

L.T.-OLDS. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1962

(L.T. on South Sea Islands, Antarctica, Asia,  
Europe trip. Bc. given by Doug Edwards of CBS.)

GOOD EVENING:

A Brazilian airliner with fifty persons aboard disappeared early, today, over the wild jungles of the Amazon River only a few minutes before it was to land at its destination. And some sixteen hours later, as darkness closed in, searchers were unable to find a trace of the big plane. The airline said the search for the four-engine Constellation would resume tomorrow morning.

Earlier, the Brazilian Air Force had said the plane was sighted on a lakeshore and that all aboard were found alive. But the report, later was found to be erroneous.

## SPACECRAFT

America's Mariner-Second spacecraft achieved a rendezvous with Venus today and began sending back information that may help determine whether life exists on that planet. The National Space Agency said the Mariner's observation system is working perfectly and that data about the planet is <sup>o</sup> pouring in, although it will be days or weeks before the findings will be made public. The spacecraft reached a point just over twenty-one thousand miles from Venus.

McNAMARA - PARIS

In Paris today, the United States, through Defense Secretary McNamara, told its European allies to quit wasting cash on independent nuclear forces, and to put more money instead into conventional armament. Secretary of State Rusk joined in this admonition. But, their appeals met with a chilly reception. Britain, Italy, the Netherlands and other countries say they are spending as much as they can afford, and that any increase is out of the question.

INTRO. TO L.T.

Lowell Thomas is still in the Antarctic, blazing a trail through a sea of glacial ice -- aboard a sea-going icebreaker. Tell us, Lowell, what happens when an irresistible force meets an immovable object.

## ICEBREAKER

Hello Doug - hello everybody:

Almost everything here in the Antarctic is interesting, spectacular and thrilling, because it is so different - - of another world. One of the most dramatic experiences we have had was aboard a Navy icebreaker, crashing through the ice of the Ross Sea; with a string of supply ships behind us on their way to our main base at McMurdo. I spent today on the U.S.S. Glacier, our largest and most powerful icebreaker. Earlier explorers, Scott, Shackleton, Amundsen, Byrd and all the rest, when they encountered ice four or five feet thick, they were licked and had to wait for another season in the hope there would be less ice.

You should see the U.S.S. Glacier bank its way through this frozen sea! As I stood in the bow,

watching the great heavily plated ship ram into the ice, then slide up on it, then back off and go at it again, I wished I had a Cinerama camera and crew.

The U.S.S. Glacier is three hundred and ten feet long, seventy-four foot beam, twenty-eight foot draft, carbon-tempered steel bow, and driven by the largest diesel-electric propelling plant on any ship in the world - - twenty-one thousand horse power. She carries a crew of twenty officers and two hundred and sixty men, nearly a million gallons of fuel, and sufficient supplies to stay at sea for a journey of twenty-five thousand miles. There isn't any place to get fuel down here in the Antarctic. Any icebreaker is liable to get caught in the ice, but the Glacier has its own way of avoiding this dilemma. In her hold she carries one hundred and forty thousand gallons of water, which, merely by the flip of a dial, can be shifted from one side of the ship to the other,

to create a ten per cent artificial roll that enables her to break loose from the grip of the ice.

Also, she can get up to full speed in a distance of three ship lengths. It's quite an experience to be on the Glacier as she backs up and then goes full speed ahead into ice against which an ordinary vessel wouldn't even make a dent. And this frozen Ross Sea through which we are crashing our way is larger than Texas. We now have men who are experts at looking down from a plane and picking the best route; radioing the information to the Glacier. Helicopters also assist in the scouting.

When the convoy left New Zealand, it had clear going for twelve hundred miles, which it covered in four days. Then it entered pack ice through which it pushed on for seven hundred miles, at the rate of a hundred miles a day. Upon reaching

the Ross Sea, without the icebreaker "Glacier", there wouldn't have been any chance. Now for six days they have been ramming through this solid heavy ice at about four miles a day, with a week to go at no more than three miles a day. But, the important thing is, they'll get through. These 21,000 horses of the icebreaker "Glacier" won't be denied.



FOLLOW I.T.

So long, Lowell, and we'll be hearing from you again soon.

KENNEDY

President Kennedy flew to New York today to deliver an address in which he will reveal to the nation his plans for a long-awaited tax cut. The speech will be delivered tonight at eight thirty Eastern Standard Time, before the Economic Club of New York.

WEATHER

Well now, about the weather. A slight warming trend ~~set~~ set in today over ~~most~~ of the eastern half of the country. Some snow fell from the east shore of Lake Michigan to the Atlantic Ocean in the north. Thousands of workmen harvested frozen citrus fruit, but we emphasize that it still is suitable for juice concentrates.

A Genie friend of ours says about that -- so far as Florida is concerned, winter weather, go away.

But not you, Dick Noel.

## ROBBERIES

Well, Dick, a lot of banks had a bad day around this country and Canada today. Four bandits, one of them dressed like Santa Claus, shot and killed two policemen in Montreal, Canada, during a bank holdup. The gunmen escaped with about four thousand dollars -- one of them diving through a plate-glass window in his haste to get away on foot. The others escaped in a waiting automobile.

In Columbus, Ohio, a gunman used two automobiles to make his getaway after robbing a suburban federal savings and loan company of thirty-three thousand dollars. The bandit fled in a car which later was found abandoned at a shopping center.

In Yarmouth, Maine, a gunman held up the Canal National Bank and fled in a car with nearly eighteen thousand dollars.

Still another robbery occurred in White River Junction, Vermont, but the bandit didn't get away. He walked into the First National Bank wearing a crimson hunting jacket and carrying a shotgun and escaped with twelve thousand dollars, but he was captured less than two hours later.

Good night -- I'll be back Monday.