

INDOCHINA

Wed. Feb. 3rd. '71.

In Washington, Paris, Moscow - right around the globe - a growing clamor today; brought on by that alleged Allied offensive - in northernmost South Vietnam and southern Laos. This finally drawing from ^{Administration sources} ~~the White House~~ - a promise that the current embargo on news from Saigon - will be lifted, quote, "relatively soon." White House Press Secretary Ron Ziegler adding that, in any event, it should be "quite clear" that our objective in Southeast Asia is not to widen the war but to reduce U.S. involvement through Vietnamization."

PENTAGON FOLLOW INDOCHINA

More on the same - from the Pentagon; where a spokesman today brushed aside - charges of a widening creditability gap. Assistant Defense Secretary Jerry Friedheim saying: "If we, at any point, have to sacrifice immediate or instant credibility to protect the safety and security of our troops - then the safety and security of our troops will prevail."

SENATE FOLLOW PENTAGON

Senator Dole of Kansas - the new Republican

National Chairman - another quiet voice today in the eye of the storm; calling this "another case - that's being blown all out of proportion." The Senator adding that Americans should "keep one basic fact in mind - that President Nixon is getting us out of Southeast Asia." And anything that will save American lives - said he - that's more important than "what someone wants to read" in the newspaper.

And now this: The Associated Press reporting a new South Vietnamese drive--in the border areas of Cambodia. But what if anything this has to do with Laos--well, we'll have to wait and see.

SPACE

Meanwhile, ^{in far outer space,} ~~high above it all,~~ Apollo-Fourteen
continues ^{on its lunar way -} ~~its epic voyage~~ - soaring ever-closer to the moon.

Along the way, Astronauts Alan Shepard and Ed Mitchell -
^{today} checking out ~~today~~ the "Antares," their projected lunar
lander. Astronaut Stuart Roosa - also joining in a final
check of their command ship, the "Kitty Hawk." The three
men later reporting their spacecraft - ~~"immaculate"~~ - "in
really good shape."

MIDDLE EAST

Getting back to earth - the Middle East - the
countdown continues tonight; with less than twenty-four hours
now - till the expiration of that current Arab-Israeli cease-
fire; ^{with} ~~and~~ Egypt's position on an extension - still very much
in doubt.

For what it's worth though - at least one big
power diplomat in Cairo saying: "I believe the stage is
being set - for a formal extension." And he adds: "The
situation certainly looks brighter - than it did a few days
ago."

WOODBINE

~~Here on our own shores~~ A tremendous explosion^o₁

today in a chemical plant located at Woodbine, Georgia.

First reports indicating ~~at least~~^{more than} twenty dead - with scores more injured.

Cause of the blast - not yet determined, ~~however~~^{at a}

~~the~~ plant engaged in turning out trip flares - for use by the military, mainly in Vietnam. An eye-witness saying of the blast: "It blew ~~that~~^{the} building apart - like you had thrown a hand grenade into a crackerbox." It was - he added - sheer "obliteration."

WHITE HOUSE

The White House again - an attempt today to deal with crippling transportation strikes. President Nixon proposing to Congress - a new "Emergency Public Interest Protection Act." This to provide for binding arbitration - in cases of labor disputes involving railroads, airlines, ~~airports~~ longshoremen, truckers and maritime workers; which makes it, therefore, a virtual carbon copy of a similar bill - which died in Congress last year.

However, Labor Secretary James Hodgson observing that last year's rail strike - had shown a clear-cut need for such a law. And he added - what with another rail strike still in the offing - this should be it!

WHITEWATER

A bizarre plot - reported today from Whitewater State College - Whitewater, Wisconsin; where three young men have ~~just~~ been arrested - ^{the} on charges that they planned to blow up a local electric tower. This ~~--we were told--~~ intended to serve as the prelude to a student rampage. The students said to feel that they could thus show their support - of four Whitewater anti-war faculty members; four men currently facing dismissal - ~~for urging~~ students to boycott classes.

Pravda then goes on to observe, however - that the U.S. is continuing to build up its military preparedness; a policy which is said to be - clearly "incompatible" with SALT objectives. ~~Washington~~ The Kremlin.

Moscow - a Kremlin assessment of progress to date - in Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. This - in an article appearing ⁱⁿ ~~the Soviet newspaper~~ Pravda; an article stating that measures now under discussion - "could become important steps" toward full disarmament; "more important" maybe than even the Nineteen-Sixty-Three Nuclear Test Ban Treaty - or the Nineteen-Sixty-Eight Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Pravda then goes on to observe, however - that the U.S. is continuing to build up its military preparedness; a policy which is said to be - clearly "incompatible" with SALT objectives. ~~That is~~ ^{So says according to} the Kremlin.

STOCKHOLM

From Stockholm - a story today announcing the establishment of Sweden's first - sex advisory clinic for secondary schools. This as part of an experimental program - aimed at serving Stockholm students age thirteen to seventeen; with its main purpose - according to Dr. Sven-Ivar Rollof of the Stockholm school board - "to prevent abortions, unwanted pregnancies and unplanned sexual debuts."

Sven-Ivar
Dr. Rollof adds that Stockholm school officials - would much prefer that parents taught their own children about sex. "But", ^{said he,} "experience tells us - that this does not work" ~~as evidenced~~ as evidenced by a recent sudden increase - in unwanted teen-age pregnancies.

COLUMBIA

This next - from Columbia, South Carolina; where a woman member of the South Carolina State Legislature - has just helped ~~to~~ kill a bill that would have permitted the hiring of girl pages.

The lady "turncoat" - Miss Sherry Shealy; a twenty-one-year-old former beauty queen - now serving her first term in the South Carolina House. Miss Shealy explaining her action - by saying it's general knowledge that legislators "arent' perfect by any means." And she adds: "If girls were to be appointed pages - why, some of these men would have their girl friends up here in no time!"
So says cynical Sherry Shealy,

CAPITOL HILL

For Spiro Agnew - a meeting today with a hundred outstanding high school students - selected from ^{various} cities, ~~clear across the country.~~ The Vice President telling his young audience - he is frequently depicted as "a fierce and ferocious scolder of youth; when, in truth - said he - he stoutly favors the acceptance of eighteen-year-olds - as full members of society. "Inexperienced members perhaps" - he continued - "but still ready to take on a great deal more in the way of responsibilities and burdens - than they are generally given today."

The Vice President adding that he speaks from practical experience - having raised three young adults of his own; also, a teen-age daughter, ^{who is} ~~λ~~ in his own words, "age fifteen going on twenty."