

WASHINGTON

Sept. 22, 1967  
Dallas Townsend

*Good evening everybody.*

*President Johnson has again defended his position on the Vietnam War. That position is currently getting some vigorous criticism. Taking note of it, Mr. Johnson late today addressed the heads of several hundred fraternal organizations in Washington - and said - "the question is always whether it is worth the price. I say it is. I say that the price of communist conquest in Southeast Asia - of risking a third world war by our failure to stand in Vietnam now - is a far heavier price to pay." The President added - I do not minimize the price we are paying. The loss of American lives has brought grief to many homes - dismay to many hearts. But - said Mr. Johnson - "Their sacrifice, I deeply believe, will make a far greater war, and a far heavier price, less likely in the days to come.*

UNITED NATIONS

*Thrust and parry - again the order of business at the United Nations. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko - starting it off; rejecting out-of-hand - that U.S. request for Soviet help in ending the Vietnamese war; asserting that peace in Vietnam - will come only after "withdrawal of the aggressors" as he put it.*

*Gromyko further calling U.S. intervention " a gross violation of international law;" in total disregard - of "world public opinion." Adding that present American peace efforts - are a fraud; ignoring "the real danger lying in wait for the world - in connection with the war in Vietnam."*

*That danger - said he - the fact "that at any moment - the fighting can overrun new areas and draw new states into its orbit.*

**GOLDBERG FOLLOW UNITED NATIONS**

**U S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg - quick to exercise his right of reply. Challenging Russia to reconvene that Geneva Conference of Nineteen-Fifty-Four - as a test of U.S. sincerity, and to do it now - if the Soviets really wants peace in Vietnam.**

## MOSCOW FOLLOW GOLDBERG

*It's not likely, however - that the Russians will take up Goldberg's challenge. In fact - while all this was going on - another high-level meeting today in Moscow. Soviet Premier Kosygin - conferring with visiting North Vietnamese Vice Premier, in talks said to have been marked - 'by a spirit of mutual understanding, cordiality and friendship.'*

*The Soviet News Agency Tass later reporting that Kosygin - had promised, "further assistance;" to help Hanoi - with its war effort against the United States. This - in line with a recent Kremlin promise; that Russia will match every American increase - with a corresponding increase in aid to North Vietnam.*

*The War new from Vietnam tells - of the heaviest continuous enemy bombardment to date. North Vietnamese gunners pouring a non-stop barrage of artillery, rockets and mortars - into that blood-soaked Marine fort at Con Thien. The plug holding back a Red invasion force - estimated at some thirty-five thousand men.*

*This the fifth day - of virtual siege at Con Thien. With enemy shells killing or wounding some four hundred Marines - just in the past seventy-two hours alone. And U.S. helicopters finding it tougher by the hour - to get in with food and supplies - and to get out again with the wounded.*

*Marine officers declaring however - that Con Thien will hold. Colonel Keith Houghton of Marine Intelligence - noting the enemy would pay "a terrible price" in lives; if he tried a ground attack - on the Marine position. The Colonel adding: "I don't think he's willing to pay that price."*

*Incidentally, the native name for Con Thien - means literally the "place of angels." Marines convinced though - they must mean "hell's angels."*

LONDON

Across the Atlantic -- Britain's ruling Labor Party ~~and~~ steamed full speed ahead today; despite the loss of two ~~↳~~ special Parliamentary elections; / an upset called by many / - the ~~↳~~ biggest turnover in recent British political history.

Labor Party Secretary Len Williams / - blaming the setback on Prime Minister Harold Wilson's tough economic measures.

Vowing, nevertheless, there will be no easing of austerity -- until Britain is again on firm financial footing.

In the meantime -- London bookies are giving fresh odds; that if general elections were held today / - the Conservatives would sweep back into power. / But fortunately -- for Wilson / -- he is not obliged to call a general ~~election~~ -- until Nineteen-Seventy.

## ATLEE FOLLOW LONDON

By the way -- one of those two seats lost by the Laborites -- was in London's drab West Walthamstow district, supposedly an ironclad Laborite stronghold; for years the home base -- of ex-Labor Prime Minister Clement Attlee.

As for Clement Attlee himself / now eighty-four-year-old Earl Attlee /- no appreciable change, ~~today~~. The man who succeeded Winston Churchill after World War Two -- chief architect of Britain's post-war social revolution -- still "gravely ill" at Westminster Hospital.

## WASHINGTON

*The spectre of Communist Cuba - haunting that meeting in Washington of foreign ministers - of the Organization of American States.*

*Venezuelan delegates Ignacio Iribarren Borges, for one - calling Cuban subversion a threat to every Latin American nation. Specifically charging the Castro regime - with "a series of interventionist and aggressive acts" - against Venezuela.*

*Bolivia's Foreign Minister then Walter Guevara presenting photographic evidence - that missing Ernest "Che" Guevara - no relation is still alive Bolivia. Not only alive - but personally leading Communist revolutionaries - supposedly with Castro's blessing.*



BEULAH

Ex.

~~\*\*\*\*~~ Hurricane Beulah -- in the midst of a death rattle tonight \*\* in Mexico / Behind her though -- the misery for many is just beginning.

Mountainous flood crests from Beulah's twenty-inch rains -- spilling over the banks of five Texas rivers and hundreds of streams; / from the Guadalupe in the North - / to the roaring Rio Grande in the South. / Turning some forty thousand square miles of Texas plain -- into a vast lake. / The floodwaters -- leaving thousands homeless. All but marooning -- hundreds of thousands more.

Latest tally on Beulah -- showing <sup>NEARLY FORTY</sup> ~~thirty-five~~ dead over a two-week period; / with total damage -- now nearing One Billion. *dollars.*

## NEDERLAND FOLLOW BEULAH

*A post-script to the storm in this next - from Nederland, Texas; where sixteen-year-old Rick Baldwin - was swept up by one of those Beulah-spawned tornadoes; becoming one of the few persons - to see the inside of a twister and live to tell about it.*

*Rick running from the approaching tornado - a kind of mini-twister - when it caught him from behind; lifting him from the ground - and finally banging him against a tree. In between - the youngster whirling around with part of a roof - with a number of broken branches - and even a bird.*

*Other than that - he tells us - the funnel just looked "dark and dirty." Same as it does - outside.*

*And Allan, no matter how you look at it - not a pleasant sight.*

*Here in New York today - a millennium in ocean travel. With the good Queen Mary sailing forth - on her one thousandth and last voyage to Southampton. Nevermore to return - to her home away from home.*

*As befitting the occasion - thousands turning out for the last hurrah. Fireboats out on the river - helicopters overhead and a swarm of smaller craft, as the Queen sailed down the Hudson - all flags flying. Every ship along the waterfront - sounding a salute as she passed by. The Queen responding with her powerful, deep-throated fog horn - and then she was gone. Leaving behind only a lump in the throats of those who knew and loved her.*

*New York Mayor John Lindsay perhaps best explaining the reason - in brief ceremonies before the sailing; when he told the Queen's captain: "So many Americans have sailed on the Queen Mary - in wartime and peace - that we like to consider her ours as much as yours "*

*Allan - that strikes us as a good way in which to say - Farewell and God speed.*