

L. T. OLDS, FISHER. MONDAY, APRIL 20, 1964

Good Evening Everybody:

President Johnson's policy with regard to uranium for atomic weapons - is stated in one phrase. "Production in line with need," said he. The President offering that phrase as the logic behind his order - reducing the production of uranium. Our atomic arsenal - to be maintained, but, at the same time - we'll cut the manufacture of more weapons. "Production - in line with need."

Khrushchev says - he'll do the same. And President Johnson thinks - he means it. Joining in - Prime Minister Douglas-Home for Britain.

The uranium announcement was the chief surprise in the Johnson speech at the Associated Press convention - in New York. Also - he has sent William Bundy of the State Department to Laos, for a look.

As for South Viet Nam, the President repeats that we are there to stay - until the war is won.

Cuba? Our isolation policy, he says, is working.

Our U-2 overflights of Cuba to continue.

Even if the Russians withdraw the U-2 strategy won't be affected, because it was the U-2 flights that told us about Khrushchev's missiles - in Cuba. During the crisis we insisted that aerial surveillance would go on - until an inspection showed that the offensive missiles were gone. But Castro has never permitted inspection. So - the U-2 flights will continue.

LAOS

The Laotian situation - is so confused it's paradoxical. Prince Souvanna Phouma flew to Luang Prabang - to report to the King of Laos, and with him flew General Abhay - who toppled him yesterday, and then restored him - under diplomatic pressure.

But - is Souvanna Phouma - really restored? Did he make a deal - with General Abhay? Can the Laotian government really return to its balancing act of a neutralist Premier - with rightists and leftists in his cabinet?

VIET NAM

We hear that battle in South Viet Nam today - might have been lost except for - the morale of the loyalist forces.

Their positions were overrun - by a sudden Red attack. The defenders - pushed back. But they regrouped - in the jungle, launched - a counter attack and recaptured what they had lost, forcing the Reds to flee - leaving more than a hundred dead.

All this just as the American Secretary of State was leaving - Dean Rusk carrying away from Saigon - the picture of a Vietnamese victory, and predicting there will be ~~many more~~ many more - under the leadership of General Hguyen Khanh.

SYRIA

Travelers arriving in Beirut, Lebanon - report Damascus paralyzed by a general strike with ninety percent of the shops - closed and the owners joining the crowds shouting for the resignation of the government. They predict the overthrow of Premier Amin Hafez at any moment.

Support for the rebels seems to have come from across the frontier of Iraq. Radio Baghdad, broadcasting exhorting the people of Syria to revolt.

WEATHER

The latest weather reports are epitomized by what happened - at Duquoin, Illinois. It started as - a thunderstorm. And then - the hail began to fall. Big enough to shatter hundreds of windows. Knocking shingles off dozens of roofs, and ruining those neon signs that add so much to the beauty of Main Street U.S.A.!

Throughout the midwest, hail, rain, gales, tornadoes - from the Texas Panhandle as far east as Indiana, and Ohio.

FIRST LADY

*The First Lady was startled during her flight -
to Cleveland. The report was that her plane had been
hit by lightning. But an investigation indicated -
just a routine discharge of static electricity.*

*Those blue and white flames air travellers
occasionally see racing along the wings of the plane.
They can be scary.*

TRUCK

A story about a truck careening off a road into a ditch, then, back on to the road - and coming to a stop, doesn't seem worth a story - except that this truck was on a road - outside Bombay, India. The ditch, lined with - people, who at Bombay's muggy climate sleep out of doors, every night. In teeming Hindustan there are hundreds of thousands who have no homes. And this truck ran over some thirty sleeping people before the driver bounded his truck out of the ditch, and back on to the road. Toll - nine dead. Twenty seriously injured.

SUB

The Navy's Seventeenth nuclear submarine chalks up the eighth straight success - for the improved model polaris missile. The U.S.S. Henry Clay, firing - the "Polaris A-Two". Two shots, half an hour apart - as the sub cruised beneath the surface thirty miles - off - Cape Kennedy.

Both launchings - nearly perfect. The rockets thundering down "missile alley" - between Africa and South America. All rockets seem to "thunder down missile alley". Landing in the target area - fifteen hundred miles from the "Henry Clay", the so-called deterrent Polaris A-Two.

BUGLE

"Half a league, half a league - half a league onward", wrote Tennyson in his "Charge of the Light Brigade".

The bugle that started that historic charge - was auctioned off today in London. Knocked down - for two thousand pounds sterling. Buyers - Ed Sullivan and Laurence Harvey. Ed of American TV fame and the British actor. Whereupon they presented it to the Seventeen Lancers - to which the Light Brigade belonged.

Memories of - The Crimean War. The Battle of Balaclava in Eighteen Fifty-four - when the British Light Brigade made a gallant, doomed charge at the Russian artillery. "Some one had blundered" - as we've heard so often. But inspired the poet laureate to write that immortal poem "The charge of the Light Brigade". "Their's not to reason why" - Dick.

VENUS

The discovery that the planet Venus is as rugged as the Moon - has astronomers excited tonight. Because - they never actually see Venus. Clouds too heavy. So various theories - have been propounded, including one that Venus is covered by one enormous ocean.

All wrong, according to Professor William Gordon - of the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico.

He says radar signals bounced off the planet show a rough topography like the moon, craggy mountains and deep valleys. As for who's on Venus - if anybody, we wont know about that till our astronauts make it to Venus. And when will that be?

CIVIL RIGHTS

The seventh week of the Civil Rights debate in the Senate - may see the first vote. At least, Senator ~~Dirksen~~ Dirksen is going to present - his ten amendments to the bill, ~~and in~~ ~~the Illinois Republican~~ hopes ~~that~~ his colleagues will vote on some of them - before the end of this week.

Meanwhile, there's ~~an~~ a new note of urgency -on Capitol Hill. Advocates of Civil Rights, hoping ~~that~~ they can steer the measure through - in spite of what they term "self-defeating demonstrations." Senator Humphrey admits that he's meeting much resentment - because of the threats ~~of~~ to disrupt the opening of the ~~Manhattan~~ World's Fair in New York