

Wed. Jan. 11 - '69 1/2

REACTION

Congressional reaction today to President Johnson's  
request for a tax increase -- <sup>rather u</sup> ~~likewarm, at best~~ Senate leaders  
promising only -- "constructive consideration" of the tax  
measure. House leaders -- about the same.

~~Ah, but~~ reaction on Wall Street -- something else again.  
The New York Stock Market plunging more than eight points --  
in the first hour of trading today; <sup>2</sup> ~~an~~ record volume -- of  
more than Four Million shares.

And then -- a sudden reverse wiping out the deficit --  
with afternoon support flooding the market. At the close --  
the Dow-Jones industrial average -- up more than seven points  
for the day.

VIET NAM

Operation "Iron Triangle" in Viet Nam -- fast becoming a showpiece of American strength and determination -- in that embattled land. Its mission: Total destruction of the enemy sanctuary.

To do the job -- giant American bulldozers cutting wide swaths through the jungle today. With American armor and American ground troops -- close behind. And big B-Fifty-Twos from Guam -- raining the jungle with bombs just a mile ahead.

The payoff -- in total destruction of five enemy base camps; part of a previously impregnable nerve center -- from which the Viet Cong have launched countless terrorist raids against Saigon. The four-day drive further claiming a Hundred and Sixty-Five ~~Communist~~<sup>enemy</sup> dead -- plus Thirty captured.

PEKING

In the midst of continued turmoil behind the Bamboo Curtain -- a major victory today for Red China's Chairman Mao Tse-T<sup>u</sup>ng. In the form of an appeal -- from the powerful Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party; ~~urging~~ the army and the people of Red China -- to rise up and crush the opponents of Chairman Mao.

If nothing else -- the appeal demonstrating that Mao still has control of the party; a tremendous power-base in his epic struggle to purge his enemies, and so strengthen his command.

But as of now -- the message apparently falling on deaf ears. As evidenced by new violence in Shanghai -- where more than a hundred Red Guards are reported dead. Coupled with spreading stikes in the northeast -- now reaching all the way to Manchuria. While the giant Red Army remains steadily -- uncommitted.

## MIDDLE EAST

In the Middle East -- still another border clash today between Syrian and Israeli forces. Opposing sides exchanging tank and mortar fire -- in a ~~two~~<sup>three</sup>-hour fight near the Israeli city of Tiberias. Witnesses calling it -- the heaviest exchange of fire in the current crisis.

In addition -- a brief exchange of gunfire -- between Syrian and Israeli border guards at nearby Notra. The two clashes making this the eighth day so far this year -- that there have been border incidents along the forty-eight-mile Israeli and Syrian frontier. With United Nations peacekeeping teams -- apparently powerless to halt the fighting.

## VATICAN

At the Vatican ~~in Rome~~ -- for the first time in history -- five women were named today to the governing body of the Roman Catholic Church. Their assignment -- from Pope Paul -- to help in the organization of two new Vatican agencies; one to give laymen a greater role in church work -- and the other to help in the fight against world hunger.

The highest ranking position to Rosemary Goldie of Australia -- one of two vice secretaries of the new Council on the Laity. The ~~two~~<sup>other</sup> lady appointees -- one each from Britain and Spain -- and two from Holland.

On another front -- Pope Paul declaring today that Catholics have no right -- to interpret scripture by themselves. The Pontiff saying that "faith in this way becomes apparently easy -- because each person patterns it as he chooses. But it loses authenticity" -- said he. Adding, therefore, that such ~~authority~~<sup>authority</sup> -- must rest solely with the church.

## MILAN

The story of a bizarre Communist conspiracy -- comes today from Milan. Telling of a plot by pro-Peking terrorists -- to sabotage NATO Command Headquarters as well as U.S. offices in Italy.

First inkling of the plot -- last week; when Italian police found a crude time bomb on the grounds of the NATO facility -- in the northern Italian city of Vicenza. The bomb later traced to Milan -- to the home of Giovanni Sacchi -- a world war Two underground fighter; where police found sixty-one sticks of dynamite -- forty-two detonators -- and ~~all~~<sup>for</sup> the makings of a full-scale terror campaign.

Sacchi -- the ~~gim~~ ringleader -- reportedly escaping capture by leaping through a window. However, police seizing ~~two~~ two other men and a woman -- allegedly involved in the plot. All of them Italians -- all of them long-time Communists; who had recently split with Italy's official Communist Party -- because of their sympathies with Red China.



## DEVIL'S ISLAND

~~Speaking of famous prisons~~ a note today from Cayenne, capital of French Guiana. Telling of efforts to speed up construction on a "French Cape Kennedy" -- thirty miles up the coast -- on the northeastern tip of South America.

This -- in case you've forgotten -- once the site of France's dreaded Devil's Island penal colony, fabled in story and song -- as the prison of no return.

Devil's Island -- closed by order of DeGaulle -- in Nineteen-Forty-Four. However, reopened recently -- by order of the same man. With an army of about Two Thousand men -- now working there night and day; to fulfill DeGaulle's latter-day ambitions -- of making France a great space power.

ATLANTA

Arch-segregationist Lester Maddox -- formally inaugurated <sup>AS</sup>

Governor of Georgia in colorful ceremonies today at Atlanta.

The new governor immediately telling his constituents: "We should -- and we can -- solve any disagreements under the framework of the Constitution -- respecting the authority of the national government -- and being ever mindful of protecting the rights of Georgia and Georgians." He added, what's more, that "extremist groups" will have no place -- in his new administration.



## SING SING

At Sing Sing prison -- up the river -- at Ossining, New York -- the end of a long stretch today for one of the toughest men there. Wilfred Denno walking out the gates a ~~free~~<sup>free</sup> man -- after sixteen years as warden of one of the world's most famous penitentiaries.

At Sixty-Two -- Wilfred Denno -- retiring to Florida; but still eminently qualified -- to speak about society's handling of its growing criminal element. And speak he does.

The ex-warden expressing grave doubts -- about the abolition of capital punishment. Telling of case after case -- where bandits removed the bullets from their guns before committing a crime. For fear they might panic -- kill someone -- and wind up in the chair.

He is also opposed to the dormitory or "cottage-type" prison -- for security reasons. He thinks a prison's main job -- is to keep its inmates occupied; on the grounds that

personal rehabilitation -- if any -- must come from within.

And finally, he is quite exasperated by the kindly wardens of films and television -- like Spencer Tracey and Pat O'Brien, who know each prisoner by name-- and develop deep personal attachments for the men in their charge.

As for Wilfred Denno -- he won't miss a one.

DRUNK

Plans for a nationwide crackdown on drunk<sup>er</sup> drivers -- announced today by the ~~nation's~~<sup>U.S.</sup> new traffic safety chief -- Dr. William Haddon Junior. The drive to begin with a massive study -- to determine exact figures on how many drunk<sup>er</sup> drivers are actually involved in fatal accidents. Also -- how many drunken pedestrians. Proceeding ~~from~~ from there -- to determine how best to cope with the problem.

Haddon explaining that at present -- there is little "reliable information" on the subject. However, there is "increasingly strong evidence" -- said he -- "that alcoholics account for a very disproportionate share" of traffic fatalities.

It is therefore ~~xxx~~<sup>9</sup> essential -- he went on -- to find out how to deal with alcoholics and other groups -- such as teen-agers experimenting with alcohol. In the hope -- said he -- "that future programs can be just as effective as possible."

## MOSCOW

The U.S. State Department's top expert on Russian affairs -- an arrival today behind the Iron Curtain. Llewellyn Thompson traveling to Moscow -- to assume a post he has held twice since World War Two; that of our new ambassador -- to the Soviet Union.

Long a favorite at the Kremlin -- Thompson showing why with his first public statement in Moscow. "I have spent nine years here before" -- said he -- "and now it's like coming home."

Ambassador Thompson also announced he was carrying a personal message -- from President Johnson to the Russian government. The contents -- not disclosed. Nevertheless, "prospects for improving relations with the Soviet Union are good" -- said Llewellyn Thompson. Adding with a smile: They're "so bad now -- they're bound to get better."

LONDON FOLLOW MOSCOW

Reverse side of the coin -- in London. Where it was announced today that Queen Elizabeth will entertain Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin -- with a formal dinner at Buckingham Palace -- during his visit to Britain next month.

This -- according to government sources -- an effort to "lay it on" for Kosygin, ~~As~~ part of a <sup>NATIONAL</sup> ~~recent~~ campaign -- to demonstrate Britain's desire for closer cooperation with Russia.

At that, it will be the first time a top Soviet official -- has ever been offered a palace meal. The best Khrushchev ever got -- was ~~only~~ tea, at Windsor Castle.