

VIET NAM

Lt. Rauch, Fisher, Thru w. Rpt. 1st 65.

Seventeen neutralist nations today formally appealed to both sides in the Vietnamese conflict -- to enter into peace talks -- "without prior conditions." A copy of the appeal delivered to Secretary of State Dean Rusk in Washington -- by a ^{committee of} ~~the~~ Ambassadors from Afghanistan, Ghana, Ethiopia and Yugoslavia.

Rusk replying that the U.S. is as anxious as anybody -- for peace in Viet Nam. But adding that this can be achieved -- only when the aggressors "cease their aggression."

Meantime, President Johnson today asked Congress for one million dollars -- to construct a new U.S. Embassy building in Saigon. To replace that one shattered by a terrorist bomb -- earlier this week. The new building -- said the President -- "will be a dignified, efficient, economical, secure, and ^a permanent place of business in Saigon."

While at the White House late today -- the President was joined by Secretary Rusk and other top advisers -- for a

thoroughgoing review of the war in Viet Nam. Ambassador Maxwell Taylor, for one, offering what were called -- "more definitive proposals" -- for U.S. operations in that long and bloody war.

PRESIDENT FOLO VIET NAM

However, the President said at a late afternoon news conference--that the continuing discussions on Viet Nam--do not indicate any new far-reaching policy. But rather a constant concern for continued improvement--in the American position there.

The President was also questioned about the call for an economic boycott of Alabama--but refused to be drawn into a direct judgment of the proposal. His only comment was this: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
"While trying to protect all the people--we must be careful to see that we don't punish the innocent."

BIRMINGHAM

Governor Wallace of Alabama today branded the latest series of bombings and attempted bombings in Birmingham -- the work of a fiend. The Governor offering a reward of five thousand dollars -- for information leading to the capture of the Birmingham bombers. And, adding the hope that other responsible Alabamans will ^{raise it} ~~attend that sum~~ -- to a reward of a hundred thousand dollars..

One bomb exploding in the pre-dawn hours today -- in a garage behind the Birmingham residence of T. R. Crowell -- a Negro accountant. Crowell enrolled in graduate work -- at a once-segregated branch of the University of Alabama. No one seriously hurt -- but Crowell's thirteen-year-old son -- cut on the left hand by flying debris -- as he lay in bed.

Two other bombs ^{were} found before they could go off.

One at the home of Mayor Albert Boutwell, ^{and} the other at the home of Mrs. Nina Migilianico -- the only woman member of the City Council. Both are considered moderates.

The so-called "dynamite terrorism" labeled by the President of Birmingham's City Council -- "a vicious cowardly effort to intimidate an entire city." The Birmingham News declaring in a page-one editorial -- that "decent citizens" must begin now to exert their leadership -- if they are to prevent the entire state from submitting to a reign of fear.

REPUBLICANS

Ray C. Bliss of Ohio today officially succeeded Dean Burch of Arizona -- as Republican National Chairman. Bliss's first speech at the party helm -- an address to the Thirteenth Annual Republican Women's Conference in Washington.

The Republicans' first job -- said ^{he} Bliss -- is to "stop blaming somebody else for our own problems." The next task -- according to Bliss -- to act upon the national issues -- "of deepest concern to most people." ~~The G.O.P. must stand for~~ "something more than Grand Old Party", said he -- it must ~~stand for Golden Opportunity Party."~~

FOOL

Nature today played its own April Fool's joke on the Upper Midwest -- dropping up to ten inches of snow on a lot of people who thought it was supposed to be Spring. More snow predicted tonight in Michigan and Wisconsin. But elsewhere -- warming temperatures pouring the melted snow -- into swollen rivers and streams. As a result -- flood warnings^{are} posted tonight in Iowa and South Dakota -- along the Floyd, the Rock and the Big Sioux Rivers. The Weather Bureau warning that the sudden thaw -- could touch off some of the worst flooding in the history of the north central states.

JORDAN

King Hussein of Jordan today proclaimed his seventeen-year-old brother -- the crown prince of that Arab nation. Young Prince Hassan thus becoming the heir-apparent to the throne -- and presumably King Hussein's eventual successor.

Hussein's proclamation permitted by a Constitutional amendment -- passed by the Jordanian Parliament only a few minutes earlier. This amendment enables him to by-pass his own two baby sons -- in order to "choose any of his male brothers as heir to the throne," if he later on so wishes.

His decision -- said the King -- is aimed at achieving "the best qualified leadership." Adding that the decision had been approved by his whole family -- including his English-born wife-- the Princess Muna.

RUBINSTEIN

Helena Rubinstein -- who built a fortune on a foundation of cold cream -- died today in a New York hospital. The multi-millionaire cosmetics queen -- Princess Gourielli in private life -- last in the headlines a year ago -- when she routed three hold-up men from her lavish Park Avenue apartment. Her age a closely-guarded secret -- until her death. She was ninety-four.

MUGGERIDGE

In London: today -- a charge that the American way of life is "submerged" in sex -- from the cradle to the coffin. The charge ^{is} ^{was} filed by Malcolm Muggeridge -- one of Britain's most controversial journalists.

Muggeridge asserting that in America -- there is sex in the crib, sex in the playground, sex in the schools, sex in the suburbs and sex ^{even} in the old peoples homes.

The Briton observing that Communist Karl Marx once called religion -- the opium of the masses. But in the United States -- said he -- Americans have found that "sex is better."

PLANE

At Orly Airport, ~~in~~ Paris -- the West German airline Lufthansa had proud plans today -- for inaugurating its first Boeing seven-twenty-seven jet flight -- from Paris to Frankfurt. Indeed, the plane was all serviced and ready to go -- when a French airport bus pulled up with a load of passengers -- eager to take part in the inaugural flight.

Unfortunately, they had to cancel that first flight at the last minute -- for three days, ^{at least,} _^ to allow for repairs.

It seems that the French bus driver thought his big bus -- would fit right under the wing of that big ^{Boeing 727, Dick} ~~airplane~~ _^ ~~bus~~ _^ He was wrong -- it didn't.

Henry H. Fowler -- a Washington lawyer and longtime government servant -- was sworn in today as Secretary of the Treasury. President Johnson calling his new Cabinet member -- a man of "superior ability, capacity, integrity, intelligence and knowledge of how to serve his fellow man."

The President later disclosing that just like everyone else -- he sometimes has trouble paying his taxes. Revealing that he recently had to borrow a hundred thousand dollars -- to pay ~~his own personal taxes~~ a government tax of the same amount. Said the President -- "they have a procedure where they pay it to the President with the left hand -- and take it out with the right."