

Tuesday, January 19, 1971

TEHERAN

At Teheran another most important oil meeting; again bringing together the representatives of western petroleum interests - along with those of the Persian Gulf oil producing countries. The latter - as you know - suppliers of about ninety percent of the oil used in the West. And, they are demanding a substantial increase in oil royalties. Indeed, the Persian Gulf countries - or "Arabian Gulf" if you are an Arab - demanding a definite "yes" or "no" - within the next forty-eight hours. They have also called a meeting of all their own members for next Monday. And they are pledging to make their own "final decision" at that time - which could mean cutting down or even cutting off Persian Gulf oil to the West. And they seem to hold some of the important trump cards.

DETROIT

Detroit - climax of act three in the Nineteen Seventy-One round of the auto industry contract drama; this including - it seems - a surprise finish. The United Auto Workers and Chrysler reaching tentative agreement on a new pact; one that does virtually duplicate the terms already accepted by both Ford and General Motors - except for one "very important" point. Chrysler agreeing to consider the feasibility - of a new four-day forty-hour work week. This an auto industry first - which the U A W quickly called "a foot in the door."

JERUSALEM

From the strife torn Middle East - Jerusalem the Holy City - a ray of hope today. Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban - briefing the Israeli cabinet; bearing with him replies from Egypt and Jordan - with regard to Israel latest peace proposals. Informed sources later quoted as saying the Arab counter proposals - "do not block the way" for continued efforts toward a peaceful settlement. It was also noted that the "tone" of Egypt's reply - was "far milder than the bellicose statements issued previously" from Cairo. And that in itself - we are told - a decided improvement.

INDO CHINA

In Southeast Asia - a stepped up drive today to clear vital Highway Four in Cambodia. A force of some five thousand South Vietnamese marines leap-frogging a stalled Cambodian unit and launching a massive assault - on Communist troops stil holding key Pich Nil Pass. This tactic made possible by using an armada of thirty helicopters

Meanwhile, Cambodia's soldier Premier - General Lon Nol - was getting ready to fly to Saigon to meet with U.S and South Vietnamese officials - in a bid for more military assistance. This to include a broader training program - for his army, navy and air force.

HOUSE

On Capitol Hill at a House Democratic caucus today veteran Carl Albert of Oklahoma - was chosen to be the new Speaker of the House ; thereby succeeding - the retiring John McCormick of Massachusetts.

The new Speaker designate promptly telling his colleagues: "I will do the best I can - to make this House a viable instrument of public service."

Then Hale Boggs of Louisiana was chosen as Alberts successor as House Majority leader!

SENATE FOLLOWHOUSE

Elsewhere on Capitol Hill - a big boost for Senate reformers. Goldwater of Arizona announcing his support of a liberal movement aimed at overhauling the Senate's controversial seniority system. The man who was once considered the nation's top conservative - saying he is undecided as how best to replace existing procedures; but he does agree wholeheartedly that the seniority system is both "outmoded and improper for a twentieth century Congress."

CAPE KENNEDY

At Cape Kennedy a final dress rehearsal today - for the upcoming flight of Apollo Fourteen; ending in a successful mock launch - at **Three-Twenty-Three**, Eastern time - right on the button. And now ~~begin~~ the final preparations * for the real thing; a nine day Moon expedition - scheduled for lift-off a week from Sunday.

VATICAN

At the Vatican ~~in Rome~~ a farewell to arms today. The Pope's private police force - the colorful Papal Gendarmerie - patrolling the Vatican for the last time; with a new plain clothes security force - smaller and more modern - scheduled to take over, ~~as of~~ tomorrow. This new unit - to be called the Vatican's Central Vigilance Office. The C V O to consist of ninety men - who will now assume responsibility for all Vatican police work; from traffic duties - up to and including Papal Security.

LONDON

who flew so high now
Over in London - the Beatles [^] hit rock bottom.

One time chief Beatle, Paul McCartney filing suit today against his three former playmates; attempting to dissolve the group's partnership in a joint firm they call simply "Apple".

McCartney charging:- One - that the Beatles have long since ceased to perform together as a group.

Two = that the other Beatles had hired over his objection - a new American-born business manager by the name of Allan Klein. And three - that ~~Ex~~ Klein had refused to supply him with certified accounts of Apple's activities - for more than four ~~■~~ years.

McCartney further claiming that Apple's assets - once estimated at a hundred million - are now hardly enough to cover back taxes. In effect, charging that Apple - since the ~~the~~ Beatles parting of the ways has become "rotten to the core," *or something of the sort.*

DAVENTRY

This next - from Daventry England where a not so loyal Britain, one David Steele, recently purchased an historic tract of land - to use as the site of a hotel. Builder Steele - ignoring the pleas of local archaeologists.

Instead, sending in his bulldozers - telling his critics: "History is bunk - who wants to know about lost cities?"

Well, the answer to that - as it turned out - the British government! Orders from Whitehall halted work just as the bulldozers finished clearing off the top soil.

Subsequent studies leading to the conclusion that this was the site of the long lost city of Bannaventa, legendary birthplace of St. Patrick of Ireland.

Builder David Steele now saying: "This will become a mecca for every Irishman in the world." And he now concludes "History is alright - IF there is money in it; otherwise - it's bunk."