

Fri. May 23-75.

With ~~his~~ Europe ~~bound~~ less than a week away - President Ford today granted a rare personal interview - to four European news men.

The President admitting, at the out-set, his ~~main~~ main purpose in going to Europe - is to reassure our Nato ~~and~~ allies of full U S backing. He quickly added - however - the Mayaguez incident should ^{have} ~~already~~ done that. "I am sure, both domestically and world wide" said he - "this should be a firm assurance that the U S is capable - and has the will to act -- in emergencies and challenges."

Again because of the Mayaguez incident the President also foreseeing as ~~is~~ he put it - "the beginning, perhaps, of a new era of less congressional interference in the conduct of foreign policy."

"There are some things taking place in Congress" he

went on - "that ought to reassure our allies that the President, Congress and the people can work together;" that we're all finally "getting out from under the trauma - of our problems in Vietnam."

And now -

VIETIANE

In Laos, where Communist forces are rapidly assuming greater and greater power - a ~~new~~ step-up today in the evacuation of American ~~national~~ nationals. Women and children first - to be followed as soon as possible by their husbands and fathers.

~~An American spokesman in Vietiane noting the country is now in a period of turmoil. An aide adding that soon - "the situation may be out of control."~~

MANILA

President Marcos of the Philippines ~~was making~~
~~today~~ ⁱⁿ his first major foreign policy ~~was~~ speech since
the fall of South Vietnam; ~~in it, calling~~ ^{termed} the Philippine -
American mutual defense treaty - a "dead letter;" ^{and}
therefore, asking a partial return - or possibly even
a closing -- of U S military bases on Philippine soil.
Marcos saying: "It is not my intention to wave a
placard saying Americans go ~~own~~ home. Our people
are far too deeply attached." "But the Americans
must understand" he continued - the Philippines is
now fighting for "sheer physical survival."

BEIRUT

In the midst of renewed fighting between ~~Arab~~ guerrillas and right wing Lebanese - a new government today in Beirut. Lebanese President Suleiman Franjeh selecting as his new Premier - retired general Nouredin Rifai, whose eight man cabinet includes ^{es} ~~was~~ seven more generals, among them the commander-in-chief of the Lebanese army.

The new government's first task - ~~of course~~
-- ~~to end~~ ^{to end} ~~the~~ ^{the} civil strife, that has ~~now~~
all but ~~paralyzed~~ paralyzed Lebanon. ^{A first step} ~~in that direction~~
~~that its first step in that direction - may be~~
^{may be} ~~declaration of~~ martial law.

ANKARA

Secretary of State Kissinger ^{after} ~~was~~ completing
two days of talks with Turkish leaders, - ~~apparently~~,
in an optimistic vein. ~~Dr. Kissinger~~ ~~telling~~ newsmen
he thinks there is now "a basis for ~~making~~ progress"
toward a settlement of the Cyprus dispute.

~~The~~ Next stop - Spain, - ~~and then home~~

MOON

Weather permitting American sky gazers will soon be getting their best view of a lunar eclipse - in more than a decade. The Moon to begin its journey through the earth's shadow Saturday night exactly at midnight, eastern time. The eclipse to reach its peak - about two hours later. Astronomers telling us it should be "an impressive and majestic ~~event~~ experience - even more rewarding when seen with binoculars."

RIO DE JANEIRO

From Rio de Janeiro ^{we hear} ~~the story today telling~~

~~of the discovery~~ of an ex-Amazon guide -- who claims
to have been born in eighteen-oh-eight. That's right,

eighteen oh eight. His name - Doroteu de Sousa. ^{If he}

^{was} ~~if really~~ born in eighteen oh eight ^{he's} ~~one~~ hundred

and sixty seven years old - the oldest man on earth.

We hope he isn't
~~either that or just~~ another Brazil nut.

And now —

DETROIT

Detroit - the nation's big three auto makers today reported ~~a fourteen year low - in mid-May, new car sales. At the same time though an announcement~~ that all fifty-eight of the industry's assembly plants will be in operation next week ^{for} the first time ~~for~~ ~~that~~ since ~~may~~ last November.

G M Chairman ~~Thomas~~ Murphy also confirmed ~~today~~ that the nation's number one auto maker - will introduce a new mini-car, ~~during the Nineteen Seventy six model year.~~ The long rumored "Chevette" ~~expected to get up to~~ forty miles ~~per~~ to the gallon, ~~of gas, and it's hoped - we are told - that its price~~ ^{and price} ~~tag will be~~ below twenty five hundred.