

Wednesday, March 7, 1973

HONOLULU

Operation homecoming, part two - another compelling drama; with eighty men from the second group of free POW's stopping briefly in Honolulu enroute to their homes on the mainland.

Air Force Colonel Kenneth North saying to the welcoming crowd - "aloha!" Whereupon a thunderous aloha - right back. Air Force Colonel James Kasler saying: How "wonderful to be a free man." Air Force Colonel Gordon Thompson saying: "We wish to thank our country's great leaders and the wholehearted support of the American people - that allowed us to return today as proud fighting men. But it was Air Force Captain Martin Neuens - who perhaps did it best: On reaching the bottom of the ramp he bent over, kissed the ground; and came up, grinning from ear to ear.

ANDREWS

The first plane to leave Honolulu - later arriving at Andrews Air Force base near the nation's capitol where the welcoming scene included screams, cheers, greeting signs, and weeping wives.

The first to step down Air Force Colonel Frederick Crow who in a brief speech told the crowd "We come to you from the prisons of North Vietnam; our motto was unity before self, our mission was to return with honor." The Colonel adding: "We have accomplished our task."

KHARTOUM

In the wake of that Arab guerrilla attack at Khartoum a government crackdown on terrorist sympathizers. Officials rounding up at least six Sudanese citizens said to have been connected with the so-called Black September group. All six to be tried by special military courts ^{that have} ~~with~~ the power, if they wish, - to impose the death penalty.

WASHINGTON

While here at home - at The National Presbyterian Church in Washington there was a joint funeral for slain American diplomats Cleo Noel Jr. and G. Curtis Moore. Secretary of State Rogers - heading the official mourners. With the service itself - led by the Reverend Dr. Edward Elson, pastor of the Church and Chaplain of the Senate. Dr. Elson praising the two men "for their love of home and nation - for their discipline and steadfastness - for their last measure of devotion to duty in the sacrifice of themselves for others.

PEKING

From Peking ^{comes} a charge today that the Soviet Union is guilty of the same policy of "aggression and expansion" - as "the old Czars." How? By renaming towns in Siberia - to conceal the fact that they were once Chinese. Towns such as Manshouli, - Chikan, - and Chinshanchan. But it won't work ^{ya} ~~say~~ Peking. Adding, in effect: "A Chinshanchan by any other name - is still ~~Chinese~~ Chinese."

WOUNDED KNEE

In the siege at wounded Knee, South Dakota
another attempt today at a compromise. The government
side - presenting its final offer; including a deadline
of six ^{o'clock} tomorrow night - for a peaceful end to the siege.
2
with [^] the Indian side ^{again} refusing to yield. Whereupon
~~the~~ a government spokesman - threatened ^{ed to} ~~an~~ end ~~to~~ the
negotiations. Ralph Erickson of the Attorney General's
office saying: "There is no settlement possible -
without modification of the Indian demands."

NEW YORK

For John Lindsay of New York is it the end of the line; or merely a transfer? At any rate, the two term Mayor announcing he'll not seek a third term. Citing - personal reason. Adding: "Eight years as Mayor of New York is too short a time - but it is long enough for one man." All of which could clear the way - for a bid for the Senate or possibly Governor. Lindsay refusing, however, to discuss future plans - if he has any.

Ironically, the Mayor's announcement coming simultaneous today - with the criminal indictment of three top city officials. Charges filed by Maurice Nadjari a special state anti-corruption prosecutor.

WHITE HOUSE

The White House - President Nixon today presented Presidential pins to this year's six winners of Federal Women's Awards. These including: Mrs. Bernice Bernstein of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare; Dr. Marguerite Chang of the Navy Department; Janet Hart of the Federal Reserve Board; Dr. Marilyn Jacox of the National Bureau of Standards; Dr. Isabella Karle of the Office of Naval Research; and Mrs. Marjorie Townsend of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The President told his guests he hopes their accomplishments - will lead to more women in government. It's not a problem of finding jobs - said he - it's finding women to take them

RIGHTS

A leading backer of the equal rights for women amendment conceded today - approval this year "does not seem likely." Common Cause, the Citizens Lobby - noting how twenty-eight states have already approved the measure, but, ten have rejected it. Adding that ten of the eleven remaining states would also have to approve it - in order to constitute the required three fourths majority, whereas only six at most can be expected to come through this year.

Canberra

The future of U S ~~and~~ Australian relations was subject of heated debate today at Canberra. An official of Australia's new labor government calling for a 'drastic re-negotiation' of agreements relating to U S military bases in Australia. Education Minister Kim Beazley charging that such bases - "compare with Soviet bases in Cuba;" both being risky - said he - for the host country.

~~In rebuttal~~ ^{But} former Defense Minister Nigel Bowen, ^{ed how} ~~stressing that the~~ U S military presence in Australia - is solely for defensive purposes; ~~Bowen~~ also taking the Labor government to task - for ~~repeated~~ aspersions cast on the U S. "It is time to end this sniping." - ~~said he~~ ^{As he put it:-} "So ~~that~~ the U S knows where Australia stands."

DACCA

In Parliamentary elections held today in Bangladesh - as expected, an overwhelming victory for Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The Sheikh's ruling Awami League - winning an estimated two-hundred-and-ninety seats out of a total three-hundred.

The new parliament to convene within thirty days. Its first task - ^{to} ~~that of~~ setting up procedures - for trying alleged war criminals; some "several hundred" in all - among the ninety thousand Pakistani prisoners still held in India.

MOSCOW

Moscow - the final session of an eight day meeting - on Soviet American cooperation in space biology and medicine. The U S delegation - headed by Dr. Chuck Berry; who said ~~that~~ the Soviets - had [✓] been "very frank and open;" especially in supplying medical data on the three Soyuz-Eleven cosmonauts ~~↔~~ who spent a record twenty-four days in orbit. Despite the ~~affectionate~~ effects of weightlessness -- Dr. Barry went on - the Russian space men maintaining excellent physical condition. This due in part - said he - to a meticulous exercise program; also, so-called "penguin" suits and lower body negative pressure machines ^{that} ~~helping~~ ^{ed} to simulate the pull of gravity. Dr. Barry ^{says he's} ~~adding that he is~~ now convinced ^{our} ~~that U S~~ sky lab astronauts - should not be troubled by fatigue.

HOUSE

Veteran reporter Clark Mollenhoff - who
also served briefly in the White House, ^{was} the chief
witness today at House ~~and~~ hearings on a new "press
shield bill." Mollenhoff charging that absolute
privilege for newsmen would be ludicrous. It would
allow anybody to pose as a journalist - said he -
and thereby refuse to testify before courts or other
agencies. Mollenhoff adding that the end result -
would be "total ~~chaos~~," With the new law serving
as a greater boon to organized crime, said he -
"than even the Fifth ~~Amendment~~ Amendment.

1/2

MEANY

A F L - C I O President George Meany was witness today before the House Ways and Means Committee. The Union chieftain - who was once a plumber - taking some good natured ribbing from Congressman Carey of New York, about his self-proclaimed neutrality during the recent Presidential campaign.

Show me a neutral plumber - Bill - said Congressman Carey, and I'll show you a stuffed up sink!

NORWICH

From Norwich England the bitter=sweet story of one David Bales; bitter - because he was broke - with more than five thousand dollars in debts. His creditors forcing him into bankruptcy. Sweet because he arrived in court today - wearing a broad grin. Promptly calling in - all his debts.

Had a rich ~~uncle~~ uncle just died? No - better than that - said Bales. He had just won a soccer pool worth nearly thirty-five thousand bucks. ^{Wails} Bales; ~~exclaiming:~~ "my troubles are over."