

BANGKOK

Thurs, Oct. 19-67.

At Bangkok in Thailand - another big boost today for U S policy in Southeast Asia. With Thai officials - agreeing to commit a full division of ^{their} army ~~troops~~ to South Vietnam; perhaps as many as twenty thousand men -- ~~or~~ ten times the number of Thai men now in combat. Thailand thus becoming the third American ally this week - to increase its troop commitment against the Viet Cong.

We hear this ~~the good news~~ from Thai Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman; on his return to Bangkok, - following talks with U S officials last week. Kohman saying the new Thai Division - will be formed from among ~~xx~~ some forty thousand men; those who first volunteered for duty last January - at the time of Thailand's original commitment to Vietnam?

In return - the United States is pledging massive aid to Thailand. Much of this aid - expected to take the form of military equipment; for use against Communist insurgents ^{recently getting busy} ~~just getting started~~ in Northeast Thailand.

CANBERRA FOLLOW BANGKOK

In a related development at Canberra - Australian Prime Minister ~~Harold~~ Holt ~~also~~ reaffirmed today the Aussie commitment to Vietnam, including the use of Australian planes against North Vietnam - if need be. Said Harold Holt: "We are not looking for a sheltered role for Australian forces - they will play their part with other forces."

At the same time - the Prime Minister disclosed plans for another Far East summit meeting; probably in late November - or early December. Purpose - said he: "The pooling of knowledge of what is going on - and what seem to be the prospects."

VIETNAM FOLLOW CANBERRA

Meanwhile, from the fighting front - news today of a second major ambush in as many days, ~~With~~ enemy infiltrators clobbering a platoon of U S Marines - near that so-called demilitarized zone. The Viet Cong using pellet-spray land mines - to cut off the American outfit; in the end - killing ten of the Leathernecks and wounding nineteen more.

The air war - also heating up again. Including a flurry of dogfights - in heated combat over North Vietnam. With a Communist ~~me~~ Mig-Seventeen - going down in flames, ~~While~~ enemy ground fire - was claiming a U.S. Navy bomber.

Down below - Hanoi today branding as "sheer deception" - that latest U S offer of a bombing pause ~~predicated~~ predicated on some reciprocal action - that might lead to peace talks. Hanoi declaring there can be no peace - until the United States withdraws "all of its troops from South Vietnam."

PROTEST FOLLOW VIETNAM

Here at home - a continuing storm of anti-war protest demonstrations. In Chicago - the demonstrators trying to storm an Armed Forces Induction Center. In Portland, Oregon - the protestors chaining themselves ~~ix~~ to the door of ^{the} Selective Service Headquarters. In Oakland - seven hundred pickets parading in front of that embattled California induction center. At the University of Wisconsin -- scene of earlier violence -- student demonstration leaders today calling for a total boycott of classes.

All this - part of an organized, nationwide campaign of protest - against the war - against the draft, ~~Scheduled~~ to culminate in a massive march on the Pentagon ~~this~~ ~~Saturdayx~~ Saturday. Indeed, the government even now - gathering hundreds of U S marshals and army paratroopers in the Washington area; in case they are needed by capital police - to control the expected crowds.

PROTEST FOLLOW VIETNAM = 2

Be that as it may - a series of wholesale defections today from the anti-war rally. These mainly among religious leaders - up to now in the forefront of the peace movement. Among them - Rabbi Richard Hirsch - Director of the Social Action Center of Reform Judaism.

Said Rabbi Hirsch: "This demonstration was organized and is being run - by the radical left; ^{by} people who think that everything the United States does is wrong - and everything Hanoi does is right." And that's why - religious - and should have - groups "are having nothing to do with it" - said he.

VENUS

On a Space item
~~Expiring next to space~~ Russia's Venus-Four "soft"

landing is ~~surely proving~~ a tough ~~ex~~ act to follow. Even so -- the show must go on - and go on it did today.

America's Mariner-Five spacecraft - completing perfectly its own scheduled "fly-by" of ~~the~~ cloud-shrouded ~~Planet~~ Venus. A remarkable achievement - ~~not, could be say,~~ *even if it is* a bit of an anti-climax.

As for the Russian Venus probe - a top Soviet ^{was} scientist _^ saying today it appears that Venus is a "dry, hot planet;" its hostile environment - practically ruling out future development by Man. In other words ^{maybe a} ~~it's a~~ _^ ~~not~~ ^{say they} place to visit - which the Soviets _^ hope to do as ~~early~~ early as Nineteen Eighty-but you wouldn't want to live there.

STOCKHOLM

For Guatemalan Diplomat - writer Miguel Angel Asturias - a most rewarding present today on his sixty-eighth birthday. From the Swedish Academy of Letters in Stockholm - Asturias receiving the Nineteen Sixty-Seven Nobel prize for Literature.

The winner - one of Latin America's best-known poets, novelists and playwrights. Many of his works - dealing with the problems of Mulatto and Indian peasants in Guatemala. His style often called - the "prose of fire." Perhaps explained by the fact ^{that} he's part-Indian himself.

Asturias was also winner of Soviet Russia's - Lenin peace prize last year. His present diplomatic assignment - ~~is~~ Guatemalan Ambassador to Paris.

TOKYO

From Tokyo, of all places, comes the latest chapter -- in the adventures of Twiggy.

Twiggy - as you know - that toothpick-slim girl-model from Britain -- who has caused such a stir in the fashion world. Appearing today - at a Tokyo news conference; as part of an attempt to popularize the mini-skirt - among Japanese women.

Somehow though - the conversation turned in another direction - to the topless. Whereupon Twiggy said flatly - she would never - but never - wear topless fashions.

So who asked her to? Was it you, Warren?

CHAKAPADAPHIRKA JUNGLE

"Rogue elephant! Rogue elephant!" from village
to village - the ~~danger~~ cry was sounded today; clear across
Chaka-padap-turka
the Chakapadaphirka jungle - in Eastern Hindustan.

The elephant gone mad - a giant bull; who has already
claimed the lives of at least twenty persons - ~~over the past~~ⁱⁿ
two weeks. Not to mention - scores more injured.

His latest near-victim - a local police superintendent;
at the head of a posse - sent to track down the elephant
and ~~to~~ kill him. As it turned out though - the elephant
was ~~not~~ waiting in ambush; the superintendent - barely
escaping with his life.

The Indian government finally posting a bounty -
for anyone ~~who can~~^{able to} kill the ~~beast~~^{rogue}. The bounty amounting
to a ~~few~~ hundred-and thirty bucks - a king's ransom for
that part of the world. ~~But~~ At last report - the rogue
elephant still on the loose in that Chaka-padap-turka
jungle.