Vice President Rockefeller today made the charge that the Soviet Union is attempting to build "a new empire - in which the Soviet Sun never sets;" doing so by means of "a new and far more complex form of Imperialism - a mixture of Czarism and Marxism, plus colonial appendages." This in a speech at a meeting of the International Press Institute - at Philadelphia.

Nelson Rockefeller adding that "a positive and far closer partnership of independent nations - is essential" to combat the Soviet threat; to serve as a "counterpoise - economically, militarily and politically - to the Soviet's expansionist thrust."

The new President elect of Lebanon, Elias Sarkis, was being given credit today for bringing to an end a fierce battle in the mountains northeast of Beirut. Sarkis is also said to be planning an appeal to Moslem leftists - for a national reconciliation and an end to Lebanon's thirteen year old civil war.

And now this message....

The leader of Britain's small but pivotal Liberal

Party - today in London announced his recignation. Jeremy

Thorpe bowing to a storm of protest - over testimony in a

court case that he once had a relationship with a male model.

Thorpe again today denying he was guilty of any wrong doing.

"But no man can lead a party" - said he - "if the greater

part of his time has to be devoted to anwsering allegations
and countering plots and intrigues."

The death toll in that Italian earth quake - continues to climb. Officials at UDINE (you-dinay) today reporting - more than eight hundred known dead. Adding that final statements of their homes.

In a Hague newspaper - a report today that Prince

Bernhard of the Netherlands has been cleared of charges
that he received payoffs from Lockheed Aircraft. A

government study showing that the Prince received not one

cent from Lockheed."

If the newspaper sources are correct, though the

Prince "was acquainted with people who occasionally

overstepped the mark - says the Hague story. Adding:

That "he must have known" - and if he didn't, he should have.

CINCINNATI

Another attempt by James Earl Ray, convicted killer of Martin Luther King, to get a new trial was denied today in Cincinnati. A U.S. Appeals Court ruling that Ray's original guilty plea - "was entered voluntarily and knowingly."

Adding that he's obviously trying to bargain and escape a death sentence.

BLACK MOUNTAIN

One of America's first woman pilots - one of the "Early Birds" of flying - has passed away at Black Mountain, N.C. Billy Hanks Miller had built and flew her own plane - back in Nineteen-Eleven at Circleville, Ohio; to show that she could do quote "better - than men do." The craft she flew is now in the Smithsonian in Washington. She also held the valid pilots license - until a decade ago.

Billy Hanks Miller age Ninty-Six.

By the way if you take a look at her plane at the Smithsonian don't miss the vast stunning new mural painted by Erik Sloan. It must be one hundred feet high and several hundred feet long - in the new Space Wing.

A new "how to" book published today in London "how not to die young" by Dr. Joan Gomez, who says seven
hours of sleep a night - is enough for anyone; and if you
sleep up to len hours a night - you could be a candidate for a
heart attack, a stroke.

Dr. Gomez also saying an active love life - helps
to keep you young if you are an older woman. For a man she adds - its like a brisk five-mile hike. It won't
necessarily keep you young - but it sure keeps you going.

And now this message...

NORTHERN PACIFIC

In the Northern Pacific - about a thousand miles from Kodiak, Alaska - a sudden storm over the weekend; engulfing the sixty-one foot yacht, Sorcery - bound from Los Angeles to Tokyo, at one point flipping the ship completely over and then back up again - a three-hundred-and-sixty-degree turn. The Sorcery losing it's mast - it's life boats, its rudder - and its radio equipment; injuring eight, three seriously - but all eleven aboard the survived.

And the ship did remain afloat - and later was sighted by a Coast Guard plane and is under tow now - by the Coast Guard cutter Mellon. It's expected to arrive at Kodiak by Saturday after a miraculous escape from a watery grave.

And now for CBS - from WBIR - Knoxville, Tenn.
this is Lowell Thomas.