

Tuesday, March 12, 1974

SENATE

The Senate opened debate today - on a bill to restore the death penalty for certain Federal crimes: treason, espionage, murder and political assassination; also, kidnapping and hijacking - wherein death occurs.

Senator McClellan of Arkansas urging its passage to stem what he calls - "the ever-increasing tide of violent crimes - crimes of terror - that threaten to engulf our nation." McClellan adding that "people who commit crimes like these - have forfeited their own right to live."

Senator Hughes of Iowa differs. He says: "In the name of God" - said he - "I ask my colleagues to join me in rejecting death - in affirming life; in rejecting vengeance - in affirming redemption."

WHITE HOUSE

The White House; another attempt today to set the record straight. Press Secretary ~~Ron~~ Ziegler saying the President has already given the House Judiciary Committee "wide-ranging and substantial materials;" more than enough - said he - to assist the panel in its impeachment inquiry. Insisting, what's more, the President will continue to cooperate - as much as ^{(possible} ~~possible~~).

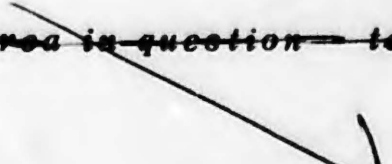
~~But the committee's demands - "seemingly unlimited" - said Ziegler.~~ Adding: "The fact of an impeachment inquiry - does not give Congress the right to back up a truck and haul off White House files." ~~Ziegler~~
^{And -}
~~further saying~~ "it would be Constitutionally irresponsible - for a Chief Executive to succumb to such a procedure."

CARACAS

At Caracas - the inauguration of a new President of Venezuela - with our First Lady on hand; in a private box with the wives of President Perez and his predecessor, President Caldera. Mrs. Nixon saying her husband had sent to Venezuela, quote - "the closest thing to his heart - me."


MIDDLE EAST

In the Middle East - Israel's Golda Meir charged today that the Soviet Union - is "not encouraging" a disengagement of troops ~~an~~ the Golan Heights. The Lady Premier also calling continued occupation of the Golan Heights - Israel's only guarantee of security in the North. ~~Whereupon a report from in the area in question - telling of yet another artillery duel.~~



CAIRO FOLLOW MIDDLE EAST

~~Meanwhile~~ ^{From} Cairo ^{we hear} ~~a report~~ that President Nixon
will visit Egypt - in mid-May. ^{The} Israeli ^{say} ~~sources~~ ~~saying that~~
~~the possibility still exists~~ the President will also visit
~~Israel~~ Jerusalem.



HUSSEIN FOLLOW CAIRO

~~Here at home again~~ - President Nixon and ^{See of State} ~~Henry~~

Kissinger met for an hour today - with ~~visiting~~ King Hussein

of Jordan, ~~The topics they discussed~~ ^{we are told} ~~said to have included~~

"the entire range of Mideast matters."

LONDON

*For a man who heads a minority government -
Britain's Harold Wilson is acting boldly. In Parliament
today the new Prime Minister was calling for enactment of
socialist policies - such as food subsidies, a redistribution
of wealth, and a reconsideration of Britain's entry into the
Common Market.*

BERN

~~From Bern - an announcement today that exiled~~

Russian author ~~Alexander~~ Solzhenitsyn ⁴ has decided to

settle permanently in Switzerland. ~~Swiss officials adding~~

~~that~~ ⁴His wife and children ⁴ have now obtained Swiss visas,

and ~~they~~ will probably join him ~~- we are told -~~ within the

week.

COLUMBIA

Columbia, South Carolina -an "old soldier" refuses to fade away. Retired General William Westmoreland announcing today ⁻⁻⁻ ~~he~~ ^{this year} plans to run as a Republican for Governor of South Carolina. "I make this decision" - said he - "upon my own conviction that I can best serve in this capacity - during a crucial period in history." The General ~~adding that the also believes~~ ^{thinks} South Carolina "needs a viable two-party system - and the sooner the better."

POITIERS

At Poitiers, France - thousands of telephone callers were thrown into a near-panic today. Instead of reaching their husbands or wives, family or friends - they heard instead a recorded message saying: "Because of a fire, you are unable to obtain your party - it is pointless to keep trying."

For a time many thought all Poitiers
Indeed, ~~it seemed for a time - the whole town must~~
~~was aflame.~~ *Later, Bill,*
~~be burning down. Whereupon,~~ a second recording ~~As~~
~~official~~ explained *only the* it was ~~Poitiers that was burning.~~ -
~~just its~~ central telephone exchange *that was on fire.*

ZACCHINI

Down South and out on the Coast - it's spring training time. For more than baseball players. The Great Zacchini, who normally works with a circus - getting ready to perform his specialty in a Philadelphia ball park. ~~He'll~~ To be shot from a cannon on opening day - hopefully, arriving at home plate ~~carrying~~ with a baseball in his hand.

The Great Zacchini ~~was~~ replacing a kite-flying daredevil - who attempted a similar stunt ~~just~~ a year ago. Only trouble ~~and~~ ended up in the bleachers, and s-l-u-t-w.