

Wed. July 3rd 68.

6 1/2
At the Pentagon - a surprise visit ~~today~~
from the U S Commander in Chief. President Johnson
~~on hand for the~~
~~opping in for a~~ brief ceremony = installing General
Westmoreland as the Army's new Chief of Staff.

~~It was~~ Army Secretary Stanley Resor ~~who~~
administered the oath of office, ~~though~~ Expressing
confidence that General Westmoreland will bring to his
new duties "breadth of vision equal to the breadth of
his experience."

The General replying that his new post -
was "in large measure a recognition of the steadfast
support" he had received in Vietnam. Westy adding:
"I will do all in my power - to support the troops on
the firing line;" to maintain the Army as an effective
force - "dedicated to law and order and peace with
honor."

WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW PENTAGON

47
Later, back at the White House - President Johnson was informed of that sniper attack today in New York's Central Park. An incident leaving two dead -- three wounded. Prompting the President to assert that "again - senseless tragedy has struck at gun point", again "bullets from a sniper's gun have brought heart-break and horror."

This pointing up once more - the need for tough new gun controls - said the President. Adding: "I call upon the Congress and all the people of America -- to pass ~~the~~ gun measures ~~which are~~ needed to protect against insane and reckless murder."

SENATE FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

Even so - the President's plan for federal registration of all firearms - was all but killed today in the U S Senate. ~~And the great American public partly to blame.~~ With Senate Democratic majority leader Mike Mansfield - joining in opposition to the President's proposal. Noting, among other things, a deluge of congressional mail - "overwhelmingly against" any new gun control laws.-- ~~believe it or not.~~

VIETNAM

In Vietnam - ~~the tempo of war takes on~~
~~sudden, savage upturn~~ ^{the} Viet Cong ambushed ^{and}
wiped ^{it} out ~~an entire~~ marine patrol today - in the
jungles near Da Nang. The U S command firing back
with an around-the-clock air blitz, -- ~~against the~~
~~southern reaches of North Vietnam.~~

PARIS FOLLOW VIETNAM

~~Meanwhile~~ while, in Paris - ~~the talks go on.~~

U.S. Ambassador ~~Avroett~~ Harriman ~~plead~~ pleading today with the North Vietnamese ^{said:-} "Is there nothing you can do -- to lower the level of ~~an~~ violence?" and Hanoi's Xuan Thuy answering back - nothing. Nothing at all - said he -- as long as the United States "still holds to its imperialistic and bellicose position of aggression."

In later remarks to newsmen - Xuan Thuy appealing directly to the American public - to force a change in U S policy. Comparing Hanoi's cause today ^{to} that of America in Seventeen Seventy-Six. ~~"The feelings against the American people"~~ ~~said~~ ~~Chay.~~
Adding: "It is only the American administration - we fight," ^{said} he,

YOKOTA

Still some question tonight - as to who was right - who was wrong: in the case of that Vietnam-bound U S airliner - downed by the Russians in the Kurile Islands.

As you know - the plane was released following an American apology. ~~And~~ On arrival though at Yokota Air Base in Japan - the pilot of the craft ~~denied~~^{ied} emphatically - that he had violated Russian air space, as charged. Joseph Tosolini of Bethany, Connecticut, ~~insisting that~~^{says} he signed a "confession" - only to get the plane out as quickly as possible.

Reaction from Washington - a repeat of yesterday. With the State Department insisting on the basis of "reliable evidence" - including radar sightings - that the plane had, indeed, penetrated Soviet air space. And there- for now - the matter stands.

DEGAULLE

Paris again - another attempt today to shore up the French franc - also to curb inflation. With the bank of France - suddenly raising its prime interest rate - from three-and-a-half percent - one of the lowest in the world - to five per cent -- which is more in line with the rest of Europe.

At the same time - DeGaulle was meeting with his cabinet ~~today~~; less than three days - after winning the biggest parliamentary majority in French history. While speculators were speculating - that the French President will rush through a series of sweeping reforms; and, then retire -- perhaps as early as this fall.

MOSCOW

Moscow - the big three western powers delivered identical protests today to the Kremlin.

Challenging the Soviet Union - for permitting East Germany to impose travel restrictions on West Berlin.

This - said to be a violation of the four-power agreements of Nineteen Forty-nine. However, diplomatic sources ~~are~~ predicting the Russians will simply reject the protests -- one, two, three.

HAMBURG

7/2 Here in the East - the summer heat came to an end today. While in Europe, in Germany, the mercury hit ninety-nine at Hamburg. On the floor of the Hamburg stock exchange, for four hundred years all brokers have worn coats. Today off they came.

LONDON

From London we hear ~~today that~~ the Beatles have ~~just~~ embarked on a new career; ~~A new career~~ as businessmen. This by means of a new multi-faceted, multi-million-dollar company - with interests in music, movies, electronics, fashions, merchandising and promotion; also offering financial support - to talented young artists, actors and so on.

The Beatles being the Beatles though - they've decided to name the company after their favorite fruit:

The apple. With the entire organization called - the

Apple Corps. ^{Any comment} ~~And anyone who doesn't like it, Warren?~~

~~I guess you'd just have to call him "rotten to the core"~~

4
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SYDNEY

From suburban Sydney, Australia, - ~~the~~ comes a story ~~today~~ of an ^{unusual} ~~engaging~~ ^{do it yourself} shot gun wedding. ^{With} ~~The work of~~ one Wally Mellish - ~~who~~ holed up in a cottage with his teen-age sweetheart, also their eleven week old son. Threatening to blast them both with a shotgun - unless the girl's parents finally agree to let them get married. In the end - at police urging - permission granted. Mellish admitting a minister to perform the ceremony ^{and} ~~λ~~ agreeing to surrender after a single night of married life. ~~Which leaves~~ some sixty Sydney police - ~~still~~ surrounding the "honeymoon cottage" spending a cold winter's night - waiting for Wally.

SAN ANTONIO FOLLOW SENATE

By the way - the President and Mrs. Johnson flying tonight to San Antonio , Texas. Taking along with them - forty LatinAmerican ambassadors; for a star-spangled fireworks filled Fourth of July celebration - at San Antonio's big new Hemis-Fair.