

Monday, October 30, 1972  
Dallas Townsend

**GOOD EVENING:**

*It was the worst rail disaster in this country in more than a decade. It happened this morning in Chicago, three miles south of the Loop - an inbound commuter train smashing into the rear of another commuter train that had over-run a station and was backing up. At least forty-five persons were killed, more than three hundred injured, some of them so critically that they may not live. Rescue workers struggled for six hours to get survivors - and the bodies of victims - out of the wreckage.*

*President Nixon sent Transportation Secretary John Volpe to Chicago to survey the damage and coordinate Federal relief efforts. The President expressed his deepest sympathy - and announced cancellation of tomorrow's scheduled campaign trip to Chicago, where he was to have taken part in a ticker tape parade.*

## **WHITE HOUSE**

**Mr. Nixon today - signed H.R. One; a "landmark measure" - greatly increasing Social Security benefits. The President saying this "will end many old inequities - and provide a new uniform system of well-earned benefits for older Americans."**

**At the same time - the President announcing plans to veto two more bills. One - to provide additional services for older people; and the other - to establish a research institute to study the problems of aging. The President contending that these would feed inflation - thus, forcing a general tax increase.**

## HARTFORD

*With just a week to go in the U.S. Presidential race - George McGovern was launching his stretch drive today; starting out with a series of campaign appearances - across the State of Connecticut.*

*At New Haven - McGovern telling a group of Democratic leaders - that President Nixon has vetoed twenty-five spending bills. McGovern adding: "Mr. Nixon has earned the title of Mr. Veto - and what he is vetoing is you and your life."*

*Later on, at Hartford, McGovern urging the President to sign a Vietnam peace treaty - as quickly as possible. "I hope at long last" - said he - "that Mr. Nixon will quit letting General Thieu dictate policy to us."*

## **PARIS-PEKING-WHITE HOUSE**

*In that area - a great deal of activity today - but very little movement. The Communist side at Paris - again calling for the signing of a peace treaty tomorrow; as originally planned. The government of Mainland China also calling for a cease-fire agreement - "as soon as possible." But the White House stressing there would be no signing - pending the clarification of six or seven remaining issues. The White House adding emphatically - that Henry Kissinger had already made this "quite clear."*

## **VIETNAM**

*The fighting goes on. With both sides - apparently anticipating as in-place cease-fire; in any event, trying to seize and hold as much disputed territory - as they possibly can.*

*Off the coast though - the U.S. Navy suspending its mining and bombardment activities above the Twentieth Parallel. Another gesture of "good will" - like that U.S. bombing cutback.*

## DAMASCUS

*In the Middle East - Israeli warplanes struck today at Arab guerilla bases - within five miles of the Syrian capital, Damascus. This - followed by a Syrian artillery barrage across the Golan Heights; whereupon Israeli jets again returning to the fray - blasting a Syrian frontier army camp.*

**SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "PLANT A TREE"**

*As you may have guessed by now - Lowell Thomas is off on another jaunt. First stop - America's first and greatest national park. Lowell...*

## RIO DE JANEIRO

*At Rio De Janeiro - the convening of Brazil's  
"First National Women's Council." Feminist - yes;  
militant - yes; but still a far cry - from Women's Lib,  
U.S.-style.*

*The delegates present - about a hundred, in all -  
refusing to endorse a call for legalized divorce in Brazil;  
instead - urging stronger family ties. Also, agreeing to  
foresake "individual claims" - in order to fight for  
economic and social reforms affecting men and women.*

*Dallas Townsend saying Good Night.*