to the Tahitian government, to be broken up and sold back to the Polynesians.

Incidentally . . but not incidentally to the French authorities . . ownership of property provides problems that cause officials to throw up their hands. Because most of the people here -- most of them I am told - - don't bother to get married. They say that unofficial matrimony works one better than the legalized version. That is, the men say "If you legally marry a woman she immediately takes over and starts running you".

All this doesn't seem to interfere with happy informal family life. But when a father dies, the

problems of inheritance are almost unsolveable.

I ran into another attractive young American today, of college age. When I asked how long he had been here and what he was doing, he said, "Oh, I've been here six months and a ll I'm doing is becoming a bum".

To avoid just that, I am booked out on the next plane. But, before I go, I'll spin one more yarn about the recent filming on "The Bounty" --- tomorrow night. So long.

FOLLOW L.T.

Well, Lowell, it looks as if the South Sea Isles
will never lose their romance. Anyway, not as long as they
have that great institution -- unofficial matrimony.

COLLISION

The U.S. aircraft carrier "Kearsarge" and a British luxury liner, the "Oriana" - collided in a fog today off Long Beach, California, but the Coast Guard said there apparently were no casualties. Both vessels were damaged above the water-line.

GOP

It was lwarned today that some thirty to fifty
Republicans held a secret meeting in Chicago yesterday to set
in motion a Goldwater-for-President campaign. One report said
they contributed as much as two hundred and fifty thous and
dollars toward a campaign fund for the Arizona Republican
Senator.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Federal marshals are meeting in Aberdeen, South Dakota, tonight to map strategy for their invasion of Mount City, which is a village where townsfolk and farmers are threatening to keep from turning over government records they have locked in a barricaded building.

The Mount City people have locked up the records to keep them from being sent to a nearby town where the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service has set up new offices. Reason? -- Mount City, County seat of Campbell County, with a population of one hundred forty-four, is up in arms over the transfer of the government office because of the possibility it might lead to the removal of the courthouse and Mount City's loss of status as the county seat, with ~~new~~ resulting stagnation of the town's business life, and so on. The date for the move to seize the farm documents from the barricaded building is being kept a secret by the Federal authorities.

Now, Deck Noel, any secrets?

ODDITIES

A few little odds and ends from here and there, Dick.

In Miami, detectives are working on a hair raising case. Somebody stole twenty pounds of human hair and more than two hundred wigs valued at more than twenty-five thousand dollars.

In New Hampshire, the deer season has opened and farmer Ted Dinkle erected a sign with the suggestion to hunters: "Why go home empty handed -- take home a cow -- special prices between now and December Twenty-first.

And in Kings Lynn, England, a package delivered to the railway station had "THIS SIDE UP" stamped on five of its six sides.

Decisions, decisions, decisions -- and I've made on -- here's Dick Noel.

Goodnight, and I'll be back tomorrow.