

L.T.-DELCO. TUESDAY, DEC. 17, 1957.
(Bc. given by L.T., Jr. - L.T. in Africa)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

At Cape Canaveral, Florida, the Air Force put America right back in the missile race with Russia. The Air Force, launching its intercontinental ballistic missile - the Atlas. The test - completely successful.

Early this morning, spectators crowded the beach, near the proving ground - knowing a missile would be fired - because the familiar red ball had been hoisted - a warning to ships, to stay clear.

Then the big Gantry crane, holding the missile in place - rolled away. And the spectators had a good look at Atlas - a giant three-stage rocket, gleaming white in the Florida sun. The count down began, And at twelve thirty-eight - they threw the switch. The missile was enveloped in a dense cloud of gray smoke. For a moment, the spectators thought - Atlas had exploded, just as the

Vanguard satellite rocket did two weeks ago.

But, instead of blasting apart, the missile slowly rose, trailing a long orange flame. Then Atlas gathered speed, zoomed up into the sky, and disappeared over the South Atlantic. It was plainly visible for several minutes.

The official statement from the Pentagon - declares that Atlas landed right on its target. The test was limited to a range of several hundred miles, - but this Air Force missile is capable of covering more than five thousand miles - making it intercontinental.

REACTION FOLLOW ATLAS

America's reaction to Atlas - was expressed by Senator Lyndon Johnson of Texas. The Chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Committee, declaring - Americans can feel better now, because, in the Senator's words, "we are right in it with the Russians."

The same feeling comes from Western Europe. The delegates at the Nato meeting in Paris - expressing relief - because there's less fear that America is falling behind. And President Eisenhower is especially pleased - because the Atlas test gives him another card now, to play at the meeting.

European scientists are impressed by this scientific achievement. The Chairman of the British Interplanetary Society remarking "We have been waiting for this - for a long time."

EISENHOWER

This was a day of reminiscing for President Eisenhower. ^{He} who went back to "Shape," Nato military headquarters, where he was the first commander. The President, escorted by "Shapes" present boss, General Norstad.

Mr. Eisenhower was dressed in a blue overcoat - with a muffler, and a gray hat. Speaking to the Allied troops - he admitted, he still doesn't feel at home in civies. After all, he spent forty years in the Army - so the uniform seems more natural to him. In his brief address, he said: "I have a special kind of sickness - home-sickness."

After his visit to Shape, the President drove back to the American Embassy in Paris, for lunch with Secretary of State Dulles - followed by a nap, before attending this afternoon's session of the Nato Council. This evening, he spent several hours at a state dinner given by President Coty, head of the French Republic, then off to bed.

NATO

At the Nato summit conference in Paris, today - the members agreed to listen to the latest Soviet proposals, saying they don't want a rejection of the recent Bulganin notes - because the American Atlas has changed the international atmosphere. The West, now stronger, and in a better bargaining position.

Today's conference voted for two things - unanimously. First, to keep pressing for a reunification of Germany, through free elections. And secondly, to continue supporting the Western disarmament proposals - including inspection, which would prevent any surprise attack.

A number of other points still have to be decided. But the members seem agreed - that so far the conference is a success. There had been talk of our Allies objecting - to American missile bases on their soil. But Secretary of State Dulles calls that report "ridiculous."

DULLES

Secretary of State Dulles proposes a three-point program, to block Soviet penetration of the free world. The Dulles program, to be published in Life Magazine on December Twenty-Third. The contents, made public in advance - by the State Department. The first point is - stepping up our effort to conquer outer space, - ~~Secretary~~ Dulles ^{pointing} ~~points~~ out that ~~the~~ although the Russians started years before we did, ~~but~~ he's sure we can catch up - by pooling the research of the ^{free} nations, ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~world~~

As his second point, Secretary Dulles mentions stronger mutual security agreements. High on the list of these - the development of backward areas - to prevent Communist exploitation of human misery.

The third point - closer cooperation of the free nations on every level. Here Secretary Dulles ^{stresses} ~~mentions~~ especially - greater trade, with fewer tariff barriers.

Our Secretary of State says he's quite sure -

we can carry out every point of his program - without losing our democratic freedom. And he's just as sure his program will put a stop to Red aggression.

"JANE'S"

The world's most authoritative survey of international air power - reports that Russia is far ahead of the West in this age of missiles and space travel. The warning comes from "Jane's, All The World's Aircraft." It was published too late to take note of today's successful firing of the American Atlas.- Otherwise, "Jane's" is the airmen's bible, when it comes to sizing up the Air Forces of the world.

It calls the Soviet "Sputnik", "epoch-making" - even though artificial satellites have no military significance. The point being that the "Sputnik" rocket does have military importance. And the development of that rocket - put the Russians far ahead. We'll have to wait for the next edition - to learn what "Jane's" thinks of our Atlas.

AIR FORCE

A Senate Sub-committee heard more testimony today- about how we stand in the race to control the air. James Douglas, Secretary of the Air Force, gave the Senators a time-table for equipping our troops with intermediate ballistic missiles. Mr. Douglas declaring that the missiles will be in operation by next December, with Intercontinental rockets, to be added within two years. Douglas, referring to the Atlas - as a key to our future arsenal. He told the Sub-committee we'll be able to send a rocket to the moon - as he put it, "in the foreseeable future."

Following Secretary Douglas to the stand was General Curtis Lemay, Air Force Vice-Chief-of-Staff - and he told the Subcommittee - missiles haven't made planes obsolete. General Lemay thinks the Russians couldn't cripple our Strategic Air Command even with a surprise attack. So he wants the Air Force to build more long-range bombers - and keep them in the air, until missiles

are perfected, which he doesn't think will be for some time yet. Until then the Air Force, to remain our first line of defense.

INDONESIA

A dispatch from Jakarta describes the situation in ~~Indonesia~~ Indonesia - as turning into chaos. The latest scene of violence - the island of Celebes, / ^{where} ~~there~~ the fanatical Mohammedan, "Army of Allah", is in revolt - demanding the establishment of a Moslem state.

We hear of buildings being burned, ~~The dispatch tells of buildings burned out and~~ homes pillaged. Many farms, ruined. Forty thousand people, fleeing from ^{the rebels} ~~their homes~~. So far, the Jakarta authorities can't even estimate the number of casualties. All we know is that the anti-Dutch movement seems to be getting out of hand - with Indonesian Moslems fighting other Indonesians.

GENERALS

Ranking officers in the Soviet armed forces have been ordered - back to school. The Army newspaper "Red Star," reporting - generals and admirals will be required to study special courses - for fifty hours every year, given their choice of three fields - either the history of the Communist Party, or dialectical materialism, or the general theory of Marxism.

The reason for today's order - the case of Marshal Zhukov, the former hero of the Soviet Union who was disgraced - because he opposed letting the Communist Party run the armed forces. Khrushchev doesn't want any more of that. So he orders all top commanders - back to the Communist school, so they'll be convinced Reds - and easier for him to handle.

BURNS

The Commander of the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East - gets a promotion. General Burns - now a Lieutenant-General. So announced by Canadian Defense Minister George Pearkes, in Ottawa. The Defense Minister adds *that* General Burns is being transferred from the Canadian Army to the Department of External Affairs. That's so he can stay on more easily - as head of the U.N. organization in Palestine. The reason for the promotion - ~~is~~ the fine job General Burns has done since he took over as representative of the U.N. - in one of the world's most dangerous trouble spots - the Middle East.

SUBWAY

In New York City, the subways are running on schedule - for the first time since that walkout began on December Ninth. Last night, the motormen voted to end the strike. Today they were back on the job. And the city has promised not to punish them - even though they tied up New York traffic during the busiest time of the Christmas rush.

DENVER

That election in Denver - has an odd twist. A key issue - whether to impose a city ~~tax~~ income tax. The twist being, that if the answer is yes - the suburbs will be included in the tax, even though suburbanites are not eligible to vote in this election. So the suburbanites are raising that old cry of the Revolution - "taxation without representation is tyranny." The City Fathers are acting like tyrants. They say they'll collect the tax from the suburbs - if the election is in favor of the tax. So it seems as if the suburbanites might be left in the position of those Colonial Americans - who reached for their rifles, and fought for the right to a voice in their own taxation.

ROCKET

Connecticut seems to be against - rockets. At least, Police Commissioner John Kelly - doesn't want any amateur rocketeers firing their missile over the state. The ~~Commissioner~~ Commissioner has just outlawed the testing of home-made rockets.

It all began with four high school students, ^{who} ~~they~~ built a rocket of their own, ^{claiming} ~~they claimed~~ it would zoom a thousand feet into the air - when they touched it off.

All the students needed - was permission from the Police Commissioner. But they aren't going to get it. Commissioner Kelly, forbidding the experiment - as too dangerous. So, ^{Joe,} the citizens of Connecticut are going to miss some spectacular ^{fireworks} ~~shots~~ - home-made rockets - roaring over their houses. ~~I guess a lot of them will be just as happy to miss the sight. At least, they won't have to worry about burned out rockets dropping on their heads.~~

END

Announcer: And now Lowell Thomas, Jr. with a final oddity.

L.T.Jr.: This story isn't really an oddity, ^{but} it's an interesting footnote to the headlines. Today marks the Fifty-Fourth Anniversary of man's conquest of the air. It was on December Seventeenth, Nineteen Three - that the Wright brothers flew the first heavier-than-air machine, ~~The plane -~~ ^{from} that famous stretch of beach at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

Well today, ^{work began} ~~the authorities began work~~ on a museum at Kitty Hawk. The museum - to hold relics of that first flight. Officials of the Air Force were on hand - to watch the first spadeful ~~excavation~~ of earth being turned. Jets thundered overhead. A crowd cheered.

All in honor of two brothers from Indiana, who opened the air age just fifty-four years ago today - Orville and Wilbur Wright.

How, for my father, So long until Tomorrow!