

L.T. SUSTAINING, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1968

(Dallas Townsend, Sub.)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

According to best U.S. intelligence -- the Red Chinese, at last report, years away from developing an effective delivery system; to menace the world -- with their new-found nuclear power.

Nevertheless -- a startling announcement today from Peking. The New China News Agency reporting that Red Chinese scientists -- have just successfully fired a guided missile -- carrying a nuclear warhead. Further -- that the missile landed and exploded -- exactly on target.

No further technical details. Instead, the rest of the Peking broadcast -- strictly for propaganda purposes.

The test a dramatic demonstration -- said the official Red announcement -- "that China's science, technology and defense capabilities -- are advancing at even greater speed

EXTENSION POLAR PHOTO
LEAD--2

A later report -- from Washington. U.S. defense officials
under the brilliant illumination of Mao Tse Tung." The
refusing comment -- when asked to verify the missile story, news
broadcast adding that "this successful test -- is an
another important achievement in further strengthening the
national defense" of Red China; and thereby -- "safeguarding
the peace of the world."
missile -- in less than a decade.

So says Peking.

PENTAGON FOLLOW PEKING

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A later report -- from Washington. U.S. defense officials refusing comment -- when asked to verify the missile story, ~~from~~ ~~Washington~~. These same officials asserting, however, that China could have medium-range missiles in operation -- as soon as next year; and perhaps an operational intercontinental ballistic missile -- in less than a decade.

VIETNAM

On the war front -- another tragic case of mistaken identity in South Vietnam. An American patrol lying in ambush -- on the outskirts of Saigon; part of "Operation Allentown" -- aimed at terrorist bands of Viet Cong. When a group of Vietnamese -- suddenly appeared -- in the early morning darkness.

On the advice of an accompanying Vietnamese policeman -- the Americans opening fire. Riddling the Vietnamese -- with rifle and machine gun bullets. Only to discover -- too late -- they were shooting innocent civilians -- who had unknowingly violated the local curfew.

The toll -- at least eight dead, seven wounded. Several of them -- women and children. A sad event -- nullifying to a certain extent -- the exhilarating effect of President Johnson's visit to Vietnam -- only yesterday.

PRESIDENT FOLLOW VIET NAM

For the President himself -- a brief respite today from the hurly-burly of his Far Eastern tour. The Chief Executive flying to Bang Saen in Thailand -- a picturesque resort on the Gulf of Siam. ^{Then} ~~Then~~ to rest -- and prepare for talks tomorrow with Thai military and political leaders.

~~Meanwhile, here at the~~ Taped recordings released today by the ~~White House~~ Amounting to a special Presidential report -- on that just-concluded Manila conference.

The President declaring: "We want to end this war today -- we want to end it this hour." / And for that reason / -- said he -- "we have followed every hint and made every gesture." "Now" -- he concluded -- "the ball is in the other court."

JAKARTA FOLLOW PRESIDENT

^a
In/related development -- Presidential Envoy Averell
Harriman arrived today in Jakarta. Purpose -- to discuss
with Indonesian officials -- the possibility that they might
somehow act as intermediaries -- in the Vietnamese war.

Harriman noting that Indonesia is one of the few
countries -- that have formal diplomatic relations with
both Hanoi and the West. Adding that "the President is
anxious to encourage anyone -- who has the ability or desire
to help in bringing this war to a close."

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE

05

With Lowell Thomas still in Europe -- another special report tonight; on Alaska -- the land of opportunity. Lowell...

ALASKA

Good Evening Everybody:

Time was when the philosophy of Alaska - could be summed up in a single phrase, as follows. "This country - they used to say - sure is great for men and mules; but, it sure is miserable for horses and women."

Ah, but not any more. Times have changed.

The role of the new pioneer - in the future of Alaska according to Mayor Elmer Rasmuson - it's a future "filled with adventure and opportunity for the dynamic doer; with three basic facts - to build on."

One - location. Just consider the size and position of Alaska - astride the transportation, communication and defense routes of the world. Second - Alaska has the bounties of nature - natural resources, seemingly unlimited.

Third - says Mayor Rasmuson - the time we live in. With the world's population expected to double in the

next twenty five years - in the midst of a scientific explosion of new thought. Alaska is an ideal place for the beneficial extension of nuclear energy. "If we need to move a mountain to make way for an airport - or dig out the earth for a new harbor - let's just go ahead and do it," says Mayor Rasmuson.

In short - the future of Alaska - as bright and as enormous as tomorrow. And those who will make the most of it - are those who are filled with a courage and determination that is as old as man.

Solong,

WASHINGTON

Back in Washington -- news today of government plans -- to set off more than Fifty underseas explosions -- over the next few months. In two experiments designed: One -- to provide better detection systems -- for monitoring underground nuclear weapons tests; and Two -- to probe the earth's crust -- to learn more about the structure of our planet.

In the first test -- the Defense Department will detonate about Twenty-Four chemical explosions; ranging from a strength of One Ton -- to Five Tons of TNT; in a line Four Hundred and Eighty miles long -- off the Kurile Islands in the North Pacific.

In the second test -- the Coast and Geodetic Survey exploded about Thirty One-Ton charges; on a line beginning Eight miles -- off the coast of Galveston, Texas; and ending about a Hundred and Fifty miles out -- in the Gulf of Mexico.

Both tests ^{predicated} ~~predicted~~ on the theory that seismic

WASHINGTON--2

instruments operated under water -- will be less confused
by background noise; than if they were operated on land
-- as usual.

PHILADELPHIA

From Philadelphia -- a warning today that doctors and nurses may be spreading inadvertently -- a drug-resistant form of intestinal bacteria; from patient to patient -- the nation over. This in a report from Two scientists at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine -- delivered to the Sixth Interscience Conference of Antimicrobial Agents.

According to the report -- doctors and nurses who examine a patient carrying the bacteria -- inevitably end up with some of the bacteria on their hands. Which they inevitably pass on to other patients -- in the normal course of hospital rounds.

With the result that "many hospitals -- have had increasing numbers of infections due to the bacteria" -- says the report. Particularly disturbing we're told -- is the fact that the bacteria -- normally susceptible to drugs.

PHILADELPHIA--2

However, a solution to the problem -- easy enough -- they say. Doctors and nurses told simply to use sterile gloves -- or antiseptic hand lotions -- wherever possible.

LONDON

Every captured enemy spy in every British prison -- has just been transferred to a place of maximum confinement. All of them -- under strict, Twenty-Four-hour-a-day guard by security men -- assisted by special watch dogs.

The unprecedented prison shuffle -- disclosed by British Home Secretary Roy Jenkins. In the wake of last weeks' dramatic escape -- by convicted Russian masterspy George Blake. Persistent reports hinting that Blake may have been sprung loose -- by a super-secret Russian spy ring; perhaps ^a operating under the very noses -- of British security agents.

CLOSE

All of the Big Three auto producers have now announced that profits for the third quarter of nineteen-sixty-six were lower than they were for the same period a year ago. Ford motor company made its announcement in Detroit late this afternoon. (But even so, Ford's net income for the first nine months of nineteen-sixty-six was the second highest in Ford history.)

CAPE KENNEDY

From Cape Kennedy, it's reported that the National Space Agency won't be launching a three-man Apollo spacecraft into orbit this year after all. The reason -- according to unofficial sources -- several problems have cropped up in the Apollo's environmental control system.-- which provides life support for the astronauts. The first manned Apollo spacecraft was to have been sent into orbit some time in December. But now it develops there is no chance of doing it before January. The problems have delayed for more than three weeks the delivery of the spacecraft to the launch pad at Cape Kennedy.

When it IS launched -- the three astronauts on board will be Gus Grissom, Ed White and Roger Chaffee. And they're scheduled to spend up to fourteen days in orbit -- testing out the systems of the spacecraft that sooner or later will carry man to the moon. The delay now reported from the Cape

could also mean a delay in the lunar landing timetable.

As it now stands, we are committed to put on the moon by nineteen-seventy, perhaps as early as nineteen-sixty-eight. Now that deadline may be put off.

One earthly deadline that we hope will not be extended. Lowell Thomas should be back with us at this microphone tomorrow.

Dallas Townsend saying -- Good night.