

Thurs. July 9 - 1970.

UNITED NATIONS

At the United Nations ^{today} - ~~New York - U.N.~~

Secretary General U Thant ~~today~~ officially opened the First World Youth Assembly; a meeting of some six hundred young people - gathered together from the four corners of the globe. U Thant urging the delegates to aspire to "a new kind of patriotism - the patriotism of man - and thus to make international institutions work." And he added: "It would, indeed, be a victory for humanity - if our century were to be remembered as the turning point when, for ~~the~~ the first time, it became possible for all mankind - to share the advantages of civilization."

SAIGON

The weekly toll of U S war dead - as announced today in Saigon; sixty-one; lowest in more than three and a half years. And it comes along with evidence of a Communist retreat in Cambodia - coupled with reports of renewed prospects for peace in Laos.

Searchers also spotted the wreckage of a helicopter in which Major General George Casey and six others were killed. General Casey who commanded the Army's First Air Cavalry Division - the sixth American General to lose his life in Vietnam. A young man - age forty-eight.

HOUSE FOLLOW SAIGON

Here at home - the House today rejected the controversial Cooper-Church Amendment; the one that prompted so many weeks of debate - in the Senate. It now goes to a joint conference committee - along with the Foreign Military Sales Act to which it was attached.

LONDON FOLLOW HIS MIDDLE EAST

PENTAGON FOLLOW HOUSE

DEFENSE SECRETARY MELVIN LAIRD'S STATEMENTS

Defense Secretary Melvin Laird at a press conference announced plans for a partial withdrawal of U S troops - still in South Korea; between now and next spring - said he. But we will still keep what he referred to as "a substantial military presence in South Korea".

LAIRD SAID THE WITHDRAWAL WOULD BE IN PHASES, FIRST THE

ARMY WOULD BE IN AN UNDESIRABLE POSITION IN THE MIDDLE

WEST - WHICH IS THE PART OF LEAVING 100,000 OF THE ARMY

WOULD BE IN WITHDRAWAL, BUT HE SAID HE WOULD NOT

REPEATED

LONDON FOLLOW ~~MIS~~ MIDDLE EAST

~~A related item:~~ Britain's authoritative

Royal Institute of International Affairs ~~is~~ suggest^s~~ing~~

~~today~~ ^{that} the Russians are merely bluffing in the Middle

East. This based on the assumption that Russia has

found as yet - "no issue which is worth a war with the

West." The Institute adds, what's more, that the

Soviets are in no condition to wage a war in the Middle

East - except at the peril of leaving their ~~to~~ own home-

lands open to attack; ^{which they will not do,} ~~and that - we are told - they will~~

~~not do.~~

WHITE HOUSE

Washington again - the White House -

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President Nixon today authorized the formation of two new federal agencies; one - aimed at controlling pollution; the other - intended to coordinate research and exploration efforts - in the seas that surround us. The President saying this represents "a profound commitment - to the rescue of our natural environment." And, to "the ~~preservation~~ preservation of the earth - as a place both habitable by and hospitable to man."

DENVER

Vice President ~~Spiro~~ Agnew ~~the main~~
~~speaker today~~ at a national education conference in
Denver, ~~where he~~ observed that too many people have
been led to believe - that the nation is currently
in the grip of anarchy, panic, repression and despair.
~~The Vice President going on to say~~ ^{Said he:-} "It just isn't so."
Adding that teachers, especially, can play an important
role - in placing the overall picture in its proper
perspective. ~~Spiro Agnew asserting~~ "Let us see and
treat the blemishes - but never let them blind us to the
beauty," said the tall Vice President.

SAMARKAND

Of all the cities in the world it has long seemed to me that a city in Central Asia once was regarded as the capital of the world, has the most romantic sounding name. Of course it's hard to beat Timbuctu, Mandalay, Isfahan, Singapore, Rangoon, Khartoum, and Zamzibar. But somehow to me Samarkand has the most magic ring of all.

Our arrival there coincided with Samarkand's two thousand five hundredth birthday. That date puts it way back even earlier than Baalbek, almost as old as Babylon and Thebes the days of Carthage and the Phoenician cities of Tyre and Sidon. It was a flourishing city when Alexander-the-Great set out to conquer the world, when his army followed The Golden Road to Samarkand, more than Twenty-Two-Thousand years ago. Many centuries later it was Genghis Kahn's ~~cap~~ capital. And later Tamerlane.

Samarkand, one of the oldest cities in the world, was taken over by the Russians some thirty years ago. In those days it had become almost a lost city in Central Asia.

Now they are building a huge new hotel to take care of travellers. If you want to go to Samarkand there are three ways: One to fly down from Moscow, another of those long Central Asia flights through five time zones; or, far easier, from the south, flying from Kabul, Afghanistan. Or, as we did, cross most of Siberia first and approach Samarkand from the East by way of Mongolia.

The Russians now have a university there with some twelve thousand students. How would you like to attend the University of Samarkand?

Thanks to my colleagues, Clarence Hall and Hack Miller and Jack Simplot, I now have several ancient tiles from the tomb of Tamerlane at Samarkand. These are to be installed in a History of Civilization fireplace on which I have been working for years. If you ever have a chance don't miss ~~Samarkand~~ Samarkand.

SOUTH ATLANTIC

~~The latest from~~ Thor Heyerdahl's Ra-Two

we hear is now only about
~~A radio report today placing the papyrus craft - less~~

~~than~~ a hundred and seventy five ~~thousand~~ miles ~~due~~

from ^{The American} Barbados. ^{— from Pelham, N.Y. —} Navigator Norman Baker, saying the

the Ra-Two

~~ship~~ is under full sail - despite rough seas and ~~wind~~

^{and he figures}
squalls. ~~Adding that~~ ship and crew will ~~probably~~ reach

land - hopefully this Sunday, ^{thus enabling} Thor Heyerdahl ^{to clearly} ~~proving~~

^{Worried} ~~prove that~~ ~~once and for all~~ the early Egyptians could have sailed

~~— and probably did —~~
to the New World ~~nearly~~ five thousand years ago.

MOSCOW

Moscow - the first ~~public~~ public press conference
- for Russia's two record breaking Soyuz-Nine cosmonauts.
General Andrian Nikolayev and his civilian co-pilot --
Vitaly Sevastianov - discussing today the effects of
prolonged space flight. Coming to the conclusion that
we'll probably see permanent manned space stations -
"within a few years." As for future missions though -
to the Moon and ~~to~~ beyond - General Nikolayev adding
that it might be well to send along a few women/ The
General who is married, ^{You may recall,} ~~by the way~~ to ~~General~~ Cosmonette
Valentina Tershkova. ^{Said Gen. Nikolayev doesn't} ~~observing that~~ some one has ^{to}
keep things in "proper order³"