

VIETNAM

Fri. Mar. 8 - '68.

Fighting at Khe Sanh in Vietnam - another dramatic demonstration today of the main difference between that beleaguered Marine outpost - and France's earlier Dien Bien Phu. Namely - ~~the~~ American air power.

With scores of enemy soldiers attempting to probe Marine defenses - U S jets screaming to the attack. Bombs and napalm quickly turning the enemy assault - into a flaming disaster. One returning pilot later reporting the Khe Sanh valley - littered with bodies.

Earlier, a South Vietnamese lieutenant stationed at Khe Sanh - out on a probing mission of his own; when he was wounded - badly - by Viet Cong snipers.

Fellow South Vietnamese rangers and U S Marines - attempting to reach the fallen Lieutenant when he waved them off. Too dangerous, said he; thereupon pulling out his own pistol, shooting himself in the head so that no one else might die trying to save him.

BELLE ISLE

After five days of frantic rescue operations at Belle Isle, Louisiana - the worst fears were finally realized today. Search parties, ~~finally~~ finding the bodies of twenty-one miners - deep in the Labyrinth of the fire ravaged Cargill Salt Mine. No survivors.

The victims - ~~was~~ apparently overcome by carbon monoxide after fleeing to remote caverns trying to escape the flames in the main shaft.

VATICAN, NEW YORK

At the Vatican in Rome - a surprise announcement today from Pope Paul naming Bishop Terrence James Cook - successor to the late Cardinal Spellman as Archbishop of New York.

A native ~~was~~ New Yorker ^{- age} ₇ only forty-seven Bishop Cook was a sort of super secretary to Cardinal Spellman the ~~last~~ past two years, now expected to be made Cardinal himself at the Pontif's next consistory. This in line with the Pope's express desire - to inject a "younger element" into the Church hierarchy.

STOCKHOLM

U N policy toward Sweden - apparently the subject of some sober second thoughts today. U S Ambassador William Heath disclosing in Stockholm *how* he has just been recalled to Washington for consultations. His departure ~~was~~ set for next Tuesday - we are told; *this* following talks with Swedish officials - covering "the full range of U S and Swedish relations."

Sweden as you ~~are~~ know - chief haven of late for U S deserters trying to duck the war in Vietnam.

{ With twenty such defectors already granted permanent asylum there and another thirteen cases still pending.

SAN JUAN

Oil soaked San Juan harbor in Puerto Rico closed today by order of the U S Coast Guard. To give ~~the~~ ^{they need} Navy ~~that little room~~ in their efforts to haul away the shattered tanker Ocean Eagle.

Meanwhile, in Washington - President Johnson was taking note of the Puerto Rican mess & in a special conservation message to Congress, including as one of its principal features - a call for a law outlawing the discharge of oil within twelve miles of shore. Providing what's more, that any offender would be fully liable - for cleaning up beaches and waters so polluted.

If adopted in toto - the President's ~~plan~~ plan would also double federal spending for conservation - force strip miners to reclaim the land they used - and assist state government's in developing badly needed waste treatment plants. (As the President put it: "Conservation's concern now is not only for man's enjoyment but for man's survival.")

PRAGUE

Czechoslovakian President Antonin Novotny -
also two of his cabinet ministers ^{again} - under sharp attack
today in Prague. High ranking Czech Army officers -
demanding their immediate ouster; ^e for alleged connections
with Czech General Jan Sejna - the Army's top political
officer - who defected to the United States earlier this
week.

As a result \leftarrow Novotny's formal resignation
from the Presidency \leftarrow is now seen as merely a matter
of time; (especially since he has already lost his ~~to~~
job as Czech Communist party leader; ^{all as a} ~~the~~ result of
a recent feud \wedge with ^{the} young liberals.)

~~Perhaps equally important though, - this
marks the first time a Red satellite army has taken
the lead in attacking a political leader. Raising the
possibility of another Romanian type rebellion - against
Soviet style Communism.~~

SPRINGFIELD

On the campaign trail - it was Vice President
Hubert Humphrey front and center today at Springfield,
Illinois - ~~was~~ challenging Richard Nixon to come out with
specific details - on how he proposes to make good
his pledge to end the war in Vietnam.

The Vice Pres. the ex-Vice Pres. :-
~~Humphrey~~ telling ~~Nixon~~ "If you know how

to win the war and bring peace in the Pacific - let the

American people hear your formula now, why wait until

next year?" Does sound like campaign
year doesn't it?

SACRAMENTO FOLLOW SPRINGFIELD

On the Republican side - at Sacramento -

California's Governor ^aReagan was again declaring himself a non-candidate for national office. Telling those who would have him run = in his own words - "to go away."

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Reagan explaining: "I've made a ~~lot~~ lot of pledges" in California - "and you ~~can't~~ ^{to} just get up and walk away ^{would be} ~~like~~ like saying to the people - I was only fooling."

The Governor then, looking at the California State House - we hear, ^{Warren, as he said:-)} ~~Adding~~ "besides - I still don't know where all the rooms are - in this building."

WASHINGTON

Ever since the cracking of the Genetic Code - news media has been ~~still~~ filled with stories about a possible future race of "test tube babies." And this responsible, in part, for current Senate hearings - considering the possible "moral and ethical problems" arising therefrom.

Enter today - ~~now~~ Nobel Prize winning Geneticist Arthur Kornberg of Stanford University, scoffing at talk about ~~the~~ "perfecting the race by altering genes. Asserting flatly "all this business of creating little men in test tubes is so much nonsense."

Dr. Kornberg adding: "The breeding of babies is a household industry - carried out by unskilled labor;" and likely to remain so - said he - because "the people who perform it apparently enjoy the work." After that all I can say is - so long - until Monday -