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DECEMBER 18, 1970

EDITORS' NOTE

masthead and onto the cover



EISENSTAEDT WITH THE BUCKLEYS

When he looks at our masthead these days, it seems to Alfred Eisenstaedt, as it does to all of us, "a little bit denuded. A familiar name has been eliminated." Since the name in question is his own, missing from our roster this month for the first time in 34 years, it requires considerable gallantry for Eisie to add, "But now let's give somebody else a chance." Of course he doesn't mean that. While any other man of 72 might slow down, Eisie, now working under a contract, came back after three days in Sharon, Conn. with this week's cover (his 69th) and picture essay on the Buckley family. He brought something else, too: another message in an autograph book already crowded with mementos from his countless previous assignments. Wrote Senatorelect Jim Buckley: "I am awed at joining such distinguished company—just as I have been awed at your infinite patience in trying to bring three generations of Buckleys before your cam-

More than just patience was required. There is, after all, nothing whatever in the idea of a free press and the people's right to know that compels anybody to grant the kind of intimacy necessary to Eisie's brand of journalism. The Buckleys were brought up to beware of public exposure, and they are doubly reluctant, now that James is on his way to the Senate, lest they be portrayed as aspirants to a kind of Kennedyesque national clanhood.

For all the family's New England reserve, Assistant Editor Betty Dunn, who reported and wrote the Buckley photo essay, approached them with the natural curiosity of one transplanted Southwesterner for the descendants of another. "That family originated down in south Texas, where my family comes from, and anybody from there just has to have some of that wild, devilmay-care free spirit." As you will see, the Buckleys have it.

RALPH GRAVES Managing Editor

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The Buckleys at their family home in Connecticut

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The Cuban Missile Crisis

THE BUCKLEYS

KHRUSHCHEV REMEMBERS