

Wednesday, May 14, 1975
Mitchell Krauss

From the Gulf of Siam.....

From Washington.....

From Detroit.....comes today's news. Good Evening

*Everybody, this is Mitchell Krauss, substituting for Lowell
Thomas.*

*For the first time in two years, American warplanes
on the attack in Southeast Asia - a swift strike in the Gulf
of Siam that destroyed three Cambodian patrol boats and
reportedly damaged four others. This an attempt to prevent
the transfer of those thirty-nine American seamen from the
captured U.S. merchant vessel Mayaguez on a nearby island
to the Cambodian Mainland. The attack ordered by the White
House after no apparent progress in the effort to secure
the release of the ship or the men peacefully. However, no
word to this hour on the whereabouts of the Americans as a*

U.S. Naval task force converges on the area. The White House and the Pentagon silent on what they plan next.

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...the White House says they received a report that it called a firm
...concurrence of support. However, critics criticized the move
...on the grounds it was either premature or an excessive
...response that might have endangered the lives of the captured
...men. Despite the criticism, the Senate Foreign Relations
...Committee late today unanimously approved a resolution
...of support for the President's action.

REACT

Some eighteen Congressional leaders were advised of the plan to use force against the Cambodians in advance the White House says they reacted with what it called a strong consensus of support. However, others criticized the move on the grounds it was either premature or an excessive response that might have endangered the lives of the captured men. Despite the criticism, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee late today unanimously approved a resolution of support for the President's action.

UNITED NATIONS

Secretary General Kurt Waldheim tonight appealed to both Cambodia and the United States to refrain from "further acts of force," and offered his help in achieving a peaceful settlement in the crisis over Cambodian seizure of the U.S. ship Mayaguez.

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THAILAND

A new protest from Thailand, the country from which the U.S. planes flew on their attack mission - against the Cambodian Navy. The Thai Foreign Minister calling the action from Thai bases piracy and madness with no thought of the consequences to Thailand. Said an official - what if Cambodia decides to retaliate - it cannot strike Americans - they are too far away - but it can retaliate against Thailand which is right next door. Eariler the Thais had demanded the immediate removal of about one-thousand U.S. Marines flown into Thailand yesterday - the deadline expiring later tonight.

LUANG PRABANG-SAVANNAKHET FOLLOW THAILAND

In neighboring Laos - there were anti-U.S. demonstrations today in Luang Prabang and Savannakhet. The demonstrators overrunning U.S. Aid and U.S. Information Service buildings - in the process, seizing three American officials.

This in the midst of a "thinning out" of the U.S. diplomatic corps in Laos.

AUTOS

From Detroit, auto sales are down again - the big four auto makers reporting a continuation of their deepest slump in seventeen years with a twenty-one percent drop in sales during the first ten days of May compared to the same period last year. The car sales were off because of the energy shortage. Industry analysts now saying the hoped-for Spring upturn is unlikely this year. The reason - auto sales for the start of May were even slower than at the beginning of April.

STANS

Former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans, Chief fundraiser for the Nixon campaigns of sixty-eight and seventy two - fined five thousand today on a five count campaign finance misdemeanor. Stans, who could have received five years in prison - punished for failure to file reports on campaign donations, some of which turned out to be illegal.

PAHUTE MESA

In Nevada, today, the biggest U.S. underground nuclear explosion - in nearly two years; a two hundred kiloton blast that swayed buildings and rattled windows and doors in Las Vegas - far worse than usual, about half-a-minute. This in spite of the fact that the test site was half-again as far away - as in most recent blasts.

MIDEAST

New gunfire in the Middle East - artillery fire traded between Israeli and Lebanese troops - Beirut saying the Israelis crossed the border but were driven back. The Israelis saying the exchange began after Lebanese gunners shelled Israeli villages in the border area.

LISBON

Thursday, May 18, 1974
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The government of Portugal today ordered the nationalization of twenty major firms - dealing in cement, cellulose and tobacco. The Lisbon regime also ordered a Twenty Per Cent increase - in the national minimum wage; but froze middle class wages - in what they call a hedge against inflation.

Mitchell Krauss for CBS News.