

February 20, 1970  
Dallas Townsend

*For the first time in nearly five months - a semblance of legal decorum today in the trial of the "Chicago Seven" - now down to five. Judge Julius Hoffman barring spectators - noting that one of the defendants relatives had threatened to "dance on his grave." At the same time, beefing up security forces - both inside and outside the courtroom. Then and only then - the judge permitting each of the five convicted men - a final statement before sentencing.*

*David Dellinger comparing Judge Hoffman - to a latter-day King George Third. "You are trying to forestall a second American revolution - which you will not succeed in doing" - said he. Rennie Davis saying: "When I get out of prison - I'm going to move next door to Mr. Foran," meaning Thomas Foran - chief prosecutor in the case. Davis adding: "I'm going to organize his kids into revolutionaries - I'm going to turn the sons and daughters of the establishment into Viet Cong."*

And so it went - on and on. Each of the five men  
expressing the ultimate in defiance - each in his own way.  
Till finally - it was Judge Hoffman's turn. With a minimum  
of rhetoric - the judge pronouncing sentence at five years  
apiece - plus - a fine of Five Thousand Dollars. The new  
terms - to run concurrently with terms already meted out  
for contempt. The judge also denied bail - on grounds that  
the defendants "are clearly dangerous persons."

Late today, a section of the America Bar

Association decided to investigate the Chicago Trial -

and the contempt judgements imposed by Hoffman...

on all seven defendants and two lawyers. Jerome Shestack,

chairman of the individual rights and responsibilities section

will appoint a committee for this purpose. Shestack says

that - in his own opinion - Judge Hoffman behaved in an

in-ju-dicious manner.

SENATE

Defense Secretary Melvin Laird - the lead-off witness today before a joint session of the Senate Armed Services and Appropriations Committees. Heading up the Pentagon's presentation - of its annual defense review. The Secretary warning that Russia is pushing its weapons development program - full speed ahead. A rate - said he - that could well relegate the U.S. to second-class military status - perhaps as early as the mid-Seventies.

Laird adding: "If the current Soviet build-up continues - we will need additional costly steps to preserve an effective deterrent." For now though, he said he intends to cut U. S. defense spending - by a full seven per cent this year.

## WHEELER FOLLOW SENATE

Next up - General Earle Wheeler - chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; addressing himself - to essentially the same subject. General Wheeler asserting that U.S. defense cuts - are now "at the borderline of acceptable military risk in the present conditions." He also said that many of these cuts - "have not been premised upon military rationales." And as for Vietnam - he said the Vietnamization program is proceeding well - but still "uneven."

**(SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED  
"LIDDELL HART")**

*Lowell Thomas is winding up a brief visit to the  
Mideast today - heading next for New Delhi - and  
then on to Nepal near the "roof of the world."*

*Right now - another special report he left us.  
Discussing again the legend of Lawrence of Arabia - and  
also another of his biographers. Lowell...*



*L.S. Tape insert  
undated*

If you are among the millions who have been fascinated by the story of Lawrence of Arabia, and if you have been puzzled by many attempts made in recent years to belittle him, including another book published recently, you might check your local library for a copy of a biography of Lawrence written by Sir Basil Liddell Hart, Captain Hart as we used to know him, died a few days ago in London at age seventy four. The New York Times in noting this referred to him as "one of the world's leading military writers and thinkers whose basic ideas on tank warfare were adopted by the German army in its Nineteen Forty blitzkrieg through France."

The brilliant and now legendary German General Rommel, The Desert Fox, once said the British would have avoided most of their defeats in World War Two if they had paid more attention to their own Liddell Hart, ~~so called~~

"radical theories."

*But, I have failed to read any obituary of Liddell Hart mentioning his fine biography of Lawrence of Arabia. If you want the truth about the Lawrence story you will find it there, or in a new edition of my own book WITH LAWRENCE IN ARABIA in which I reply to what to me are the curious, indeed weird, and senseless attacks made on Lawrence.*



**(SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED  
"LIDDELL HART")**

*Air war in the Middle East - continued - page 404*

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

*and happy today. Israeli jets taking up where they left*

*off last night - blasting Egyptian targets along the Suez*

*Canal for two hours more. This following three straight*

*days of Egyptian air strikes. In the same period over*

Air war in the Middle East - continued to rage hot and heavy today. Israeli jets taking up where they left off last night - blasting Egyptian targets along the Suez Canal for two hours more. This following three straight days of Egyptian air strikes - in the same general area .

MUNICH

A related item - from West Germany; where police in Bonn and Munich today ordered the "highest level of security" - for a coming weekend visit from Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban. This in response to three anti-Israeli incidents in Munich - in the past week.

MOSCOW

*Arab commando leader Yasser Arafats -  
wound up a ten-day visit to Moscow. Taking his leave -  
armed with a pledge of full cooperation from the Soviet  
Union. The Al Fatah chieftain heading back to Amman - ~~2~~  
where he will lead a guerilla delegation in strategy talks  
tomorrow with the Jordanian government.*

## WARSAW

*Warsaw, Poland - another meeting between U.S. Red Chinese diplomats. The second in a new series of talks that began late last month - also, the first-ever in the U.S. Embassy. The parley lasting about an hour - same as last time. After which - communique, stressing the secret nature of the meeting.*

## VIETNAM

*In Vietnam - a sudden surge of ground fighting - on two widely-separated fronts. The first - near Da Nang in the North. The second - in the Mekong Delta. In both engagements - South Vietnamese forces bearing the brunt of the action; apparently - quite well. Battlefield reports later setting combined enemy losses at more than a hundred and twenty men - as compared with government losses said to be "light."*

*Now a word from Warren Moran...*



## SAN FRANCISCO

From San Francisco - an announcement today that Eric Hoffer is, in a way, "dropping out." The famed longshoremen-turned-philosopher - aged seventy - saying he plans to retire forthwith from public life. Asserting: "No more columns - no more television - no more lectures - no more teaching; I don't need it - and I don't want it."

Not that he plans to stop writing - no, indeed. However, Eric Hoffer saying: "I'm going to crawl back into my hole - back where I started." And the reason said he: "I don't want to die - barking" at an America "that he claims has become a nation of cowards." That - from a man who may be one of the country's greatest living philosophers.