

WED. NOV. 20, 1968

MANNINGTON

All day long and on into the night a hundreds of men, women and children waited grim-faced today at the entrance to that consolidation coal mine at Mannington, West Virginia. Family, friends and co-workers of these seventy-four trapped miners - hoping against hope that somehow the missing men are still alive; that some way - they can still be rescued. The old story.

As you doubtless knew by now - the mine was torn by a <sup>series</sup> series of fiery explosions early today. Of the men below at the time - thirteen scrambling to safety. Eight others rescued five hours later - from an area untouched by the blast. But the rest - still down there. Smoke, fire and the threat of additional explosions - temporarily precluding an immediate attempt to reach them. Mine officials now saying it might take as much as ten days - to effect a full rescue.

## PARIS-SAIGON

On the peace front again - a tale of two cities. In Paris - allied diplomatic sources saying President Thieu has agreed "in principle" - to permit South Vietnamese participation in expanded peace talks. In Saigon though - Thieu himself refusing publicly to change his position.

Reason - said he - because Hanoi wants recognition of the Viet Cong - solely as a first step toward the establishment of a coalition government. And that - said Thieu - would mean "national suicide" for South Vietnam.

## CONRAD

For Max Conrad the great adventure resumes. From Paris - the famed "Flying Grandfather" taking off for Casa Blanca, step on his solo flight - around the globe by way of both the poles.

On arrival in Casa Blanca - he is planning to give his twin engine AEEBC PIPER, a complete hundred hour check. Nothing wrong - the ship performing perfectly up to now. Just a final precaution - before he gets into the most hazardous stretches - the Sahara, the South Atlantic - and then the long, long flight across the Antarctic - alone.



## FREETOWN

Africa in turmoil. At Freetown - the capital - the government of Sierra Leone today declaring a state of emergency; in the midst of reports from the provinces - telling of unprecedented violence and a wave of murders. The former British Colony - second African Nation in as many days torn by dissension. Following in the footsteps of neighboring Mali - which was the scene of a bloodless coup only yesterday. Bamako and Timbuktu.

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reporting blandly - that security problems were not discussed.



## BONN-PARIS

The ten richest nations of the free world - the so-called "Group of Ten" - in emergency session today at Bonn; hearing an appeal from West Germany - for a common solution to world money problems; problems - according to Bonn - currently plaguing the U.S. dollar - the British pound - and, most of all, right now the French franc.

Meanwhile, West European money markets were shut down in deference to the troubled French economy. While in Paris - De Gaulle was meeting in emergency session with his cabinet. However, the supreme irony: a government spokesman later reporting blandly - that monetary problems were not discussed.

Including at least two politicians.

## CALCUTTA

Former U.S. Defense Secretary MacNamara - now President  
of the World Bank - a visitor today at Calcutta, as part  
of a fact-finding mission - dealing with India's request for  
a massive development loan.

However, MacNamara's visit - not entirely welcome.  
Hundreds of Indian Anti-Vietnam War demonstrators - blocking  
the main highway from Dum Dum Airport - attempting to prevent  
him from entering Calcutta. When MacNamara eluded them by  
helicopter - the demonstrators themselves marching on the  
city; burning buses and trams - before they were met by  
riot police. In the resulting battle - some twenty injured,  
including at least ten policemen.

MANILA

A look at the future of Asia - from the viewpoint of Phillipine President Ferdinand Marcos ; who predicted today - a "perhaps inevitable withdrawal of American power from the region." For that reason, declaring flatly - "the next fifteen years will be crucial to the peoples of Asia".

"Within that time" - said Marcos - "the Asian peoples must seek to survive the present threat of Communist China." At the same time hopefully, said he, laying the groundwork for peaceful co-existence - when "American might and diplomacy" is directed elsewhere.



## WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW MANILA

Here at home - a look at the future of U.S. water resources - in a special report tonight from the White House. Warning of disastrous droughts, floods and water pollution over the next fifty years - unless congress gives top priority to the nation's water problems.

"The hard lessons of history are clear - written on the deserted sands and ruins of once-proud civilizations" - said LBJ. Adding: "A nation that fails to plan intelligently for the development and protection of its precious waters - will be condemned to wither because of its short-sightedness."

## LOS ANGELES

From Los Angeles - the story today of an experiment in chivalry. An experiment utilizing the services of - one - a mini-skirted California coed; and two - a seventy-year old spinster - dressed accordingly. Each of the women standing beside her supposedly "stalled" car - at various locations on the Los Angeles Freeway. The idea - to see who would attract help first.

Results: The coed getting her first offer - in a matter of three minutes. A man, of course. Same story - three minutes or less - everytime they tried it - every location. As for the seventy year old spinster - it took her seventeen minutes to attract her first offer of help.

Perhaps least surprised - the spinster; who observed that the mini-skirted lass - had shown "a lot more" of her charms. Said the spinster "Ah, that's showbiz!" What do you say, Warren. What you John.

## CHICAGO

In men's fashions - the so-called "Nehru look" is dead. This according to Benjamin Gingiss - President of Gingiss Formal Wear of Chicago. Announcing plans today - to redeem all formal Nehru dinner suits sold by his firm over the past year. Customers who avail themselves of the offer to receive an exchange - said he - "a tuxedo with longer style expectancy."

Why so generous? Because - said Gingiss - "When a man buys a formal outfit - he has a right to expect that it will stay in style for a reasonable time;" Where the Nehru look has "had a life cycle of less than six months - from beginning to end" - said he.

Next question: What are they going to do with all these surplus Nehrus? Answer - said Gingiss - "We will probably - send them back to India."