

WHITE HOUSE

Mon. Aug. 13-73

The White House - President Nixon ^{today} signed into law ~~today~~ - a new three-year extension of the current Highway Act; thus providing for the allocation - of an additional Twenty-Three Billion in Highway Trust funds; some of which will now be used for the first time - in developing mass transit.

At the same time ^{came} an official statement ^{with} The President calling the new legislation - "an important forward step for our country; not only in providing for better and more balanced transportation - but also in related fields such as environmental protection, highway safety, energy conservation and community development."

Off-the-cuff - the President adding: "After these two smog alerts we've had in Washington - let's have more mass transit."

INDOCHINA

With only one day still to go before the end of U.S. bombing in Cambodia - a series of round-the-clock missions today. U.S. warplanes braving monsoon rains - in order to hammer away at guerilla positions around Phnom Penh. This in the midst of reports that informal peace talks - are now in progress.

Saigon addressed a warning
Meanwhile ~~a warning today from Saigon addressed~~

to Hanoi. The South Vietnamese government saying it will not "sit still" - if North Vietnamese forces continue to take part in the Cambodian fighting.

WATERGATE

Special Watergate Prosecutor Archibald Cox was back in court today attempting to force the release of confidential White House tapes. Cox accusing the President of withholding vital criminal evidence ^{— doing so} by his own "personal choice" rather than any legal or Constitutional mandate.

^{Cox} Adding that a court order to produce the tapes - would reaffirm the principle that "no man is above the law."

^{on this are} Additional arguments [^] set for next week.

SEATTLE FOLLOW WATERGATE


A related item - from Seattle; where John Ehrlichman was holding his first news conference - since testifying before the Senate Watergate Committee. The former White House adviser - saying he has since received "literally thousands of letters;" the great majority - highly critical of the committee's tactics - said he.

Ehrlichman adding that in his view - this is clearly the start of a Watergate backlash; one that could have "lasting benefit - or lasting harm for the whole country."

But "that's ^a forest" - said he - "to which I'm standing too close to see the trees."

PRICES

On the economic front - an end today to the price freeze - on virtually everything except gasoline and beef.

A number of major firms - immediately seeking price increases; among them - the Chrysler Corporation; ~~which is~~ asking a Seventy-One-Dollar price hike  on its new Nineteen-Seventy-Four cars.

MONTGOMERY FOLLOW PRICES

In the same vein - Alabama State Troopers were ordered today - to stop and check all suspicious-looking trucks carrying livestock. Public Safety Director E.C. Dothard saying: "There's been quite a bit of rustling."

Adding: "When you see a pickup truck with a cow in it at Two A.M. - you get a little suspicious."

EARTH ORBIT

High above the earth - another "small step" for man.

Astronauts Alan Bean and Jack Lousma successfully testing today - a personal-size, Buck Rogers-type flying machine; cruising back and forth across a twenty-by-twenty-one foot workshop - within their Skylab space station.

Science Pilot Lousma later saying: "The thing is very easy to fly - a nice ^{and} smooth ^{"Sail he!"} ~~flying machine~~." Adding:

"We had no problems with the systems at all." Space ^{saying adding} officials that the new rocket device - may soon be used in extra-vehicular activities; in effect - a one-man space chariot.

GULF OF SUEZ

In the eastern Gulf of Suez - a brief clash today between Egyptian and Israeli gunboats; the first such encounter - in six years. Tel Aviv later saying, ~~however~~ - the naval action was "local, not particularly serious, and something that doesn't constitute a heating up of the situation."

STATE

This next - from Assistant Secretary of State

Joseph Sisco; explaining his unflagging enthusiams - in

the quest for peace in the Middle East. Joseph Sisco saying:

"Only optimists - make history."

LA CORUNA

The death toll in that airliner crash at La Coruna, Spain - now set at eighty-five. All the passengers and crew - but luckily none of the local residents, as earlier feared. This the eighth in a series of fatal accidents over the past eighteen months - involving Spanish airliners.

CHRISTIANSTED

At Christiansted, St. Croix - five black Virgin Islanders were sentenced today to life imprisonment - in the holdup slaying of eight white golfers last fall. The defendants - quickly raising an uproar; shouting obscenities - and lashing out at U.S. marshals; till they were finally subdued - and then led away.

Today's sentencing - follow^{ed}~~ing~~ the weekend slaying of three more whites. This time - at the cross-island town of Frederiksted. Raising to five the number of unsolved in the Virgin Islands white murders - in less than three weeks.

HIGH ISLAND

that
In ~~the~~ grisly Texas murder case - the discovery
of ~~two~~ *three* more bodies today; buried in different locations
about two miles apart - in the vicinity of High Island, Texas.
This raising to twenty-~~five~~ *- six* - the number of known victims
in a three-year sex and killing orgy. Officials adding -
there may be more. ~~if so, the worst murder toll in~~
~~recent U.S. history.~~

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco - a Seventy Million-Dollar out-of-court settlement - in an alleged price fixing conspiracy.

The nation's biggest gypsum wallboard makers - agreeing to pay said amount to a group of dealers, contractors and governmental bodies. This the biggest settlement ever made in a case not brought by the government.

CANNON CLIFF

Over the weekend - a freak accident in the White Mountains of New Hampshire - claiming the lives of two men. Dana Jones of Pinham Notch, New Hampshire, and Mark Lawrence of Camden, Maine - attempting to scale nine hundred-foot Cannon Cliff near Franconia Notch. About a third of the way up - ~~when~~ ^{an} a piton, ~~or~~ ^{Suddenly} iron spike, ^{let} loose. Jones falling; falling - while the rope with which he was tied to Lawrence ~~was~~ [—] getting twisted around the latter's neck. Both men - killed instantly.

A state official later noting that Cannon Cliff has now claimed five lives - in the past twelve years. Adding: "It's a very difficult, highly technical climb" - and no place to take lightly.

WASHINGTON

Those two giant pandas that Red China sent to the U.S.
- are now thriving at the National Zoo in Washington. One
of the reasons - we hear today - a diet consisting mainly
of rice gruel, minerals and honey; but also including side
dishes of carrots - the finest apples - sweet potatoes -
milk bone dog biscuits - and canned dog food; ^{at what} ~~the~~ cost? ^{of}
^{Oh, about} ~~which running around~~ Four Thousand ^{bucks} a year.

Officials noting, ^{low} ~~in short~~, the pandas are as cute as
teddy bears - but ~~they~~ eat like elephants.

HOLLYWOOD

Today's most quotable quote - comes from
Hollywood, courtesy of Quote Magazine. Famed band leader
Lawrence Welk - discussing the current state of TV; when
he was asked - what he thought ^{about} ~~of~~ violence. Lawrence
Welk replying: "I like them - and I also like flutes,
clarinets and cellos."

7 And a-one and a-two - and a-Bill, to you.

MOSCOW

From the Soviet trade union newspaper Trud *we hear*

~~report today telling~~ of the discovery of a new "magic elixir."

They call it "Mival" - after its two inventors, Mikhail Grigoriēvitch Voronkov and Valery Mikhailovitch Diakov.

"Mival" seen as possible cure - to male baldness.

Indeed, its inventors claiming that "Mival" has already proved itself - in tests with guinea pigs. Trud saying - they came out looking "like poodles."