

Wed., Sept. 5, 1973

**WHITE HOUSE**

*The White House - President Nixon today held his second news conference in two weeks - as no doubt you've heard by now. This clearly an attempt - to "get on with the peoples business;" and as such starting out with a statement - addressed directly to Congress.*

*Said the President: "The Congress is returning today from its August recess - and as I look over the record of accomplishment this year, I find that it is very disappointing;" especially - he continued - "in terms of administration initiatives - bi-partisan in character and of vital importance to all the nation."*

*"Consequently" - said the President I will be sending to Congress - what is in effect a new State of the Union Message; one that will concentrate on the measures presently before the Congress that have not been acted upon and which I consider urgent."*

*The President citing first and foremost - the very*

high priority of fighting inflation.

The President further stressing that he would not present Congress - with an "impossible task" - but rather narrow his sites to realistic goals. "I know that Congress is usually a last quarter team" he went on. Adding: "In that last quarter - we have to score a lot of points."

And then - a barrage of questions. Number one and several more to follow - dealing with the probe currently swirling about Vice President Spiro Agnew. The President refusing however - to respond to quote "purely hypothetical" questions. To do so said he - would be "a grave infringement on the Vice President's rights." The President also fielding questions with regard to his Key Biscayne and San Clemente properties, the so-called "energy crisis", the pursuit of peace in the mid-east - and on and on. But the one that apparently piqued him most - a question dealing with the task of "rebuilding confidence" in his leadership.

"That is a problem - it's true" - said the President.

*"It's rather difficult" he continued - "to have the President of the United States, for four months" - under attack "by innuendo, by leaks, by leers and sneers of commentators - without having some of that confidence being worn away."*

*But confidence can be restored said he - " by the President not allowing his own confidence to be destroyed - that's a beginning." And second - said he - "it's restored by doing something." The President adding that as we move ahead - in both foreign and domestic affairs - "the people will be concerned about what the President does." "And I think that that" said he - "will restore the confidence."*

## CONGRESS

*Earlier - it was back to work today for Congress.*

*Senate Majority leader Mike Mansfield - immediately sending out a peace feeler to the White House; a bid - we are told - to end the present "civil war" between the President and the Congress.*

*Senator Mansfield saying Congress is willing to go more than half way - in working out a reconciliation with the President. Adding: "All he's got to do - is grasp the hand that's held out to him."*

## **BYRD FOLLOW CONGRESS**

*More of the same - from Mansfield's Chief Deputy,  
Senate Democratic whip Robert Byrd; who was calling today -  
for efforts "to bring about a reconciliation and accommodation"  
with the President. Byrd also said he favored a continuation  
of the Senate Watergate hearings - "until the job is done."  
Nevertheless, urging an end - to TV coverage. "The  
hearings are somewhat over the hill" - said he. Adding: "The  
people are getting tired of them."*

## SIRICA

### *Elsewhere in Washington - Federal Judge*

*John Sirica was cracking the whip today. Ruling that Watergate conspirators Jeb Stuart McGruder and James McCord - may ~~travel~~ travel but they may not give lectures.*

*Judge Sirica going on to say: "I don't ~~understand, I don't~~ think it's fair ~~frankly~~ for Messers McCord and ~~Mr.~~ McGruder to profit by their wrong doing - to appear on the lecture platform for ~~two~~ two thousand dollars or whatever it is." Judge Sirica adding: "To me it's a ~~disgrace~~ disgrace and as long as I'm judge, I'm going to try to prevent it."*

## PARIS

Overseas - a tense drama was being played out today in Paris. Armed Palestinian guerrillas seizing the Saudi Arabian Embassy in the French Capital and in the process - also seizing a number of hostages and threatening to blow up the building - unless they were granted safe passage out of France. All of this - part of a plot to free a guerrilla leader currently held in Jordan.

French and Saudi Arabian officials - however, refused to give in. The resulting stand-off - lasting for hours and broken only by the death of one of the hostages - apparently a Saudi diplomat who was shot and then hurled from a window.

## **EARTH**

*In the flight of America's SkyLab Two - a new time-in-space endurance record. Astronaut Alan Bean now has a total of forty-nine days, three hours, thirty-eight minutes and thirty-seven seconds in space; thereby passing the previous mark - set by his former flying partner Charles "Pete" Conrad.*

*This Al Bean record is one that probably will last for a long time. Officials saying by the end of the present flight - he will have completed - in all - more than sixty-nine days in space; a mark that will not be surpassed - we are told - perhaps 'till long duration flights scheduled for the late Nineteen Eighties.*



**BANGKOK**

**Plans for the completion of phase ~~one~~ one in the U S withdrawal from Thailand - were announced today in Bangkok. Thai Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn - saying the U S intends to pull out ~~and~~ an additional fifteen hundred men and seventy planes starting tomorrow.**

**This to set the stage for phase two - which is expected to follow shortly. The ~~has~~ U S having about forty thousand men and more than five hundred planes still based in Thailand.**

**DETROIT**

**By mutual agreement between Chrysler and the United Auto Workers - a "mini-blackout" today on contract talks in Detroit. This to permit a discussion of economic issues, do it "out of the public eye;" this an indication - we are told - that serious bargaining is about to begin. And none too soon. Chrysler, which is this year "target" company in the auto industry faces a strike deadline ten days hence.**

## **KISSINGER**

**Henry Kissinger was a visitor today - to Capitol Hill.**

**The new Secretary of State designate - conferring individually with members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; making a few points prior to the start of confirmation hearings this Friday.**

**As for reaction, Senator Griffin, for one, telling Dr. Kissinger - he can expect some intensive questioning. Adding, however, that prospects for confirmation - are "very good."**

**BOWIE**

*Booey Kuhn*  
Baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn was the

chief witness today - ~~and~~ before a House communications  
committee; testifying in opposition to a bill - that  
would ban TV blackouts of home sports events. *Booey*  
Bowie

Kuhn claiming that such a bill - would "undermine

*Bill*  
home game attendance" and thereby "undermine baseball."  
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## DES MOINES

Because of a news print shortage - Iowa's largest newspaper was forced to take drastic action this week. The Des Moines Register cutting back on a number of regular features. This including a reduction in the comic section - to a mere three columns. Whereupon - a flood of protests. Also, some second ~~hand~~ thoughts.

The Des Moines Register finally telling its readers today: "Your telephone calls have convinced us - we pinched our belts a bit too tight;" adding that starting now - "you'll <sup>have</sup> ~~find~~ the comics." ~~a third larger inside.~~