In Washington again the first unveiling of a proposed nationwide rail passenger system. This the brain child of The national Railroad Passenger Corporation - otherwise no known as Railpax - which was established by Congress last year. The new plan calling for a rail network - linking a hundred and fourteen cities - or eighty-five percent of the nation's major metropolitan areas. Railpax chairman David Kendall saying: "We believe that this new program will succeed - because it unifies for the first time all the operations of a national railroad passenger service." But the new plan is already drawing - howls of anguish. In part, because it would drop about half of the trains now running - and virtually eliminate almost all local service. It also by-passes completely the city of Cleveland - which has always called itself, up to now, "the best location in the nation."

The White House - President Nixon issued today his annual report on juvenile delinquency. Stating that the problem of crime among young people - is particularly acute in non-white city ghettos; adding that the entire life patterns of such areas must be changed - if the problem is ever to be solved.

The President, therefore, pledging the

development - of a new national strategy; including

first and foremost, a massive crime prevention effort 
to be coupled with community based treatment centers.

"The urgent need to reduce crime among urban non-white youth - is obvious" - said the President; and it will require - said he - "a total effort toward changing their demoralizing conditions - the unequal opportunity and discrimination they confront - and the overcrowding and decay of the urban in which most of them live."

In the fighting in Laos - scores of U.S.

warplanes roared to the attack today. Blasting away at

North Vietnamese tanks 4 attempting to cut off the

withdrawal of South Vietnamese forces. The ground to

air battle - leaving at least nine tanks destroyed and

a tenth damaged. Military sources adding that the U.S.

mission at this point - is to make sure that vital

Highway Nine remains open; "so that South Vietnamese

troops - can get out."

Here at home - the Pentagon was calling the Laos operation an unqualified success. Contending that the flow of Communist supplies along the Ho Chi Minh Trail - has been cut to barely twenty percent of last year's level; which means - we are told - the North Vietnamese "certainly will not be able to make the logistical effort planned during this dry season." A spokesman adding that in spite of certain specific setbacks - South Vietnamese forces "have won the overall battle so far."

In Northern Ireland - the election of a new

Premier is scheduled for tomorrow; as a result of which

- British troops there were placed on full alert tonight.

This in keeping with a pledge from Bitish Prime Minister

Edward Heath - to "maintain law and order and with out

At the same times Belfast's targest bookmaker gives

Brian Faulkner a five to one choice to win the

Premiership. Brian Faulkner - a moderate. With chief

opponent, of course right winger William Craig.

In the Swiss Alps - at a ski run near St.

Moritz - an attempt today to clear away an overhanging snow with a group of five workmen - firing a rocket into the midst of a tig irin.

Setting off an avalanche m that buried all five; and by the time help arrived - two were already dead. This - and another death in France - raising to eight the number killed in Alpine avalanches - in fust the past three days.

TEFELMIN FOLLOW ST. MORITZ

While on the other side of the globs

the village of Tefelmin in New Guinea; killing at least twenty - including an American couple and their two children. The husband and father - Walter Steinkraus of Sheboygan, Wisconsin - a linguistic expert who had been studying the local tongue.

From the New York Stock Exchange - a

profile of the average American investor; who is said

to have attended college - earn about thirteen thousand

a year - buys mostly big board stock - and now holds

more than seventy percent of all stock and mutual shares.

We are also told that the total number of

U.S. shareholders - as of January 1 - was a record

Which means a lot of people hold
thirty-one point nine million. And that a lot of

"shares in America."

From Vienna, a report today that the world's biggest ferris wheel - will soon be celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary. This the Riesenrad-literally, "giant wheel" which soars two hundred and eighteen feet above the surrounding countryside. On a clear day from the top - you can see all the way to Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

You may recall, the Riesenrad figured prominently - in the Nineteen Forty-Eight spy movie, "The Third Man"; which has since become - a film classic. Indeed, the visitors keep arriving from all over the globe - asking where the spies?

In line with this, Austria's foreign ministry reporting there are now about fifty thousand foreign 50,000? I wonder I they went 5000? I tamp role agents operating out of Vienna; but as far as anybody knows - not one has ever ridden the Riesenrad.

The Times of London - Britain's most venerated newspaper - the subject of a growing controversy today; and all because of a Times first last week - it's first full page nude advertisement.

This an ad for a company that turns out diet

The ad

foods, among other things. - and it asks: "What's a nice

girl like you doing in a firm like this?" And now Times

readers - are asking essentially the same question.

One letter to the editor demanding, in effect: \*\*Thicks\*\*

the \*\*Times\*\* "Is this the Times - or is this Playboy."

Another suggesting that only "topless people" will

continue to take the Times."

But another letter calling the nude a "delightful picture." The writer adding: "I hope this has the same effect on The Times circulation as it had on mine."