Another Russian space spectacular today .- as you have doubtless heard. An unmanned Soviet space ship scoring a bull s eye on Venus. First man-made object -.ever to reach another planet. Rivaling in importance the Russian first soft landing on the Moon - less than a month ago.

A top British scientist later charging that Russia -has thereby endangered fuṭure studies of life on Venus, by contaminating its surface -- with Earth organisms.

No question however, about the marksmanship. Hitting Venus -- they say is the equivalent of firing a rifle bullet from a platform travelling at eighteen miles per second -at a target some thirty-six million miles away -- travelling itself at twenty-two miles per second. Quite a feat.

A tremendous twin victory today for

President Johnson - on Capitol Hill. The House
first approving his request - for a four point
eight billion dollars Military Authorization Bill.

With most of the money - headed for $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ie }} \mathrm{Nam}$.

After which the Senate in effect, reaffirmed

American determination - to repel Communist
at aggression in Southeast Asia by "all measures necessary."

In the House- only four dissenting votes.

In the Senate - only five. And so ends for now at
least - the so-called "great debate".

PRESIDENT_EQLEOV_VI TI NAM_

Here at home - President Johnson/called
the crisis in Diet Nam - "a crime - perhaps the greatest crime of man." Because - said he -
"so much courage and so much will and so many
dreams - must be carelessly flung on the fires of war and death." The morefso - because the Diet Cong must realize by now - that they can never win a total victory.

The only answer - said the President -
a negotiated peace; To "let war stand aside While the people of Diet Nam choose" their own destiny.

## VIETN AM

In Vietnam -- American marines today swept across a fortified peninsula -- near the North Vietnamese border; driving a nest of some four hundred elite Viet Cong into tie South China Sea. American planes and artillery -- then zeroing in on the trapped Viet Cong, as North Vietnam boats moved in .- to try to pick up survivors.

In the end -- American troops killing a total of at least a hundred and fifteen in two days of heavy fighting; with many more -- belleved lost to the sea.

GERMANY．

> After twenty years of waiting in the wings -

Communist East Germany today formally requested membership in the United Nations．The application filed by East German Communist party tedeaed leader

Walter Ulbricht－in a letter to UN Secretary
General U．Thant．
$\underline{U}$－Thant＇s office later reporting the letter
would be sent as soon as possible－to the President of the Security Council；The body that decides questions of membership－in the world organization． In any case－East Germany＇s chances of admission are seen as slim；居 for nothing else．


## POUND

Wen British voters go to the polls late
thy this month - to determine the fate of their government - they will also determine the fate of the pound sterling. This according to an announcement today -- by Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer. Sir James Callaghan stating that if the Labor Party is returned to power - he will immediately initiate a switch from the pound sterling to the decimal system of currency similar to 6 that now in effect in Australia. The change to be completed -- by February of Nineteen Seventy One.

FRANCE
After months of stalling - the French
government today arrived at a figure of one billion dollars $K$ s the price of a farm deal France will demand of its common market partners before agreeing to new trade terms with the United States.

The French demand presented by Foreign

Minister Coupe de Murville - at a Brass els meeting of Common Market Ministers. The billion dollars -- in the form of agricultural tariff concessions to be granted France; In return for French compliance with industrial tariff concessions Designed to foster expanded trade between the $U_{n}$ ited States and the Common Market as a whole.
At Damascus - the new leftist rebel regime of Syria - today announced the formation of a nineteen man government, headed by thirty-eight year old Youssef Zayyen, a bone surgeon turned politician who was also Premier for three months last year before he was purged from the ruling Bath Party. Zayyen, himself now pledged - as he put it- "to purge the Ba, ${ }_{\alpha}^{a}$ Party from rightist thoughts once and for all.
On the domestic front - the President
today presented Conger ss with a special legislative package, Brimming with health and education programs for everyone from hungry school children to alcoholics. Goal - said the President - to give Americans "a new freedeaf from pain and ignorance.

Be that as it may - the outlook for

Congressional debate - stormy. Critics noting
that the President's-chool-mid proposaleatonewe it would cost two-point-three billion dollars over the next twelve months.

It seems that a fellow named Juan Chavez of Dallas -
was upset because someone tried to steal his car. So --

Senor Chavez decided to sleep in the car last night, --
guard $1 t$.

Plan perfect -- except that bandits happened along -- in
the wee hours, spotted the carwatcher fast asleep and relleved
him of -- his wallet, containing fifty-two dollars -- and his
shoes.

Warren -- would you say "he shoulda stood in bed.

Two new election reform bills were presented to Congress today -- by southern Senators. Each heralded as - "the best way to elect a president."

Sparkman of Alabama urging that the electoral vote of each state -- should conform with the division of popular votes in that state. Stennis of Mississippi urging division of electoral votes -- among voting districts to be extablished by state legislators. Both plangs aimed at eliminating our present electoral system.

