

L.T. BUICK, FISHER. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1966

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

That shaky alliance between Russia and Red China was all but shattered today; by a Chinese statement rejecting a Russian invitation -- to attend the World Communist Party Congress in Moscow next week. A statement described as "the most bitter, most frenetic" ever made in the history of the Sino-Soviet dispute.

Peking charging that Russia has "worked hand in glove with the United States -- in a whole series of dirty deals." That Russia is even now "actively trying to build a ring of encirclement -- around Socialist China." That Russia has clearly abandoned "the path of Marxism and Leninism" -- and has "not shown the slightest repentance."

According to Kremlinologists -- the Chinese thereby, today, virtually excommunicating themselves from World Communism which is now said to be clearly split into two camps -- for better -- or for worse.

NATO

The American stand on NATO was spelled out in detail today by President Johnson; in response to a bid by DeGaulle of France -- to scuttle the NATO alliance.

The President asserting that NATO's collective strength -- is "the mightiest arsenal in the world." The best possible assurance -- that there will be no war in Europe.

The United States thus determined -- said he -- to "preserve and to strengthen" the NATO alliance. To do so -- hopefully -- with the help of France. But, without her -- if necessary.

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SPIES

A warning today in Washington -- that Communist agents are trying to set up a spy ring -- in the U.S. State Department. Have you heard rumors of that, before? This time it's from Laszlo Szabo -- a high-ranking Hungarian spy who defected to the United States last October; in secret testimony -- before a House Armed Services Subcommittee.

Szabo declaring that his principal function -- was to learn everything possible about the State Department -- and the people who work there; expecially anyone who might have been born in Hungary -- or might have a special interest in that country.

Soviet agenst still assigned to the operation are capable of using "any technique" -- said Szabo. "Blackmail, threats against relatives, money, women -- anything that will work."

VIET NAM

Da Nang and Hue -- the two largest cities in central Viet Nam -- nearly paralyzed today by general strikes.

The two cities currently beset by a series of Buddhist demonstrations -- both anti-Saigon and anti-American in nature.

At one point -- a group of Buddhist students seizing the Da Nang radio station; where for fifteen minutes -- they broadcast repeated calls for a return to civilian government. Soldiers guarding the station -- supposedly loyal to Premier Ky.-- refusing to intervene.

On the fighting front -- U.S. Marines today completed a mop-up in the wake of that "Operation Texas" in Quang Ngai Province discovering the bodies of numerous Viet Cong -- hastily buried by their fleeing companions. The toll of enemy dead in the operation -- now set at more than five hundred.

VATICAN

At the Vatican -- in Rome -- that historic meeting today between Pope Paul and the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury. The two prelates vowing a joint quest -- for a worldwide Christian unity. Sealing the pledge -- with a ceremonial "kiss of peace." Fitting climax to the first official meeting in four-hundred years -- between the heads of the Roman Catholic Church and the head of the Anglican Church, which broke with Rome centuries ago. Shades of Thomas A. Beckett -- and Henry the Eighth.

The Vatican ceremony today was marred^{a bit}/by three British Protestants, who first heckled the Archbishop -- during a Holy Communion service, and later tried to demonstrate in St. Peter's Square -- before they were finally removed by police.

INDONESIA

American newsmen were back on the job today in Indonesia, for the first time since Sukarno ordered them out of the country -- early this year.

First direct word from Jakarta -- news that Red China has recalled all of its top diplomats from Indonesia. Apparently because of the wave of anti-communism - now sweeping the country. Informed sources asserting that Peking wants to know why - what went wrong?

QUAKE

Another pair of strong earthquakes in Northern China - reported today by Radio Peking. The tremors said to have caused heavy damage -- in an area barely recovered from earlier shocks. However, loss of life is reported "lighter" this time -- we hear quote: -- "because of recent precautionary measures."

SPAIN

A maximum effort to recover that American H-Bomb off the coast of Spain -- to be made tomorrow.

The U.S. Navy reports only -- that it hopes to move the bomb shortly. From the side of a subterranean gully -- to an adjacent plateau, from where it can be raised, they hope.

WEATHER

Dozens of cities and towns paralyzed -- hundreds of travelers stranded today from Nebraska to the Great Lakes. In this the second vicious blizzard to sweep the Upper Midwest -- in less than three weeks.

At Minneapolis and Saint Paul -- sixty mile an hour winds adding to the havoc as the death toll continues to mount -- throughout the area.

And -- more to come. Blizzard warnings posted tonight -- for most of Minnesota, Iowa, western Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. Also, in the south, Warren, a hard freeze predicted tonight - all the way to Arkansas.

LAS VEGAS

The city of Las Vegas - sin capital of the world? Don't you believe it!

Says who? Says the Reverend John Hunter -- who returned today to his parish in London's notorious Soho District, following a brief visit -- to the fabled American pleasure spot.

Take strippers, for instance -- said the Reverend Mr. Hunter; why they take off more in Soho than they do in Las Vegas. As for gambling -- this from the good Reverend: "There is" -- said he -- "probably a greater volume of betting on football and horses in Soho alone than in the entire state of Nevada." Las Vegas? Why it's a cultural center by comparison -- according to the London clergyman. I tried to locate Jack Entratter of the Sands or one of the other cultural leaders of Las Vegas to get his reaction -- but no dice.