

Good evening, everybody.

King Hussein has taken a dramatic step to ease the crisis in Jordan. Late today he announced the resignation of his uncle as Commander in Chief of the Jordanian army - and of another general as commander of an army division. The ousters of both men had been demanded by Palestinian guerillas as a price for peace in Jordan. The king announced that he will take personal command of Jordan's armed forces. Observers believe today's move may have averted civil war in that Arab kingdom. But the situation remains precarious - fighting in Amman over the past few days already has taken many lives.

The White House says a special action group headed by Dr. Henry Kissinger - the President's adviser on National Security affairs - met most of the day to consider all implications of the Jordanian strife. Kissinger met with Mr. Nixon for an hour. The over-riding concern, the White House says, is the security of American citizens in the area.

Administration officials also say the trouble in Jordan

may lead to a delay in the announcement that a limited number

of additional jets will be sold to Israel. That announcement

had been expected next week.

U.S. casualty figures for the last week, as announced

today, showing for the first time a return to pre-Cambodian

offensive levels. Indeed, ground action containing light losses

- throughout the war zone.

PHU THANH

The death toll in that Communist massacre at Phu Thanh in South Vietnam - now set at more than a hundred. These including men, women and children - the innocent victims of an enemy terrorist raid. With Saigon calling it - "the worst civilian casualty toll since the Nineteen-Sixty-Eight Tet offensive."

U.S. casualty figures for the past week; as announced today, showing for the first time - a return to pre-Cambodian offensive levels. Indeed, ground action continuing light today - throughout the war zone.

SENATE

The Senate today rejected by a narrow margin - an effort to water down the still-pending Cooper-Church Amendment; with the final tally coming out - fifty-two to forty-seven.

However, today's vote bringing about a confusion of "hawks" and "doves" - on both sides of the question.

Leaving Senate observers - reluctant to predict what the eventual outcome will be - or even when; especially what with numerous other modifications - yet to be disposed of.

MOSCOW

A related event - Moscow today announcing plans - to increase its military aid to North Vietnam. This in response to recent U.S. acts - according to the Kremlin - "intensifying the aggressive war in South Vietnam." Said acts allegedly including U.S. bombing strikes against Communist North Vietnam - plus a "military escalation in Laos" - also, "an aggressive war in Cambodia." Quotes from the Soviet statement.

Soviet President Podgorny - later expanding on the Soviet view. Asserting that Soviet-American relations - are now "practically in a frozen state." And "the reason for this" - said he - "is the aggressive line of the United States - its desire to interfere in the affairs of other peoples - to impose its rule upon them."

CRIME

The Nixon Administration today unlimbered its big guns in the battle against crime. The President himself telling Congress to "get off dead center" - with regard to his new proposed anti-crime program." "I understand partisan politics" - said the President - "I understand dragging feet on some issues - that's the way the game is played. But crime is not a partisan issue" - said he. Adding that "failure of Congress to act - will be something for the people to remember."

Vice President Agnew - also addressing himself to the same subject. Asserting that criminal elements - in every walk of ■ life - are "truly the enemies of our country." And they "must be fought" - said he - "with every weapon available consistent with our Constitution."

NEW YORK

*Here in New York - death claimed today the first
and, up to now, last - freely-elected Russian ruler.*

*Alexander Kerensky - the man who headed a brief provisional
government back in Nineteen-Seventeen. Taking up - for four
months - where the Romanovs left off; but later taking flight -
when the Bolsheviks came to power. Eventually emigrating
to the U.S. - becoming a professor at Stanford University.
Now - after all these years - passing away quietly in his
sleep.*

Alexander Kerensky - he was eighty-nine.

REAGAN

Governor Reagan today put the California National Guard on alert - for possible use to put down continued disturbances in Ila Vista. That's the student community near the campus of the University of California at Santa Barbara. The Governor acted after the Santa Barbara county supervisors declared the county in a state of disaster. Well over six-hundred persons have been arrested at Ila Vista in the past five nights of trouble.

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED "SIR JOHN FRANKLIN"

Time now for Lowell Thomas; with another special report tonight - discussing one of the great mysteries of the Northland. Lowell...

In the Arctic, a hundred and twenty years ago, Sir John Franklin, an experienced Arctic leader, and his one-hundred-and-twenty-nine companions vanished, never seen again. But, says a writer in The Journal of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, the Franklin expedition may have contributed enormously to geographical knowledge of the Arctic because up to now some forty expeditions have tried to solve the Sir John Franklin mystery. Right now, one hundred and twenty years after the tragedy, another expedition made up of Canadian Army and Air Force people with helicopters. They are searching mainly in the region around the North Magnetic Pole, King William Island, Victoria Island and places with such picturesque names as Starvation Cove and Terror Bay.

**SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED
"SIR JOHN FRANKLIN"**

The Army Chief of Staff, General William Westmoreland,

provided **Thank you, Lowell. And now - a final item...**

Presenting to you of his officers - the one-star insignia
designating their new rank. First - Brigadier General Anne

Max Hays - Chief of Army Nurses; whom he kissed lightly -
establishing what he called a "new protocol." And then -

Brigadier General Elizabeth H. Hays - Chief of the Women's
Army Corps; whom he also kissed lightly - as he put it -

according to "old established tradition."

America's first lady generals - wearing stars on
their shoulders; and also - stars in their eyes.

Dallas Tamm and so: ing good night.

GENERALS

The Army Chief of Staff, General William Westmoreland, presided at a promotion ceremony today - first of its kind. Presenting to two of his officers - the one-star insignia designating their new rank. First - Brigadier General Anna Mac Hays - Chief of Army Nurses; whom he kissed lightly - establishing what he called a "new protocol." And then - Brigadier General Elizabeth Hoisington - Chief of the Women's Army Corps; whom he also kissed lightly - as he put it - according to "old established tradition."

America's first lady generals - wearing stars on their shoulders; and also - stars in their eyes.

Dallas Townsend saying good night.