

L.T.-BUICK, FISHER. MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 1966

(Dallas Townsend substituting)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

An unprecedented clash between the Legislative and Judicial branches of the federal government is shaping up in Washington. Late today, Federal Judge Howard Corcoran -- signed an order forbidding the House Un-American Activities Committee to hold a scheduled hearing tomorrow. The hearing, concerned with legislation that would bar U.S. citizens from helping the Viet Cong.

Judge Corcoran, by means of a temporary injunction, now says -- "The hearing must not be held -- and subpoenas for witnesses must not be enforced." The judge acted in response to a suit filed by two of the prospective witnesses, and argued by attorneys for the American Civil Liberties Union. They asserted that the committee's mandate, directing it to investigate propaganda activities that are subversive or Un-American, is

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vague, and a threat to freedom of speech. Corcoran has ordered the convening of a special three-judge federal court to decide whether the Committee is constitutional.

The government says no court in the nation -- and perhaps in English history -- has ever before tried to prevent a legislature from acting. One of the Civil Liberties Union lawyers calls today's decision -- "historic." Some members of Congress have other words for it. And Democratic representative Joe Pool of Texas, scheduled to preside at the inquiry, told the House late today -- "I'll make it short and sweet. As far as I'm concerned, I, and I think every member of my Committee, will be there at ten o'clock tomorrow, and we'll have a hearing." On both sides of the aisle, members applauded and cheered.

And the Justice Department is asking a higher court to have Corcoran's restraining order set aside.

The Air Force disclosed today that it has fired one officer from his post and reprimanded ^{three} ~~one~~ others in connection with last June's XB-Seventy airplane accident/which took the lives of two test pilots. /Air Secretary Harold Brown said Colonel Albert Cate has been relieved as deputy for systems tests/at Edwards Air Force Base, California,/where the crash occurred. /Brown also questioned the judgment of everyone concerned in the episode/which he said was a formation of five airplanes "for the sole benefit of General Electric" /- the company which built the engines for all five planes.

AIRLINES

A new contract agreement to end the airlines strike was reached today -- but the big question now is the same as before -- will the striking machinists approve it and go back to their jobs? More than thirty-five thousand members of the machinists union are expected to vote on the new contract proposals late this week. Until then, the planes of Eastern, United, National, Trans-World and Northwest Airlines will remain just where they've been for the past thirty-nine days -- on the ground.

Only two weeks ago, the machinists rejected a settlement two days after it had been announced by President Johnson. Although no details of the new agreement were disclosed it's believed to carry a price tag of about ninety-million dollars -- and this would be some sixteen-million more than the amount contained in the rejected contract.

WITH AIRLINES

Henry Rottman of Decatur, Illinois, wasn't bothered too much by the strike today -- and he came up with his own way of getting around it. He was stranded in New York with his wife and two children -- unable to get either a train, or a plane reservation on the airlines still in operation. He even tried the auto rental agencies without success, and finally he hailed a taxicab. And the cabbie -- Leo Silverstein -- agreed to drive the family all the way to Illinois.

When they arrived at their home in Decatur, the fare was three hundred dollars. But Mister Rottman -- co-owner of a construction firm, clearly felt it was worth it to be home in Decatur.

Reliable sources in Saigon were quoted today as saying that Communist groundfire has wiped out an entire U.S. Air Force squadron of twenty-five Thunderchief jet bombers over North Viet Nam in the past month. / At the same time, an American spokesman announced the loss of two more Thunderchiefs in heavy raids over North Viet Nam yesterday.

It was also disclosed that another South Vietnamese village has been attacked by bombing planes in the demilitarized zone / with five civilians reported killed and thirty-five wounded. American spokesmen say the planes, so far, are unidentified, and that no U.S. aircraft were reported in the vicinity at the time, / but an investigation is continuing.

MIDDLE EAST

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For the second time in less than a month, fighting broke out between Israel and Syria over the Sea of Galilee. Israel claimed to have shot down two Syrian Mig fighters/and silenced two shore gun batteries. / Syria counterclaimed that its Migs and ground forces destroyed four Israeli patrol boats/and set fire to several others.

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President Johnson says his Administration's program to promote summer jobs for the nation's youth has kept more than a million youngsters off the streets this year. He also suggested that the program be broadened into a "youth opportunity campaign" on a year around basis. The President issued the statement as he cleared his desk at the L.B.J. Ranch before flying back to Washington after a long weekend in Texas.

SCOTCH

For the first time, France is importing more alcohol than it exports -- and it's all because of a drink called "Scotch." A government report says the average Frenchman is turning to Scotch in ever-increasing numbers -- and that far from being a so-called "snob" drink, it's being consumed by people in all walks of life. Although some may be having difficulty progressing on those walks of life because alcoholism in France is getting to be a bigger problem all the time.

Warren -- whatever became of the campaign to get Frenchmen to drink more milk?

ENDALL

For anyone in the field of journalism -- and for countless others as well -- this is a sad day. The New York Herald Tribune has folded forever. One of the nations' great newspapers -- the Herald Tribune died in the one hundred and thirteenth day of the newspaper strike that followed its merger with the World Telegram and Sun and Journal American last April. Matt Meyer -- head of the merged corporation, which hasn't published a single issue yet -- says "Talent in all creative departments of The Herald Tribune has been drained away. It has now reached the point where we cannot bring the public the kind of morning newspaper hoped for. We are unwilling to settle for less." The Herald Tribune was the fifth major New York newspaper to close down since the end of World War Two, and the third in the past three years.

If there were an obituary column for newspapers, tonight's entry might begin -- "The New York Herald Tribune -- sired by Horace Greeley and James Gordon Bennett -- died quietly today at the age of one hundred and thirty-one." Good Night