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Flight o' Time: Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO: Dec. 19, 1947 (Friday). Gold Hill residents will vote Monday on whether school district 87 should purchase 7 1/2 acres of land on the west side of the city for a high school building.

20 YEARS AGO: Dec. 19, 1937 (Monday). One of southern Oregon's most famous orchards—the Siskiyou mountain orchard at Klamath junction south of Ashland—will soon pass from existence.

30 YEARS AGO: Dec. 19, 1927 (Monday). Whether buffalo meat will take the place of Christmas turkey in their homes this year will be decided by local citizens who have placed orders for the first sample in a local meat market.

40 YEARS AGO: Dec. 19 (Wednesday). Jackson county ranks as one of the counties lagging in the Red Cross drive for membership.

What's Your I.Q.? 1. Was Genoa, Italy, bombed by the Allies during World War I or II?

2. Bible: "Give us this day"—what?

3. What proverb is directly contrary to the meaning of "You can't teach an old dog new tricks"?

4. In the 1860's in the U.S., which of these was the most popular outdoor game: Hockey, Golf, Croquet, Tennis?

5. Name the capital of Manchuria.

6. What was the name of the half-wit character in the book "Of Mice and Men"?

7. Are camel hair brushes made from the hair of camels or goats?

8. Correct the following sentence: "Each of the soldiers paid their share."

9. Which city in the U.S. is nicknamed "Windy City"?

10. How is the first syllable in "archaeology" pronounced?

Answers: 1. World War II. 2. "our daily bread." 3. "Never too old to learn." 4. Croquet. 5. Changchun. 6. Lennie. 7. No (Siberian quirtrels). 8. "Each of the soldiers paid his share." 9. Chicago, Ill. 10. As 'ark'.

A Message to Lowell T.

Lowell Thomas, who is shooting TV Adventure films in Timbuctoo and environs better come home and have a talk with his boy—Lowell Junior.

Junior is ok—an authentic chip off the old block—but naturally he lacks the maturity and sophistication of his papa, and he needs both in the business of news broadcasting in these precarious times.

LOWELL SR., is proclaimed by his sponsor, as news Commentator No. 1 in the country. We wouldn't say that. He is good, particularly in his "travelogues." But he is really more a news announcer than a commentator or interpreter. He almost never expresses an opinion.

However, we are quite sure, had he been in the USA, he would not have fallen for a "sputnik" ballyhoo and build-up for the SECOND time.

The first was bad enough, but twice in the same month, must have given sponsors, Generals Motors and Charley Wilson the shivers.

HOWEVER, that is what Junior did on Tuesday night. He blithely dove off the deep-end for this "Atlas" launching, claiming in substance it transformed the atmosphere at the Paris conference from scepticism to enthusiasm for the U.S.A.; compensated largely for the "Vanguard" fizzle, even restored the Pentagon to its old place of honor, abreast, if not ahead of, the Kremlin, in interstellar dynamics.

WE GRANT the press-agencies played up the event unduly. And there seems little doubt the launching was timed to have the maximum psychological impact at the "Palais de Chaillot." But if the latter effort were SERIOUSLY made, then another "bloop" will have to be recorded.

For the latest press reports indicated the enthusiasm, if any in Paris, was confined entirely to the members of the U.S. delegation. The statesmen of Europe gathered there, know too much about the world and the "guided missile" situation internationally to fall for any such transparent "press agency" guff.

OF course in this field, as in all others, values are relative. Until Tuesday's launching, all the "Atlas" tests had been fizzles like the "Vanguard"—the durned things did a lot of "huffing, chuffing and puffing" but refused to get off the ground.

This time there was a moment of hesitation, considerable smoke and flame but finally the "old boy" got going, gained momentum, soared gracefully into the Empyrean and disappeared.

The project spokesman later announced the missile "had covered several hundred miles and landed in the target area."

THAT'S just fine! Compared with past performances, it ranks as a considerable achievement.

But it is hardly world-shattering. Landing on a target a few hundred miles away has been done before—many times—and will be done many times again.

In fact in his first "chin-up" speech on November 7th, President Eisenhower said a new kind of guided missile had been perfected, which "recently travelled over a guided course for 5000 miles and was accurately placed on target."

The President exhibited a missile "cone" which he explained had made such a trip, returned through the earth's atmosphere intact, thus demonstrating the problem of such a return without friction-destruction, had been solved.

AS WE recall it there was no "extree, extree!" demonstration at that time — no torch-light processions, or even press-flashes and banner-lines.

Yet that accomplishment was far more important, constructive and sensational than the few hundred mile "work-out" on Tuesday.

So what is all the "hulabaloo" about? That is what we wish Lowell Thomas Sr., would ask his very nice and very promising but not too seasoned off-spring.

FINALLY as far as this missile business—ballistic, satellite and otherwise—is concerned, the time has come, we believe, to quit our boosting and blowing and boasting, until we have something to really "boost-blow-and-boast about."

That will not be when we get a guided missile that will hit the target "several hundred miles away", but several thousand—sufficiently powerful and accurate to for example hit ANY target, we wish, in Soviet Russia.

At least it is hard to imagine, at this stage of the game, wishing to pulverize any country EXCEPT Russia.

AS FAR as that goes it is hard to imagine "WISHING" to do that, to ANY country.—R.W.R.

"Idiot's Delight"

So as usual in all arguments in this department of preparation for World War III—which WE can't believe will ever come about—we reach an impasse of both futility and unreality.

Yet so long as the Communist menace exists—or we THINK it exists which adds up to the same thing—we must, as far as we CAN, match Russia, on land, sea and in the air. We can't, with the world as it IS, take a chance.

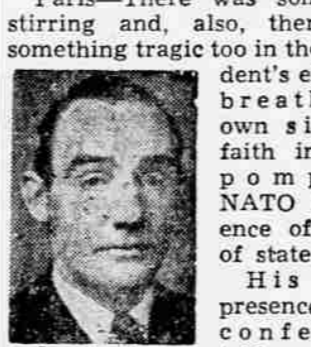
And so long as Russia regards the democratic world, particularly the "U.S.A." as a similar menace, Russia must—and, of course, WILL—do the same.

SO THERE is the unending vicious circle. The late Robert Sherwood had a name for it. He called it "Idiot's Delight".



Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

EISENHOWER AT NATO



Joseph Alsop

Paris—There was something stirring and, also, there was something tragic too in the President's effort to breathe his own simple faith into the pompous NATO conference of chiefs of state.

His very presence at the conference table was an act of courage. No one in the huge, ugly, garishly lighted room could forget that this man has just suffered a mild stroke, after two other terrible illnesses in the past two years.

There were those who thought they noticed signs of the President's recent illness in his articulation, but to this reporter there seemed nothing abnormal in his manner of speaking, which has never been very clear. There was the same old extraordinary power, too, the power central to the power of the man himself, to make the great, basic, platitudinous truths about freedom and decency and human dignity sound like truths newly discovered of burning, immediate import.

PHYSICALLY, the assembled statesmen were more than a little diminished by their setting, a graceless chamber like a large lecture hall in which everything had been sacrificed to the requirements of television.

But there was no such answer, beyond a passing reference to those now-troubled subjects, atomic warheads and guided missiles, which only recalled the differences that these subjects have evoked. So the speech ended, with the plea to "press on to that peace, in freedom, which is our rightful heritage."

Prime Minister Macmillan and NATO Secretary Spaak turned to the President in smiling congratulation. But Western strength and Western unity had not been recreated. Nothing really had happened beyond another television show with the most grandiose cast the Western Alliance could provide.

McKenzie Pass To Be Closed To Traffic

Eugene — State Highway Department officials here said that McKenzie Pass would be closed at noon today because of continued heavy snow. It is expected to remain closed for the winter.

YULE CARDS PITCHED

Cleveland — Joseph Larysz thought a paper bag his wife left on the kitchen sink was full of garbage and pitched it into the garbage pail. Then he learned the bag contained the Christmas cards he and his wife spent their evenings addressing last week and that his wife had left them out to mail.

That is what it is. If we were not "idiots", if we were as civilized and wise as we claim to be, we would SOMEHOW, SOMEWAY, agree upon a course that civilization, wisdom and plain "self interest" dictates.

We would gather around a table, talk things over and decide to call off this crazy rat-race to mutual destruction, which no one—and we mean NO one—wants, but no one seems able to stop.

IN THIS week's "Life", for example, Mr. Dulles, our worthy Secy. of State, says "it CAN'T be done."

When it comes down to brass tacks that is what most of them say. What this country and the world needs, is a completely NEW kind of "leader"—a leader who will say:

"OK it can't be done!"

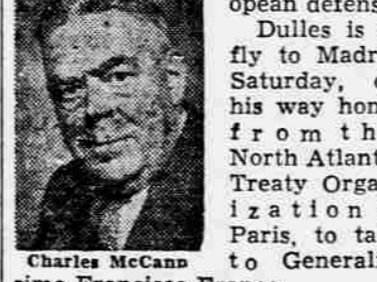
And then proceed to go out—and DO it!—R.W.R.

Dulles' Visit to Spain Declared Important for European Defense

BY CHARLES M. McCANN

United Press Correspondent

The visit of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles to Spain may be a big development in the new plans for European defense.



Charles M. McCann

Dulles is to fly to Madrid Saturday, on his way home from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Paris, to talk to Generalissimo Francisco Franco.

It will be only a five-hour visit. But it could turn out to be secondary in importance only to the Paris meeting itself.

Spain is not a member of the NATO alliance. But it is closely, if indirectly, tied in with NATO.

That is because of the seldom-mentioned fact that under an agreement with Franco, the United States is building a network of air, naval and supply bases all over the country.

The official announcement of Dulles' visit, first issued in Madrid, said that the visit was being made at Franco's invitation.

Dulles will "consult" with Franco, Foreign Minister Fernando Maria Castiella and other officials, it was said.

Dulles naturally will give Franco a full report of the NATO meeting which ends today, including the agreement in principle of Western European countries to the establishment of nuclear missile bases on their territory.

It is an agreement in principle, rather than of fact, because the question of equipping the bases

with missiles is still to be negotiated between the United States and the individual countries concerned. As has been made plain in Paris, some of these countries do not want the missiles.

Dulles may sound out Franco on the possibility of setting up missile bases in Spain. If he does, it is not only possible but probable that Franco would agree to consider the suggestion favorably.

Spain never has been invited to join NATO because some European allies, still mindful of the Spanish Civil War, object to Franco's regime as "totalitarian." That may be. But Franco also is a bitter enemy of Communism. And his country, protected by the grim Pyrenees Mountains, would be the last bulwark of defense if Russia's Red army swept over Western Europe.

France has intimated that he would join NATO if all of its present 15 members asked him to.

The fear of Russian Communist aggression is pretty nearly as serious now as it was when NATO was formed in 1949.

Russia's successes with its Sputnik earth satellite and its inter-continental ballistic missile have radically changed the European defense picture.

It seems quite possible that those Allied countries which have objected to Franco's regime and have called him a dictator might have some second thoughts about him now.

That Spain would strengthen NATO is unquestionable. It would not be surprising if Dulles' visit to Madrid proved to be the first step toward bringing Spain into it.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

When you woke up Tuesday morning, did you have any feeling that Dec. 17 is a moderately significant date in history?

Probably Not. The chances are you just looked out of the window and muttered an uncomplimentary word about the weather—which at that hour was a little on the dirty side.

WELL—If you read the papers and listened to the newscasts, you learned that on Dec. 17, 1903—just four years more than half a century ago—the Wright brothers, Wilbur and Orville, made the world's first flight in a power-driven airplane.

That started a lot of new things.

THE interesting part of it is that Wilbur and Orville Wright were just a couple of average American kids. They were the sons of a United Brethren bishop. In high school, Wilbur was a bright student, but Orville was a dreamer and took little interest in school.

That made them a perfect team. Orville dreamed up the idea of a flight in a POWERED plane, and Wilbur worked out the mechanical details. (By that time, they had graduated from high school and had a bicycle shop, which turned their minds toward machinery.)

Back in 1896, Orville read about Otto Lilienthal, the German who was killed while experimenting with a motorless glider. That DID IT. It started them THINKING and out of their thinking came the first POWERED flight.

Powered flight lifted man OFF THE GROUND and put him into the air—for better or worse.

THE idea of FLIGHT wasn't new. Back in the last half of the 15th century, Leonardo Da Vinci, one of the most versatile men the world has known, filled his notebooks with sketches of a flying machine based on the method of flight used by birds. One of his sketches showed a board on which the flyer lay and operated mechanical wings with his feet.

The trouble with Da Vinci was that in his day nobody had yet

invented the internal combustion engine. One reason for that is that in Da Vinci's day nobody had yet discovered gasoline.

They did know about petroleum. It was generally known as "Greek fire" because in naval battles the Greeks sometimes poured pots of a flaming liquid down on the ships of their enemies—often with devastating consequences to the enemy.

DEC. 17 marks another important anniversary. On that day back in 460 BC—nearly 2500 years ago—Hippocrates is generally supposed to have been born, although changing calendars leave the exact date rather uncertain.

Hippocrates is the father of modern medicine. Prior to his time, medicine had been in the hands of the priests, and consisted largely of incantations designed to drive evil spirits away—after the manner of our own Indian medicine men.

Hippocrates insisted that "Nature heals; the physician is only Nature's assistant." He applied this rule by treating his patients with proper diet, fresh air, change of climate and proper attention to habits and living conditions. He applied logic and reason to medicine and made it workable.

IN HIS Hippocratic oath, he gave the medical profession a sense of duty to mankind that it has never lost. The Hippocratic oath reads, in part:

"I swear . . . so far as power and discernment shall be mine, I will carry out regimen for the benefit of the sick and will keep them from harm and wrong. To none will I give a deadly drug even if solicited . . . Into whatsoever house I shall enter I will go for the benefit of the sick."

Editorial Comment

ENDORSEMENT REBREWED

After a year of study to review facts with respect to fluoridation of water as a preventative of dental caries the American Medical Association renews its unqualified endorsement of the treatment of public water supplies.

We doubt though, if this will cause any of those casting negative votes on fluoridation to change their minds. Persons like to cling to their prejudices.

—Oregon Statesman, Salem.

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Advertisement for Christmas Cards. Text: Get Your Christmas Cards PAPER NAPKINS and TABLE COVERS OPEN 'TIL 9 p.m. Swem's BOOKS-GIFTS-RECORDS 217 EAST MAIN MEDFORD, OREGON

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