

Mon. Oct. 15-73

The State Department announced today that the United States has begun an airlift of military equipment to aid Israel's fighting forces - ^{this} ~~in order~~ to keep Soviet military supplies from tipping the military balance against Israel, ~~in~~. The Middle East War ~~is still~~ - tonight - is still raging on both fronts. ^Π State Department spokesman Robert McCloskey says the decision ^{to do so} is based on Russia's greatly increased supply shipments to the ~~Arab~~ nations now fighting the Israelis in Syria and on the Sinai Peninsula. At the same time, President Nixon hinted at the possibility of direct U-S intervention in the war - saying that our policy is to assure the independence of mid-eastern nations ^{- just} as it was in ^{Eisenhower} Nineteen-Fifty-Eight when President ~~he~~ sent U. S. Marines to Lebanon - and again three years ago when American forces were alerted to intervene in the Jordanian civil war. ^{Today} ^Π ~~Today~~ Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield ^{today} agreed that the U. S. has NO other choice at this time but to airlift supplies to Israel. ^{But} ^{he} ~~he~~ said ~~he~~ would oppose any commitment

of American troops to the war.

In London, western defense analysts estimate Israel to have lost as many as ninety ~~war~~planes - about twenty-five percent of its air force - ^{— will} ~~in~~ the war now in its tenth day. Similar losses were estimated for the ^{in opponents} ~~Arab Air Force~~ - with Syria perhaps losing at least half of its planes.

Israel claims its forces have thrown back a massive Egyptian attempt to break through ^{their} defense lines in the Sinai near the northern end of the Suez Canal - while Cairo reports ^{only} ~~on~~ minor fighting there. On the Syrian front, Israeli patrols are reported within nine miles of Damascus.

In Moscow, the Soviet Union and Algeria issued a joint communique - vowing to "assist in every way the liberation of all ~~Arab~~ territories occupied by Israel." This came after talks between ~~the~~ Kremlin leaders ~~and~~ and Algerian President Boumedienne who flew to Moscow for the conference.

In Miami Beach, labor president George Meany bluntly accused the Soviets of helping to plan, execute, and man the

present
~~present~~

war against Israel. He says the United States should let Russia know that the proposed detente between Washington and Moscow is a two-way street. Up to now, says Meany, Russia has *handled it like* ~~had the detente of~~ a bank robber - "hand it all over and we'll be friends."

Also in Miami, Israel's second highest government official arrived secretly and under maximum security for a round of private meetings with Miami's Jewish leaders. The envoy - Israeli Finance minister Pinchas Sapir - is regarded by some as next in line for the post of Israeli prime minister.

OIL (folo Mideast)

Arab oil spokesmen in Beirut say that, although Saudi Arabian King Faisal holds the key to any Arab petroleum embargo to nations supporting Israel, the chances are good that he won't take such action. The reason - even the temporary loss of MILLIONS of dollars in daily oil revenue would be too costly for his Saudi Arabian kingdom. These views come as Saudi Arabia and ten other ^{mid-east} ~~Arab~~ oil producing nations prepare to meet in Kuwait tomorrow for talks on the role of oil in the mideast war.

In Washington, an administration spokesman says we could be independent of Arabian oil if Americans would only adopt strict conservation measures - such as lowering auto speed limits to fifty miles per hour - using cold water detergents in washing clothes - and turning down office and home thermostats by at least three degrees. Also using more car pools and public transportation in getting to and from work.


INDOCHINA

Thailand's former premier - Thanom Kittikachorn
- fled ~~from his country~~ ^{the nation} today - ^{only} one day after ~~he~~ ^{ing} resigned because
of widespread rioting by students opposing his military
government. Fleeing with him - perhaps to Singapore -
was his deputy premier who had also incurred the students'
wrath. Calm was restored tonight in ~~the capital city of~~
Bangkok after this announcement - but only after the students
burned down the police headquarters in a parting gesture.

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In Cambodia, rebel troops shot and crippled a cargo
plane ~~which was~~ trying to supply government troops fighting
near Phnom Penh. - ~~but~~ The plane limped back to its
airport and crashed - its four crewman escaping just before
the wreckage exploded in flames.

After several days in seclusion, former Vice-President ~~Spive~~ Agnew goes on nation-wide radio and T-V tonight - apparently to state his reasons for resigning the nation's second highest office. His address will be heard over CBS at 7:30 - Eastern Time. Agnew stepped down as Vice-President last Wednesday after pleading no contest to Federal charges of tax evasion. [↑] In an exclusive newspaper interview, the Nashville, Tennessee, Banner today quoted Agnew as saying he has never in his life cheated on income tax returns and that he was forced to resign because of terrific pressure from the highest levels of the Nixon Administration. The Banner's Washington bureau chief - Frank Van Der Linden - who interviewed Agnew - says he admits receiving financial gifts from wealthy friends - but insists the money was non-taxable and was used to help pay political campaign expenses and support his life style - first as, Maryland's governor and then as Vice-President. Agnew also denies any charges of receiving kickbacks - and describes

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his acceptance of contributions while governor ^{as} ~~was~~ part of
a long-established pattern of political fund-raising in
Maryland.

House Speaker Carl Albert says that if it were left up to him, he would immediately install Gerald Ford as vice-president - but Albert adds that it would be a "serious blunder" to by-pass the confirmation process. The country, ^{Speaker} says, [^]Albert, has the right to know that Congress is doing a careful job of scrutiny before voting final confirmation. Unless a new vice-president takes office, ^{Speaker} [^]Albert, as House Speaker, stands next in line in presidential succession.

In Portland, Oregon, vice-presidential nominee Ford side-stepped a question on whether he would - or would not - accepted a draft to run for president in Seventy-Six.

Speaking before a G-O-P organization, Ford responded to the draft question by saying - "I'll repeat what I've said - I have no intention of seeking election to any office in Nineteen-Seventy-Six."

DOUGLAS

Supreme Court Justice William Douglas today quoted the late President Lyndon Johnson as once saying that his own White House telephone was wiretapped during his term as President. In dissenting on a decision involving wire-tapping Douglas went on to say he is "morally certain" that the Supreme Court's own private conference room has been "bugged." Said Douglas - "We who live in the District of Columbia know that electronic surveillance is common place."

WHEELER

One of America's - and the world's - renowned
journalists - John N. Wheeler - ~~is dead in~~ Ridgefield,
Connecticut ^{passed on} at the age of eighty-seven. Nine years ago,
John Wheeler retired as chairman of the North American
Newspaper Alliance - after spending more than half a
century syndicating the writings of prominent figures in
government, the arts, and the professions. In recent years,
he also ~~served as a consultant to United Features~~ - aiding
statesmen, generals and literary men in publishing their
memoirs; ~~indeed, John Wheeler~~ encouraged ^{ing} many of these
~~figures to put down their memories on paper - for posterity.~~

FIRE

Governor Sargent of Massachusetts has asked President Nixon to declare the historic port city of Chelsea a disaster area - after the conflagration which has destroyed almost one-fourth of the city. The raging fire swept across thirty city blocks - fanned by winds up to fifty miles an hour. Early estimates of the damage - are as high as five-hundred-MILLION dollars.

SONGS

The Supreme Court let stand today an F-C-C ruling aimed at discouraging the playing of so-called "drug-oriented" song lyrics over the Yale University campus radio station. The F-C-C directive had cautioned the Yale station - as well as others - to evaluate the content of recorded lyrics before putting them on the air. At issue here was whether or not the lyrics tend to "promote or glorify the use of illegal drugs."

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TYPHOON

Typhoon Ruth swept across the rice fields of Luzon in the Philippines today - the third such storm to hit the island within the past eight days. First reports say the rain and eighty-five-mile-an-hour winds caused no casualties and damage was minor.