

Wednesday, Sept. 4, 1974

**FIRST LADY**

*A week late but none the less welcome. Ladies Day today at the White House. Betty Ford holding her first news conference - as First Lady; discussing a broad range of subjects including abortion, equal rights for women and inflation. Mrs. Ford saying her views on abortion - are similar to those of Vice President nominee Nelson Rockefeller her views on equal rights - strong enough that she intends to campaign for the pending equal rights amendment. And, her views on inflation - perhaps best reflected in White House menus. "We've had to make an adjustment"- said she. "We don't eat as much steak or roast beef - as much as the boys would like."*

*When asked what women could do to prevent future wars - said Mrs. Ford: "They can always enlist. Then adding more seriously that they can become "very active in politics - and thus play a great role."*

**FIRST LADY - 2**

**Mrs. Ford also saying they plan to vacation both  
summer and winter in Colorado at Vail, where they own a  
condominium.**

**WHITE HOUSE**

President Ford today announced the appointment of George Bush - as ~~the~~ new U S Envoy to Red China; ~~The President also nominated~~ <sup>with</sup> Mrs. Mary Louise Smith of Des Moines - to succeed Bush as Republican National Chairman. If approved - Mrs. Smith to become the first woman - ever to head the G O P.

Other diplomatic appointments announced today - ~~that of~~ White House Counsellor Kenneth Rush as Ambassador to France; - former ~~ly~~ Kentucky Senator John Sherman Cooper, ~~as~~ Ambassador to East Germany; - and Career Diplomat William Rogers as Assistant Secretary of State. A spokesman further confirming that White House Chief of Staff General ~~is~~ Alexander Haig - ~~is~~ is being considered for a top military post.

STATE

At the State Department - <sup>today's</sup> ~~the~~ signing  
of a document formally establish<sup>ed</sup> ~~ing~~ diplomatic relations  
- between <sup>the</sup> U S and East Germany. This marking an  
end - to twenty-nine years of cold war confrontations;  
also, clearing the way for <sup>the</sup> settlement of a number of  
legal complications -- still left over from World War  
Two. A U S spokesman <sup>saying</sup> ~~stating~~ ~~however,~~ the legal  
status of West ~~Ger~~x Berlin - will remain unchanged.

WALTER REED

One of America's great soldiers -

~~has passed at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center,~~

Army Chief of Staff General Creighton Abrams - the  
victim of complications following lung surgery.

General Abrams first ~~came~~<sup>came</sup> to the  
fore <sup>^</sup> as a tank commander under General <sup>^</sup> Leo, Patton in  
World War Two; a Lieutenant <sup>^</sup> ~~Colonel~~<sup>General</sup> - at age thirty;  
in charge of the lead battalion - that broke the German  
siege at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge.

Once saying of the Germans: "They've got us surrounded  
again - the poor so and so's." His toughest job without  
question - though the winding down of the war in Viet Nam  
- a job for which he was later honored - as "one of  
our authentic national heroes."

~~General Creighton Abrams~~ <sup>^</sup> Only fifty-

nine.



## WASHINGTON

Washington again - a meeting of four hundred governmental experts concerned with the international food problem. One of a ~~long~~ series of meetings - helping ~~to~~ pave the way for the forthcoming world food conference; whose deputy ~~secretary~~ secretary General - was today's main speaker.

Dr. John Hannah urging the mid-East oil producing nations to come to the aid of the world's developing nations; ~~to~~ do so by converting the natural gas they now waste - into fertilizer. Dr. Hannah adding that mid-East gas ~~can~~ "has a potential of producing four times the quantity of fertilizer needed ~~to~~ to close the gap between what we now produce and what the world could use."

## STUDY

From the Congressional Research

*we have*  
Service *✓* a report ~~today~~ on the soaring cost of  
medical care. A five month study showing that  
doctors fees have been climbing half again as fast  
as the over-all consumer price index, *to* to the point  
where the median income of office-based doctors -  
above and beyond expenses -- is now ~~at~~ more than  
forty-thousand a year. We are also told "it is highly  
probable" that doctors fees will continue to soar -  
unless the government again steps in - as it did before.

INCOME

~~In the same vein - a later announcement~~ <sup>Q</sup> report from

<sup>tells us</sup> the U S Census bureau, The median income of all U S

households <sup>last year</sup> ~~said to have~~ hit a record ten thousand

five hundred bucks, ~~last year~~; an increase of more

than eight percent from the year before. <sup>With</sup> ~~but fully~~

three-quarters of that gain - said to have been wiped

out by inflation. <sup>And now this message.</sup>



## WEST BENGAL

Remember Sundar? the Indian tiger

that killed an aged woman recently in West Bengal?

~~You may recall that, Sundar, was tracked down - but~~

~~not later killed~~ <sup>was</sup> only trapped, ~~this~~ in deference

to the fact that Indian tigers - are now an endangered

species. <sup>Now they tell us</sup> Sundar thus shipped to a remote jungle area -

~~where he~~ was again set ~~to~~ free. ~~But~~ But nature works

in mysterious ways. <sup>Days later</sup> a check of Sundar's new lair

<sup>indicated</sup> ~~this was showing~~ he might ~~just~~ as well been

sentenced to death. His mangled body <sup>was</sup> found ~~less than~~

~~seventy feet~~ <sup>near</sup> ~~from the spot~~ where he was released.

<sup>with</sup> ~~The~~ tracks ~~showing~~ showing he was killed by another

tiger - a ~~much~~ bigger <sup>one.</sup> ~~tiger~~ Animal expert John

Seidensticker of the U S who supervised the operation

saying: "We obviously put him in another tiger's area." -

<sup>So, curtains for Sundar,</sup>  
~~and the other tiger didn't like it."~~