

L.T. BUICK FISHER, FRIDAY MARCH 19, 1965

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

With those two Soviet cosmonauts safely back on earth -- President Johnson today added his tribute to all the others piling in on the Soviet Union. The President offering his congratulations on behalf of the American people -- and stating that "all of us have been deeply impressed." Especially -- said he -- by the courage of Lieutenant Colonel Aleksey Leonov -- first man to leave a spacecraft in orbit -- and return safely.

Colonel Leonov and his space partner -- Colonel Pavel Belyayev -- brought their space ship back to earth just before noon today -- Moscow time. The craft landed manually by Colonel Belyayev -- about eight hundred and fifty miles from previous landing sites. Indicating perhaps a last-minute hitch -- in the epochal seventeen-orbit flight. But hitch or not -- the space voyage a tremendous accomplishment -- with the whole world tonight applauding the feat.

RIGHTS

After a full day of delay -- Governor Wallace of Alabama finally gave his answer ~~today~~ ^{late today.} to President Johnson,

His answer to the President's demand that he mobilize the Alabama National Guard -- in order to police Sunday's planned protest march from Selma to Montgomery.

Governor Wallace telling the President that he is willing to call up the National Guard -- any time -- to protect the life and property of Alabama citizens. But adding that if the Federal government wants the Guardsmen to protect the Civil Rights demonstrators -- the Federal government will have to pay the cost. Wallace asserting that his state -- just doesn't have the money.

The Governor's reply following an adverse ruling -- in a Federal Court -- in Montgomery. One in which he was denied his ~~last~~ ^{latest} request -- for another delay of ~~the~~ ^{that} so-called "freedom" march.

ADD RIGHTS

From the LBJ Ranch -- where President Johnson is spending the weekend -- a quick reply. White House Press Secretary George Reedy stating that the President -- "will do whatever is necessary" -- to protect the marchers.

The Catholic Press Press of Worcester calling Mr. Reedy -- "a symbol of Christian love -- such as" America has never had before. Urging the American Catholic hierarchy to petition the Vatican -- "in a true ecumenical spirit" -- to have Mr. Reedy canonized a saint.

REEB FOLLOW RIGHTS

(Meanwhile,

a striking example of religious brotherhood today --
in Worcester, Massachusetts. The official Catholic newspaper
there -- proposing sainthood for ~~the~~ Protestant minister --
the Reverend James J. Reeb -- who was slain in Selma, Alabama.

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Mr. Reeb -- "a symbol of Christian love -- such as" America
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to have Mr. Reeb canonized a saint.

RUBY

In Dallas, a Federal judge today denied a defense motion--that would have transferred the case of Jack Ruby from a Texas state court to a Federal court.

Ruby--testifying briefly in his own defense-- asserting that he shot presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald--strickly on the spur of the moment. Said he-- "I guess it was my destiny."

GROMYKO

In London, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko made it clear today--that Russia has no intention of serving as peace-maker in Viet Nam. Also that the U.S. must negotiate with Communist North Viet Nam--if anyone. Adding that an end to American "aggression"--as he put it--must be the first step toward any possible peace.

Meantime, in Viet Nam--about a hundred and thirty U.S. planes today striking at Communist supply lines--about a hundred and thirty miles southwest of Hanoi. The attack said to have been "eighty to ninety per cent" effective--with no American losses.

INDONESIA

President Sukarno of Indonesia today ordered the confiscation of all foreign-owned oil companies in that Southeast Asian country. The order including three American firms -- Stanvac, Caltex and Pan American.

~~Tanggapan~~ Together with the British and Dutch-owned Shell Oil Company -- the foreign oil interests ^{are} valued at more than a hundred million dollars. The seizure following a similar take-over of U.S. rubber plantations -- last month in North Sumatra. The rubber farms valued -- at eighty million.

ROMANIAN

Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej -- the Communist President of Romania -- died today in Bucharest -- a day after he was reelected to that office. Gheorghiu-Dej also the Communist Party leader -- said to ^{have been the promoter} ~~be the architect~~ of Romania's growing independence from Moscow. He was sixty-four.

TENNESSEE

Senate A bill that would have repealed capital punishment in Tennessee -- was rejected by one vote yesterday in the State Legislature. Today -- acting on his own -- Tennessee Governor Frank Clement commuted the sentences of five men -- condemned to die in the electric chair. Three of the five scheduled for execution tomorrow -- in what would have been the first triple electrocution in state history. Their sentences now set -- at ninety-nine years.

-- of the first American team to climb Mount Everest. Though a novice at this Senator Bob Kennedy seems determined to be the first man to reach the top.

Mount Kennedy -- America's highest unclimbed mountain. The ascent of its treacherous slopes -- perhaps the most dramatic mountain climb of this year.

KENNEDY

Senator Robert Kennedy of New York will travel to the Yukon this weekend -- to join in the attempt to scale Mt. Kennedy. That Canadian peak named after his brother -- the late President Kennedy.

Senator Kennedy to join a party of seven experienced mountaineers -- organized by the National Geographic Society and the Boston Museum of Science. The expedition led by Dr. Bradford Washburn of the Boston Museum -- and James W. Whittaker -- of the first American team to climb Mount Everest. Though a novice at this Senator Bob Kennedy seems determined to be the first man to reach the top.

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REMBRANDT

A Rembrandt painting less than two feet square -- was sold at auction today in London -- for nearly two-and-a-quarter million dollars. The whopping price -- just short of a world's record -- paid by the Norton Simon Foundation of Los Angeles.

The painting a portrait of Rembrandt's son Titus -- said to be one of the artist's most beautiful works. However, the highest-priced painting of all time remains Rembrandt's -- "Aristotle Contemplating the Bust of Homer." That purchased by the Metropolitan Museum of Art ^{in New York} three years ago -- for two-point-three million dollars.

PLEA

A unique plea in a New York court -- a plea of "stupidity" -- credited today with saving a man from prison.

The defendant charged with carrying a loaded revolver without a permit -- after he had accidentally shot himself.

But instead of staging any defense -- his attorney ^{Dick} merely stating his case in these words: "Your Honor, my client is one of the stupidest individuals -- I have ever represented."

~~The defendant -- found guilty, of course. But on the strength of his attorney's plea -- freed on probation.~~

LONDON

Now it can be told. Londoners are just about as honest as any one else -- and no more so.

The proof -- a one-day strike by subway collectors. Londoners put on their honor -- to deposit correct fares in buckets placed at all stations. Authorities at first reporting the system a great success -- and London newspapers praising the local gentry for their uncommon honesty.

Then they tallied the receipts. Result -- collections on the day of the strike totaled only -- a hundred and forty thousand dollars. The "take" -- off nearly forty per cent. Indicating perhaps -- that no one's perfect.