

Wednesday, July 9, 1975
Richard C. Hottelet

From Beirut.....

From Washington.....

From Lisbon.....comes today's news. Good Evening,

I'm Richard C. Hottelet sitting in for Lowell Thomas.

The Palestine Liberation Organization - P-L-O - says it has failed in efforts to win the release of kidnapped American Colonel Ernest Morgan - now being held captive by two radical guerrilla groups. The kidnappers had threatened to kill Morgan at two-o'clock this afternoon Eastern daylight time unless the U.S. government agreed to aid victims of recent civil strife in Lebanon. But there was NO immediate word on the Colonel's fate, but Lebanese officials said tonight that they feared for Colonel Morgan's life.

MIDEAST

Israeli Prime Minister Rabin says the completion of any new interim peace agreement with Egypt depends on creation of an early warning system to protect Israel from a surprise attack. Rabin made his comment in Berlin while, in Cairo, the Hearst Papers quoted Egyptian President Sadat as saying basic agreement has been reached on terms for a new Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula. But Secretary of State Kissinger left Washington today for Europe - telling reporters the two sides are "NOT anywhere near an agreement." Kissinger will continue his search for a peace settlement when he confers with Prime Minister Rabin in Bonn Saturday.

TURKEY

President Ford and Congressional leaders today agreed on a plan that would partly lift the current embargo on military arms to Turkey. Once the compromise is formally approved by Congress it will permit the immediate release of seventy-eight-MILLION dollars in arms which Turkey has already paid for - and also permit future military sales. Congress had imposed the embargo last February because of Turkey's violation of U.S. aid provisions in the Cyprus fighting.

More news after this message....

ELECTION COMMISSION

National Party Conventions will never be the same.

The Federal Election Commission has voted to prohibit political parties from accepting services customarily donated by private corporations for the national nominating conventions.

It said that "for example, it is not permissible for automobile manufacturers to provide automobiles or buses for a convention, or major national beverage manufacturers to provide hospitality suites or other free distribution of their products."

The Commission said the Democratic and Republican parties may accept services from cities where they hold their conventions next summer. But the cities may not pass on contributions which a corporation may not make directly.

CAMPAIGN

President Ford's campaign manager - Howard

"Bo" Callaway - says the President and Vice-President

Rockefeller will run separate campaigns for the nomination

to next year's G-O-P national ticket. Callaway adding that,

although the President approves of Rockefeller's performance

in office, a Ford-Rockefeller ticket in Seventy-Six is by NO

means a certainty.

SPACE

Russia's Ambassador to the United States -

Anatoly Dobrynin - will fly to Cape Canaveral to watch next Tuesday's Three-Man Apollo launching in the joint Soviet-American space adventure. Also, the Russians are removing some of the secrecy barriers at their Cosmodrome in Central Asia by inviting U.S. Ambassador Walter Stoessel, to observe launching of two Soyuz Cosmonauts earlier on the same day. He will become the first American ever to witness a Soviet space shot. The Apollo and Soyuz spacecrafts will rendezvous over Germany on July Seventeenth.

FOREIGN

Portugal's left-wing military rulers are calling for the creation of a non-partisan ci ivilan mass movement that would take over governmental operations at all levels. The country's political parties would be left out of it and could face extinc tion. The movement - formed by revolutionary neighborhood and workers' committees - would be directly linked to the armed forces through the military's thirty-man revolutionary council. The Communist Party endorses the plan - but angry reaction came from leaders of the Socialist and Popular Democratic parties who see their roles as being rendered "useless."

STOCK

Like most other Federal agencies, the U.S.

Department of Agriculture owns property, but it just can't quite get used to the idea of owning an interest in a Beirut nightclub -complete with belly-dancers. Through holding stock in an investment firm, it also owns an interest in the flourishing Middle East Airlines. Soon, however, the Department may be able to sell the stock which was acquired ten years ago to satisfy a debt on a wheat deal.

Richard C. Hottelet, CBS News.