

VIETNAM

June 2, 1970
Allen Jackson

Good Evening. War news from Vietnam - marked today by a major test of the U.S. "Vietnamization" program; with a force of Viet Cong - attempting to overrun a partially completed artillery base in the extreme northeast corner of South Vietnam. This in an area now defended by Saigon troops - following the withdrawal of U.S. Marines.

If the Communists were looking for an easy victory though - they were sorely disappointed. The South Vietnamese ^{defenders} ~~defenders~~ lost at least forty men - their heaviest single-action loss in six months; nevertheless, they turned back the enemy attack after a fierce battle - in the process killed more than eighty Viet Cong; with U.S. helicopter gunships braving monsoon clouds - finally helping to turn the tide.

WHITE HOUSE

Here at home - President Nixon announced today the appointment of a special White House task force. Its members including a dozen or so - legislators, governors and White House aides; assigned the task of assessing first-hand - the impact of U.S. military operations in Southeast Asia; military operations which, incidentally, they have all so far - strongly supported. The President's announcement - came on the eve of a crucial Senate vote; one that could tell the tale on that measure - aimed at cutting off funds for U.S. ~~operations~~ operations in Cambodia.

MOSCOW

While the two cosmonauts in Russia's Soyuz-Nine were whizzing around the earth today - conducting experiment we know not what - there was a Kremlin reception for U.S. astronaut Neil Armstrong. America's first "man on the moon" - meeting with Soviet Premier Kosygin; presenting the Russian leader with some tiny lunar particles - as well as a Soviet flag he carried with him to the moon and back. The U.S. space man also passed along President Nixon's hope - "for a steady widening" of contacts and human friendship between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

In return, Kosygin said he will cherish the American gifts - as symbols of the "courage and knowledge" of the men of the U.S. space program. And he added that the Soviet people - "are second to none in admiring" the first man on the moon.

KRUSHCHEV FOLLOW MOSCOW

Elsewhere in Moscow - Nikita Khrushchev was under treatment today in an official Kremlin Hospital. The former Soviet Premier - who is now age seventy-six - said to be suffering from a burst blood vessel. Friends say his condition - is serious but not dangerous; adding that it probably could have been treated at home - except that Kremlin doctors decided "why take chances."

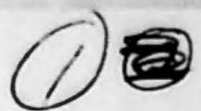
BRIGHTON-COLCHESTER

Overseas again - Britain - chapter one today in the "making of a Prime Minister;" with left-wing student demonstrators - creating the first major "incidents" of the current British election campaign. At Colchester - near Essex University - they broke up an address by the worthy George Brown, deputy leader of the ruling Labor Party; and later at Brighton - near Sussex University - thwarting an appearance by former Conservative Air Minister Julian Amery.

In Brown's case - the dissidents merely used "boos" to drown out the speaker's remarks. A thoroughly one-sided affair - we are told; except for a little old lady - who finally jumped up and bopped a long-haired student with her walking stick. In Amery's case though - the students got a little rough; bombarding the candidate with eggs, flour, tomatoes - also, water and even water glasses. And that's the way they "sock it to 'em" - over in "Old Blighty."

SUGGESTED INTRO TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED "CHAMPAIGN"

As you no doubt have guessed by now - Lowell Thomas is off once again in pursuit of "high adventure;" heading for Russia via Siberia - and then on to Samarkand, Tashkent; [redacted] about which - he'll be telling us more later. In the meantime - a tape he left us; discussing tonight another facet - of that age-old "battle of the sexes." Lowell...



From the University of Illinois comes today a study - that seems to confirm what many have long-suspected; namely, that husbands, on occasion - tend to "tune out" their wives.

For example, test results said to show that seventy-five per cent of the wives in question - thought they had asked their husbands recently to help more with household chores; whereas the number of husbands who recalled similar conversations - was only sixty-nine per cent. Another case in point: Ninety-one per cent of the wives - recalling recent conversations about the possible purchase of a new car; as against husbands who recalled similar conversations - only eighty per cent.

For what it's worth, the study also shows that ninety-one per cent of the wives - had recently discussed having babies; as compared with husbands who remembered same - only eighty-five per cent.

{ Warren, } would you call that - a "communications gap!"

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE

GOODWOOD

Thank you, Lowell. Back to the news...

One of the world's greatest auto race drivers - also, one of the greatest designers of auto racing cars - was the victim of a tragic accident today. New Zealander Bruce McLaren - barreling down the straightaway at the Goodwood race circuit near London, hitting better than a hundred-and-eighty miles an hour - when he suddenly blew an engine. The mishap locked his wheels - sending his car hurtling into an embankment, where it promptly disintegrated - driver and all.

Bruce McLaren - age thirty-three - a man who began his career as a top Grand Prix driver more than ten years ago. He also built and raced two cars - that were among the leading contenders at this year's Indianapolis Five Hundred. He achieved his greatest fame though - as the dominant figure in the exciting Can-Am series, designing and driving perhaps the world's fastest racing cars - so-called Group Seven models - that thoroughly dominated the Can-Am competition over the past few years. Indeed, he was testing

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GOODWOOD - 2

today a new McLaren Special - specially-built for this year's Can-Am - when the end came so tragically, so unexpectedly.

Oddly enough, it was a similar accident at the same Goodwood circuit - that ended the racing career of famed Stirling Moss just a few years back. All of which raises the question: Why? Why would a man want to risk his life - in this most perilous of all sports? Moss later answered the question - for himself and Bruce McLaren, too; quoting the words of famed high-wire artist - who flirted with death every night. "To be on the wire is life" - said he; "and the rest - is merely waiting."

And as Lowell would say - so long until tomorrow.

WALL STREET

Next - a look at Wall Street. After four days of, at times, starting advance - the New York stock market today seemed to run out of gas. Gainers outnumbered losers by more than a hundred - but the overall Dow Jones industrial average slipped only a bit; three-quarters of a point - to be exact. The analysts say: "It was inevitable." They're adding, however, this could be - hopefully - merely the "the pause that refreshes."