

VIETNAM

In Vietnam - the battle for Quang Tri City was said to be entering its decisive stage today. Government radio telling of an all out attack - on the city's Communist-held stone-wall inner city. This an attempt to end, once and for all the communist occupation that has now lasted since May One.

CUSTER FOLLOW VIETNAM

Here at home - at Custer South Dakota - George McGovern was "clarifying" a recent controversial statement; The one where he pledged as President, to keep a residual force in Thailand - if North Vietnam refuses to release American P O W's.

McGovern conceding today that said pledge - was "more of a gesture than anything else." Adding that the effect of such a force in convincing Hanoi to release the prisoners, would be quote "probably not much." But he also argued that history shows that prisoners are not released until a war is completed. And once the bombing has been stopped, said he, "We wouldn't begin it again." Prisoners, or no."

FAIRBANKS FOLLOW CUSTER

On the Republican side - Spiro Agnew was an honored guest today at Fairbanks Alaska. There declaring construction of that proposed trans-Alaskan oil pipe line - will be "only a beginning."

The Vice-President, telling his Alaskan audience:

"Alaska is rich in resources - that our nation will one day need desperately." Adding: "We intend to develop intelligently these resources - to the benefit of our nation and your state; but we intend to do it in a manner so that Alaska's breath-taking natural beauty will not be destroyed."

Spiro Agnew also addressing himself to what he called a current "Anti-Progress campaign;" a campaign - said he - "that seems to be predicated on the philosophy - that all technological change is bad, that all industrial growth is bad, that all mechanical devices are bad, "when, in fact - said he - nothing could be further from the truth.

WASHINGTON

At the Pentagon - Brigadier General James Hamlet was one of thirty-four men today nominated to the rank of Major General. He thus becomes only the second Negro in the Army history - ever to achieve two-star status.

General Hamlet, - a native of Alliance, Ohio; at age fifty - an accomplished helicopter pilot and a veteran of two tours in Vietnam. None of that "To be or not to be" - for General Hamlet, for he's always been "right in" there.

WHITE HOUSE

From the White House - a progress report on the battle against drug abuse. President Nixon conferring with Myles Ambrose - Director of the Office of Drug Abuse Law Enforcement, who said that drug arrests and heroine users have both doubled over the past three years.

Ambrose further noting that the problem is, "Not, of course, completely solved - it's so enormous." But adding that progress is being made - "in "reducing the availability and easing the distribution" of hard drugs.

Next question - from the President: "Do you need any more Money?" To which Ambrose replied, in effect: "No, not more money - just more public support."

President Nixon later ~~summing~~ ^{summing} it all up saying: "We were on the ten-yard-line before - and they had the ball; now we are on the fifty yard-line - and we have the ball."

BELFAST-LONDONDERRY

At Belfast and Londonderry in Northern Ireland - three more shooting deaths today. The victims including a British trooper - as well as two civilians. While a militant Protestant group was threatening to take the law into it's own hands. A spokesman saying the Army now has just one week to clean up the IRA. And then - said he - "We will send teams into the Roman Catholic Area's - and kill every IRA man we find.

BLACKSVILLE

Sadly, reluctantly - all hope was abandoned today for those nine miners entombed at Blacksville, West Virginia. A "minor explosion" deep underground - forcing an end to two days of rescue efforts. Mine President, John Cocoran finally conceding: "There is no possibility of continuing the rescue operation." Adding "We are sealing the mines."

LA GUAIRA

For Christopher Columbus, finally - the end of his longest journey. The "Great Navigator's" remains were formally enshrined today at the Venezuelan Naval Academy at the Port of La Guaira; this the final stop of a long trek with many way-stops - a journey that began more than four-and-a-half centuries ago. Christopher Columbus - Admiral of the Oceans - at peace at last, in his beloved New World; the world he discovered.

HAMBURG

From Hamburg, New York - the story of a novel softball game; where Jim Smith pitched the ball - Jim Smith hit it - Jim Smith caught it - Jim Smith called it an our - and Jim Smith marked it all down.

Indeed, the twenty-two players on both sides, and the two umpires and the score keeper too - all named Jim Smith. The game itself serving as the highlight of the annual picnic of the Jim Smith Society; with some two hundred members coming from as far away as Visalia, California to help share in the fun.

The final score, by the way - ten to three. And who won, you ask? Why the Jim Smith's. Who else? And now let's hear from Jim Smith! Beg your pardon - I mean from you Warren - I mean from you Don!

PARIS

Over in Paris, it's the start for the fall and winter fashion shows; with famed high fashion designed Jacques Estereo taking an immediate swipe at the burgeoning ready-to-wear market; observing that Venus De Milo, Sophia Loren and Brigitte Bardo - "Why, they could never wear factory made clothes." And the same is true, said he - of nearly half of all women.

Why? Because - said Jacques Estero, "If a woman is too fat, too thin, too tall, too short - all hope must be abandoned."

Poor Venus De Milo - Poor Sophia - Poor Brigitte.

Poor Jacques!