

AMMAN

Wed. Feb. 11th '70.

Crisis in Jordan. The sounds of scattered gunfire - echoing tonight through the streets of Amman. This in the midst of talks between government ~~leaders~~^{heads} and Arab guerilla leaders - aimed at averting a threatened civil war.

Focal point of the sudden tension - King Hussein's newly-announced eleven-point security plan. ^{This} ~~An~~ attempt to bring the marauding guerillas under tighter control - at least in Amman as well as other cities and towns.

Both sides - ~~now~~ attempting to resolve the dispute by negotiation. However, ^{the} guerillas leaders ^{said} ~~asserting~~ that if civil war does break out - it will be entirely the government's fault.

Meanwhile, Cairo was telling today of a ~~strike~~^{raid} by a hundred Egyptian infantrymen - across the Suez Canal. The invaders said to have captured an Israeli fortified position - holding it for hours. They also ambushed an Israeli armored column - inflicting heavy casualties - says Cairo.

46 1/2

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ADDIS ABABA

Today's stop for ^{Sec. of State} ~~William~~ Rogers - Addis Ababa
in Ethiopia. On arrival there - the touring Secretary of
State issuing a prepared statement, Pledging the U.S.
to contribute "more effectively" - to the economic
development of Africa; further, to help put an end to
systems of government based on racial discrimination.
This last - an apparent slap at the white-ruled governments
of South Africa and Rhodesia.

Rogers' later schedule - including talks with the
fabled Lion of Judah, Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Selassie.
Also, a meeting with President Tito of Yugoslavia ^{Who is} another
visitor to these parts. ~~Subject - the Middle East.~~
The two men reportedly agreeing that arms shipments
to the Middle East - must be limited.

SAIGON

In Vietnam - ~~U.S.~~ Defense Secretary ~~Melvin~~ Laird
^{was} confer^{ing}~~ing~~^{ing} ~~today~~ with General Creighton Abrams, ~~later~~^{and then}
meeting with newsmen. The Secretary saying he stoutly
opposes a Democratic proposal - calling for an eighteen-
month deadline on U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam. ~~Melvin~~^{Sec}
Laird adding that ~~U.S.~~^{he focuses} ~~will set~~ no timetable ^{for} complete
withdrawal. ~~And~~ The reason - said he ~~that~~^{that} it serves no
useful purpose "to get into numbers."

On the fighting front - a report today that South
Vietnamese forces have killed seventy-nine Viet Cong - in
fighting west of Saigon near the Cambodian border. There
was also ~~another~~ battle today - about thirty miles southeast
of Da Nang. In this one - another engagement between
government and Communist troops - the South Vietnamese
reportedly losing at least four men; with the outcome still
in doubt at nightfall - and Communist casualties as yet
undetermined.

WHITE HOUSE

The White House - an announcement today that President Nixon will submit to Congress his "state-of-the-world" message - February Eighteenth, next Wednesday. As for the President's immediate schedule - he is attending a meeting of the prestigious Business Council tonight in Washington; after which he heads for Key Biscayne - and a brief family vacation.

AGNEW

Washington again - an announcement ~~today~~ that Spiro Agnew is giving up his White House office; the one that President Nixon tendered him last year - in upgrading the office of Vice President.

Reason - we are told - the President needs more room for his growing staff. And what with Spiro Agnew having ~~two~~ ^{two} other offices in Washington - he seldom used the White House ~~office~~ ^{one} anyway. An aide explaining: "He's not moving out - he never really moved in."

LONDON

Across the Atlantic

~~George again~~

Britain's Prince Charles was

formally seated today in the House of Lords. Thus

becoming only the sixth Prince of Wales - ever to serve

in Parliament.

The young heir to the British throne - passing up a chance to make his maiden speech. However, palace sources

said that in future visits - he would put aside past tradition

and speak out on the issues, ^{of the day,} As, indeed, his mother, the

Queen - today so commanded.

UCHINOURA

After four years of trying - success at last.

From a launch pad at Uchinoura - Japanese scientists launching today an earth-orbiting satellite; thereby joining the U.S., Russia and France - as the fourth nation in space.

The Japanese spacecraft - an eighty-four-pound instrument package - shaped like a basketball, Pursuing an elliptical course - that takes it over South America, Africa, Communist China and, of course, Japan. This setting the stage for step two in the Japanese space program - an attempt at launching a series of communications satellites.

VATICAN

At the Vatican - Rome - Pope Paul observed today the forty-first anniversary of the signing of the Lateran Pact; a treaty that ~~ended~~ ^{ended a} in Nineteen-Twenty-Nine, ~~the~~ half-century of strife between church and state in Italy.

In the process though - the Pope warned against ^{final} passage of ^{that} a new Italian divorce bill. Asserting ~~that~~ he would consider such an act - a unilateral breach of the Lateran Pact. He was speaking 'out now - the Pope added - "for the sake of peace - for the very honor of Italy - for the greater well-being of the entire Italian people."

PEKING

50 1/2
Russia and Red China - once again at loggerheads;
with peace talks at Peking - ^{said to be} ~~on~~ the verge of collapse.

This according to Soviet writer Victor Louis - as quoted today in London.

Victor Louis - one of the "in" people at the Kremlin.
It was he - who first forecast the fall of ~~Khrushchev~~ ^{Khrushchev} And
he says now that chances of a Sino-Soviet peace pact -
are still as remote as ever. Adding that Russia's chief
negotiator - is just about ready to call it quits.

Victor Louis calling the Peking talks - nothing more than a "mad hatter meeting." And he asks: "How long can one go on drinking tea in Peking?"

MEMPHIS

From Memphis, Tennessee - the story today of a hold-up - almost. The way it happened - a would-be bandit walking into a local gas station - pulling a gun - telling the attendant to hand over his money; which he did - Twenty Bucks.

The gunman thereupon handing it back - telling the attendant: "This isn't enough money to go to jail for." Then Warren he added ~~adding~~ as he walked off: "Let's say it was all just a joke."

5-1/2

For a young man and a young woman from Italy - also, a young Belgian - a taste of Soviet justice today. The trio brought to trial in Moscow - on a joint charge of "malicious hooliganism;" promptly found guilty - whereupon they were sentenced to a year apiece in Soviet labor camps.

This for handing out leaflets - urging the release of Soviet liberals previously jailed for political dissent. A court spokesman saying the severity of their sentences - was intended "as a warning to those who plan to carry out similar actions." And that's the way they handle dissent - in Moscow.