

**July 17, 1972
Charles Kuralt**

For Democratic nominee George McGovern - a trip back home today; to the Black Hills of Dakota - where he plans to spend the next two weeks girding for an all-out campaign for President.

While back in Washington - the Nixon Administration is already wheeling out its big guns. Defense Secretary Melvin Laird - challenged the "credibility" of McGovern's plan to free American POW's; saying there is nothing to indicate that immediate U.S. withdrawal - would have any such effect.

And later on, Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott - took dead aim at the new Democratic Party platform.

Virtually daring the Democratic-controlled Congress - to follow "the Truman Doctrine," which specifies: "Now that you have adopted a platform - pass it."

Indeed, the McGovern-Eagleton team was getting short shrift today - even from Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield; who observed that the President's foreign

POLITICS - 2

policy record - has been "exceptionally good;" especially with regard to Russia and China - AND Vietnam. Mansfield adding: "It's going to be a tough race."

CHICAGO

Meanwhile, Chicago's Mayor Daley - returned to Chicago for the first time in nearly two weeks; stoutly defended the make-up of a Daley slate of delegates - that was barred from the Democratic National Convention. He pledged, nevertheless, that he "will support every candidate on the Democratic ticket - Federal, State and County."

Daley never mentioned George McGovern by name.... but he did say "I am a Democrat - I am chairman of the Democratic Party of Cook County - and I have always supported the nominee of the Democratic Party."

QUANG TRI CITY

In Vietnam - house-to-house fighting raged today - through the ruins of Quang Tri City. South Vietnamese paratroopers attempting to close in on a stone-walled citadel - where Communist troops are believed dug in. At least one South Vietnamese officer admitted though: "They're going to take a lot more softening up."

To the South - at Saigon - the U.S. Command disclosing the withdrawal of three thousand American sailors; the first decline in U.S. Naval strength - since President Nixon ordered that blockade of North Vietnam.

REYKJAVIK

For Bobby Fischer - at Reykjavik, Iceland - a brilliant victory. The American challenger taking Game Three today - in his world championship chess match with Russia's Boris Spassky; finally forcing the defending champ to concede defeat - on his forty-second move. Fischer now trails - only two games to one. And what appeared a complete rout just a few days ago is now - once again a real battle.

INCOME

U. S. family income was up again last year; about four-point-two per cent - according to government figures announced tonight. The study also disclosed - a landmark achievement. For the first time in history, more than half of all U. S. households - have an annual income of Ten Thousand or more.

FBI FOLLOW INCOME

Speaking of firsts - the FBI today accepted its first female agents; two of them Susan Lynn Roley, age twenty-five of Long Beach, California - a former Marine officer; and Joanne Pierce, age thirty-one, of Niagara Falls, New York - a former nun. Both immediately started a fourteen-week training course - the same as given men. No favors asked - none given.

No. I

Stahlman has long been a name in American journalism. Major James Stahlman, for sixty years with the Nashville Banner; ^{as} reporter, editor, owner, publisher.

~~As he retires in his farewell column,~~ Jimmy Stahlman

notes that ~~as~~ he's seen some changes in the world.

As he puts it -- "from the horse car to Americans on the moon; from the early filament bulb to the devastating laser beam; from Marconi to Telstar; from Kitty-Hawk to the SST; from a reverent pulpit to a distressing era of agnosticism." ~~Then he adds:-~~

"This has been the most exciting period of advance in the world's history - culturally, scientifically, industrially, sociologically, economically, politically."

~~But he goes on to say that~~

~~Our progress~~ ^{also} has wrought much havoc. It

has played hob with stable homelife, produced a disdain for the fundamentals, destroyed respect for law ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~respect~~

order, the courts and constituted authority. It has brought the United States to a dangerous divisiveness and the world to the brink of self-destruction."

Then Nashville Banner Editor Stahlman concludes:- "Through all these years, I have clung steadfastly to the belief that this blessed country of ours is still worth saving; that the freedoms of our people can be preserved; that there is more good than bad in mankind and that a forgiving, omnipotent Father can and will save those men and nations willing to defend that faith implicit in our national motto: "In God We Trust."

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "STAHLMAN"

As you may have guessed by now - Lowell Thomas is off on another jaunt for a few days. In the meantime - a special report he left us. Subject tonight: One of America's great newspapermen. Lowell...

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2:00

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "STAHLMAN"

Thank you, Lowell.

A final story - in a moment.

JACKSON

Jackson, Mississippi - James Meredith bows out.

The voted civil rights leader - first black man ever to attend the University of Mississippi - withdrew today from partisan politics. This followed a losing campaign - for election to the U.S. Senate. Meredith said: "It has become obviously clear - that I am not in tune or in step with either the black bourgeoisie or the black masses." And he added: "There is perhaps nothing more futile - than trying to project an idea whose time is not at hand."

This is Charles Kuralt, CBS News, Goodnight.