

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A wide-ranging ten-point legislative program to protest the American consumer was presented today, to Congress. President Johnson urging passage of the program -- "to afford the public greater safeguards against sharp and unscrupulous practices." Also, to protect the consumer from serious injury or possible death resulting from careless or out-and-out illegal business practices.

One of the program's main proposals; an inter-state Land Sales Disclosure Act -- aimed at mail order real estate developers. Said the president: "Some of our senior citizens have wasted much of their life savings on a useless piece of desert or swampland." To remedy the situation -- said he -- developers should be required to disclose "fully simply and clearly -- all material facts,"² relating to their projects.

In addition, the President urging a "Truth-in-Lending" Act. .. a bill to govern medical laboratories --- tighter restrictions on hazardous household products - a Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act -- and a bill to improve coordination among electric power utilities.

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This last -- to prevent the re-occurrence of massive electric power failures; such as that big blackout in the northeast -- two years ago.

SAFETY FOLO CONSUMER

Elsewhere in Washington -- the Administration today issued a preliminary set of guidelines for state highway safety programs. Thirteen proposals in all -- intended to spur uniform safety standards across the land.

Among the recommendations: periodic examination of all drivers -- uniform design of signs, signals and highway markings -- compulsory inspection of all cars -- driver-training instruction for all highschool students who want it -- and a requirement that all motorcycle drivers must wear helmets.

The various states will have thirty days -- to suggest revisions in the federal guideline. Such revisions as considered necessary -- to be incorporated into the final version of a safety code; when it finally takes effect -- later this year.

POWELL

Mrs. Adam Clayton Powell -- star witness today before a select House Committee, ~~Testifying that~~ she performed no work -- during the last eighteen months she was on her husband's payroll. Denying that she signed a stack of her own paychecks -- deposited to Powell's account, ~~Admitting~~ ^{she did} that Powell had spurned her as his wife, ~~←~~ apparently in favor of a younger woman.

~~and~~ yet she pleaded with the Committee -- to return the Harlem Congressman to his seat in the House. Said Mrs. Powell: "I know my testimony may be interpreted as adverse to my husband. I did not intend it that way." "Adam" -- she went on -- "is my husband and the father of my child. It is my fervent desire that he be permitted to continue his career -- in the service of his country."
That -- from Mrs. Adam Clayton Powell.

RED CHINA

Latest from Radio Peking: news today of armed rebellion against the government of Chairman Mao Tse Tung in the neighboring coastal provinces of Kiangsi and Fukien. The battle area -- directly across from Formosa. Less than a mile -- from the Nationalist Chinese off-shore islands of Quemoy and Matsu.

Biggest clash -- apparently at Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi province. Where anti-Mao forces are said to have mobbed police headquarters -- before they were beaten back by army troops. Radio Peking calling the attack -- a "dying gesture" of defiance against Chairman Mao's so-called "cultural revolution." Conceding, however, that there is still wide-spread unrest -- in that extremely sensitive area.

NEW DELHI

News from New Delhi tells today of wide-spread violence -- in the first two days of India's six-day general election. A pro-Peking Communist party worker attacked and killed by a mob of fifty in Andhra Pradesh state. A worker for the pro-western Swatantra party -- similarly murdered in Gujarat state. With knifings, stone throwing melees and full-scale riots also reported in the states of Bihar and Assam -- with scores injured.

Fighting men in a jungle battlefield -- about 300 miles north of Saigon. This a bid to catch an elite enemy force -- in a giant pikara movement. A force believed to be made up entirely -- of north Vietnamese troops.

Yet even now -- the grand strategy has already been branded a scathing success. Combined enemy losses on all fronts -- coming in an estimated 300 men in this single day's action.

VIETNAM FOLO RED CHINA

Meanwhile, to the south -- a new grand strategy was getting its baptism under fire today in Vietnam.

An estimated thirty thousand allied troops -- attacking the Viet Cong in an unprecedented series of major operations.

The biggest single offensive -- a three-pronged assault by some 17 thousand US and South Korean fighting men; in a jungle battlefield -- about 300 miles north of Saigon. This a bid to catch an elite enemy force -- in a giant pincers movement. A force believed to be made up entirely -- of north Vietnamese troops.

Yet even now -- the grand strategy has already been branded a smashing success. Combined enemy losses on all fronts -- coming to an estimated 600 men in this single day's action.

INDONESIA

The ultimate irony today -- for Sukarno of Indonesia. Under public fire for the first time -- from the army he alone created; a force that once obeyed his every whim ^{with} ~~x~~ no questions asked.

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Times have indeed changed. The army's official news paper now charging that Sukarno gave his full support -- to that abortive Communist coup of a year ago last October. Not only supported it -- but attempted to justify it in conversations with army officers. Sukarno quoted as saying that "in a revolution -- a father may find it necessary to devour his own children."

At the same time -- a staggering announcement today from Indonesia's new military regime. Disclosing that more than one hundred thousand people -- are still being held in Indonesian jails ^{and prisons} on suspicion of complicity -- in that attempted Communist coup .

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LONDON

A startling new British defense posture -- unveiled today in London. In the form of a budget calling for record defense spending this year -- more than six billion. Nevertheless, urging a number of sweeping economies -- including a reduction in British forces assigned to the NATO command in West Germany. A move said to be based on the contention -- that protection of western Europe now lies primarily in the nuclear strength of the United States.

A government white paper explaining the proposal -- by saying there is little danger of war in Europe at present. Adding further that improvement of East-West relations in Europe -- can best be achieved by mutual reduction of forces. This directly counter to stated US policy -- calling for maintenance of strong allied "conventional" forces on the continent.

DEATH

The American way of death -- subject of a long-delayed report finally released today by the Senate Anti-Trust Committee; over the bitter objections -- of a minority of the Committee's members.

The report -- sharply critical of the American funeral profession. Among other things, accusing undertakers of using ^{what they call} advertising restraints -- to keep pricing information from reaching the general public. Suggesting that if such practices continue -- the Justice Department should instigate necessary legal action.

However, ~~some~~ minority members -- including the Senate Minority leader Everett Dirksen -- ^{were} sharply critical of the Committee itself. Accusing majority members of basing their conclusions, quote -- "on a theoretical, pre-conceived and biased economic and legal philosophy."

OMAN FOLO MIDDLE EAST

Not far away -- a tragic accident -- as reported today from Tehran. A big passenger launch crossing the Gulf of Oman -- bound from Bahrain in Saudi Arabia to Dubai on the Trucial Coast when caught in a sudden storm. The boat finally capsizing -- with loss of all on board.

The death toll -- said to be about two hundred and fifty persons. Many of them Muslims from Central Asia -- returning home from the pilgrimage to Mecca. The Gulf of Oman and The Persian Gulf often have storms like this. Often vessels are lost and we never hear about it. A large sailing dhow we used on a T.V. Hi-Adventure film suffered that fate a few years ago.

All this to come about -- within three years -- they say.

PHILADELPHIA FOLO SAFETY

~~A related item today~~ From Philadelphia *we hear*
~~telling~~ of plans for an massive test -- of new
electric automobiles.

As presently set up -- the idea calls for
purchase of some two hundred thousand electric cars --
by Philadelphia auto rentals and taxicab firms.

These ~~miniature models~~ to be offered to the
public -- for use solely in the central business
district. The cars to operate on batteries that give
them a top speed of forty miles an hour -- and a range
of about twenty miles before they need re-charging.

1/2 Among the expected advantages; a marked reduction
in air pollution -- less traffic noise -- less
congestion -- and easier parking.

All this to come about -- within three years --
they say.

ARLINGTON

Speaking of traffic safety -- as I was a moment ago -- a story on the same subject comes today from Arlington, Massachusetts. One James McKeown -- turning in his driver's license; because -- at age eight-nine -- he's had his fill of motoring.

By way of explanation -- Mr. McKeown asserting; "It's not my driving I'm worried about. It's those blankety blank young fools -- out on the road -- said he. And now as I head down the road, bumper to bumper -- so long until tomorrow.