

From the halls of Benghazi to the shores of Tripoli - Libya's new military regime attempted today to build up its one-day old coup by urging so-far-neutral troops to join in seizing any loose helicopters, tanks and so on.

At the same time - the Libyan rebels assured foreign embassies they fully intend to honor all of the country's prior agreements. Further honoring special safeguards to protect Western oil concessions - also, the big U. S. Wheelus Air Base.

VIETNAM

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Ground action in Vietnam today was marked by a fierce jungle battle about eighty-five miles northeast of Saigon. With a strong force of Viet Cong - said to be "mauling" a smaller group of South Vietnamese and their Green Beret advisors. Incidentally, this the same enemy force - we hear - the same one that beseiged that Green Beret camp at Ben Het earlier this summer.

On the brighter side - Paris - Hanoi's Xoan Thuy taking center stage again. Calling for a start, at least - to large scale U.S. troop withdrawals from Vietnam. Asserting that this could get peace talks off the ground - where piece^{me}al withdrawal will have little effect - said he.

KUALA LUMPUR

Crack down at Kuala Lumpur. The government of Malaysia invoking today - a decree aimed mainly at recent student demonstrators. Henceforth anyone demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Tengku Abdul Rahman - will be subject to immediate arrest and possible detention - up to two years without trial. Then, if convicted - maybe more.

BOSTON

At Boston - a legal win for Senator Edward Kennedy; Massachusetts Supreme Court Judge Reardon - postponing indefinitely the start of that Mary Jo Kopecne inquest. The Judge citing what he called - a "gathering crescendo of publicity." With the Senator's constitutional rights seriously endangered - as, his lawyers had earlier claimed.

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MINNEAPOLIS

From the University of Minnesota - news of another milestone in medicine. The development - of a new, highly purified anti-rejection serum. A serum said to be best yet - at cutting down the rejection factor in human organ transplants.

So far the serum has been administered to thirty-three kidney transplant patients, not a single failure.

WASHINGTON

In Washington - Senate Minority Leader Dirksen - in satisfactory condition at Walter Reed Hospital. The Senator - undergoing an operation earlier today - for partial removal of his right lung - a lung tumor. Coming along okay.

FRANK LAUBACH

Instead of broadcasting from the Far West, as I am tonight -- on my way to the Far East, I would like to be at a birthday party in Syracuse, New York.

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At Randolph House at Syracuse University, a birthday party is being held for one of the most remarkable men of our time. His name is Frank Laubach a man who has devoted his life to teaching people right around the world to read and write. I suppose he has known intimately more primitive people than any man who has lived and done more for them. At age eighty-five, Frank Laubach is still going strong.

Here are two of my favorite Frank Laubach stories: Years ago when he was living among the cannibals of New Guinea, he was so successful that twenty thousand of them gave a party in his honor, with six hundred Chiefs giving him a special salute. These were people who carried stone battle axes and wore the

spectacular plummage of the greater Bird of Paradise.

At this celebration the number one Chief, through an interpreter, said: "We will never be the same again.

You have done more for us than anybody. We like your religion and we Chiefs have just voted that all of our

tribespeople must now become Christians." Then the

Chief added, "that is all of us except us Chiefs. Your

4 religion does not allow a man to have but one wife and

all of us Chiefs have many wives, and we can't think of any

way to get rid of them suddenly. But we will marry them

off to other men as fast as we can." Then speaking about

age, five years ago when Frank was eighty, he said:

"The first eighty years are the hardest. After eighty life is just a series of parties. Everybody wants to carry your baggage. If you forget anyones name, or forget to meet an appointment, or spill soup on your necktie, or fail to shave one side of your face, you can

relax, nobody expects much of you. At seventy people are mad at you for everything. At eighty they forgive anything. In my opinion, says Frank Laubach, "Life begins at eighty."

I hope! I hope he's right, and I wish Frank Laubach was coming with me now to revisit those wild people deep in the heart of New Guinea, for that is just where I am headed for.

SWARTHMORE

Dr. Fred Luehring of Swarthmore,

Pennsylvania - the toast of that town - today. Returning

home as a new record holder; the oldest man ever to

hike the entire length of the Appalachian Long Trail.

Completing his seven day, two-hundred-and-sixty-one

mile trek -- on arrival this past weekend at Camel's

Hump, near Duxbury, Vermont.

Oh, yes - I nearly forgot. Dr. Luehring's

age - he's eighty-seven. A physical fitness enthusiast

- who obviously practices what he preaches.

PARIS

While the rest of the world is worrying about a population explosion - just the opposite in France. An item from Paris today - telling of a government drive - planned for this fall via radio and TV; a drive aimed at encouraging - "L'amour, toujours, l'amour." In other words - urging French couples to have "Beaucoup children!"

Reason - the fact that France's population has shown only a slight increase - since the turn of the century. Numbering now - less than fifty million. Indeed, the last couple of years - actually going down hill - thanks to "the pill".

In this then - President Pompidou taking up where his predecessor left off. Observers recalling that General de Gaulle's concern with the French birth rate - was something of an obsession. Le Grand Charles quoted as saying: "This country is like a thin man in a fat man's suit - just think what we could do if we were a hundred million" - said de Gaulle.