

Tues. June 10, 1969

WHITE HOUSE

Return from Midway. President Nixon - arriving back at the White House today. Asserting that his weekend conference with South Vietnamese President Thieu - has opened wide the door to peace. Urging Hanoi - to follow him through that door.

To be sure - the war^g is not over yet - said the President. Adding, however, that even as Midway was the turning point of World War Two - so is it now the turning point of the Vietnamese war. "We have finally reached the point" - said he - "when we can begin to bring American boys home."

PARIS

On the peace front - Paris - a burst of political infighting today. The Viet Cong announcing formation of, quote - "a Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam." According to the Communists - the one true government of South Vietnam - as opposed to the so-called "puppet regime" at Saigon.

As for practical effect though - apparently none. Allied officials in Paris saying the enemy still refuses to negotiate - whatever he calls himself. While the war in Vietnam - continues apace. Including today a massive aerial assault on Communist forces said to be massing in the Tay Ninh area - about fifty miles northwest of Saigon.

GENEVA

For Pope Paul - a one-day visit today to Geneva, Switzerland. The "Traveling Pope" - first Roman pontiff to visit that Protestant stronghold - in more than five hundred years. His trip including a stop - at the headquarters of the World Council of Churches; where he joined with Protestant leaders - in praying publicly for Christian unity. Although he later added, in effect ^{that} - it's still a long way off.

TREASURY

The spectre of Federal wage and price controls - raised today in Washington. Treasury Secretary David Kennedy saying the present inflationary trend is such - "we could be very close to that point now." Adding that any delay in extending the present ten per cent income tax surcharge - could well be the final straw; leaving as "the only alternative - some kind of controls or else relying on monetary policy alone."

said the Sec. of the Treas.
Summing up - ~~David Kennedy asserting:~~ "The policy of the government is not to have wage and price controls. And I am personally against it" - ~~said he~~ *he added* - "but we cannot let things escalate and get out of hand."

WASHINGTON

Washington again - another task force report made public today - by the President's National Commission on Violence.

This ~~report~~ ^{one} - from Berkeley professor Jerome Skolnick, ^{who}

~~Asserting~~ ^{tells us} that "mass protest is an essentially political

phenomenon - engaged in by normal people." Adding that

"violence - when it occurs - is usually not planned; but ~~arises~~ ^{arises}

out of an interaction - between protesters and responding

authorities." Going on to say that the policeman in America -

is "overworked, undertrained, underpaid and undereducated;"

with the result - ~~we are told~~ ^{he adds} - that his response to mass

protest - "has often resulted in an escalation of conflict."

However, the President's Commission ~~emphasizing~~ ^{is that} it

does not officially endorse ~~the~~ ^{Dr.} Skolnick ^{'s} report. Chairman

Milton Eisenhower saying it was made public - to be judged

on its merits - to provoke "informed criticism and comment."

INDEPENDENCE FOLLOW WOOSTER

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~~In the same vein~~ - a rare public statement today from Harry S. Truman. This in response to a written question - on the occasion of his recent eighty-fifth birthday. The former President saying: "We are in a disturbed and disturbing period - and those who are in leadership bear a heavy burden and responsibility." Harry Truman adding, therefore: "We must not just sound off, - we need to communicate"

PENTAGON

The U.S. Air Force's planned Manned Orbiting Laboratory - shot down today before it ever got off the ground. With Deputy Defense Secretary David Packard - announcing cancellation of the project. An action intended to save One-and-a-Half Billion in defense spending - over the next four years. Packard explaining it was either that - or "cut back on numerous small programs;" which - "in the aggregate" - were considered far more valuable to the national security.

By the way - the M.O.L. project has already cost One-point-Three Billion - but it won't be money entirely lost. The techniques it pioneered - as well as several of its planned experiments - ^{are} ~~expected~~ to be integrated with an upcoming civilian space platform project.

CAPE KENNEDY FOLLOW PENTAGON

More on space - from the launch area at Cape Kennedy;
where the three Apollo-Eleven astronauts - today checked out
their moonship. Reviewing escape procedures - also making
sure that flight gear was stowed away properly. Getting ready
for a countdown rehearsal - set for later this month. With
actual blast-off for man's first moon landing attempt - still
set for July Sixteen.

BONN FOLLOW CAPE KENNEDY

Meanwhile, the head of the U.S. space program - a visitor today at Bonn, West Germany. Dr. Thomas O. Paine there addressing himself to a growing controversy - over which flag should be raised by the first men on the moon.

You may recall - a number of Congressmen ^{were} rather upset last week. This by rumors that America's Apollo-Eleven crewmen - were planning to plant a United Nations flag rather than an American flag. ~~However~~, Dr. Paine ^{says} ~~still insisting~~ - no decision has yet been made.

"Whatever ceremony is performed" - he added - "I hope it will reflect the philosophy that while it is an American spaceship - it also is an undertaking of all mankind."

FLAG FOLLOW BONN

Now this latest: In Washington - the U.S. space agency
announcing today - the Apollo-Eleven astronauts will, ^{Hopefully,} plant an
American flag on the moon; and they will also take along a
second American flag - for presentation to Congress when they
get back.

As for any other flags they might fly on the moon - well, ^{John Shaffer,}

^{for} that we'll have to wait and see. ^{Wish we could go}
^{with them!}

SEATTLE FOLLOW BONN

This next - looking to the moon beyond. The Boeing Company of Seattle - reporting ~~today~~ the development of a micro-miniaturized ion engine; Said to be just the thing for long-range space travel & maybe to Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus.

This ion engine - one that runs on tiny bursts of electrical power. With its maximum thrust - about equivalent to that of a man's breath in normal breathing. In the weightlessness of space though - an extremely efficient means of propulsion. Indeed, the cumulative effect of such energy bursts - ~~over~~, say, a period of a year ^{would be} expected to result in truly phenomenal speeds.

Hard to believe? Maybe, so. However, a Boeing official - putting it all in perspective, ~~Saying~~ ^{Says} "We have found that even an astronaut's heart - pumping blood - can be enough to cause a rotational motion in his spacecraft."