

Tues, May 9 - 72.

HAIPHONG

Along the coast of North Vietnam - the blockade. ~~begins.~~ American Navy jets planting mines today - in the waters leading to Haiphong, Thanh Hoa, Dong Hoi, Vinh, Quang Khe, Cam Pha, Hon Gai. Carrying out with speed and precision - the President's latest bid to end the war in Vietnam. Indeed, the Pentagon later relaying a message from the President - praising the Navy for a "perfectly executed mission."

That done, the U.S. serving formal notice - to all the world's seafaring nations; formal notice that the newly-planted mines - will be activated Thursday morning at seven o'clock, Eastern-time. The U.S. adding that ships traveling in North Vietnamese waters after that time - "must do so at their own risk." And now comes the hard part - the watching and waiting for what we know not yet.

PARIS-SAIGON FOLLOW HAIPHONG

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Meanwhile, Hanoi was recalling today - its chief negotiator at Paris peace talks. The Communists further vowing: "We will never accept the ultimatum^{um} of Mr. Nixon."

~~Reverse side~~ ^{Meanwhile} from Saigon; ~~where~~ South Vietnam's President Thieu was urging his countrymen to "sacrifice everything" - even their lives, if necessary - to save their country from Communism. Thieu stating the U.S. "has done its best to help and support us" - and the U.S. "continues to show us goodwill." But adding, in effect: "It's now up to us."

PEKING FOLLOW PARIS-SAIGON

A related development: Peking today protesting two alleged U.S. air strikes - against Chinese merchant vessels anchored in North Vietnamese waters. Calling this - "a serious provocation."

Perhaps significantly though - there was no mention of any possible counter-action. Peking adding only: "The Chinese government reserves the right - to ask for legitimate compensation."

KISSINGER

Here at home again - Henry Kissinger was holding a rare press conference today. The President's key foreign policy adviser - discussing the President's scheduled mission to Moscow, saying: "We are proceeding with the summit" - exactly as planned. Adding: "We see no reason from our side" - for any cancellation.

Kissinger also said that the blockade of North Vietnam - "poses some difficulties for the Soviet Union." Nevertheless, insisting that he still believes - "a new era of East-West relations is possible."

HELSINKI FOLLOW KISSINGER

In the same vein - a continuation of SALT talks at Helsinki. Today's session - at the U.S. Embassy; meeting Number One Hundred and Twenty-Two - lasting about an hour. A conference source later saying: "There is still a lot of work to do - but we are hopeful we will have something" before the President leaves for Moscow.

We are also told that the U.S. ^{Hanoi - North Vietnam} blockade - was never once mentioned. Observers noting: "Both sides have repeatedly stated - that no extraneous issues shall interfere with the talks." And up to now, it seems - none have.

TEL AVIV

Tel Aviv - a sudden, bloody ending today - to that marathon Arab guerilla skyjacking. Israeli paratroopers disguised as ground crewmen - finally storming a crowded Belgian airliner held by two men and two women. In the process, killing both of the men outright - wounding one of the women. Two paratroopers and five of the plane's a hundred and one passengers - also wounded. But still and all - quite a rescue!

BELFAST

In Northern Ireland today - the IRA versus the IRA. That body's official wing - lashing out at militant ^{IRA} provisionals; accusing the latter of waging a campaign of violence - against regular IRA members. In one case - we are told - the provisionals kicking and beating an IRA officer; in another case, physically assaulting and searching at gunpoint - a young woman ~~officer~~ ^{member}.

The regulars also accused the provisionals - of so-called "sectarian bombing;" with the result - it was charged - that the IRA has now been "isolated from the ordinary people." All this marking the first major break - in a heretofore common cause.

ROME

The results of yesterday's election in Italy -
finally, formally tabulated today: ^{with} ~~and~~ the biggest gain ~~of all~~
~~going~~ - ~~falling~~ to the political heirs of Benito Mussolini. The
neo-fascist Italian Socialist Party - picking up thirty-
nine seats in the Italian Senate and Chamber of Deputies;
~~thereby~~, nearly doubling - its previous representation.

At the same time - the Italian Communist ^{were} ~~losing~~
seven seats; ~~They're now~~ ^{bringing them} down - to ninety-four. ~~This~~

~~marking~~ The first setback to the Communist cause - in any
Italian election ~~held in Italy~~ since World War Two.

But more important perhaps - the dominant
Christian Democrats were again holding center ground;
With a hundred and thirty-six seats, ~~in all~~ a gain of one -
and ^{them of the role of} ~~assured of serving as~~ senior partner in the next ruling
coalition. As sure, ~~that is~~ - as anything in Italian
politics can be sure,

WHITE HOUSE

5/2
From the President's Commission on Population Growth - a study today perhaps best entitled, "Sex and the Single Girl;" said to show that fully fifty-four per cent of all unmarried U.S. women - are still "pure and untouched" at age twenty. Of the remaining forty-six per cent - the great majority confining their favors to one man alone; most often - the man they hope to marry.

The study, therefore, concluding; ^{Don, that} "The present picture in the U.S. - is ~~not~~ - ~~repeat~~ - "not one of rampant sexuality."

PRIMARIES

In the making of the President, 'Seventy-Two - another double entry today; with the voters trekking to the polls, as you know - in West Virginia and Nebraska.

On the Republican side, as usual - Richard Nixon running virtually unopposed. On the Democratic side -

Humphrey versus Wallace in West Virginia - Humphrey

versus McGovern in Nebraska. ~~And~~ how ^{will} it all turn out? -

~~with~~ You ^{will} ~~can~~ hear it right here on many of these CBS Radio stations.