

Post 5/24/77
toothpicks or as starters for a couple of Rehoboth Beach Memorial Day weekend nonfires . . .

NBC Nightly News is bringing in Jessica Savitch from its Philadelphia affiliate to serve as a weekend anchor . . . and some weeknight "News Updates" . . . the announcement is due any day now . . . only last week NBC president Herb Schlosser told affiliates in Los Angeles he wasn't happy with the weekend operation . . . what this means for current weekend anchor Catherine Mackin, now negotiating her contract with the network, is unclear . . .

A little more about that report that after 30 years, the CIA has decided to let a "60 Minutes" crew with Dan Rather film the agency . . . in what is obviously a coup for the network . . .

A CBS camera crew has already

started work at Langley and correspondent Rather joins them this morning . . . they expect to be working on the assignment through next week . . . if it is as good as Rather hopes and if there's enough filmable material, more importantly . . . CBS News president Dick Salant will consider the results for a separate prime-time documentary . . .

Otherwise, there's a very good chance the 25-minute segment will show up as part of one of the "Who's Who" shows now set for the four Sunday nights in June (at 10 p.m.) . . . only if the editing takes longer is it expected to be on "60 Minutes" in the early fall . . .

The surprising scoop for Rather and producer David Buksbaum arose from the friendship the two formed 13 years ago when they put together a CBS documentary on the attempted raising of the USS Thresher . . . it was a Capt. Stansfield Turner who helped them cut the red tape . . .

Now CIA director Turner has reportedly "opened a lot of doors" for the CBS men . . . who hope to see "some surprising areas" of the huge Langley operation . . . though neither will fall down in a dead faint if considerable constraint is imposed on them by Turner's subordinates . . .

One problem at the CIA . . . because of security precautions there aren't any electric sockets available in most areas . . . so the CBS crew is bringing along its own generator . . . Rather and Buksbaum also hope to follow Ad-

miral Turner around Washington . . . the new agency director is seen more often at his 17th street office and at the White House these days than most of his predecessors . . .

Yes, the man in the shark was Chevy Chase, making a cameo return appearance to "NBC's Saturday Night" on Saturday. Comic Chase, who officially left the show last fall, donned his old rubber suit to interpret once more the role of the shark from "Jaws," which attempted to attack Charles A. Lindbergh in a spoof of "The Spirit of St. Louis."

Chase in fact appeared on the previous week's show in the studio audience, identified only with the on-screen legend, "Used To Be On Show." Producer Lorne Michaels says Chase is paid for these sentimental visits—"but remarkably little."

That was the last new "Saturday Night" show until Sept. 24. Michaels promises changes for next season, mainly behind-the-cameras on the writing staff, but says, "It is not by any means a shakeup" . . .

ABC News has suddenly postponed Thursday night's half-hour interview show with Cuban Premier Fidel Castro and Barbara Walters . . . official reason: she had seven hours of good film and it was a shame to waste it in just half an hour . . . unofficial reason . . . she had seven hours of "outstanding film" and it was a shame to waste in just half an hour . . . now it's set for June 9 . . .