

**Five times since the New Year's truce - the United States has appealed secretly to Hanoi for peace talks on Viet Nam. And five times the appeal was ignored - or else rejected.**

**The latest regarding futile American peace offensives coming to light today, with North Vietnamese president Ho Chi Minh - flatly and publicly refusing the final peace offer, contained in the form of a personal letter from President Johnson - when all else had failed.**

**The President assuring Ho - that the U.S. would stop bombing North Vietnam and also stop its troop buildup in South Vietnam, if Ho would only give his assurance in return - to stop "infiltration into South Vietnam by land and by sea."**

**In reply - Ho accusing the United States of "war crimes against peace, against mankind." Further setting a bomb halt - as the first condition for any future peace conference. Ho declaring: "Vietnam will never submit to talks - under the threat of bombing."**

## **VIETNAM**

*Some of the fiercest fighting of the war is reported today from Vietnam. Troops of the U.S. Fourth Infantry Division - decimating a Viet Cong regiment of nearly fifteen hundred men; in a furious battle - near the Cambodian border.*

*Remnants of the Viet Cong finally fleeing back into safe sanctuary across the frontier, leaving behind - some four-hundred and twenty dead. Raising enemy losses to more than seven hundred men - in two days of fighting in that war zone C. Thereby crushing Hanoi's hopes for a propaganda victory - during the President's trip to Guam.*

## MARTIN

The nation's economy - is reported "slowing at the moment." But the outlook for business in the months ahead - extremely good, according to word today - from Chairman William McChesney Martin of the Federal Reserve Board in testimony before a Senate committee - Martin endorsing the President's proposed tax increase; calling the requested tax boost - insurance against the danger of future inflation and tight money. Threatened - said he - by the fact "that we are still fighting a war; and that a resurgence in economic activity is the most likely prospect - as Nineteen-Sixty-Seven progresses."

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## **PENZANCE**

*More trouble today - off the coast of Penzance, England. An explosion and brief fire - ripping through the American Tanker Torrey Canyon; aground since Saturday - on a rocky "ships graveyard". The new mishap killing a salvage expert - who was attempting to reflect the sixty-one thousand ton super tanker.*

*In the meantime - oil from the stricken vessel - now covering an area roughly twenty by thirty-five miles, with an armada of ships attempting to treat the giant oil slick with more than three million gallons of emulsifier; that is trying to dissipate the oil before it drifts ashore. This to head off the threat of economic chaos - for seaside resort areas.*

## TURIN

Three residents of Turin, Italy - arrested today by Italian counter espionage agents; two men and a woman - allegedly in the pay of the Soviet Union. They are charged with spying on NATO bases - in Italy and Spain. Two Soviet diplomats stationed in Italy - also implicated in the spy ring.

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four lives in the last two months alone.



## **SOUTH ARABIA**

**Three men who make up a special United Nations commission were in conference with British officials today in London. Envoys from Venezuela, Mali and Afghanistan - weighing the tense situation in Aden and the neighboring federation of South Arabia; trying to determine how best to ease the transition - from British colonial status to full independence.**

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*Another compromise was put forward today - at that continuing Geneva Disarmament Conference. The United States offering a five-point plan - to soften the impact of a nuclear non-proliferation treaty; by assuring future benefit from peaceful nuclear explosions to those countries presently without any nuclear capability.*

*Under the U S. proposal - countries possessing nuclear weapons would make them available to non-nuclear states for peaceful explosions; whenever such explosions - become technically and economically feasible. Each detonation - to be under strict international supervision. With the nuclear device remaining under custody and control - of whichever nuclear power performs the service.*

*The conference will adjourn Thursday for six weeks - to permit consultation on the new plan now offered in conjunction with an earlier joint Soviet and American draft of the proposed treaty.*

*America's three lost astronauts - could well have survived that recent tragedy at Cape Kennedy, if only their space ship had contained escape equipment - currently standard in Soviet space craft. This according to Russian spacewoman Valentina Nikolayeva-Tereshkova - in an article published today in Moscow.*

*Valentina saying that Soviet space capsules - are equipped with explosive, quick opening hatches and jet propelled ejection seats. Powerful enough to hurl a Russian cosmonaut - a distance of a hundred and fifty yards from his space ship. A parachute completing the job - of returning the space man safely to earth.*

*Meanwhile, the investigation continues here at home - in an effort to determine the cause of that disaster in Apollo One. This amid reports that design of the moon capsule will soon be altered - so that it, too, will have quick opening hatches.*



## FORT LAUDERDALE

*That annual invasion from college students is currently underway today at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with an estimated ten thousand campus out-ups already on hand - and more arriving every minute; to an expected total of about forty-thousand by the weekend - not to mention seventy-thousand more at nearby Daytona Beach.*

*Among the early arrivials - a group supposedly interested in civic justice. Its members attending en masse - a hearing before Judge Steven Booher. Found missing when they left : a "No Smoking" sign - a rubber stamp for marking evidence - the judge 's nameplate - the judge's gavel - and a sign reading "Women" - taken from the door/next to one marked "Men".*

*Warren, a local policeman later bemoaning the invasion of the "college kids" - when he was interrupted by one of same. Said the youngster: "There aint no college kids here, baby - we're all CIA men."*

LONDON

*A bit of a flop today - in jolly old London; with British and Swedish officials alike - protesting the treatment of a twenty-year-old Swedish student. Pretty Barbro Eriksson - who was ordered to strip to the waist; during a customs inspection - on her arrival in England for an Easter holiday.*

*Twin investigations by both countries - are already underway. With the British Home Office - doing its best to explain away the incident; saying that a doctor and a woman immigration official were both present when Miss Eriksson was ordered to strip. Adding that such a check is a, quote "valid investigation" - under Britain's Alien Control Act.*