

WHITE HOUSE

Thurs. Apr, 23 - '70.

The White House - President Nixon moves boldly in the area of draft reform. The President issuing an executive order today stopping immediately the granting of deferments on the basis of occupation or fatherhood - except in cases of extreme hardship. He also asked Congress for enabling legislation - to stop the granting of all student deferment; observing that such deferments - "are no longer dictated by the national interest." ~~He~~ The President further seeking an adjustment - in the present lottery ~~the~~ system of inducting nineteen year olds; one that would place the system - on a national rather than a local basis.

The President then went on to pledge a complete end to the draft, - hopefully - in a few years. This - by means of an all-volunteer army. As a first step toward that end - the President additionally asking
46 1/2 for a twenty percent pay increase - for all U S enlisted

men with less than two years service. ~~And~~ He
concluded; "the consideration of national security -
contains no argument against these historic actions;
the consideration of freedom and justice ~~convinced~~ argues
eloquently in their behalf."

ARMS

The White House again - an announcement

~~today~~ *that the U S has approved for shipment to Cambodia - a quantity of Russian type rifles captured earlier in Vietnam. The delivery consisting of A. K. - Forty-Sevens which are used almost exclusively by Communist ground troops.*

White House Press Secretary Ron Ziegler

47
explaining the move - saying: "There are forty thousand Communist troops in Cambodia - and some of them are moving toward Phnom Penh with the latest weapons." And he added: "There is no question - who the aggressor is in this situation."

PARIS

On the peace front - Paris - another
fruitless exchange of arguments today. Philip Habib
for the U S - urging the Communist side to study
President Nixon's recent report on Vietnam; ^{and} expressing
hope that this will lead at last - to a discussion of
basic issues. However, the Communists ^{are} asserting that
the President's latest peace move - is, in reality -
Communist reality that is, a threat to ~~conquer~~ conquer
all of Indo-China.

~~Do~~ Indeed, it was later suggested that the
enemies chief negotiators - may remove themselves
from Paris "within a few days;" ~~thereby~~ leaving the
peace talks to subordinates - as they claim the U S
has already done.

SAIGON FOLLOW PARIS

Meanwhile, the effects of the U S

"Vietnamization" program were apparent in weekly casualty figures announced in Saigon. The number of American combat deaths - dropped nearly thirty percent from the week before. During the same period - South Vietnamese losses jumping nearly fifty percent; some seven hundred and forty men, in all. The second highest figure this year. As for enemy losses, they are put at three thousand.

SINAI

In the Middle East - Egyptian jets struck twice today at Israeli positions in the occupied Sinai. One of the raids - according to Cairo - carrying sixty-five miles into Israeli patrolled territory. This Egypt's deepest penetration by air - since the end of the Nineteen Sixty-Seven war. An Israeli spokesman later charging that Egypt's stepped up air offensive indicates "Soviet planning."

NEW YORK

Dr. John Foster ~~Junior~~^{r.} - the Pentagon's
chief of research - principal speaker at a publisher's
meeting today in New York, ^{stated} ~~there saying~~ that Soviet
spending on research and development - both military
and non-military has increased ~~for~~ tremendously in
recent years; to the point - said he - where "the
Soviet Union is now about to ~~overtake~~ seize world
technological ~~leadership~~ leadership; thus fulfilling an age-
~~old~~ old ambition "to overtake and surpass the U S -
in this our traditional area of strength." Dr. Foster
adding that "clearly, the Soviets have correctly
identified science and technology ^A as the key to
industrial strength and international power."

49

MIAMI

Stan Benham of Lake Placid, New York - was a legendary figure in the winter sports world. After an early career as a ski jumper he became perhaps the greatest U S bob-sledder. Winner of the world championship in both two-man and four-man competition -- in Nineteen Forty Nine and again in Nineteen Fifty; whereupon he was voted the A-A-U's - athlete of the year. Two years later - winning silver medals in the two and four man competition at the Winter Olympics at Oslo, Norway. In his last race - nearly a decade ~~later~~ later - missing another world championship by a whisker.

Now - the end of the zig zag run through life for Stan Bennam, a great competitor and only fifty-seven.

WASHINGTON

Did you know that
~~Here's one - a report that~~ women are

"growing restive". ~~This - according to~~ a Presidential
task force on womens rights, ~~which~~ ^{says so and} places the blame -
on wholesale "discriminatory practices against women;"
practices "so widespread and pervasive" we are told -
that "they have come to be regarded, more often than
not, as normal." The task force therefore urging passage
of a constitutional amendment - to end hopefully, once
and for all all discrimination on account of sex.

TRENTON FOLLOW WASHINGTON

And by the way at Trenton, New Jersey; a lady assemblyman is attempting to steer through the New Jersey State Legislature a new bill of rights for women. Mrs. Millicent Fenwick explaining: "I was literally floored - when I realized the state's anti-discrimination statute says not one word about women."

Mrs. Fenwick is one of two women - currently serving in the New Jersey legislature. But she is easily identifiable from the gallery - as the one smoking a pipe. Mrs. Fenwick explaining the pipe - saying her doctor advised her to give up cigarettes, pipe okay - she adds: "When I had my seventh grand child"- said she, ~~xx~~ Warren, "I kind of felt I had a license to do as I d . . . as I wanted ."

MARTHA

Speaking of women in the public eye - another chapter today in the adventures of Martha Mitchell; courtesy of her husband - attorney General John Mitchell who quotes the President as saying - "he has no intention of attempting to muzzle Mrs. Mitchell. In fact, the President reportedly telling the lady from time to time: "Give 'em hell, Martha." As for his own reaction to his wife's newfound fame - the Attorney General adding "I love her - that's all I can say."

Perhaps equally ~~important~~ important - at least, in a political sense ^{there's} a growing pro-Martha movement among women, Republican leaders the nation over. One woman admirer ~~asserting~~ ^{saying} of Mrs. Mitchell; "why, she's just wonderful - she's our Spiro Agnew."