BUDGET

The President's proposed Federal budget for next year

-- a whooper -- as you no doubt have heard by now. A

budget calling for record government expenditures -- of

more than a Hundred and Seventy-two Billion dollars. All

this geared to an indefinite war in Vietnam -- while

hopefully providing modest progress toward the "Great

Society" here at home. All under banner of the phrase -
"let us not retreat" -- as the President put it.

Even so -- Democrats and Republicans alike -- are already sharpening their cutting edges in hopes of shaving enough from the budget -- to stave off the President's request for a mid-year tax increase.

The big fight is expected to center on domestic spending. Senate Democratic Whip Russell Long -- chairman of the Senate Finance Committee -- promising that "we'll certainly reduce it very drastically." On the Republican

side -- this from Congressman Laird, chairman of the House Republican Conference. The budget is not only "highly confusing" -- said he -- but also loaded with "a lot of fat."

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Latest from Red China -- news today of a major gun battle -- in the northern province of Shansi. According to Radio Peking -- followers of Chairman Mao finally seizing control of the industrial center; after a major clash -- involving "tens of thousands" of pro-and-anti Mao workers.

If it really happened the most serious

development yet -- in the current Red Power struggle.

China-watchers at a loss, however -- to explain why Radio

Peking would announce such an incident to the nation and

World, Especially when it is still firmly controlled -
by Mao forces.

In Viet Nam -- a close call today for General Richard

Knowles -- commander of the U.S. Hundred-and-Ninety-Sixth

Infantry. When for the second time in less than two months -his helicopter was shot out from beneath him.

General Knowles directing an Allied operation -about twenty miles northwest of Saigon, when the chopper
was hit by ground fire -- plunging two hundred feet to
earth in what he later called "a controlled forced landing."
The general unhurt -- but a crewman sitting near him was
injured.

Even closer to Saigon -- a thrilling show today
in the midst of rush-hour traffic. American jets attacking
a Communist concentration -- barely a mile from the
outskirts of the city. Propping rapalam bombs -- and
blazing away with cannon. With hundreds of drivers stopping
their cars -- to get a better look at the fireworks.

ROME.

Soviet President K-Nikolal Podgorny -- an arrival today in heavily-guarded Rome; for an official state visit to Italy -- to include a history-making audience with the Pope.

Police taking extraordinary precautions -- to protest
their Soviet visitor. However, the city swept by a downpout and there were only a few mild demonstrations -- with no
armests.

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Podgorny -- for his part -- saying merely that he hopes his visit -- will "serve international peace."

In Jakarta -- a stepped-up campaign today -- to

descredit President-for-Life Sukarno of Indonesia. Beginning

with the arrest -- of two his closest aides; Colonel Maulwi -
a Presidential adjutant; and a man named Suparto -- Sukarno's

official driver.

The two men charged by the Army with giving false testimony -- during the recent trial of former Air Force General Omar Dhani, who has since been sentenced to death of for playing a leading role in that abortive Communist coup of a year ago last October.

Meanwhile, a Jakarta newspaper reported tods of that the government now has full details linking Sukarno to the Communist plot. With plans for a trial on charges of treason that said to await only a personal okay from the new Army strongman -- General Suharto.

Secretary of State Dean Rusk -- latest to defend the President's controversial program, calling for dissemination of birth control information -- throughout the free world.

Dean Rusk telling a House committee today -- that the current global population explosion has now reached crisis proportions. "We must no longer count on war, famine and disease -- to solve our population problem" -- said he.

Adding: "We must have better answers."

KHARTOUM FOLLOW RUSK

Underscoring the Secretary's remarks -- a report today

from Khartoum in the African Sudan. Shri Binay Sen -
director general of the U.N. Food and Agricultural

Organization -- warning of the danger of famine already

"of such magnitude that national efforts" can no longer

cope with it. The only answer -- said he. Outside help

-- fast -- and plenty of it.

That milestone treaty on the peaceful use of space -endorsed last year by the United Nations -- to be signed
formally this Friday; according to an announcement today -from the Kremlin.

All Communist countries -- except Red China and Albania
-- scheduled to ratify the pact in ceremonies at Moscow.

Simultaneous with similar ceremonies -- in Washington and

London.

The treaty banning the launching of nuclear weapons -and other weapons of mass destruction -- into space. Also
outlawing use of the moon -- for military purposes.

HOUSTON FOLLOW MOSCOW

Speaking of space -- a prediction today from Houston; that the costly American space program -- will more than pay for itself in the not-too-distant future.

This -- according to Dr. Wernher Von Braun. Who said that satellites have already detected dust storms -- in the Middle East; forest fires -- in California; and water pollution -- in many parts of the United States. In addition to finding widespread disease in national forests -- even before the forest rangers were aware of it.

In years to come -- said Wornber Von Braun -- monitoring
by such satellites will also be able to search out valuable
mineral deposits; metal orea, coal, oil -- and the like.

Perhaps enough -- said he -- "to supply a much larger and
more industrialized world population -- for at least several
more centuries."

The next best thing -- to a gold mine in the sky.

anniversary of the death of Sir Winston Churchill. A fact which was virtually forgotten -- in England. The anniversary passing almost unnoticed -- except for a single wreath; placed at the Churchill grave -- in Bladon Churchyard, England.

A brief inscription -- identifying the sender: One who will never forget. It said: "For my darling Winston. From Clemmie."

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