

L.T. - OLDS, FISHER. JANUARY 29, 1964

GOOD EVENING :

Nearly six tons of Florida sand are in orbit around the earth tonight -- marking a new American triumph in space -- a break-through in rocket power that puts the United States at this time well ahead of the Soviet Union. The Saturn One rocket lumbered off its launching pad at Cape Kennedy shortly before noon today trailing a three hundred foot roaring, throbbing flame. Five hundred and sixty-two tons it weighed as it left the ground -- carrying a second stage weighing a record breaking thirty-seven thousand, seven hundred pounds. Two minutes and twenty-seven seconds after blast-off the second stage broke away igniting its hydrogen engines -- another first -- and soaring into orbit. The Florida sand was ballast. This was an experimental flight, too risky for so large a payload of precious instruments. On the basis of today's success, the next

flight will be for keeps -- and further steps along this road will take an American to the moon.

T-THIRTY-NINE

The Russians admitted today having, as they put it, "forced down" that American T-Thirty-Nine jet trainer with three U.S. officers aboard over East Germany -- an act which Senator Russell of Georgia calls "premeditated, unnecessary and coldblooded murder." A strong United States' note said it was shot down while obviously lost and a threat to no one. The Russians replied with a complaint of their own -- that the flight was a gross provocation, aimed at aggravating the situation in Central Europe.

POLITICS

Here at home, the political campaign is gathering speed -- Richard Nixon speaking to Republican Party Fund raising dinners across the country said there is no major area in the world tonight where the cause of freedom is not worse off than it was four years ago when the Democrats took over the White House.

And Nelson Rockefeller, working to build his organization in California, called President Johnson a stunt man, riding two horses going in opposite directions.

JOHNSON

Republican leaders today referred to President Johnson as a "wheeler dealer" who is losing the cold war and heading the country into a financial mess. The charges were made at a joint news conference held by Republican national chairman William Miller, Senate Republican leader Everett Dirksen and House GOP leader Charles Halleck. Miller called Mister Johnson "The most accomplished wheeler dealer Washington has ever seen." According to the President -- said Miller -- "the world is rosy; it just needs more and better coexistence." It is the sharpest attack yet leveled at President Johnson by the Republican Opposition.

DESEGREGATION

Desegregation demonstrations continued in Atlanta for the fourth straight day -- hymn-singing negroes marching on the City Hall -- calling for a law opening public accommodations to all. The demonstrators demanded the release of 200 arrested earlier and complained that despite its liberal image, Atlanta was still a segregated city.

Now a word from Dick Noell.