

FORT BENNING

Fri. Nov. 10-67,

~~On the war front - it was a fighting President~~

The President Johnson who set out today ~~on a~~ <sup>on his</sup> two-day coast-to-coast jet tour of U S military installations, and,

~~First stop~~ <sup>at</sup> Fort Benning, Georgia. ~~The President~~

~~there telling~~ <sup>he told the</sup> cheering army troops:- "peace will come

more quickly when the enemy finds no crack in our courage

-- and ~~no~~ no split in our resolve -- and no encouragement

to prolong this war in the shortness of our patience or the

sharpness of our tongues."

L B J adding: "The enemy probes our unity now -

but it is he who will shatter against it. He will fail


because he will hear the answer that America's citizens

and citizen-soldiers - have always given to aggression."

~~As for Fort Benning - it "will always be the home of the~~  
~~brave,"~~ said he.

Next stop - the Marine Corps Air Station at El Toro,

California -- where <sup>he</sup> ~~the President~~ told some eight thousand  
Leathernecks: "Without your heroism - without your skill -  
without your dedication and sacrifice - there would be  
no freedom, no security in America -- and no hope for  
peace in the world."



ADD FORT BENNING

Then At nearby Camp Pendleton - ~~the President later~~  
~~asserting~~ "One could surrender - or start World War  
Three - and do either without much help; but the hard  
course and the true course - the only course" - said  
he -- "is the one we must steer ~~between~~ between surrender  
and annihilation."

VIETNAM FOLLOW FORT BENNING

~~While on the other side of the globe another~~  
~~supreme test today of American heroism, skill and~~  
~~dedication~~ *it was* the eighth straight day of fierce fighting <sup>41</sup>  
for control of the Central Highlands surrounding Dak To,  
~~in South Vietnam.~~

~~Chief bone of contention~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~again~~ Hill Seven-Twenty  
Four ~~With~~ American ground troops finally pulling back -  
to give the "Fly-Boys" a crack at the enemy's heavily-  
fortified bunkers. And crack them - they did. A later  
check showing more than a hundred and fifty bodies -  
amid the bombed-out jungle ~~in~~ debris.

But the battle for Hill Seven-Twenty-Four - far  
from ~~finished~~ finished. Witness - two companies of U S  
Infantry - trying to storm the battered enemy bastion;  
when they were hit first by a blinding rainstorm - and  
then a Viet Cong ambush.

The Americans pinned down ~~for~~ into the night -

VIETNAM FOLDOW FORT BENNING -2

*by machine guns, grenades, automatic weapons, mortar  
and recoilless rifle fire. With the outcome still in doubt -  
at last report.*

BRECKENRIDGE

*This next - perhaps rushing the season a bit.*

*But it demonstrates what apparently is a growing feeling -- both here in the States and also in Vietnam.*

*This by means of a letter from Sergeant Floyd McCreary -- to his own "Santa Claus" back home in Breckenridge, Texas. The sergeant, who is stationed in Vietnam, saying all he wants for Christmas - is an anti-war demonstrator.*

*Sergeant McCreary explaining: The next time one of our patrols is attacked by the Cong - I'll let the demonstrator run to the front to tell the Cong he loves them - and wants to help them."*

*Then we'll see - said he - who helps who.*

CHICAGO-DAMASCUS-JERUSALEM

Jordan's tough, young King Hussein - who is currently visiting the United States <sup>was</sup> the target of pointed barbs today <sup>from</sup> from both sides - of that shaky Mideast truce line.

At Jerusalem - Israeli sources contending the King is selling Americans a bill of goods; with all his talk of Arab moderation -- in the search for a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land. The government of Syria also blasting Hussein for much the same reason -- <sup>for</sup> ~~by~~ his so-called moderation. Damascus asserting, however, that nothing short of a military victory over Israel - can ever erase the memory of that disastrous June war.

Meanwhile, this latest from King Hussein - during a speaking engagement at Northwestern University.

"Israel" - said he - "is not unlike a man who robs a bank - and then wants to open an account with the stolen money."

"Our position" - he continued - "is that the money must be returned first -- and then we'll ~~discuss~~ discuss business."

## **BROCKTON**

*From Brockton, Massachusetts, comes the tragic story today of John Cloonan -- husband and father of two -- respected businessman -- a pillar of the community; when he suddenly fell victim -- to a case of mistaken identity.*

*The story begins with a bank robbery October eighteen -- in a shopping center at Brockton. A lone gunman escaping clean -- with nearly seven thousand dollars. Two weeks later -- Cloonan making a routine business call at the shopping center; when two bank employees spotted him -- positively identified him as the holdup man -- and he was quickly charged with bank robbery.*

*The mess that followed -- finally cleared up today; with two business associates of the accused -- confirming his story that he was nowhere near the bank at the time of the crime. A Judge ruling "case dismissed!" -- **B**ut, too late.*

*Taken ill last week -- with his world collapsing around him -- John Cloonan had ignored a doctor's orders confining*



him to bed. Free on bail -- he began backtracking his movements; trying to prove his innocence -- and health be ~~changed~~ changed.

And so it was -- that John Cloonan never heard his vindication. Victim of a heart attack last Saturday -- he had just died in a local hospital. And he was only -- forty-seven.

~~Speaking of marriage and show business -- a second~~

~~— Venice~~

<sup>re: a</sup>  
nuptial item **B** reported today from Venice, Florida;

announcing the planned wedding -- of two of the all-time top names in the history of entertainment.

The fabled Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus

-- which winters <sup>at</sup> Venice -- succumbing suddenly to the

blandishments of the equally-famous Houston Astrodome. With

famed circus impresario John Ringling North finally giving

his consent -- for an estimated eight million -- we hear. Thus

uniting the "greatest show on earth" -- with <sup>the</sup> Texas showplace

~~that at Houston <sup>calls</sup> ~~is now called~~~~

~~after called~~ "The Eighth Wonder of the World." Quite a

~~couple~~ wedding, Allan.

~~Starting~~ with the next postal delivery -- some of

America's most famous personalities will begin haunting their mail boxes. On the lookout for gold embossed six-by-nine-inch envelopes -- just mailed from the White House -- that will

tell who's who in America, that is *who's who* in the eyes of the present occupants of the White House.

The reason -- a brief invitation inside -- which reads:

"The President and Mrs. Johnson request the honor of your presence -- at the marriage of their daughter Lynda Bird, to Charles Spittal Robb, Captain, U. S. Marine Corps."

The planned White House ceremony -- limited to five hundred guests. So as they say in show business <sup>at the moment this is</sup> -- ~~is~~ the "hottest ticket" <sup>around.</sup> ~~in the country.~~

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