

NIXON

Thurs. Aug. 31 - '72.

President Nixon tonight holds his first talks with Japanese Premier Tanaka at the new, ~~and~~ plush Kuilima Hotel in Honolulu and - according to White House sources Tanaka is prepared to offer a plan to ease that bothersome U S trade deficit with Japan ^{which} ~~is~~ now ~~running~~ ^{to} some three and a half billion dollars annually. ¶ The plan would probably call for the Japanese to purchase more than a billion dollars worth of American products - air craft, helicopters, uranium, lumber and agricultural commodities - all aimed at reducing the growing ~~the~~ Japanese American friction over the trade imbalance. ¶ Of significance too, is a report issued today in Tokyo by the Japanese finance ministry - that Japan's reserves of gold and foreign currency rose by nearly five hundred million dollars this month - bringing the current total to more than sixteen billion.

VIETNAM

Communist forces appear to be stepping up their offensive in South Vietnam tonight - capturing a ~~strong~~ strategic hill overlooking Que Son and trapping some five hundred South Vietnamese Rangers inside the town itself. They also launched a rocket attack against the Bien-Hoa air base fourteen miles from Saigon - killing nineteen civilians and wounding twenty nine military personnel, most of them Americans.

~~However,~~ In several attacks against Quang Tri, ~~the~~ North Vietnam forces ~~the Communists~~ ^{North Vietnam forces} suffered heavy losses. And in neighboring Cambodia enemy commandoes raided a military oil depot near Phnom Penh - ~~also~~ killing twenty eight civilians.

In Washington, Senator George McGovern told a group of foreign reporters that even though - if elected President - he would withdraw all U S ~~military~~ military forces from Indo China and padlock

American bases there and also ~~our~~ sharply cut our troop commitments in Europe, it still doesn't mean that he's "an isolationist." Rather, said he, "I'm an internationalist." He made the statement when asked to comment on charges that his "come home, America" campaign slogan ~~implies~~ implies isolationism.

PAY RAISE

President Nixon has ~~be~~ postponed a five and a half percent pay raise for government and military personnel which had been scheduled for October first. The raise now goes into effect January first instead. In a message to Congress - the President explained the postponement was necessary in order to stay within federal pay board guidelines.

JET LINER

In Bangkok, Thailand, a twenty-nine year old police lieutenant - Somchai Chaiyasuta - was arrested today and charged with handing a gift wrapped bomb to his finance as she boarded a jet liner last June. In the resulting explosion all eighty-one persons on board were killed - including Somchai's eight year old daughter by a previous marriage. His motive police say - was to collect fifty-five thousand dollars insurance he purchased just before the plane took off from Bangkok airport.

He had told his twenty year old finance to deliver the package to a friend in Hong Kong. The bomb was timed to explode over the South China sea, thereby making it virtually impossible to secure evidence of what caused the crash. But it went off prematurely, sending the wreckage down in South Vietnam's Central Highlands. Following the crash - Somchai applied for the insurance but was refused pending an investigation.

VASECTOMY

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The President of the Voluntary Sterilization Association - Dr. Joseph Davis - takes issue with a report which claims vasectomy - permanent male contraception through surgery - could be a factor in causing several chronic diseases including arthritis and multiple sclerosis. Dr. Davis of the New York Medical College ~~fact~~ faculty says "no harmful effects from vasectomies have ever been proven. He disputes a report issued in Washington by Dr. John Henry - a professor of pathology who says tests on nine males showed that vasectomies build up anti-bodies believed to be factors in the diseases. Dr. Henry's tests were conducted at New York State Universities medical center in Syracuse.

JAILS

British jails are in a ferment these days - with both the prisoners and their guards staging protest meetings and demonstrations - even including sit-down sessions on jail house roofs. Seven inmates stayed all night on the roof at Chelmsford where sixty-three were perched yesterday. Another twenty clambered up to view the scenery on the Isle of Wight - and a hundred and twenty crowded onto the roof at Peterhead Jail in Scotland. They are protesting prison conditions. While down on the first floor the guards are protesting a lack of discipline among the inmates.

Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky have adjourned their twenty-first chess game in Reykjavik - and some ~~experts~~ ^{of the} experts ^{up there in Iceland} ~~observers~~ say there's a better than even chance it'll be all over tomorrow - with Fischer the new world champion. After twenty moves in today's game, Fischer maneuvered a Sicilian defense into commanding position - forcing Spassky into an uphill fight to salvage even a draw.

Fischer now needs ~~only~~ one victory or two draws to win the world title in the chess tournament that has attracted world wide attention,

Life Magazine has an article this week in which the author, who is something of an expert, asks the question, ^{Bill,} will Spassky return to Russia - if he loses?

OLYMPICS

American swimmer Mark Spitz won his fifth Olympic gold medal today - setting two new world records in the process. He still hopes to win two more gold medallions for a total of seven - a feat without precedence ~~in~~ in Olympic history. 7 gold medals in one sport. In its way as amazing - or nearly so - as what the incomparable Jim Thorpe did at the Olympic Games in Sweden long years ago.