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EDITORS' NOTE

Two LIFE Tourists in No Man's Land

Now and then when editing film taken on a particularly tough assignment we run across an inappropriate touristlike picture. The one below cropped up in the pictures for this week's lead story on Red Chinese troops patrolling the Tibet-Sikkim border. It shows Life Photographer Bill Ray and Time-Life Tokyo Bureau Chief Jerrold Schecter beside a marker commemorating Nehru's visit to this remote part of the Himalayas, and we asked Schecter to tell us about it.

The picture, says Schecter, was taken by an Indian army officer. It was shot in no man's land between the Indian and the Red Chinese troops, well within Chinese rifle range, and its presence on this page marks a triumph over unusually ar-

duous conditions.

"When the Chinese issued their ultimatum," says Scheeter, "it was obvious that Sikkim was the place to go. After a day of pleading in New Delhi, Bureau Chief Marvin Zim managed to get us permission to go to the front. We made our way to the Indian base at Siliguri and hired a car to take us the eight miles to Gangtok, Sikkim's capital. The driver said, "There's been a landslide outside Gangtok. You can't get through.' But we took off anyway. There were gun emplacements along



RAY AND SCHECTER

the way, but Ray didn't dare take pictures—at the border we were told he could not even shoot the sign that says Welcome to sikkim. We finally got to the landslide, switched to a Jeep and got through in four-wheel drive.

"Luckily, the Indian government's political adviser in Sikkim is Avtar Singh, an old friend and former chairman of the U.N. Neutral Nations' Inspection Team in Laos. He made every effort in our behalf, and the commanding general cleared us to go to the front. Once there, the problem was to get close enough to the Chinese to show them on Indian territory.

"The first pictures were shot from 600-800 yards but Ray was frustrated. His face brightened when a senior Indian officer with us said, 'Let's move closer, chaps.' As we moved up, Ray dashed back and forth shouting, 'Hey, Sweetie, come closer. Here Sweetie, Sweetie's at

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New Boobs by Rube Goldberg

The famed cartoonist turns his hand to sculpture

Miscellany: Hang-up between trains

Vigor and languor on glowing tropical isles

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