

Mon, July 8-68

For President Johnson a remarkable hedge
hopping tour today through Central America. Returning
home four of the region's five Presidents - who joined
in that historic weekend summit meeting at San Salvador.
Air Force One ^{on a} 'shuttle run' stopping at Managua,
Nicaragua - San Jose, Costa Rica - San Pedro, Sula,
Honduras, and finally Guatemala City, Guatemala - before
heading home tonight to the L B J Ranch.

Along the way - tens of thousands of Central
Americans presenting the President a series of warm
greetings. With L B J noting at his last stop - that
the name of the airport was La Aurora, a fitting name
said he - in that Central America is in the midst of
a new dawn of hope and progress.

WASHINGTON

After years and years of talks - and
miles and miles of red tape -- an agreement at last on
reciprocal airline flights between Moscow and New
York. Announcement today - ^{by the} ~~from the~~ State
Department, ~~in Washington.~~ With Pan American for
the U.S. - and Aeroflot for ^{the} Soviets -- expected to
begin twice weekly ^{starting} ~~perhaps as early as~~ next week.

CHICAGO

The Fourth of July weekend just ended - marked by the tragic loss of more than six hundred lives in auto accidents. Still - a far cry from the predicted seven or eight hundred deaths. As such - "a significant gain in traffic ~~xx~~ safety" - according to President Howard Pyle of the National Safety Council. And "certainly encouraging" - said he - "coming just a year after the worst summer holiday on record."

"This showing" - we are told - "what can be done" in the way of preventing accidents.

CAPE TOWN

At Cape Town, South Africa - a remarkable comeback today for the world's longest surviving heart transplant patient. Dentist Philip Blaiberg - continuing his recovery from a weekend bout with death. ^{This} To the point where he sat up in bed - and asked for a meal of steak and eggs.

Blaiberg's recovery - attributed mainly to a new anti-rejection serum. ^{Said} ~~However~~ his wife commenting - "it's a miracle." Dr. Christian Barnard adding of Blaiberg; "he has the will to live - again."

PANMUNJOM FOLLOW VIETNAM

~~At the opposite end of the Bamboo Curtain -~~

At Panmunjom -- charge and countercharge today.

The United Nations command accusing North Korea - of some twenty truce line violations in the past two weeks. General Gilbert Woodward of the U S Army - also ~~and~~ accusing North Korea of equipping its armed forces - "far out of proportion to that required for defense."

However, both allegations - rejected flatly by North Korea's General Pak; who further accused United Nations troops - of firing some six thousand rounds into Communist territory - over the past ten days. ~~But~~ what they were shooting at - he didn't say.

PARIS

~~On the propaganda front~~ In Paris ~~Another~~
~~"paper triumph" today for the North Vietnamese.~~ With
Hanoi claiming a series of sweeping "victories" over
U S forces - on the so-called "Khe Sanh Front". Adding
that "the popular forces and our compatriots" meaning
the Viet Cong - have most recently "encircled" Hill Six
Eighty Nine - about two miles west of Khe Sanh.

On the firing line though - another story.

U S officials saying the enemy has taken no ground -
except ~~that which~~ ^{what} we have vacated for strategic reasons.
With Hill Six Eighty Nine, in particular - still holding
firm after four straight days of Viet Cong assaults;
The latest of which is said to have cost the enemy - some
seventy more men, or a grand total of more than three
hundred - ~~and~~ ^{with} nothing to show for it.

LONDON

London - another shot in the arm today - for the sagging British pound. With the Governor of the bank of England -- returning from a weekend banking conference in Basel, Switzerland, ~~Announcing~~ a new credit line of two billion dollars - from twelve free world powers.

Thirteenth participant in the conference - and long ~~holdout~~ holdout - the delegate from France - who is quoted as expressing his "sympathy" for the Bank of England - while adding that "the Bank of France - in the present circumstances -- must reserve its position."

DEGAULLE FOLLOW LONDON

Across the Channel - in Paris again - a report today that DeGaulle is currently pouring over his cabinet roster, ~~with~~ a view perhaps to the appointment of a new Premier - probably finance Minister Couve DeMurville.

Not that ne's dissatisfied - with Premier Pompidou. ~~Indeed~~ DeGaulle is said to be grooming Pompidou - for bigger and better things. In effect,

1/2 tapping Pompidou as his heir apparent - if and when ~~he~~ De Gaulle, ~~he should ever~~ retire.

TASHKENT

American expatriate Dale Reed Warren -
found guilty as charged today in a Soviet Court at
Tashkent. The former Oakland man quickly sentenced
to five years - for smuggling Hashish into the Soviet
Union. Also, for bringing in a hundred rubles in
Soviet currency - without declaring it.

Two other Americans - still awaiting trial
on similar charges. These - along with Warren - members
of a group of ten foreigners; all arrested at Tashkent -
when they stopped over on flights from ^{the central Asian walled city of} Kabul, capitol of
Afghanistan, ^{the present} a city said to be headquarters - for a
worldwide Hashish smuggling ring. Smoking hashish
in Kabul is as much a part of every day
life ^{Warren} as beer drinking is in Milwaukee.

FIREFLY

Next up - a question for a warm summer evening: From whence springs the fire - in a firefly?

Answer: From love.

~~A special report from the National Geographic~~

~~reminding today that~~ ^{Those flashes} ~~flashes of~~ fireflies are really

courtship signals. The male out for an evening of sparking - announcing his presence with a flicker of

light. The female - if ~~she's~~ interested -- responding

with a flash of her own, ^{to} ~~Leading~~ him on. - ^{So says} ~~so to speak~~
^{The National Geographic,}

~~Next question~~ What causes the light itself? ~~Answer:~~

A substance called Luciferin - which is activated by nervous impulse, A substance which is found, incidentally, in all living creatures - including ~~man~~ man. ~~Hence,~~

^{Warren?} Luciferin I guess.
The gleam in your eye, ~~I suppose.~~