

A rare public statement today from Independence, Missouri. Eighty-two-year-old former President Truman - calling on the American people to give President Johnson "their full support" - in his handling of the Vietnam situation

Said Harry Truman: "Southeast Asia has become a critical testing ground - of our will to support the cause of freedom - as well as the cause of peace. We cannot afford now to falter - or to throw away the gains so dearly won."

VIETNAM

President Johnson's visit to Guam - apparently the signal for stepped-up Viet Cong attacks throughout Vietnam. Resulting, ironically - in some of the heaviest Cong losses in weeks.

The biggest and costliest battle today - for the Viet Cong - about thirty miles north of Saigon. A full regiment of enemy troops - some twenty-five hundred, in all - jumping a hundred U.S. infantrymen on a road clearing operation.

Caught in the open - the American's circling their armored vehicles just like a wagon train - under Indian attack in the Old West. Cutting down charge after charge - until the Viet Cong finally gave it up.

The enemy leaving behind - two hundred and twenty-four dead. The Americans - losing five.

Battlefield setbacks over the weekend - adding at least three hundred and forty-four more to the enemy toll. Most of these - in ill-fated Viet Cong thrusts near the Cambodian border.

PEKING

Great Britain was on the receiving end of a strong protest today -from Red China; for allowing United States war ships to enter the British crown colony of Hong Kong.

The British charge - d'affaires in Peking was - presented a formal note - from the Chinese government; charging that "some seventy to eighty war ships - directly concerned with the Vietnam War - have berthed at Hong Kong! just since the beginning of this year. This called proof that the United States is using Hong Kong - "as a base of aggression against Vietnam."

This - said Peking is "a provocation against the Vietnamese people, Communist China and the people of Southeast Asia." Adding that unless it is stopped - Britain must bear responsibility "for the serious consequences that may arise."

HUMPHREY

Vice President Humphrey, soon to make an overseas trip. The State Department disclosing today -- that the Vice President will be off to Europe next week -- to Bonn -- for a conference of U.S. chiefs of missions in western Europe; also stops at other European capitals.

From Bonn we hear that Humphrey's trip to Europe will be in lieu of a promised visit from President Johnson, plans for which -- now appear to have been shelved. U.S. officials maintaining, however, that no decision has been made as yet -- on the LBJ trip.

SAMARKAND

Former Vice President Richard Nixon - a visitor today to the "Golden City" of Samarkand in Soviet Central Asia.

There tasting a strange vegetable - offered by an Uzbek peasant in a colorful skull cap.

"Delicious" - said Nixon. It turned out to be a green turnip. Mr. Nixon also had a chat with a Soviet Army Major who introduced himself as one - who "together with your Americans - fought against the Nazis." The major remarking: "Too bad that now - we are on opposite sides of the barricade in Vietnam."

Said Nixon: "That will change some day." And then he caught a plane - back to Moscow.

COURT

A key aid to imprisoned teamster chief Jimmy Hoffa - spared today the fate of his ex-boss. Charles (Chunky) O'Brien - a teamster official in Detroit - winning the right to a new trial. This on the strength of a Supreme Court ruling - reversing his conviction for unlawfully removing merchandise from a bonded warehouse. The reason: illegal government eavesdropping in the case. Same grounds used by Hoffa - in an attempt to overthrow his own conviction. But he failed.

POWELL

A suit intended to bar Adam Clayton Powell from running for re-election to Congress was - filed today in New York. The plaintiff - The Reverend Ervin Yearling; a one-time Harlem minister - who is running as a conservative for Powell's now vacant House seat. The Reverend Yearling asking that Powell's name - be stricken from the ballot; on the grounds - said he - that Powell's expulsion from the Nineteenth Congress - has left him ineligible to serve until January of Sixty-Nine.

As for Powell himself - another bulletin today from his vacation retreat in Bimini. Said Powell: "I had planned to retire - but because of the great monstrosity of injustice perpetrated against me - I am going on forever." His goal - he said: to serve as "the catalytic agent - which will bring unity to the whole Black movement" in the United States.

Djibouti

The vote yesterday in a national plebiscite in French Somaliland--two to one against independence--and for continued ~~links~~ links with Paris.

Nevertheless, another pro-independent riot today-- in the native quarter of the capital city of Djibouti.

Hundreds of rioters--including scores of women-- setting fire to a number of homes. Taking ~~vengeance~~ ~~vengeance~~ vengeance--on their pro-French neighbors and charging to battle with French legionnaires--chanting the old Arab war cry: "Allah Akbar"--God is Great.

In the wake of the violence--at least eleven natives reported dead; and some twenty more--seriously injured.

New Delhi

The government of Madame Indira Gandhi--a winner today in its first test of confidence in the new Indian parliament. The lady prime minister easily mustering enough strength--to defeat a surprise motion of no confidence. Trouncing combined opposition--by nearly a hundred votes.

Madame Gandhi's Congress Party--down to ^a paper thin majority in the new parliament. However, the opposition ^{is} badly disorganized. Some of its members from rural districts--failing even to show up for the supposed showdown.

Cape Horn

British's famed "Lone Wolf" navigator--who has already sailed solo from England to Australia--reported half way home today on the return trip. Sir Francis Chichester starting around Cape Horn--at the tip of South America; on the final leg of his solo voyage--around the world.

The Cape--graveyard of a thousand ships. However, at this time of year ^{it's} generally considered ~~the best time~~ ^{not so bad} ~~to navigate~~ ^{not such a} dangerous passage. And at last report--prevailing winds were favoring Sir Francis and his tiny craft. Also, the British Navy patrol ship "Protector"--^{is} standing by--just in case.

Freeman

A wondrous picture of the twenty-first century--from a farmer's point of view--drawn today by Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman; at a Washington meeting--of the National Association of Science Teachers.

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Instead of personally inspecting his crop--the farmer of the year two thousand will sit in an air conditioned, computerized office--says Orville Freeman. Monitoring his vast farmlands--from earth orbiting satellites. With push button equipment to regulate light and moisture--also to supply growth-inducing chemicals as needed.

And no need to worry about plant disease--or destructive insects--says Freeman; for by the year two thousand--they will be a thing of the past.

The farmer who earns a living \ddot{x} by "the sweat of his brow"--to be similarly extinct--says Freeman unless, of course--the air conditioning breaks down.

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of S-l-u-t-may.