

Wednesday, April 16, 1969 ✓

THE SEA OF JAPAN

In the Sea of Japan - the search goes on tonight; the search for possible survivors - from that downed Navy reconnaissance plane. U.S. ships and aircraft - Russians, too - scouring the area - hoping against hope. Although at last report the Pentagon was saying: "we continue to be without any word of survivors."

Earlier, the Pentagon had concluded that North Korean planes evidently were responsible for shooting down the unarmed craft. Adding however, that the incident took place - "far outside" any air space now claimed by the Communists. All of which raises the question - what next?

And the answer to that - apparently to come Friday morning when President Nixon holds his next news conference. In the meantime - the President meeting today with his National Security Council.

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*Refusing comment - till all the facts are in. Reacting
to his first international crisis - with quiet, measured
calm.*

Never the less, a clue perhaps to administration thinking - in a speech today by Secretary of State William Rogers. This at a Washington meeting of newspaper editors - where the secretary reviewed major world problems currently facing the U S. Coming to the conclusion: "One lesson is quite clear;" and that - said he - the fact that "great power does not mean great freedom of action and decision."

"On the contrary" said William Rogers - "The weak can be rash. The powerful must be restrained. Great power often means very narrow choices of action; and what we can do to influence events in a given case - may well be marginal." Another way of saying - "patience, please."

Acheson Follow Rogers

Another speaker at the same meeting - former Secretary of State Dean Acheson. Once a bitter foe - of the present occupant of the White House - like Rogers though a staunch Nixon supporter today, at least, temporarily.

Indeed, Dean Acheson observed that the President - has already made "a good start" in foreign affairs. Asserting: "The President has met two important tests - his trip abroad and his decision on the ABM matter." Acheson adding: "I give him high marks on both." Considering the source - quite a tribute.

Reconciliation at Phnom Pehn. Cambodia's Prince Norodom Sihanouk - announcing today a planned restoration of diplomatic relations with the U.S. A move - said he - prompted by a communication from President Nixon; officially recognizing Cambodia's "sovereignty, independence and neutrality within its present frontiers."

Next step a formal exchange of notes.

Sihanouk also suggesting the possibility of later negotiations - to resolve the still remaining dispute over alleged Viet Cong bases in Cambodia. The Prince saying, that U.S. officials - will then be permitted to make on the spot inspections. There to see - as he put it - the 'effects of their bombardments - and the nationalities of their victims."

Meanwhile, business as usual in neighboring South Vietnam - the business of war: including today an enemy shelling of DaNang - the country's second largest city. At the same time - U S officials disclosing an accidental attack on a friendly village in the Mekong Delta.

Be that as it may - U. S. pacification efforts continue to forge ahead. Reports from Saigon today pegging government control - at a record 82% of the peasant population. A sharp increase in spite of the current Red offensive.

By the way, a debate has been raging here at home - over alleged defects in the army's new Sheridan tank. Some in Congress - calling it a "million dollar boondoggle."

Now the reverse side - from U.S. "tankers" at Bien Hoa in Viet Nam; who are said to be anything but unhappy - over their first shipment of Sheridans. (Says Lieu'enant Colonel Meritte Ireland: "Sure, the Sheridan has problems - but none which we can't solve." More important - he added - "it works in combat." Major Richard Rushton observing: "Any vehicle has bugs - but the Sheridan kills Viet Cong better than anything else we've got.)

Summing up - Sergeant Victor Harris asserting: "If anyone has any big problems with the Sheridan - its the Viet Cong, not us."

Vatican

At the Vatican Pope Paul announced plans to fly to Geneva in June. There to address the World Council of Churches - also a meeting of the International Labor Organization.

This to be his seventh trip abroad - "a sign of the times" - said the Pope. Especially noteworthy in that Geneva was the earliest stronghold of Protestant Calvinism - way back in the Sixteenth Century.

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Speaking of age - as I was a moment ago - some tips to wives on how to help their husbands avoid heart trouble - and thus live longer; as suggested this week - by the British Medical Association.

For example, the British wife is told to stop driving her husband to the train every morning - let him walk. She is also advised to insist that he help with the dishes - instead of flaking out on the couch after dinner. Another good thing - it says here - a regular schedule of light chores - such as gardening, cleaning out the garage and so on. The doting wife is further urged to encourage her husband - to give up smoking, rich foods and all but an occasional cocktail.

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Will all these things actually help a man live longer? Well, maybe not - we are told; but then - Warren - it'll seem like it.

CK

George Washington

This next - from George Washington

University. Where a psychiatrist looks at American men and comes to the conclusion: "very few are satisfied with how old they are."

Doctor Leon Yochelson explaining: "the child can't wait until he is grown up; - the young adult is concerned with setting up a retirement plan; - the middle aged man can hardly believe that time has passed so swiftly; - and the past sixty-five man feels deeply the threat of younger competition."

The only way to escape this merry-go-round - says Doctor Yochelson - is to set your immediate goals "in a realistic way." Always bearing in mind: "you're not as young as you used to be - nor as old as you hope to be."