

Thurs. May 15-69.

CAPE KENNEDY

- 3 days for launch -

In the skies over Cape Kennedy - it was "fun and games" today for the three Apollo-Ten astronauts. Fun and games - with a serious purpose. Astronauts Tom Stafford, John Young and Gene Cernan - putting a trio of Air Force jets through an hour-long series of aerial acrobatics. Pulling "a few G's" as they put it. ^{the} In hopes of heading off the motion sickness - which earlier plagued the last two Apollo space flights.

Earthbound officials explaining that all three men - have long flying backgrounds as test pilots; but like the previous Apollo crews - had done little more than "rocking chair" flying for the past few years. Spaceman Stafford adding of today's performance: "It showed the world - we can still fly airplanes."

SUPREME COURT

For the first time in U.S. history - a member of the Supreme Court has resigned under fire - as you no doubt know by now. Associate Justice Abe Fortas calling it quits - in the face of a growing demand for impeachment in Congress.

In so doing - Fortas admitting that he had once entered into a long-term financial agreement - with the family foundation of convicted stock manipulator Louis Wolfson. One that would have netted him - Twenty Thousand^S a year for life. Nevertheless, insisting that his judicial integrity - was not compromised.

Said Fortas: "I have not interceded, or taken part in any legal, administrative or judicial matter - affectedⁱⁿ Mr. Wolfson or anyone associated with him." His reason for resigning - he added: Solely to "permit the court to proceed with its work - without the harrassment of debate concerning one of its members."

And so - Justice Fortas departs. And what with Chief

Justice Warren retiring soon - President Nixon is now faced

with the prospect - of ^{at least} making two new appointments to the

High Bench. Does this mean a new era in U.S. jurisprudence?

Could be.

South Korea, the Philippines, Australia, Japan and so on.

With Philippines Foreign Secretary Carlos Romulo - perhaps

best summing up the response. Calling the Nixon proposal

"welcome news for a world that is anxious to see an end to
the Vietnam war." *The NY Times*

Reverse side - as might be expected though. The Soviet
news agency press calling this latest U.S. offer - "a propaganda
trick. A pro-Peking newspaper in Hong Kong - calling it a
"swindle." The Viet Cong in Paris calling it - "old, unjust
and unreasonable."

Meanwhile, chief U.S. peace negotiator Henry Cabot Lodge
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- was conferring today with the President. Later departing for
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WHITE HOUSE

World reaction to President Nixon's new Vietnam peace plan - generally favorable today. Including plaudits on Capitol Hill - ^{also,} and statements of support from South Vietnam, South Korea, the Philippines, Australia, Japan and so on.

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A SHAU FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

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KUALA LUMPUR

For a third straight day - the city of Kuala Lumpur was covered ~~today~~ with a ~~dirty~~ pall of smoke. While down below - Chinese and Malays battled through the flaming streets - all day long and deep into the night.

How many have already died - nobody really knows. However, the official count - at last report ^{nearly a hundred} ~~seventy-eight~~ and ~~the~~ ^{said to be} ~~number mounting,~~ ~~claiming fact,~~ With thousands more - mostly Chinese - ~~reported~~ injured. ~~but~~ police and army ~~troops as yet - seemingly~~ ^{so far unable} ~~powerless~~ to stem the violence.

~~By the way~~ The U.S. State Departments reports ^{some} ~~about~~ twenty-seven hundred Americans - currently residing in or visiting Malaysia. ~~Although luckily~~ ^{all of them} ~~all~~ safe, up to now.

MIDEAST

Today in the Middle East - according to ^{the} Arab calendar, at least - twenty-first anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel. An occasion marked by bombings, strikes and street disorders - in Israeli-occupied Arab territory; especially in the Gaza Strip, - in Jerusalem ^{and} on the banks of the Jordan River.

At the same time, ~~oddly enough~~ memorial services were being observed ~~today~~ throughout Israel. According to the Hebrew calendar - this date ^{also} marking the second anniversary of that ^{so-called} June war, ^{2 years ago,} ~~Sixty-Seven~~.

~~Two years already - hard to believe, isn't it?~~

COLLEGES

Here's one that falls under the heading - "help wanted."

A study of nation's twenty-five hundred colleges and universities - showing that nearly ten per cent are now without presidents - upwards of two hundred. With some seventy of these vacancies ~~at~~ major institutions of learning ~~paying~~ up to Fifty Thousand a year, and still - ~~they're~~ going begging.

Main reason, ~~of course~~ - recent campus violence. In addition, a growing number of college presidents - quitting the groves of academe for the lush vineyards of private industry. While the list of willing and able replacements is further diminished - with each new vacancy.

Where will it all end? Most likely - we are told - in a whole new concept of college leadership; with the traditional role of scholar-administrator giving way at last - to a whole new class of professional managers.

Sic transit gloria, Warren Moran -

PRAGUE

From Prague comes a report today - telling of a sudden erosion in the Czech Communist Party. Marked by the admission of only four thousand new members - since the first ^{of the} year. While the party was losing during the same period ~~some~~ ⁻⁻⁻ twenty-one thousand old members.

Where have all the old Communists gone? ~~With~~ more than twelve thousand - given the boot for various reasons - we hear. Of the rest, some dying - others simply quitting. Among the latter - an old-line Communist worker quoted as saying: "When I was a party member - I was the target of attacks - people in the factory picked on me; now I have stopped being a member - and things are quiet; nobody criticizes ~~me~~ ^{me} - and nobody bothers me."

As ^{we} ~~I~~ said before - sic transit gloria ^{and s-l-u-t-m}