

Sept. 10, 1970
Dallas Townsend

SKYJACK

At the top of the news tonight - in Europe, Asia, Africa - indeed, right around the globe - the suspense and drama of that "skyjacking" crisis in the Middle East. A situation that is becoming - according to the International Red Cross - "more and more precarious." With Arab guerillas now threatening to blow up their three captured planes - as well as some two hundred and fifty passengers - as of ten o'clock Saturday night, Eastern time; while negotiations to meet the skyjackers' demands - apparently are still bogged down in international complications.

Principal complication - the guerillas' insistence that all of the Israeli passengers be held for separate trading with the government of Israel. Whereas Andray Rochat, the chief Red Cross delegate in the Middle East, has mandate to negotiate for the ~~planes~~ release of the planes and passengers on an All-or-none basis. There are several thousand Arab guerillas now in Israeli jails. Prime Minister

Golda Meir has apparently ruled out the possibility of releasing any of them in exchange for the Israeli passengers.

Another complication - a young American woman, one of the hostages, has given birth to a baby. Name not given. The Red Cross says mother and child are well.

MOSCOW FOLLOW SKYJACK

Washington will soon announce plans to assign armed security guards to all U.S. overseas commercial airlines flights. This - we are told - as a first emergency step - in combatting the new wave of international air piracy. President Nixon may make the announcement as early as tomorrow - and may also call for more widespread use of electronic devices to detect weapons that might be carried on board commercial flights.

At the United Nations - here in New York -

Secretary General U Thant ~~today~~ held his regular annual news conference - on the eve of another General Assembly. Topic A, of course - the Middle East. U Thant expressing deep concern - about recent developments in the Arab-Israeli impasse. Nevertheless, expressing confidence - ^{that} ~~that~~ a solution will be found. U Thant basing his optimism - on the emergence of a wider agreement among the Big Four powers on the future of the Mideast; an agreement perhaps unprecedented - said he - in the twenty-five-year history of the U.N.

U Thant also said he does not intend to "offer himself" for re-election - when his current term as Secretary General ends - December Thirty^{first} ~~one~~, Nineteen-Seventy-One. But when asked about the possibility of a "draft" - he refused to comment "at this time."

MUSKIE FOLLOW SPRINGFIELD

Dem

Reverse side - Senator Muskie of Maine setting out on a campaign tour of his own - starting ~~tonight~~ in Pennsylvania. This to be followed by a cross-country jet trip - that will see the former Democratic Vice Presidential candidate, in some cases, following directly in Agnew's footsteps.

the Third...
...also charging Congressional Democrats,
in general, with - "a whimpering isolationism in foreign
policy, a malarky obstructionism in domestic policy, and a
pusillanimous pussy footing on the critical issue of law and
order."

SPRINGFIELD

Vice President Spiro Agnew today began a barnstorming tour - in behalf of Republican candidates in close races. First stop - Springfield, Illinois; where the Vice President strongly urged the reelection of Senator William Jenner - over his Democratic opponent, Adlai Stevenson the Third.

Agnew also charging Congressional Democrats, in general, with - "a whimpering isolationism in foreign policy, a mulish obstructionism in domestic policy, and a pusillanimous pussy footing on the critical issue of law and order."

DETROIT

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~~On the U.S. labor front~~ - Detroit - the Chrysler Corporation today presented to the United Auto Workers -

a new, improved contract offer. / This coming less than

five days - from a union-set strike deadline. / However,

UNION PRO

SOLD

~~UAW~~ ~~chieftain~~ Leonard Woodcock later ~~saying~~ of the new offer

- it "hasn't filled in much of the gap for settlement." And

he added: "We're still a long way from home."

PARIS

Peace talks in Paris today - on the surface, at least - another exercise in futility; with both sides taking turns - accusing each other of trying to block negotiations. In the end, Allied and Communist delegates saying they could agree only on one thing - to meet again next Thursday.

INDOCHINA FOLLOW PARIS

The war goes on in Indochina; claiming another sixty-five American lives during the past week - according to casualty figures announced in Saigon.

Mexico's Twentieth patrol into the Gulf just before noon - intensifying rapidly over open water - and expected to get more powerful during the night. This is moving northeast - toward the coasts of Louisiana and Texas. Still too early to determine where it may reach land.

We'll have tonight's report from Lowell Thayer after this message.

HURRICANE ELLA

A big new storm is developing in the Gulf of Mexico

- Hurricane Ella. The weather bureau in New Orleans says Ella - until then just a tropical depression - moved from Mexico's Yucatan peninsula into the Gulf just before noon - intensifying rapidly over open water - and expected to get more powerful during the night. Ella is moving northwest - toward the coasts of Louisiana and Texas. Still too early to determine where it may reach land.

We'll have tonight's report from Lowell Thomas after this message.

SUGGESTED INTRO TO THOMAS TAPE "PETER TOWNSEND"

~~Newspaper~~ - Lowell Thomas, ~~discussing tonight~~ *tonight is talking about*

some reminiscences from a battle - thought by many to be

the turning point in World War Two. Lowell...

*Ty Lowell
DT*

Hello Everybody!

Do you remember rather glamorous Peter Townsend, ~~the~~
~~British~~ British aviator, one of their air heroes of World
War Two, well, R A F Group Captain Peter Townsend is
~~the~~ the author of a new book just published in London. It'll
be over here shortly, I'm told. Captain Townsend's ~~a~~ Duel
of the Eagles. It's a ^{series of} ~~short~~ stories based on post-war
interviews ^{with} ~~of~~ thousands of British and German airmen,
and it's an attempt to tell it "like it was, that is, from
both sides - during that fabled "Battle For Britain."
In which Group Captain Peter Townsend played a vital role.

Among those that Townsend talked with - and talks
about are the pilot of the first German plane to fall on German
soil. Indeed, it was he - who actually shot it down. He
also talked with the German pilot who later shot him down.
German ace Werner Borner telling the Briton that "it felt
great when I shot you down - at but it's better still to see

you here today." So said the German flier.

Incidentally, Peter Townsend includes a footnote - telling of a ~~war-time~~ war-time amendment to the rules ~~at~~ at St. Mellon's golf club. An amendment saying? "A ball moved by enemy action may be replaced - a ball lying ~~in~~ in a crater may be dropped - a player whose stroke is affected by the simultaneous explosion of a bomb or by machine gun fire may play another ball; penalty - one stroke."

How's that for something from dear old Britain?

Solong.....