

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Union of South Africa -- in a virtual state of shock tonight; following the assassination of Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd called the -- "Chief Architect of Apartheid."

As you have doubtless heard by now -- Prime Minister Verwoerd was stabbed to death -- by a white religious fanatic; a man who had been working as a messenger -- in the South African Parliament.

The assassin -- Dmitri Tsafendas -- a naturalized South African of Greek and Portuguese descent; slashing at two other members of Parliament -- before he was overpowered and disarmed.

Finance Minister Eben Donges -- immediately named Acting Prime Minister. In a later radio address to the nation, Donges appealing to South Africans to remain calm. "Motives are still not known -- the police are engaged in a thorough investigation" -- said he.

## REACTION FOLLOW VERWOERD

*Reaction in South Africa itself - perhaps best described as stunned horror. In Cape Town - a black African woman, for one, asserting: "Thank God - it wasn't one of our people who did it."*

*Be that as it may - there was little sympathy in surrounding black Africa. ~~Nxumano's~~ Verwoerd's enemies - and there were many - rejoicing openly at his death.*

*Here at home - President Johnson deploring the assassination; as "a stroke of violence - that shakes the sensibilities of men who believe in law and order."*

*A separate statement - from Senator Robert Kennedy of New York; who recently visited South Africa - whose brother was similarly slain by an assassin. Bobby Kennedy declaring: "Violence is not the answer to problems - which must be worked out between people -- with compassion and understanding on both ~~discuss~~ sides."*

## **FUTURE FOLLOW VERWOERD**

***Looking to the future - Minister of Justice***

***Balthazar Vorster is expected to take over eventually - in Verwoerd's place. Vorster called a militant exponent - of white supremacy. The author of most of the country's tough new security legislation. A man who was jailed by the government during World War Two - as an alleged Nazi sympathizer.***



## **FAMINE**

*From Tokyo - an assertion today that Red China - may be on the brink of "one of the great famines of world history." So says Dr. Irene Tauber - a Princeton University population expert - currently on a working tour of the Far East.*

*Dr. Tauber declaring that on the basis of best available information - "China's population is definitely out of hand." With current estimates of food production - "nowhere near matching the increase in population." The result - said Dr. Tauber - a danger that the least "vagary of weather - a drought or a flood" - would bring death to millions.*

*Is there a possibility then - that China may start a new war - to acquire new sources of food? Not likely - says Dr. Tauber. Adding: "I don't think China at the present time - has the resources to do anything outside her own borders."*

## PEKING FOLLOW FAMINE

A second, perhaps related, item - from Peking.

Chinese Foreign Minister Chen Yi today saying - that Red China does not entirely object - to a negotiated settlement of the war in Viet Nam.

In the same conciliatory tone- a change of pace for Peking - Chen adding, One;- that China does not believe - that it is endangered by attack from the United States. And two - that he ~~person~~ personally does not believe that strained relations between Washington and Peking will last forever.

A break in the Bamboo Curtain?

~~It looks~~  
~~it looks~~  
~~it looks~~ like it might be.

## VIET NAM FOLLOW PEKING

In the meantime the B-Fifty Twos -- were back in action today; blasting away at Communist positions -- in that supposedly demilitarized zone between North and South Viet Nam. A second flight -- pounding a suspected Viet Cong stronghold near Saigon.

Elsewhere in the South -- U.S. fighter-bombers are providing close support for allied troops. Especially -- at Da Nang; where U. S. planes killed an estimated seventy-five Viet Cong -- attempting to escape an attacking force of American Marines and South Vietnamese Rangers.



## SUPERSONIC

Competing bids for the right to build America's first supersonic transport - were filed today with the Federal Aviation Agency in Washington. Lockheed and Boeing -- competing for basic design; each submitting more than eight thousand pages - <sup>including</sup> blueprints, engineering data and related information. General Electric and Pratt & Whitney - which would like to build the engines - turning in proposals only slightly less voluminous.

The mass of material - relayed immediately to a government evaluation team; composed of more than two hundred experts - from government and private industry. ~~A similar evaluation to be undertaken by thirty U.S. and foreign air lines~~

Results due at the White House - in mid-December. With President Johnson - to make the final choice.

## HEART

The first person ever to survive heart pump surgery -- was permitted to leave a Houston hospital today -- under her own power. Mrs. Esperanza Del Valle Vasquez -- smiling and happy, as she walked to a waiting car -- enroute to the plane that would carry her home to Mexico.

Mrs. Vasquez's release from the hospital -- less than a month after her amazing operation. Doctors repairing damage to her heart plus a softball sized pump -- to take over about forty percent of the duties of the heart.

Its job done -- the pump -- or so-called "artificial heart" -- was later removed. Doctors today reporting that Mrs. Vasquez should be able to resume full activities within forty-to-sixty days.



## RESCUE

Less than three days from the scheduled flight of Gemini-Eleven -- a sobering thought today from Dr. George Mueller Director of America's manned Space Program -- with headquarters at Houston.

Dr. Mueller observing that at present -- there is no way on earth to help U. S. astronauts -- injured, ailing or stranded in space. Questionable whether earth-to-space rescue operations will ever be practicable within the foreseeable future.

Dr. Mueller estimating the cost of developing an effective space rescue program -- at about the same cost as that of exploring the Moon and all the planets of our universe.

One possible alternative -- said he -- equipping space craft with auxiliary rocket-powered modules. In effect -- "lifeboats"; to enable astronauts in distress -- to "abandon ship" with the "castaways" hopefully returning to earth -- under their own power, maybe, Warren.

# NIKITA

The latest on Nikita Khrushchev -- is reported today in this next from Moscow. Condemned to political silence -- bored with inactivity -- the seventy-two year old former Russian Premier -- said to have taken up a new hobby. That of training a Jackdaw -- to say a few words. The Jackdaw -- being the Russian counterpart of the American Grackle.

newspaper.

The article flatly rejecting Red China's theory -- that a Communist country must await some sort of revolution -- is a direct criticism by Khrushchev of the Chinese authorities -- none other than one Peng or Lin and Friedrich Engels.

Engels is quoted as categorically refuting the idea that other countries should be pushed into revolution. As for Engels -- one of the two founders of Communism he was quoted as saying:

"The victorious proletariat cannot impose its happiness upon any foreign nation without compromising its own victory."

There would indeed be no other way to the world. Khrushchev -- is to build a superior Communist society right at home.