

Thursday, July 4, 1974

FOURTH OF JULY

Today's celebration of the Fourth of July was what might be termed a return to the traditional - an old-fashioned Independence Day observance, with drums rolling, bugles blaring, fireworks and all the rest in countless hundreds of communities across the nation. Our one hundred and ninety-eighth, at the city of Bristol, Rhode Island was the scene of a unique Fourth of July parade - perhaps the oldest such celebration of them all. Bristol, a Rhode Island seaport for three hundred years.

In Butte, Montana Evel Knievel served as Grand Marshal of his home town parade - and unveiled what he calls his "sky cycle" which he plans to use in jumping over the Snake River near Idaho Falls, Idaho. I had dinner with Evel Knievel in Salt Lake City last Saturday night and found him a fascinating fellow - as you would expect him to be.

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A bit mad you say? Maybe. He was dressed all in purple.

Now this message....

BARGES

A sea-going caravan of Twenty-one barges and tow boats - carrying thousands of tons of cargo to the Alaskan oil fields - will leave Seattle tomorrow on a three thousand mile journey across the North Pacific, up through Bering Sea, and via the Arctic Ocean to Barrow - at the top of North America. The cargo - destined for Prudhoe Bay - includes pipes, casings, insulation, housing units and other supplies needed for the immediate development of Alaska's vast oil resources which we seemed to need, badly.

President Nixon - home again after travelling
a distance equal to a journey
~~nearly half way~~ around the world - spent the holiday
relaxing at his ~~bayside villa in~~ Key Biscayne.

~~Even so, a Florida White House spokesman says the~~
He spent part of the day ^{working}
~~President spent some time~~ at his desk, this morning
~~working~~ with his Chief of Staff General Haig. ^{It} In

a statement issued for the holiday, the President
^{spoke of the 4th as}
~~called it an~~ "uniquely American - a day echoing

the hopes and aspirations of people throughout the
world. ^{Said he:-} ~~And~~ "let us pledge to carry to those people

the basic American message of independence, liberty
and human dignity." The President ^{will soon} ~~is not expected to~~

~~spend the entire weekend in Miami Florida before~~

~~returning~~ to Washington. ^{Meanwhile} ~~and the battle against~~ →

~~also the resolution of~~
~~impeachment, and an important Supreme Court test~~

~~on his secret Watergate tapes.~~

→ In Paris, ^{his} Secretary of State ~~Kissinger~~

spent the holiday briefing French leaders on the recent U S Soviet Arms Talks. Observers say

Kissinger ~~is~~ also seeks to smooth Franco-American

relations which have been ^{a bit} ruffled. ~~several times in~~

~~recent week months.~~

SIKKIM

India, ^{today virtually} ~~in effect~~ annexed the Himalayan

mountain Kingdom of ~~the~~ Sikkim ~~today~~ when King

(Chogyal) Palden Thondup Namgyal reluctantly signed

away his powers to an administrative officer appointed

by the New Delhi government. The new,

constitutional ~~act~~ ^{does indeed} arrangement, reduces ^{the once} ~~the~~ ~~powerful~~ ~~king~~

^{ruler} ~~powerful King~~, of Sikkim - who married ^{the American} ~~New York~~

^{girl} ~~Societty~~ Hope Cook - to a ~~as~~ figurehead, ^{now under the} ~~responsibility~~

^{thumb of} ~~to~~ the Indian government. ^{For years} ^{have been} Indian troops ~~are~~ stationed

in Sikkim, ^{along} ~~to watch over~~ the border, ^{they now share} with Red China.

So life will change a bit -
in Shangri La -- at any rate it will for
the Chogyal - Palden Thondup Namgyal
with whom L. T. Jr. and I spent a night in
a camp far up in the Himalayas 25 yrs. ago

QUAKER

In Richmond, Virginia a Federal appeals court rules that a Quaker - who claims the world's entire population are his dependents - put this on his income tax return - is not guilty of tax fraud. The Quaker Lyle Snyder of Durham, North Carolina put down three billion dependents on his tax form - arguing that as a Quaker he felt responsible for all the people in the world.

Now this message....

Maze -
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~~Oh yes, and~~ George McCullouch observed his sixty-ninth birthday by sky ~~jumping~~ jumping from fourteen thousand feet over Seneca Falls airport here in New York State. Volunteers at Franklin, Illinois again sold fifteen hundred gallons of their home made burgoo soup - with meat, chicken, vegetable and you-name-it ingredients - as a benefit fo^r the blind. And in Bartow, Florida Charlie Smith while celebrating his one hundred thirty-second birthday reminded his friends and neighbors that on July Fourth, eighteen Fifty-Five he celebrated Independence Day by being sold as a slave on the New Orleans market.

SLUTM -

This is LT for CBS News