

Thurs, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>. '68.

Washington's birthday at the L B J Ranch -  
marked today by another special message to Congress.  
President Johnson calling for a massive transfusion of  
money - to save America's decaying cities. Upwards of  
two billion over the next two years - plus another four  
billion after that? To provide new housing for the poor -  
also rent supplements - model cities programs - anti-  
poverty work - mass transit planning and so on. The  
President declaring: "There is no time to lose."

To help pay for it -LB J again urging speedy  
approval of his long-awaited tax increase. "To insure"  
- said he - "strong, stable economic growth - for the  
nation as a whole and the home building industry in  
particular."

## HUE

Showdown at Hue. War reports telling tonight of a daring U S Marine assault - behind a wall of flaming napalm; finally breaching the southeast corner - of Hue's ~~ancient~~ ancient walled Citadel. Once inside - the Leathernecks quickly raising an American flag over the battlement. First time the Stars and Stripes have been seen there - in more than three weeks.

At the same time - ~~additional~~ Additional Marines were also recapturing a nearby key bridge over the River of Perfume -- which runs through Hue. Linking for the first time - U S forces fighting on both sides of the river. In preparation for a final assault against the last Red stronghold - in Vietnam's old Imperial Palace.

Meanwhile, in the air war - American jets were striking today at Radio Hanoi - which ~~boasts~~ boasts the most powerful radio transmitter in Southeast Asia.

*This apparently in retaliation for recent Viet*

*Cong attacks - against Radio Saigon. Unhappily though -*

*Radio Hanoi is still on the air.*



## PENTAGON

*Here on the home front - another bitter tug-of-war today; between Defense Secretary Robert McNamara -- and Chairman Fulbright of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee over that Gulf of Tonkin incident - back in Nineteen Sixty-Four.*

*McNamara first to the attack  $\nabla$  this time around. Ordering Pentagon security officials - to run a complete check on his testimony earlier this week - in order to speed release of the full transcript - perhaps as early as tonight. This obviously an attempt to counter Fulbright's charge of yesterday - that McNamara had previously made public only that part of his testimony "which served his purpose."*

*However, a committee ~~sak~~ spokesman later insisting - the censored transcript would have to be approved by the full committee; which apparently means it will now ~~to~~ be held up - until Monday, at the earliest.*

MOSCOW

~~As might be expected~~ - Moscow was still up  
in arms today - over that bombing of the Russian  
Embassy in Washington. Through its official newspaper  
Izvestia -- the Kremlin placing full blame "on the  
American side." Asserting that American authorities  
totally ignored "their elementary obligation -- to  
ensure the inviolability of the Soviet Embassy." <sup>This</sup> Despite  
a number of threats - against the Soviet diplomatic  
corps; including one in an ~~xxxx~~ anonymous letter -  
addressed directly to President Johnson himself.

Izvestia adding, what's more, that American  
reaction -- "can by no means confine" itself "to  
expressions of regret." Noting the Embassy has  
already received several more telephone threats -  
just in the past twenty-four hours.

STATE FOLLOW MOSCOW

10

Washington reply - from the U S State Department. Confirming the White House had received a threat - against the life of Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. However, flatly rejecting the Soviet charge - that U S officials provided "no reliable security" for the Embassy.

In point of fact - said the State Department - a round-the-clock watch had been set up at the Washington Embassy - also at the Soviet Mission to the United Nations. The extra guards withdrawn only a few days ago - when it appeared the threats were baseless.



## ROCKY MOUNT

*In a tiny hospital at Rocky Mount, North Carolina - the end today for one of F D R's fabled "fair-haired boys" of the New Deal era; the man who cleared a path for L B J - in his meteoric rise to Senate prominence.*

*Scott Lucas of Illinois - ~~was~~ victim of a cerebral hemorrhage. The former Senate majority leader - stricken aboard a train - Florida-bound; and he died - seven hours later. He was seventy-four.*

LONDON

7/2  
Across the Atlantic - at London - publication today of a ~~few~~ government white paper; disclosing for the first time -- details of Britain's planned withdrawal from bases "East of Suez." Malaysia, Singapore and the Persian Gulf -- all to be abandoned by Nineteen-Seventy One. Leaving Hong Kong -- the lone British outpost in the Far East.

The paper goes on to say that Britain will continue to maintain her membership - in both the southeast and central Asia treaty organizations. Asserting, however, that Britain must ~~not~~ give future first priority to Nato defenses - where "our contribution will be formidable" - said the paper. Adding that as Europe thus becomes more self-reliant - the United States will be able, hopefully, <sup>Warren,</sup> to fill the void in the Far East.



## POLITICS

~~Speaking of politics - as I was a moment ago -~~

news today of suggested ground rules for the coming campaign; ~~Ground~~ rules emanating from opposing Republican and Democratic headquarters in Washington - yet strangely parallel.

For example - the Republicans' recommended policy is called "Parkinson's Law," <sup>This</sup> after the former California State Chairman - who was one of the first in recent history to make it work. The law providing simply that -- "Republicans shall speak no evil of Republicans."

Democratic policy - laid down by National Chairman John Bailey; who urges party faithful - to "love thy fellow Democrat." Bailey ~~repeats~~ explaining: "You don't have to like him - just love him at election time."