

Friday, May 25, 1973
Mike Wallace

EARTH ORBIT

Good evening! In the flight of America's first Skylab space crew - a perfect launch and a perfect entry into earth orbit; accompanied by a boast from Mission Commander Pete Conrad - that "We fix anything." The three Skylab astronauts later completed their rendezvous with the stricken Skylab space station. Now Reid Collins brings us up to date.

SENATE

The Senate Watergate hearings were in recess today - but the case was still making headlines. Watergate committee member Herman Talmadge of Georgia - urged a speedup in the Senate proceedings, on the grounds that questions about the President's involvement in the case - "must be resolved at the earliest possible date."

Talmadge added: "You can't tell how long this thing is going to go on - any more than you can tell how long it will take to unroll a ball of string." "But one thing any damn fool can tell" - said he - "it will be bad for the country - in fact, it can really be dangerous for the country - to go on much longer, without knowing the truth."

WHITE HOUSE

In a special ceremony at the White House - Elliot Richardson was sworn in as U.S. Attorney General. Chief Justice Warren Burger administered the oath of office - with the President looking on. Later Archebald Cox was sworn in as special Prosecutor in the Watergate case. Attorney General Richardson said "The first concern of the Administration of Justice - must, of course, be the individual; the second ~~concern~~ concern - is the truth." "The first of these demands fairness" - he continued - "the second demands fearlessness. And he added: "I shall do my utmost - to be faithful to both."

BUENOS AIRES

Seven years of military rule officially ended today - with the inauguration of Hector Campora as President of Argentina. In a speech that followed, the self-styled "soldier of Peron" - attacked the so-called "military dictators" he now replaces. Campora also praised the young guerillas of Argentina - who helped to bring down the military regime; saying the guerillas "knew how to answer violence - with violence.

And while this was going on - at Army General Headquarters, just a few blocks away, the violence was continuing. About a hundred youths - stoned the cars of ranking military men. The mob was dispersed, however - police and army troops - using tear gas and firing into the air.

DAMASCUS FOLLOW BUENOS AIRES

The winds of change were also ~~blowing~~ today - in Syria
That country held its first Parliamentary elections - since
the Baathist Arab Socialist came to power, nearly a decade
ago.

The future of Syria's President Hafez Assad - was
not directly involved. The former Air Marshal - remains
a virtual dictator. He has specified, however, that more
than half of the new Syrian Parliament - must be made up
of workers and peasants. He has also given women and
young people age eighteen to twenty-one - for the first time,
the right to vote.

BONN

The text of a new "good neighbor treaty" between East and West Germany - was finally, formally approved today at Bonn; thereby confirming the division of Germany - into two separate states. Chancellor Willy Brandt later said "Political unity is out of the question for the foreseeable future - but we must create conditions in which the German people can remain a cultural, historical and human community."

ADDIS ABABA

At Addis Ababa in Ethiopia - the tenth anniversary meeting of the Organization of African Unity; hearing today from two Arab leaders - who are spearheading a "war of words" against Israel.

The first of these - Algerian President Houari Boumedienne; appealed to his fellow African heads of state - to break off diplomatic relations with Israel. "Such an act" - said he - "would be a concrete act of African solidarity."

Next - Egypt's President Anwar Sadat; charged that Israeli occupation of Arab territories - is part "of a plot aimed at draining the potential" of all of Africa.

Observers were quick to note, however - that many African states maintain good relations with Israel. Adding they will probably continue to do so - the Arab world notwithstanding.

LONDON

Britain's latest sex-and-security scandal - was again the subject of heated debate in the House of Commons. M.P. Donald Stewart called Britain "a disintegrating Banana Republic" - eaten by "the maggots of permissiveness and decay."

The battle was really joined, however, when a Labor Party member by the name of James Wellbeloved - called for a sweeping investigation. James Wellbeloved saying: "Alarming speculation about the call girl scandal - is still rife." Whereupon a stinging rebuke - from Liberal John Pardoe.

"Mr. Wellbeloved is a sanctimonious creep of the first order" - said Pardoe. Adding that Wellbeloved "assures us, with his hand on his heart, he is only after the facts" - when, in truth, "he's a muckraker." Pardoe adding that Wellbeloved's charges - were simply "political voyeurism."

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "PONCE DE LEON"

And now - it's time again for Lowell Thomas.

PONCE DE LEON

We're all familiar with the name Ponce De Leon, a Spaniard who was looking for the Fountain of Youth.

In Bogota, Colombia, there's a distinguished citizen of that country by the name of Alvaro Ponce de Leon. He often comes to the U.S.A. and on one of his visits he dropped off at Miami. Walking down the street he noticed a restaurant called the Ponce de Leon. Since that was his name - he naturally stopped in for lunch.

When the waiter came to take his order his first remark to the local chap was: "I thought I'd try your Ponce deLeon because my name also is Ponce de Leon! To which the waiter responded: "And my name is Christopher Columbus!" Obviously Bill, the waiter thought the man giving the order was pulling his leg.

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "PONCE DE LEON"

Thank you, Lowell. A final story - in a moment.

BUECHNER

With the weekend - Sunday - coming up perhaps attention should be paid to the publication of a new book entitled, "Wishful Thinking - A Theological ABC;" in effect, a dictionary of clerical terms - with biting definitions supplied by author-clergyman Frederick Buechner.

(Beek-ner)

"An agnostic" - he writes - "is some people all of the time - and all people some of the time." As for "envy"- he continues - that's "the consuming desire - to have everybody else as unsuccessful as you are." "Theology" - he adds - "the study of God and his ways;" the same as the "dung beetle might study man and his ways - and call it humanology."

This is Mike Wallace for Lowell Thomas.