GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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 future 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 Viet Nem.

After which the Senate in effect, reaffirmed

American determination - to repel Communist

a aggression in Southeast a 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 FOLLOW VIET NAM

Here at home - President Johnson/called

the crisis in Viet 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 dx death." The more/so - because the

Viet 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 Viet Nam choose" their own

destiny.

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 the 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 -- believed lost to the sea.

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 ledent leader

Walter Ulbricht - in a letter to U N Secretary

General U. Thant.

M-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 alix admission are seen as slim; If we for nothing also.

-- than an almost certain western veto almost certain.

When British voters go to the polls late the 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 Excheequer. 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 that now in effect in Australia. The change to be completed -- by February of Nineteen Seventy One.

48

After months of stalling - the French
government today arrived at a figure of one billion
dollars
Ks 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 Couve de Murville - at a Brussels 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 United States and

the Common Market as a whole.

料

At Damascus - the new leftist rebel regime
of Syria - today announced the formation of a nineteen
man government, Meaded by thirty-eight year old
Youssef Zayyen, a bone surgeon at turned politician
who was also Premier for three months last year *
before he was purged from the ruling Bath Party.
Zayyen, himslef now pledged - as he put it- "to
purge the Bath Party from rightist thoughts once
and for all.

HEALTH FOLLOW PRESIDENT

On the domestic front - the President

today presented Congr ss with a special legislative

package, Brimming with health and education package, programs for everyone from hungry school children

to alcoholics. Goal - said the President - to

give Americans "a new freeder from pain and

ignorance.

1/2

Be that as it may - the outlook for Congressional debate - stormy. Critics noting that the President's school aid proposals alone - 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 it.

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

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

ELECTION

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 planes aimed at eliminating our present electoral system.