

BEIRUT

Wed. May 9 - 69.

In the Middle East - Lebanon. - ~~Arab versus~~

~~Arab~~. Reports from Beirut telling today of an Arab hit and run guerrilla attack - on a Lebanese Army base close by the Israeli border. Followed quickly by an army ultimatum - ordering all guerrillas to evacuate the area immediately. In the fighting that followed - army troops ~~killed~~ killing five and capturing forty.

According to Beirut - these all members of the Syrian-backed Al-Saigah commandos - the so-called "thunderbolts," A group held responsible for a number of recent terrorist raids - from Syria across Lebanon or into Israel. The Lebanese serving notice - they won't stand for it any more. Lebanon is not an Arab country. It's Christian - with some of other faiths.

Otherwise - another normal day in the Middle East. With Egyptian and Israeli forces - trading fire across the Suez, Jordanian and Israeli forces - trading fire across the Jordan.

PENTAGON

On the domestic front - Commander Lloyd Bucher returns to duty. By order of the Pentagon - the former Pueblo skipper ^{is now} assigned ~~today~~ to the Navy Graduate School at Monterey, California. There to pursue his studies toward a master's degree in management just as he earlier hoped he would. ~~Indeed,~~ Commander Bucher saying - he is "very pleased with this assignment."

At the same time - the Pentagon ~~today~~ ^{also} singled out ten ~~men~~ members of the Pueblo crew - for special commendation. Among them: "Communications technician Earle Kisler of St. Louis - who refused to write a propaganda letter despite "a gruesome beating" also, Marine Sergeant Robert Hammon of Claremont, New Hampshire - who is said to have endured "nineteen hours of ~~such~~ severe torture," ~~before he told his captors anything.~~

VIETNAM

Air war in Vietnam - marked by the loss of more than thirty U.S. helicopters over the past two weeks. This according to figures made public today - by the U S military command in Saigon. ~~But~~ why the sudden chopper mortality rate [?] ~~nobody seems~~ ^{No word.} ~~to know.~~

Meanwhile, North Vietnam was rejecting today as "absurd" - a U S demand for mutual troop withdrawals from South Vietnam. Hanoi adding that the Viet Cong will soon turn the whole of the south - into "a great Dien Bien Phu."

WHITE HOUSE

~~Here at home again - the White House -~~

President Nixon ^{has} ~~today~~ completed three days of talks -
with Australian Prime Minister John Gorton. Ending
the parley with a pledge to continue U S policy -
aimed at safe-guarding "the security and progress" of
the Pacific area. The President adding that our
partnership with Australia - is "fundamental to our
strategy and position" in Southeast Asia.

HUNGER FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

Elsewhere in Washington - another new strategy was unveiled ~~today~~ as part of the U S war on hunger. Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Robert Finch - announcing plans to start a program of direct cash assistance to welfare recipients. This = instead of old-style food stamps. (Finch asserting that ~~the~~ "cash income - best preserves the dignity and freedom of choice of the individual," enabling him, hopefully, to meet his own needs - through the workings of the private market.")

TOKYO

~~From Tokyo comes a report today -
that Japan is suffering from a rather bitter sweet
malady; namely - an embarrassment of riches.~~

While the U S, Britain and France have
been having their trade ~~is~~ troubles the past year -
the Japanese ^{were} scoring a remarkable one-billion dollar
advance in their own balance of payments. ^{This} Helping
to account for a fifty percent increase in Japanese
foreign ~~and~~ currency reserves. Also, raising a few
eye brows in western capitals, especially Washington.

Main reason - ~~in the fact that~~ Japan still
sends thirty percent of its exports to the U S.

The Japanese further profiting from ~~the~~ U.S. military
expenditures - more than a ~~billions~~ billion a year -
relating to Vietnam and Korea. ~~All of which raises~~
~~again the threat of protectionist U S trade barriers -~~
~~something of a "yellow backlash," you might say.~~

FRANKFURT FOLLOW TOKYO

Speaking of fiscal problems - a sudden flood of foreign money today - on the Frankfurt currency exchange in West Germany. Plummeting prices on the French franc, the British pound and the U.S. dollar - ^{close} to their lowest legal limit. A German banker observing: It was a Niagara, nothing could hold out against it.

And now the speculation grows that Bonn - will soon be forced into making an upward re-valuation of the West German Mark. Like the Japanese - the Germans facing, in effect - too much of a good thing.

MIAMI

Miami, Florida - a meeting of the American Psychiatric Association - hearing a report from Dr. Donald Lunde of Stanford University on some of the emotional problems encountered by heart transplant specialists.

For example, a number of would-be heart donors - have been found to be, in reality, would-be suicides, each have been said to be motivated by the thought - that he would be donating his heart to someone more worthy of it.

Another ~~another~~ case history - that of a man who received the heart of a "prominent local citizen". Later feeling that since he "had received the heart of a good man - he had an obligation to live up to the standards of that man."

Still another case - that of a middle-aged man who received the heart of a twenty year old.

According to Dr. Lunde he soon began to act as if he ~~was~~
were actually twenty again. *There is one to ponder*
~~A minor miracle.~~

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over, Warren.

LANSING

Next up - a glossary of odd named Michigan towns and how they got that way - as ~~compiled~~ compiled by the Michigan State Education Department.

Take for instance, Bombay Mills, Michigan.

Bombay Mills - originally a track-side hang out for ~~the~~ railroad drifters; deriving its present title from its earlier designation - as "bum's bay."

Then there's ~~the~~ Teaspoon Corners - named after a long ago Inn keeper - Old Teaspoons; himself so named - because he was always complaining about people stealing his teaspoons.

As for Zilwaukee, Michigan - spelled with a "Z" - you can credit turn of the ^{century} ~~century~~ land speculators with that one. An ingenious device for selling property to German emigrants - who really ~~wanted to buy in~~ ^{thought they were buying property} Milwaukee -- spelled with an "M".