

L.T. -OLDS. FISHER FEBRUARY 3, 1964

(Dick Hottelet, substituting)

CIVIL RIGHTS. President Johnson today won two initial skirmishes in the Senate and the House as those two legislative bodies debated the Tax Cut and Civil Rights Bills, the Senate knocked out a provision to lower capital gains levies to a top of 21 per cent in effect holding the capital gains tax at 25 per cent. It also voted to slash personal income exemptions for 45 thousand Americans living abroad.

In the House Southern Democrats lost their first Major floor attack on the Civil Rights Bill when they tried to get rid of the provision that would set up a 3-Judge court to try voting cases on demand of the Federal Government.

Here in New York, nearly half a million Public School pupils skipped school today during a one day mass boycott aimed at forcing immediate racial integration of the largest school system in the country. More than half a million others crossed picket lines of fellow students, teachers and parents -- negro,

LEAD-2

Puerto Rican and Whites. Integrationists warned other boycotts would soon follow in 8 other states.

MISSISSIPPI

In Jackson Mississippi Byron de la Beckwith heard a finger-print expert testify that his fingerprints were found on the gun the prosecution says was used to murder Integration leader Medgar Evers last June.

And a cab driver testified that the defendant asked four times for directions to Medgar Ever's house a few days before he was shot from ambush.

VIET NAM.

In Minneapolis, Senator Barry Goldwater said that President Johnson was fiddling with political promises during the Panama riots and that what he called "U.S. Foreign Policy fumbler" are napping while the war in VietNam is drifting toward disaster.

In North Carolina Richard Nixon described Soviet Premier Khrushchev as the "most able, all-round leader in the World"-- and in his speech at Pfeiffer College kept the door open for a Presidential draft although he doubted Republicans would push him through it.

Now to Innsbruck, and Lowell Thomas.

GREECE

Archbishop Makarios, President of Cyprus, today sent his formal reply to London on the Anglo-American plan to station a ten thousand man Western Alliance Force on Cyprus to keep the peace. The text has not been released, but Makarios seems to be keeping everybody guessing with objections and questions. The British call it "a qualified acceptance of the plan". Greek Cypriot sources call it "a rejection" -- and Washington isn't quite sure, feeling it falls somewhere in between a "yes" and a "no."

It was made plain, however, that Makarios wants the projected peace-keeping army somehow linked with the United Nation's Security Council, which is precisely what the United States and Britain do not want, for it would then get Russia

GREECE - 2

in on the act, with all the complications that could raise.

In Nicosia tonight, two bombs exploded at the United States Embassy causing considerable damage, and an explosion was set off at the English Hotel Averof. The United States has authorized the evacuation of the dependents of U.S. Citizens from Cyprus.

PANAMA

In Washington, the Council of the Organization of American States today approved by a vote of sixteen to one a Foreign Ministers meeting to consider Panamanian charges of aggression against the United States.

JOHNSON

President Johnson lost a battle in his war against poverty when the House Agriculture Committee voted down his nationwide food stamp plan to get food to the needy. Opponents felt it should be concentrated only in local areas where poverty is a serious problem.



SENATE

The Senate knocked out the so-called Ribicoff amendment to the tax cut bill, which would have provided a tax reduction for parents putting their children through college.

In Jackson, Mississippi, the prosecution rested its case in the trial of Byron De La Beckwith, charged with the firing slaying of Negro leader Martin Luther King last June.

## CIVIL RIGHTS

The House has tentatively approved safeguards for Negro voting rights in the Civil Rights Bill, and defeated a Southern move to limit the public accommodations section.

In Jackson, Mississippi, the prosecution rested its case in the trial of Byron de la Beckwith, charged with the rifle slaying of Negro leader Medgar Evers last June.

NUMBERS GAME

Back in Washington, Treasury Agents turned up a Numbers game operation in, of all places, the Pentagon, arresting a dozen employees on charges of operating the game.