



The Columbus Citizen

DON E. WEAVER
EDITOR

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Mr. Jim Lucas,
SHNA, Washington.

Dear Jim:

A couple of friends of mine who now are substantial citizens but who used to be fly boys in their youth, are a little worried.

They saw in the NY Times of Dec. 15 (Late City Edition) Page 1, a picture of Maj. Gen. John B. Medaris who seems to be in charge of our missile program.

The picture looks to them like he might be the same J. Bruce Medaris whom they knew here back in the early 30s.

They worked for the Curtiss Flying Service, an early subsidiary of Curtiss-Wright. Medaris was first sales manager and later "base" manager here.

According to my friends, that Medaris was a selfish, overly ambitious and ruthless man who would stop at nothing to promote his own interests. They feel that he was a character not to be trusted and certainly not in a program as vital as our missile project.

Of course if the general isn't that man, their prejudice and fears have no bearing. But if he should be the same man, they certainly doubt the advisability of trusting him in such an important post.

I hate to be bothering you again with what may be only ancient scuttlebutt, but I thought you might easily ascertain whether they are talking about the same Medaris or whether there are two of them.

Best wishes for happy holidays and a good new year.

Sincerely,

Don
Don E. Weaver