

ABC, CBS and NBC.

WWOK CHARLOTTE, N. C. • Sold to Radio Charlotte Inc. by Carmen Macri for \$160,000 plus \$30,000 for a three-year agreement not to compete. Sherwood J. Tarlow, president of Radio Charlotte has interests in **WHYE** Roanoke, Va., **WARE** Ware, Mass., and **WHIL** Medford, Mass. **WWOK** operates on 1480 kc with 1 kw, day.

KVOA TUCSON, ARIZ. • Sold to Gordon Broadcasting of Tucson (Sherwood R. Gordon, who also owns **WSAI-AM-FM** Cincinnati, Ohio, and **KBUZ** and **KTYL-FM** Mesa, Ariz.) by Arizona Broadcasting Co. for \$156,750 plus lease of certain equipment for five years at \$400 per month. **KVOA** operates on 1290 kc with 1 kw.

KTVQ (TV) OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. • Granted assignment of construction permit (not on air) from Republic Television & Radio Co. to Independent School District No. 89 of Oklahoma County; no monetary consideration involved. Although this is a commercial tv station authorization, the new owners propose to operate it on a non-profit basis for educational purposes. The same group operates educational **KOKH-FM** Oklahoma City. The Oklahoma Educational Television Authority operates educational ch. 13 **KETA (TV)** Oklahoma City. **KTVO (TV)** is on ch. 25.

Midwest Not for Middle East Until WCIA (TV) Airs Editorial

Viewer-response to the **WCIA (TV)** Champaign, Ill., telecasts on United Nations meetings and Middle East crisis was twelve to one against carrying the CBS-TV-originated coverage—until the station aired an editorial expressing its disappointment at the lack of interest.

WCIA's editorial said in part: "... the phone calls we have received have been overwhelmingly opposed to the special news coverage. This reaction has indicated that ... viewers would rather indulge themselves in the entertainment of their regular afternoon programs than face the somewhat grim realities of the UN's attempt to keep peace. ... No scenario writer could create higher drama. It is the intention of **WCIA** to continue to broadcast these special news programs in the belief that no nation can be strong unless it is well informed."

Before the newscast in which the editorial was read had ended, **WCIA** reports it was necessary to call in extra help to man telephones and tabulate calls coming in from viewers congratulating the station on its policy statement. More than 120 calls were counted in the hour following the editorial. Over 200 telephone calls were in by noon the next day, all supporting **WCIA's** stand, the station reports. Within 48-hours of the editorial (repeated the following day), **WCIA** had tabulated more than 900 calls and letters favoring the special news coverage; 20 calls opposed the coverage.

DATELINES

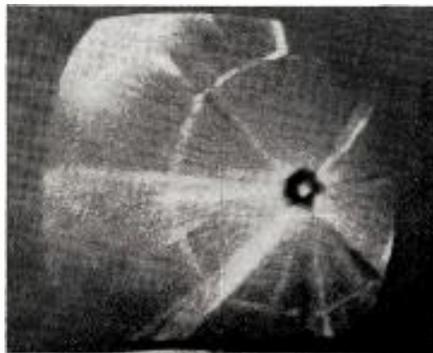
Newsworthy News Coverage by Radio and Tv

TWIN CITIES—**KSTP-TV** Minneapolis-St. Paul reached outer space and made television history July 26.

The occasion was the launching of the U.S. Navy strato-lab balloon from an iron ore mine at Crosby, Minn., to a height of 82,000-ft. In the process, **KSTP-TV** received and transmitted live pictures "from the edge of outer space."

The station installed a 2½-pound, transistorized Dage camera (valued at \$6,000) inside the seven-ft.-wide gondola. Within 90-minutes after its 6:30 a.m. launching **KSTP-TV** received the balloon's first tv pictures from 60,000-ft. It followed up at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. with live telecasts from the balloon from 70,000-ft. and viewers reported they got a clear picture of Navy Comdr. Malcolm Moss and M. L. Lewis of Winzen Research Inc. eating their lunch and of the mass of instruments within the gondola. The station kinescoped the coverage for use on its evening newscasts.

KSTP-TV started preparing 18 days before the ascent (which set a new world's endurance record) by installing special receive-



60,000 FEET UP through the eye of **KSTP-TV's** soaring Dage, this is how the top of the gondola looked to Twin City viewers.

ing equipment on its rooftop. The crew, headed by Chief Engineer Bill Sadler, set up low frequency vhf and uhf antennas, designed to pick up signals sent 125 miles away. (The uhf signal on ch. 14 would, at ground level with 30 w, carry only about 15 miles.) Receiving equipment was installed with the cooperation of the Navy, Winzen Research, Dage Television Div. and Thompson Products Corp. George H. Fathauer, Thompson research director, designed the tv camera inside the gondola.

North Dakota Broadcasting Co. stations **KBMB-TV** Bismarck, **KXJB-TV** Fargo and **KSJB** Jamestown were on hand to cover the landing of the balloon about 35 miles from Jamestown July 27. As well as supplying reports to other stations and wire services, the NDB stations presented special programs featuring the footage and taped interviews compiled during their three-hour stint in Jamestown.

BEIRUT—AP credits **KHAT** Phoenix, Ariz., with the news-scoop of the first U.S. troop casualty in Lebanon. Program Director-d.j. Neil Leavitt telephoned Ed Shanke, AP

newsman in Beirut, to get a taped report of the U. S. troop landing. While Mr. Shanke was giving his dispatch he received the news that an American jet fighter had crashed 15 miles away. The pilot was reported killed. Presumably because of security censorship, the news of the crash was not released through AP's regular channels for some time after **KHAT** had given the news service the item.

CLEVELAND—A taped interview with a boy who had been washed through a mile of sewers was aired by **WERE** Cleveland soon after he came out of a manhole. The station also alerted the Coast Guard that the youngster's three companions, who had fallen into the sewer main at the same time, were being washed toward Lake Erie. News reporter Don Bean, upon hearing that the boys had been sucked into the sewer while playing in a culvert, went with local police to a manhole about a mile from the culvert as one of the children emerged through it. The other three boys managed to get through manholes before they reached the lake.

NEAR CHARLESTON—News of a flood in Roane County, W. Va., was reportedly scooped by **WCHS** here. A nightwatchman telephoned Hugh McPherson, host of **WCHS' Through the Night**, and told him of the rising water July 25. Verification and news of fatalities came from a state trooper whom Mr. McPherson contacted and put on-air via telephone. **WCHS-TV** news cameraman Dave Riley went to the scene (some fifty miles from Charleston) to get film footage.

CUBA—Raul Castro, rebel leader and brother of Fidel Castro, was interviewed by **WCAU-AM-TV** Philadelphia News Director Charles Shaw. Mr. Shaw shot more than 900-ft. of film while in the Cuban mountain stronghold. It will be shown on his two daily tv programs and some will be used in *Prospect for Cuba*, one of **WCAU-TV's** weekly community interest shows. Mr. Shaw will give accounts of his trip over **WCAU** nightly.

NEW YORK—A direct telephone line connecting **WBAB** Babylon, N.Y., with the United Nations building here was used by the station for on-the-spot interviews with delegates during the Middle East crisis. News Editor Douglas Lester conducted approximately 20 interviews with UN, national and international officials within three days.

ELYRIA—Chief Engineer Hugh Coburn of **WEOL** Elyria, Ohio, became an on-air newsman while out making field tests in the station's mobile unit. He was in the vicinity of Black River when the *Grasse River*, a new \$1,600,000 St. Lawrence Seaway barge, shifted its test cargo throwing 11 workers into the river. Mr. Coburn immediately broke into **WEOL's** program to describe the