

Good Evening. For President Nixon - another stirring visit today to Middle America. With an airport crowd of about six thousand - cheering his arrival at Fargo, North Dakota. The President plunged into the throng - shaking hands so enthusiastically that he broke a blister on his left thumb. The President observing: "There's nothing like talking to people and seeing their faces." And he added: "That's what we think of when we talk of the great heartland of America."

Later - in Fargo proper - the President conferred with five Plains States governors; part of his "people-to-people" campaign - aimed at bringing the government closer to the country. Next stop: Salt Lake City - for more of the same. The President is also planning to take in a rodeo - before flying on to San Clemente.

SAIGON

At the top of the war news tonight - another U.S. withdrawal; with a force of some sixteen hundred U.S. Marines - evacuating a series of bases in the northern sector of South Vietnam; heading for reassignment at Camp Pendleton, California - in "Phase Four" of the overall U.S. withdrawal plan. This in keeping with a scheduled fifty-thousand-man reduction - by mid-October; to be followed, hopefully, by an additional hundred thousand - as of next May.

Elsewhere in Vietnam - ground action was light today.

In the air war though - U.S. B-Fifty-Twos ^{flew} flying six missions, in all - ~~against~~ ^{hitting} Communist targets along the Cambodian border.

MIDDLE EAST

In the Middle East - the talk of Arab world today was that speech by Egypt's President Nasser; the one wherein he apparently accepted - the latest U.S. Mideast plan. Beirut's daily Al-Kifay, for one - asserted that Nasser was guilty of "lopsided logic." A guerilla newspaper in Amman - flatly rejected the idea of any cease-fire. At the same time, Palestinian leaders threatened to seize - any territory that Israel might abandon.

As for U.S. reponse - Secretary of State William Rogers was said to be "greatly encouraged." But the big job now - we are told - that of getting Israel also to accept the U.S. plan. Tel Aviv says, however, there will be no official comment on Nasser's speech - until it has been examined thoroughly; which means apparently - not till next week.

JUSTICE

In the war against pollution - the U.S. Justice Department called into play today - for the first time - a seventy-one-year-old law; announcing plans to bring suit against eight companies - allegedly guilty of mercury pollution in the waters of seven different states. These firms including such corporate giants - as Allied Chemical, Weyerhauser, Georgia Pacific and Olin-Mathieson.

Interior Secretary Walter Hickel later adding - this is "just the start;" the first step - said he - in attacking "an intolerable threat to the health and safety of Americans."

LIVERPOOL

Britain's docks crisis - grew still worse today; with striking longshoremen at Liverpool - refusing to unload even perishable foodstuffs, as requested by the government. Thus joining with their co-workers at Southhampton and Hull - who had already taken similar action. And what with huge quantities of food now in danger of rotting - the British government may be left soon with no alternative but to call ⁱⁿ out the troops.

**SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "THE POOR
MAHARAJAS"**

*As you may have guessed by now - Lowell Thomas
has taken wing again; heading for the deep woods out West -
about which he'll be telling us more, in days to come. ~~is~~
~~is~~ For now, another special report he left us. Subject
for tonight: "The Poor Maharajas". Lowell*

THE POOR MAHARAJAS

Before the British pulled out of India, a little more than twenty years ago, one of the most exciting experiences any person could have was to visit some of the maharajas in India. They lived in marble palaces almost beyond description, with lovely fountains, with elephants to ride upon, and so on.

Today, pity the poor maharajas. As you may have heard, they have now formed their own trade union. They call it The Concord of India. The purpose of this organization is to try and prevent Madame Gandhi's government from taking away their privileges and their now rather small tax-free incomes.

Nowhere in the world was there ever a grandeur to surpass what you found in India prior to World War II. At the time of Partition, in 1947, they lost their control of their principalities and their states. 600 maharajas, nawabs and other princes of India were granted cash settlements or some other return when they lost control of their states, but since then they have been given certain princely privileges--duty free imports, the right to fly personal flags, free

THE POOR MAHARAJAS

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medical care, and so on and so on. Now it appears they are going to lose all or most of this.

At one time, one of their number, the Nizam of Hyderabad, was reputed to be the richest man in the world. The Maharaja of Gwalior built a gorgeous palace with a solid gold roof. Today the National Geographic tells us:

"Gone are the days when an Indian prince took 200 concubines on a one-night visit to a neighboring prince, explaining, 'The ladies don't get out much. I thought this might be a nice outing for them.'"

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**SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "THE POOR
MAHARAJAS"**

**Thank you, Lowell. I'll have a final note after
this message.**

Man's dream of "farming the sea" to feed the world's starving millions - is a beautiful dream - we are told today - but still a dream; and one that really holds little hope - for the "foreseeable future."

This according to Dr. James Oliver - the new director of the New York Aquarium; who says that glowing reports of potential sea harvests - have been as yet nothing but "political stunts in most cases." Even the "farming" of freshwater fish - he says - is "a very expensive program" - he says. Adding that "as a saving factor for mankind - the world cannot look to the sea as yet."

Ironically though - Dr. Oliver's words came in the midst of a "seafood festival" - on the grounds of his aquarium. The bill of fare including crab mousse, lizard fish and conch fritters - along with sea urchin butter; and for dessert - seaweed royale.

And now for Lowell - this is Allen Jackson saying so long.