

March 31, 1972

NEW ORLEANS

*First - a special salute to CBS radio station
W W L at New Orleans - today celebrating its fiftieth
anniversary on the air. Well, well - W W L New Orleans
- Fifty years - a real pioneer in this broadcast world,
and still going strong.*

JERUSALEM

Good Friday in Jerusalem. The reenactment of a scene nearly two thousand years old. Tens of thousands of Christian pilgrims - marching in doleful procession down the Via Dolorosa; following in the footsteps of Jesus on his way to the Cross at Calvary. All this amidst a background - bizarre, to say the least. Since from nearby minarets came the call of the muezzin, nowadays, over electronic loudspeakers, summoning the Moslem faithful to sabbath services at El Aqsa Mosque and the beautiful Mosque of Omar. The marchers also skirted fur-hatted orthodox Jews on their way to the Wailing Wall for their passover prayers. And everywhere small shops, selling souvenirs such as replicas of the crown of thorns that Christ wore. But those who cared the most were paying little heed. A visitor from New York City - perhaps explaining it best. Robert Edgar saying: "It is difficult getting beyond the noise - beyond the commercialism. But to walk where Christ walked - said he - "that is beyond belief."

ACCIDENTS FOLLOW JERUSALEM

Today there were
~~At the same time~~ a number of tragic
occurrences right around the globe; the same kind -
that often seem to coincide with Good Friday.

Off the coast of Japan a terrible ^{fic} storm
wiping out
~~killing~~ some sixty sailors and fishermen. In the
remote bush country of South Africa - near the
village of Pot'gtetur'srus -- a train wreck killing
~~some~~
~~about~~ forty.

Here on our own shores the crash of an
Air Force jet at Orlando ~~is~~ killing seven. But
the greatest loss, as always - on the nation's highways.
At Strong City, Kansas - a train car collision killing
five; at Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania a truck car
crash killing five more. At Frederick, Maryland,
a single car accident killing six; ~~all of them young~~
students from Penn State bound for Easter vacation.

The message ^{is obvious} - ~~to start~~ drive safely; at Eastertime
and all the time.

D M Z

In Vietnam - a series of enemy attacks up near the D M Z; ~~said to be the~~ heaviest there - in four years. Enemy troops reportedly overrunning five and possibly six - South Vietnamese outposts. Also, mounting a mortar attack - on nearby Quang Tri Air Base. All of which could be - the start of that long-awaited Communist offensive we've been hearing so much about.

~~From~~ ^{From} the White House ^{comes word that} ~~said today~~ -

President Nixon is watching the situation in Vietnam very closely. ^{But,} ~~Adding, however, he has~~ ^{that he} is ~~fully~~ confident - the South Vietnamese army can cope with intensified Communist attacks, in which case - we are told - it should serve as final proof that Vietnamization has succeeded.

BELLEAIRE BLUFFS

At Belleaire Bluffs, near Clearwater, Florida, the death of another of World War One's famed Lafayette Escadrilles. Henry Street Jones - when he flew with the French - tangled several times with Richlofen's famed Flying Circus. - He also shot down ten planes - winning the Croix de Guerre and the French Medal Militaire. Henry Street Jones - aged seventy-nine.

And now there is one. The last surviving member of the Lafayette Escadrille, is a retired colonel, Charles Donlan of Lanikai, the main island of Hawaii: last of a truly gallant band.

BELFAST LONDONDERRY

By sea and air - an extra six hundred ~~British~~ British troops arrived today in Northern Ireland - this - according to London - a "normal precaution" again possible trouble over the long Easter weekend. As you may know, Ireland's tradition's of Easter violence stretching ^{ed} all the way back to that Easter uprising of Nineteen Sixteen.

There was
~~indeed~~ a sniper ~~as~~ attack late today - in Londonderry's busy Guildhall Square as well as scattered violence clear ~~over~~ across the country.

MANILA

Manila - the Philippines getting tough on drugs. Philippine President Marcos signing a new law - setting a death penalty for the manufacture of dangerous drugs; also death for the ~~the~~ supplier or pusher \neq in cases of fatal overdose. In ~~addition~~ addition those who grow plants to be used in drug production ^{are} λ now subject to possible sentences ranging from fourteen years to life.

DESMOINES

From the American medical association
by way of Des Moines, ^{come} a report ~~today~~ on the pulse
of the nation. ~~The~~ The A M A polling more than
forty-thousand households ~~coming~~ to the conclusion
that mid-westerners - are the healthiest of all
Americans; followed next by those living in the north-
east - and then westerners and southerners.

In all parts of the country - at least one
constant though. Women coming down sick more than
men - about three and a half days a year. ^{Even so I}
~~they are~~ ^{do not} think they are the "weaker sex," do you, Warren?

ROME

From Rome - the story of a "great impersonator" Italian style. Signor Michele Tana passing himself off, at various times - as the rector of a church, the Prior of a monastery, the headmaster of an academy and the dean of a string of journalism schools - all fake. Along the way - Tana collecting thousands in contributions and ~~tuition~~ tuition fees. And he might be going yet - except for ~~complaint~~ complaints of gambling and drinking parties. These - finally leading to an arrest warrant. According to a police spokesman - the only legal recognition he ever really earned - in his entire life.