

L.T. BUICK, FISHER. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1966

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The battle of Bong Son that began last Thursday -- still in the balance tonight in Viet Nam. With a thousand or more Viet Cong -- believed trapped there by U.S. air cavalrymen -- and the Viet Cong defending their jungle lair -- with tenacity. Some who were hit a half-dozen times or more -- are said to be fighting on.

The area now known as the "little iron triangle," so tough that U.S. troops have been unable -- to penetrate the enemy's defenses.

Meanwhile, a series of apparently coordinated mortar attacks that began Sunday -- continued today far and wide across South Viet Nam. The heaviest Viet Cong mortar offensive -- in months.

MOYERS

From the White House - pointed but ~~was~~ veiled  
comment today on that weekend proposal by Senator Robert  
Kennedy of New York; His proposal that the Communist  
Viet Cong - should eventually be included in the government  
of South Viet Nam.

*the President made no*  
While ~~he refused~~ direct comment on the matter -

this from White House Press Secretary Bill Moyers:—

"The President's view ~~is that it is up to~~ is that it is up to  
the people by free election - to select their own government"  
in South Viet Nam.

## MANILA

A pair of noisy anti-American demonstrations today -- at Manila in the Philippines. Next to last stop for Vice President Humphrey -- on his current tour of the Far East.

The first demonstration -- hours before he even arrived. Some two thousand marchers parading around the U.S. Embassy -- shouting "Yankees go home! -- murderers go home!" The second demonstration -- a smaller one at the time of the Vice President's actual arrival. However, no violence -- the marchers in each case finally disbanding peacefully.

As for Vice President Humphrey -- he'll confer tomorrow with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos; then on to South Korea -- for his final stop on the homeward trip.

DEGAULLE.

In Paris -- DeGaulle today held his dramatic regular semi-annual news conference. And as usual he was wide ranging in what he covered. For one thing he asserted that France will pull out of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization -- by April, Nineteen Sixty-Nine. Two -- that Interior Minister General Mohammed Oufkir of Morocco -- was personally responsible for the celebrated kidnapping of Moroccan opposition leader Mehdi-Ben-Barka. And three -- that the only way to peace in Viet Nam -- is through a reconvening of the Nineteen-Fifty-Four Geneva Peace Conference.

## INDONESIA

A major shake-up today -- in the government of Indonesia; with Sukarno -- so recently reported on the way out -- doing the shaking.

According to Radio Jakarta -- the chief move -- dismissal of Defense Minister Abdul Haris Nasution. Also elimination of Nasution's second post -- that of armed forces Chief of Staff. Sukarno's new hand-picked Defense Minister -- to be General Haji Sarbini -- a former veterans' affairs and demobilization minister.

Nasution's ouster is believed to be as a result of his violent anti-Communist crusade. Sukarno, still in power has of late adopted a far softer attitude toward Communism in general -- and Peking in particular.

## WRITER

That other Russian writer who has frequently criticized his native government -- was stripped of his citizenship today in Moscow. Valeria Tarsis -- currently visiting in Longon -- loses his Russian birthright, for what the Kremlin calls "action discreditable to a citizen of the Soviet Union."

The order following by eleven days-- a public statement by Tarsis. In which he branded Communist -- a form of "police Fascism." Tarsis is the man who once described Russia as one big mad house in reverse. That is, where only the sane -- are locked up.

## LABOR

A slight difference of ~~an~~ opinion today - between two of the nation's top labor authorities, ~~At~~ a meeting of the A F L - C I O executive council - ~~in~~<sup>at</sup> Miami Beach.

First up - Labor Secretary Willard Wirtz, ~~who~~ warned that the U S economy could be seriously endangered - by wage settlements in excess of existing government guideposts.

Within minutes <sup>came</sup> a rebuttal from A F L - C I O President George Meany, ~~who~~ rejected the idea of a limitation on wages - without similar restraints on profits and prices. Said he: "We just don't like the <sup>at</sup> idea" - because it "smacks of trickery".

## CALIFORNIA

A chain of spectacular accidents today within a quarter-mile of each other -- on U S Highway One-Oh-One near Oceanside, California. A stretch of road known locally as "Slaughter Alley."

The series of crashes in morning fog - involving three tanker trucks, an auto carrier and scores of passenger cars. The combined <sup>ation</sup> ~~casualty~~ claiming at least seven victims. -- ~~all of them burned beyond recognition.~~



## TRAFFIC

A novel approach to the problem of traffic congestion -- was put forward today in Pittsburgh. A suggestion that henceforth -- pedestrians should be banned from city streets in order to make room for more cars.

The idea -- that erstwhile street-walkers could use elevated sidewalks instead. The raised sidewalks -- a lot cheaper than elevated highways. With all the space thus saved there would be more room for parking -- is the idea.

The proposer of this, a pedestrian? No; the man who made the suggestion -- President of an auto leasing company.

## MONSTER

As you may have heard -- a flurry of excitement in Scotland over the weekend; based on a report -- from the Royal Air Force, to the effect that recent photographs of that famed Loch Ness monster -- are apparently for real. Showing what is described as "probably an inanimate object." An object -- or monster? About ninety-two feet long -- at least six feet wide -- and five feet high.

At any rate -- there actually was a call today in Parliament for a full investigation of the phenomenon; including the use of submarines, sonic equipment and dredges if necessary to scour the full thirty-mile length of Loch Ness. A labor M.P. declaring it is time to determine once and forever "whether the Loch Ness monster is fact -- or a wild fairy tale."

How are you betting, Warren?

## STRIKE

An angry strike today - in the state penitentiary at Boise, Idaho, By some three hundred inmates - protesting the ~~mak~~ weekend closing of their prison commissary. A prison official reporting "they won't go back to work until we unlock the commissary - and we won't unlock the commissary until they go back to work".

~~Next question?~~ Why was the commissary closed in the first place? ~~What?~~ It seems that items can be purchased there - only with prison script, And a recent flood of the script - turned out to be the work of counterfeiters. A couple of the boys - apparently "keeping a hand in."