

TAMPA

June 3, 1968
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On the Gulf Coast of Florida - a lull before the storm.

*With early-bird Hurricane Abby - stalled briefly tonight;
about a hundred and sixty miles - south-southwest of Tampa.*

*First hurricane of the season - earliest in years -
Abby was said to be building up strength for an assault on
the mainland. Which is expected to take place along about
daybreak tomorrow - somewhere in the Tampa-St. Petersburg
area.*

*In the meantime, a hurricane watch tonight - from
Marco Island in the south to Tarpon Springs in the North.
Hurricane Abby called a "minimal hurricane" - but still a
threat.*

SUPREME COURT

From the U. S. Supreme Court - another surprise decision today; with ramifications extending to Death Rows - all around the Country. The High Tribunal ruling unConstitutional - a practice in effect in all but two states; the practice of excluding from juries in capital punishment cases - any persons who object to the death penalty.

Justice Potter Stewart - writing the five-to-three majority opinion; in effect, staying the execution - of convicted cop-killer William Witherspoon of Chicago. Justice Stewart asserting that automatic jury exclusions - had clearly "stacked the deck" against the defendant.

SAIGON

Halfway round the world - a new day is dawning.

Tuesday in Vietnam bringing with it - a deadly new attack on the city of Saigon. With Viet Cong gunners - pouring scores of mortar shells into the South Vietnamese capital.

Chief targets including three key areas - in the defense of Saigon. These the Tan Son Nhut air base - the Saigon ~~air~~ docks - also that so-called "Y-bridge;" where Viet Cong attackers - were turned back with heavy losses last month.

Adding to the confusion: A massive pre-dawn power failure - in the part of Saigon where heavy street fighting has raged for a week now.

Elsewhere in Paris - Premier Georges Pompidou was laying it on the line today for French voters. Asserting that France decide in those upcoming elections - whether it wants DeGaulle or Communism. A vote for DeGaulle - he added - is a vote "to defend the Republic and freedom."

The Premier also called for early settlement of strikes - still crippling French industry. His speech followed shortly - by news of a strike settlement at the Bank of France; which is now scheduled to reopen - as of tomorrow morning. This expecte^d to end ten days of near-calamity - in French financial circles.

PARIS

North Vietnam's new man in Paris - an arrival today at Orly Field. Added starter Le Duc Tho - billed as a special envoy from President Ho Chi Minh. Raising hopes of a possible break - in Hanoi's up-to-now hard-line attitude toward peace talks.

Only trouble - someone apparently forgot to tell Tho. In his first public statement - the new negotiator again calling for a complete U.S. bombing halt. "I am convinced" - said he - "that once the American side abandons its obstinate attitude - conversation on other problems can begin without delay."

SIDNEY

President Johnson's plans for the future - after he leaves the Presidency - were spelled out today in a taped interview; broadcast exclusively at Sidney, Australia - of all places.

The President saying - first of all - he expects "to do some lecturing"; as well as serve as "conversationalist in residence" - at the University of Texas. Beyond that - he will do "some writing" - he says; and also organize a special task force - to take a good hard look at the Presidency.

The President admitting that "things won't be as hectic" down Texas-way - "as they have been in the nation's capital all these years." But then - "I don't want them to be" - said he.

MILWAUKEE

Meanwhile, a prediction today - from Governor Rockefeller of New York. A flat prediction that he will win the Republican presidential nomination - also the election in November. This in a press conference - at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Rockefeller basing his prediction - said he - on a feeling the "tide was turning" against Richard Nixon. The same kind of feeling he had - said he - when he first ran for governor of New York.

LOS ANGELES

On the West Coast - a final flurry of political activity today. Senators Kennedy and McCarthy battling to the wire - in anticipation of tomorrow's do-or-die California Presidential primary.

The reason readily apparent in a copyrighted poll - published today by the Los Angeles Times. Kennedy snaring thirty-six per cent of the Democratic tally - McCarthy, thirty-one per cent - Humphrey-Johnson forces, fifteen per cent; leaving a critical eighteen per cent - still undecided, at last report.

On the Republican side - "favorite son" Governor Reagon is, of course, unopposed.

WASHINGTON

At the same time - Vice President Hubert Humphrey was addressing a Textile Workers convention in Washington. Admitting - in his own words - that, "yes a gap exists between our goals and our achievements; and some think" - he went on - that this "has caused a mortal sickness in our society."

Hubert Humphrey adding, however, that nothing - could be further from the truth. Said he: "The fact that we acknowledge the gap and struggle to close it - is a sure sign of good health; proof that ours is an active, fresh and lively nation - filled with the sense of self-renewal."

Here's one - that perhaps only an avid golfer can appreciate. The story of one Edward Faber of Mansfield, Vermont - an admitted "golf bug" who died last week; requesting in his will - that his ashes be buried near the spot he loved best. That is, the eighteenth green - at nearby Stow Acres Country Club.

At first - Faber's request seen as a joke. His widow insisting though - he was deadly serious. Owners of the course - agreeing at last to honor the will. Burial completed this weekend - just beyond the eighteenth green. With a plaque and memorial stone - to be added later.

The whole idea - a bit macabre, you say? Perhaps. But then - golfers are a strange breed. As one duffer observed: "Who knows! Some golfer might overshoot the green - and now there will be a friendly hand- to tap the ball back."