

Mon. October 9, 1972

PARIS

Paris again - another "secret" peace session - as you may have heard. For the U.S. - Henry Kissinger and his chief aide, General Alexander Haig, meeting for a second straight day - with the two top men from the Communist side, Le Duc Tho and Xuan Thuy. Apparently making some progress - they later agreed to meet for an unprecedented third straight day.

The White House refusing, however - to characterize the talks in any way; saying only it was "very unlikely" - they would enter a fourth day.

VIETNAM FOLLOW PARIS

Meanwhile, the fighting goes on. After a three-day battle - the South Vietnamese troops finally recapturing the village of Thanh Quy ten miles north of Saigon.

Government Marines also retaking the district town of Trieu Phong - just two miles north of Quang Tri City.

On the political front - ~~George~~^{McGovern} McGovern launches a two-week cross-country campaign tour; starting out today with a march up New York's Fifth Avenue - as part of the city's annual Columbus Day Parade.

McGovern also issued a statement - accusing the entertainment and news media of focusing unfairly on the "criminality" of Italian-Americans. "This focus" - said he - "unfairly represents the Italo-American community - and defames their contribution to our country."

~~But~~^{However} McGovern himself ^{now} later the target of a blast from the president of the Italian-American History Society. John LaCorte accusing the Democratic nominee - of "prostituting the historical significance" # of the day. And he added: "We are celebrating here the four hundredth anniversary of Columbus - and this is not organized as a platform for politicians."

WHITE HOUSE

The White House - President Nixon met today with Miss Teenage America - nee Sharon McLarty, a constituent of Senator Eastland of Mississippi - who accompanied her to the White House.

Eastland - as you know - a Democrat; running for re-election this year - against Gil Carmichael, a Republican; all of which raised something of a question - with regard to the President's party loyalty.

At a later briefing though - Press Secretary Ron Ziegler attempting to make things "perfectly clear," ^{as he put it} When asked if the President supports all Republican candidates in the coming election - replying emphatically: "He sure does."

CAPITOL HILL FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

Nearby, on the Capitol grounds, First Lady Pat Nixon was christening today - a so-called "People-to-People New Majority Machine." This a highly-decorated bus - that will tour the country in behalf of the President's re-election campaign.

Mrs. Nixon also pasted on a bumper sticker - which said: "Altri Quatro Ammi." ~~In~~ Italian ^{for} "four more years."

ETHICS

Speaking of politics - the Fair Campaign

Practices Committee today issued its mid-campaign report; noting the receipt of twenty-one complaints - alleging violations of the Code of Fair Campaign Practices; "an increase of fifty per cent - over Nineteen-Sixty-Eight." The committee adding that, indeed, this year could see, if present trends continue - "a new high in political low-blows"

TAIPEI

While the U.S. was observing Columbus Day -
Nationalist China was observing today its own "Double Tenth"
National Day. The tenth day of the tenth month - marking
the start of the Chinese revolution that led to the
establishment of the Republic of China. This - as you may
~~know~~ ^{recall} - the first republic in all of Asia.

Today's observance - including a bitter statement
from Chiang Kai-Shek; ~~who~~ ^{ing} accused Japan of "opening the
door for the thief" - by establishing diplomatic relations
with Red China. Chiang also calling Japan's attempts at
greater trade with Red China - a "policy of drinking poison
to quench thirst." Adding that "the Japanese government -
because of its shortsightedness and desire for quick gains -
has brazenly distorted the unlawful into the lawful and the
abnormal into the normal."

MOSCOW

Starting today in Moscow - a second series of work meetings between American and Soviet space scientists; aimed at paving the way - for a joint space flight three years hence.

The U. S. team - including this time American Astronaut Tom Stafford; while the Russian delegation - including Soviet Cosmonaut Alexei Yeliseyev; two of the men who may be meeting again one day - ^{out in space - in} ~~in earth~~ orbit.

GREENVILLE

From Greenville, Maine - a post-script on the recent return of those three American POW's.

Navy Lieutenant Markham Gartley - a lifelong Greenville resident; star football player in high school - also, class valedictorian. And he's coming home this week. Well-meaning friends - attempting to raise enough money to buy him a new Two Thousand-Dollar car. But they've been able to get so far - only about Fifteen Hundred Bucks.

Main reason - we are told: A growing public resentment. Over - one - some of the things Lieutenant Gartley has said; two - some of the things his parents have said, and especially three - some of the things the anti-war activists who brought him home have said.

That from Greenville, Maine, I wonder how many Greenvilles there are in our 50 states besides Greenville, Ohio, famous for Sen. Mad. Anthony Wayne, Annis Cabley and so on?

PHILADELPHIA

The scene: A Philadelphia street corner - late at night. Beat Patrolman Barry Bergman - dispersing seven boys who were just "hanging around." When suddenly - a report of a man beating a woman. Patrolman Bergman racing to the scene - attempting to intervene - getting knocked flat. Taking a terrific beating - when the seven boys he dispersed luckily reappeared ~~on the scene~~.

One of the youngsters grabbing up the Patrolman's night stick - another, his blackjack; and together - they leaped into the fray. A third youth - placing a call for help. While a fourth - retrieving the officer's service revolver - just in time. Patrolman Bergman felling his assailant - with a single shot; serious - but not fatal.

And so the story of the Philadelphia seven, - you might even say, "the magnificent seven."

LONDON

From London - the story of a British journalist who begins this week - I guess you'd call it an "incredible journey." At any rate, forty-year-old Geoffrey Moorehouse is flying to Nouakchott in Mauretania - from whence he plans to cross the vast Sahara by camel; the long way, from the Atlantic Coast to the Nile - a distance of about three thousand, six hundred miles. It's expected to take him about a year. As far as we know, an all-time first - by camel - assuming he makes it, if course.

Next question; Bill Martin, why would anyone want to cross the Sahara the long way by camel? Says Moorehouse, in effect: "Because it's there," as Lee Mallory said that before he vanished on Mt. Everest fifty years ago.

HOLLYWOOD

Today's most quotable quote: On the subject of longevity - as reported by columnist Earl Wilson; who tells of a conversation between humorist Harry Hershfield, age eighty-seven - and Hollywood great Adolph Zukor, soon to be a hundred. The latter saying: "If I'd known I'd live this long - I'd have taken better care of myself."

I hear there are some 7000 new aliens in this broad land who are 100 or over.