

Monday, May 21, 1973

BONN

For Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev - a smashing climax today in his historic visit to West Germany; including final talks with Chancellor Willy Brandt - and then a nationwide radio and TV address.

Brezhnev saying: "The outlook for mankind - is ever more hopeful." By way of proof - going on to note: "The war in Vietnam is ended - Soviet-American relations are continuing to develop favorably;" and - he continued - "a transition from a quarter-century of cold war to peaceful relations - is being completed; one based on mutual respect and cooperation - between states in the East and West."

Brezhnev adding that, "by and large, one can say that our planet is today closer than ever - to a lasting peace."

MOSCOW

American capitalist David Rockefeller - today an American in Moscow! There opening the first U.S. banking office ever - in the Soviet Union; a branch of the big Chase Manhattan Bank - of which he is Chairman.

As befitting the occasion - also, a few brief remarks. David Rockefeller telling Russian officials: "We have different philosophies - and we are not in the habit of working with one another." Adding that, no doubt - this will lead to certain difficulties. "But the world is changing rapidly" - he continued; and the new spirit of co-existence between east and west - will lead to "greatly expanded trade and investment!"

Would you say David Rockefeller is saying in short: "You have a friend, comrade - at Chase Manhattan?"

PARIS

In Paris - the fourth in the current series of meetings between White House Adviser Henry Kissinger and Hanoi's Le Duc Tho. Today's session running four hours, in all - right through dinner. Dr. Kissinger later saying: "We are making some progress."

THE HAGUE

*At the International Court of Justice in The Hague -
the start of public hearings today; based on separate pleas
from Australia and New Zealand - aimed at barring French
nuclear tests in the South Pacific. Australia's Lionel
Murphy declaring that "every man, woman, child and fetus
in Australia - has in his or her body radioactive materials,
from the French - as well as other atmospheric tests.*

LONDON

The price of gold again hit a record high today - on the big London Bullion Market - jumping eight bucks - to a new mark of one hundred and twelve-fifty an ounce.

At the same time - another attack on the U.S. dollar; as always leading to a certain amount of price gouging - especially on the continent. Indeed, a London travel expert reporting that many U.S. tourists - have abandoned plans to tour Europe; instead, are packing up - and heading home.

As noted before, no apparent reason for all of this - except Watergate which really shouldn't have any effect on currency values - and yet it seems to.

SENATE

Attorney General-designate Elliot Richardson -
again appeared today before the Senate Judiciary Committee;
only this time - he brought along some reinforcements;
namely, Archibald Cox - his newly-appointed special
Watergate prosecutor.

Richardson saying the Harvard law professor - would
have "full independence;" which Cox later confirmed - noting
that Richardson had given him "all the power needed to be
independent." Cox adding: "The only authority he has
retained - is the authority to give me hell if I don't do the
job." Cox also pledging to get to the bottom of the
Watergate case - "wherever that trail may lead."

HELMS FOLLOW SENATE

The part the CIA played in the Watergate affair - was again called into question today before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Former CIA director Richard Helms - saying he flatly refused to involve himself in an attempted cover-up. If he had done so - said Helms - "it would not only have besmirched it - but it might have finished it as an American institution.

Helms conceded, however, that earlier he did authorize the issuance of a wig and other physical disguises - to White House investigators; disguises later used - in burglarizing Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office. Helms saying this was done - at the request of the President's Chief of Staff, H.R. Haldeman. Adding that he thought he was doing the right thing - because, quote, "Assistance to the President has not been a crime until fairly recently."

NEW YORK

Former U. S. Attorney General John Mitchell was arraigned today in a New York Federal Court - along with former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans. Both men pleading not guilty - to charges of perjury and conspiracy. This in connection with a campaign contribution of Two Hundred Thousand - from co-defendant Robert Vesco.

Mitchell's and Stans' appearance - also causing quite a mob scene Mitchell himself - stumbled and almost fell. A TV cameraman did fall - and broke his camera. Mitchell refusing, however, to talk to reporters - except for one brief remark. When asked how he felt - replying: "I've been better."

SUPREME COURT

In a verdict announced today by the U.S. Supreme Court - a rare four-to-four tie, with one abstention; which left standing - a lower court ruling. In effect, the High Court thus revoking an order calling for a merger of predominantly black city schools and mostly white suburban schools - in the Richmond, Virginia, area.

MOUNT BAKER

An attempt was made today to save a young mountain climber - stranded atop Mount Baker in Washington. A team of rescuers - braving a freak snowstorm and twenty-two degree temperatures; finally succeeding - in scaling the nearly eleven thousand foot peak. By the time they got there though - twenty-year old Stephen Esses of Montesano, Washington, was already dead. Friends saying he got up alright - but then he got sick - and he just couldn't make it down.

ATHENS

Another honeymoon couple arrived today in Athens; Randy Agnew, son of Vice President Spiro Agnew - and his bride of two weeks, the former Connie Angelos. They plan to visit the Town of Filiatra in Southern Greece - from whence came the Agnew name.

But first - a brief stop at Athens Hilton. The new Mrs. Agnew surprising hotel personnel - by speaking entirely in Greek. A receptionist later observing: "She couldn't say many things - but all she said was well-accented and sweetly pronounced."

Now Bill Martin with something well-accented but I wouldn't say sweetly pronounced!

VIENNA

At Vienna - the second straight day of the four week Vienna Music Festival; bringing with it - a dramatic break from tradition. The Vienna State Opera performing for the first time - "Moses and Arron;" in contrast to "The Blue Danube" - which always opens the program. This time - a jarring cacaphony of sound, written by native son Arnold Shonberg - the so-called "Father of Twelve-Ton Music."

This - in response to the clamor of younger fans. The first time that Shonberg - ever to be so honored. A somewhat belated recognition - inasmuch as he died ~~in~~ virtually penniless more than twenty years ago.

A Viennese art critic noting, however, there's nothing strange in that. Why not? Because - said he - "Mozart starved to death in Vienna, Schubert died unknown, Bruckner was considered a fool, and Mahler fled enraged." Hence, the "Blue" Danube would you say? And from KNX Los Angeles so long until tomorrow.