

L. F. Bedford Village, Sept. 16, 1966 - Fri.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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More Americans earned more money last month in more fields of endeavor than ever before. According to an announcement today from the Department of Commerce - total personal income for August - at a rate of about five hundred and eighty-five billion; that is, an increase of about five billion in the last month alone. This because of higher wages in the metals, machinery and transportation industries - in the trades and services - and in government. Also, a billion and a half in personal income directly attributable to Medicare.

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Because of that information it might not be out of order for me to mention where I am tonight.

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I wonder how many of you listening at this moment are familiar with Bedford Village, New York?

It's in the northeast corner of Westchester County, only a few miles north of Manhattan. Several hundred people sitting before me are involved in a nationwide campaign - a campaign in which millions of you participate - the National United Fund drive. From coast to coast there are two thousand two hundred United Fund chapters. The annual drive is on, to raise funds for your local health services, for The Red Cross, the U S O in all it does for Americans who are going through the ordeal of fighting a tough enemy in the Mekong Delta, and the Viet Nam jungle; also to raise funds for the Salvation Army, the Peace Corps, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and so on. There are few things more ~~is~~ important to all of us than our National United Fund Campaign.

This particular United Fund dinner happens to be given by the Reader's Digest, the fantastically successful magazine that has more subscribers and is

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read by more people than any publication in the world.

So much for that; now for a look at a few of tonight's headlines:

SPACE

Astronauts Conrad and Gordon -- America's Gemini-Eleven pilots -- are at Cape Kennedy, full of enthusiasm over their Pole-to-Pole view of the earth, from eighty-hundred-and-fifty miles out.

"Fantastic, spectacular, beautiful and phenomenal" -- just a few of the superlatives they used to describe this latest trip through space.

Elsewhere at the Cape -- space technicians are at work on preparations for the flight of Gemini-Twelve, next month. With America's men in space -- fast closing on the Moon.

VIETNAM

As for Vietnam -- one-two punch today by the U.S. Air Force. Giant B-fifty twos hitting from on high -- tree-topping B-Fifty Sevens hitting low -- in close support of U.S. Marines -- attempting to trap a Viet Cong division; near the supposedly demilitarized zone -- between North and South.

Meanwhile, grudging admission today from North Vietnam -- that they are slowly losing ground in the South.

MOSCOW

In Moscow - the Kremlin today accused Peking - of trying to expand its anti-Western Red Guard campaign, of trying to expand it - beyond the borders of Red China, as ^a ~~the~~ first step ~~to a "revolutionary storm"~~ - aimed at sweeping the world.

Too bad - said Moscow; for China could learn much from the technological achievements of western civilization.

In any case - said the Kremlin - China's so-called "cultural revolution" is doomed to failure. First - because the Red Guards themselves do not have the support of the Chinese people - and second - because ~~xxxxxx~~ their crusade is an open violation of the Chinese constitution - as well as - quote - "the elementary principles of law" - unquote. *Strong words from Moscow.*

HONGKONG FOLLOW MOSCOW

A related item from Red China - via Hong Kong. Chinese sources reporting that two high level victims of the recent Peking purge - have since committed suicide - one - Peng Chen - former Mayor of Peking; the other former Army Chief of Staff Lo Jui-Chung.

~~News of the two deaths supposedly disclosed~~

~~inadvertently - by a Red Guard unit leader, in talks~~

~~with friends - later relayed to~~ *This from* escaping refugees.

Peng is said to have taken poison - Lo ~~reportedly~~ jumping ~~to his death~~ from a prison wall.

CALCUTTA

Three massive hunger strikes under way simultaneously today in West Bengal. Two at Sibpur, Calcutta -- West Bengal's No. I engineering school; the third deep within a coal mine.

One group of a thousand students -- in the third day of a hunger strike against alleged police brutality. Students charged with "teasing" local girls.

The miners -- a hundred and fifty in number; in the fifth day of fast, demanding unpaid back wages.

NEW YORK

A new word to be added shortly -- and officially -- to the English language. Courtesy of Mary Poppins -- its "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" which will make its introduction next month in the forthcoming "Random House Dictionary of the English Language."

First completely new dictionary -- since Webster's Third International.

Definition of -- "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious"?

Oh, -- a nonsense word -- used to represent the longest word in the English language. Thirty-four letters in length --

"supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" clearly eclipsing the old champ -- "antidisestablishmentarianism" -- longer by six letters.

Warren can you say super-califragilistic-expialidocious?

HOUSTON

From Houston, Texas - site of America's Manned Space Center - a far-out guess today on the far reaches of our universe. A guess that the planets Jupiter and Saturn - may resemble nothing so much as tremendous petroleum refineries.

The theory presented by ~~a pair of~~ chemists at the University of Houston. Based on evidence that the atmospheres of Saturn and Jupiter - are made up largely of methane.

~~Methane which when heated - as, for example, by a flaming meteor - could be turned into so-called "aromatic hydrocarbons". Like benzene and naphthalene - which are produced in petroleum refineries right here on earth.~~

All of which suggests that when it rains on Saturn and Jupiter it isn't raining rain - but rather "pennies from Heaven" - Texas style. In other words - pure, unadulterated oil.