

Good Evening Everybody:

A dispatch from Saigon says that Americans in the Vietnamese capital are pleased over the demise of the Diem regime. But are not at all pleased over the way it ended, the Diem tragedy.

They consider the death of the late President of South Viet Nam a poignant tragedy. Especially with Madame Nhu touring America at this time in defence of her brother-in-law. Also in defence of her husband - who also was killed during the revolt. The Americans - some of them anyway, Ambassador Lodge isn't quoted on this - some Americans feel that Diem should at least have been given a trial.

Anyway, the coup is being taken - for what it claims to be. An effort to unify the country - and prosecute the anti-guerrilla campaign. The Saigon

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junta today was emphasizing this, and claiming that if they hadn't acted - there would have been mass desertions from the Vietnamese Army.

What about the new strongman of South Viet Nam - General Duong Van Dinh? Our people out there - have a high opinion of him. They say he's a staunch anti-Communist - and an able military man. Just the type needed to win this war against the Reds.

As for the General - he takes full responsibility for the coup. Admits he had been plotting - for a month. And that he gave the signal for the revolt - only thirty minutes before the first shots were fired in the streets of Saigon.

MADAM NHU

That must have been a poignant meeting today between former South Vietnamese Ambassador Tran Van Chuoung and his daughter Madame Nhu.

Although the Ambassador had always denied that he would visit his estranged daughter, the tragedy now surrounding Viet Nam's Dragon Lady - has caused him to change his mind. "She is my daughter and she is unhappy" he told reporters. "There was no need of a reconciliation".

ALGERIA

The bitter fighting between Morocco and Algeria ~~came~~ ^{came} ~~ground~~ to a halt today - for the moment at least. The two sides finally decided to honor the ~~at~~ ^{at} cease-fire ~~which should~~ ^{that was supposed to} have gone into effect at midnight last Friday.

Now the organization of African unity will meet in Addis Ababa, within two weeks - to try and settle the dispute. Meanwhile Mali and Ethiopian troops - ~~■~~ will patrol the border.

WEST BERLIN

The Soviets seem to be up to their old tactics - along the Autobahn to West Berlin. The so-called "salami tactics" - that the Reds have used so often in so many places. Taking what they want - not in one fell swoop, which might provoke a war - but slice by slice.

Latest example - allied rights in West Berlin, And - on the access routes to the beleaguered city. Khrushchev isn't starting - any war scare. But the figure of speech about salami - would explain what the boss of the Kremlin is up to. He's trying to change the rules - ~~at~~ little by little. Destroy our rights - slice by slice.

At any rate
That's why the Allies are taking ~~such~~ a serious view - of what sounds like an inoffensive Russian demand. Namely - that Russian commanders be allowed to count the troops in our vehicles. You can see - ~~how~~ how the thing could snowball. Next, ~~it~~ maybe - Soviet insistence on setting the number of soldiers in our convoys. Then - the number of

trucks. Then - special Soviet visas. And so on - until
the Reds had sliced up the Berlin salami.

Hence - ^{the} ~~our firm~~ warning to Moscow, today. A

warning - that we aren't going to let it happen.

LUXEMBOURG

The small ruritanian Grand Duchy of Luxembourg was in gala mood today. Men, women and children - thronging the narrow picturesque streets, cheering and waving flags of their own, and placards saying "we like America".

Vice President Lyndon Johnson and Ladybird were there, for lunch with Grand Duchess Charlotte, ruler of the lilliputian country. The tall Texan, on a week's visit to the Common Market's "Little Three" - Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg - was highly delighted by his reception. Shaking hands with everyone, waving his hat - and flashing his best Texan smile. Forging one more link, as Prime Minister Pierre Werner remarked - "in the long chain of friendship and mutual good will between the United States and Ludembourg".

Also, Texas and Luxembourg.

WALLACE

While everyone is expecting Governor Nelson Rockefeller to announce some time this week whether or not he will run for President - another Presidential hopeful is in the wings.

Another Governor - Wallace of Alabama - told new Englanders today that he will be entering several primaries:- Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia - and maybe Virginia and Arkansas. He may even enter New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation primary on March tenth - but he isn't quite sure about that one yet.

The Governor who is busy explaining his position on civil rights to the New England states, insists he's not - an avowed candidate. But he says he is interested, in getting the Kennedy administration out of office; not in putting himself in the White House.

PARIS

French francs blowing through the streets of Montparnasse tonight. After all, how do you run down the number of francs that add up to - six thousand American dollars?

The gendarmes had the satisfaction of preventing a holdup, and finishing off one of the notorious gangs - of the Paris underworld. That is they were waiting - when the robbers ran out of an office building. There was a gun battle with cafe patrons ducking for cover. The bandits on the run tossed the stolen francs - to the wind. The ring leader - killed. The other members of the gang - captured.

Another wild night in Montparnasse, Dick, where they've had many a wild night.

I B IS

That famous bronze Ibis - the sacred bird of ancient Egypt - property of the Harvard "Lampoon" - narrowly escaped the junk heap today. Turning up in the yard of a Cambridge junk dealer - who valued it at a dollar and eighty-seven cents. In the Harvard Yard they regard it as - priceless.

Strange story about that Egyptian Ibis - and the Harvard "Lampoon?" Students have been mailing the famous bird - it was donated by a grateful alumnous named William Randolph Hearst - back and forth across the country for the last two years. The "Found a Bird" committee, trying to keep the Ibis away from their rival - the "Find A Bird" committee. The former sent it finally to a Cambridge city councillor - for safe-keeping. The councillor took it to the junk-yard - for an evaluation. Said the junk man - a buck eighty-seven". Said the Cambridge City Councillor:

"At that price, I'd just as soon return it to the Harvard
Lampoon ". Which he did. Tonight the bird - is back
in the yard. Not the junk yard - the famous Harvard
yard.