

GOOD EVENING:

**Allen Jackson
August 16, 1972**

An assassination attempt - in the skies over Morocco today. King Hassan was returning to his country from a three-week vacation in France - his jetliner was greeted by - what appeared to be - an official escort of three Moroccan fighters - but, as the fighters swooped in - they opened fire - badly damaging the King's plane - knocking out two of its three engines. The pilot managed to make a safe emergency landing - the King was not injured, it appears, several other people were - killed and wounded - when the rebelling fighter pilots attacked the air terminal and the King's palace. The rebels were finally driven off - perhaps shot down - by loyalist pilots and the Moroccan government announced that - the situation is under control - the King is back in his palace.

Another air incident occurred in the skies over Italy - fire in the luggage compartment of an Israeli jetliner,

MOROCCO - 2

just minutes after it had taken off from Rome with one-hundred-forty-nine persons aboard. The pilot made a quick return to the airport - and the only casualties - four women passengers who suffered minor burns - when the fire entered a part of the passenger compartment.

SALINGER

There was a certain amount of confusion in Democratic ranks during the afternoon - over a trip to Paris - by Pierre Salinger. Did he go there - to meet with Hanoi representatives - at Senator McGovern's request? First word from Paris was that - he had - then from the campaign circuits of the Mideast - Senator McGovern said "no" - adding - Salinger had no instructions from him whatsoever, on the matter. Later - a written statement from McGovern - saying that in fact - he had asked Salinger to meet with the members of the Hanoi delegation in Paris - to see if there was any change which might permit the return of the prisoners before the end of hostilities. The reply after all this - "no change."

POLITICS

Former President Lyndon Johnson today endorsed McGovern for President. Although conceding that he differs with the South Dakota Senator on many matters, Johnson said he will support him because - "I believe the Democratic Party best serves the needs of the people."

CAMP DAVID

At the mountain retreat of Camp David - President Nixon - as expected - has vetoed the new thirty-billion dollar appropriation for the Welfare and Labor Departments. It contains almost two-billion more than he requested - and he described it as "reckless Federal spending." It's likely his veto will be upheld in Congress.

VIETNAM

Heavy fighting continued in both the South and North of Vietnam today - even as presidential adviser Henry Kissinger arrived in Saigon amid speculation that some new and important development in peace negotiations ^{may be} is imminent. Communist forces closed a section of main highway barely thirty miles from Saigon - two American gunships and a ^{helicopter} fighter-bomber were shot down by enemy fire - and U-S planes bombed a North Vietnamese power plant for the second time in recent weeks. Saigon observers are divided as to the reason for Kissinger's visit - saying either he came to reassure President Thieu of continued support, or to ask him to quit - a major Communist prerequisite for a peace settlement.

In Washington, former Attorney General Ramsey Clark told a Senate subcommittee that he had personally observed extensive bombing damage to dikes, homes and hospitals in North Vietnam. At one point in his testimony, Clark held up a small bomb, which he said the Mayor of

Hanoi had given him as an example of fragmentary type bombs dropped by American planes in the city. Clark's comments on his two-weeks visit to North Vietnam have drawn fire from Administration spokesmen and some Democrats who charge him with being "duped" by the Communists.

AUTOS

The auto industry struck back today, charging that it had been unfairly "singled out" by the Nixon Administration in the matter of price increases for Nineteen-Seventy-Three models. Chrysler Chairman Lynn Townsend became the first top auto executive to speak out against the White House request that carmakers hold the line against any price increases at this time. Townsend calls it "arbitrary and discriminatory against the auto industry, says it would result in unemployment."

ICELAND (Thomas Tape)

10
**Lowell Thomas, while exploring the island of
Iceland, provides the answer to a question which, he says,
people are often tempted to ask him. Lowell...**

TAPE RUNS: 1:50

OUTCUE: So Long....

BRITAIN

Delegates, representing Britain's forty-two-thousand striking dockworkers, voted to end their paralyzing twenty-day-old walkout today - but militant shop stewards charge the settlement is a "sell-out" and urged the longshoremen to stay on strike in all major ports until job guarantee demands are met. Union leaders, however, say the workers will return to their jobs at midnight Sunday - although they admit there may be some holdouts at some ports -

Now for Lowell - so long until tomorrow.