

L.T. BUICK, FISHER. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1966

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

In Viet Nam -- U.S. Infantrymen were again locked in combat today with a major Communist force -- only thirty miles from Saigon. This the first phase of Operation Mastiff -- a massive drive to secure an area of rubber plantations -- immediately northwest of the capital.

Meanwhile, a combination of B-Fifty-Two bombers, American artillery and nauseous gas -- today broke the back of Communist resistance at Bong Son, where a thousand Viet Cong had held off U.S. troops for four days. These are now reported fleeing in the face of the combined American assault, leaving behind at least thirty-eight dead and evidence of numerous casualties.

UGANDA

At Kampala in Uganda - Premier ~~Milton~~ Obote today declared himself a virtual dictator, Ordering the arrest of five cabinet ministers and siezing ^{quote -} "all powers of government" - in that newly-independent East African nation.

The Premier apparently trying to head off - a threatened plot against the existing government. The five arrested men - all members of the "Bantu Group" that has recently challenged Obote's rule.

BRITAIN

In London - the government of Britain today confirmed what the British Navy had long long feared. A final decision - to scrap the British fleet of aircraft carriers, ~~in~~ favor of a nuclear strike force - composed of American F-one-eleven supersonic bombers.

The move coupled with plans - to phase out certain foreign bases, including a reduction in British forces in the Mediterranean - along with abandonment of the British Naval Base at Aden, ~~at the bottom of the Red Sea.~~ At a total saving of about five and a half billion dollars - over the next five years.

Offsetting the loss of its carrier strength - ~~Her Majesty's~~ Navy is promised a new fleet of guided-missile destroyers.

48 Even so, the new ~~stung~~ strategy has already triggered the resignations - of ~~wh~~ both the civilian and military chiefs of the British Royal Navy.

WILSON FOLLOW BRITAIN

While the Navy raged at home -- British Prime Minister Harold Wilson was in Moscow today to discuss Viet Nam. Conferring with Soviet Premier Kosygin for five hours -- talks both formal and informal.

Result? -- apparently no progress. Kosygin warning that the war in Viet Nam could easily engulf the whole of Southeast Asia. Adding, nevertheless, that peace can come only on those terms -- already put forward by Communist North Viet Nam. Including immediate withdrawal -- of all American forces.

Re Russia's fear that West Germany will eventually share in NATO nuclear defenses, Wilson assured Moscow that as long as he heads the government -- no German finger will be on the nuclear trigger.

NKRUMAH FOLLOW WILSON

Meanwhile, President Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana - arrived by plane today in Karachi, On the first leg of his own personal mission - to find a means of ending the war in Viet Nam. He flies to Peking tomorrow - then on to Hanoi. Returning home next week - if all goes well - by way of Peking and finally Moscow.

HUMPHREY FOLLOW NKRUMAH

As for ^{out} touring Vice President ~~Hubert Humphrey~~ -
he was in Seoul today, ~~there to~~ assure ^{ing} South Korean leaders
that they can send additional troops to Viet Nam - with no
need to worry about security at home. Hubert Humphrey
declaring that the U S commitment to defend South Korea -
is absolute and irrevocable.

The pledge coinciding with debate on a proposal -
to send an additional twenty thousand Korean troops to
Viet Nam, ~~where~~ some forty thousand Koreans ~~are~~ now
comprise the largest foreign force, ^{aside from our own.} ~~except for that of~~
~~the United States~~

INDIA FOLLOW HUMPHREY

Back at New Delhi - an earlier stop on the Humphrey tour -- this from Indian Prime Minister Madame Indira Gandhi. An announcement today that the Vice President had asked her support - of the American position in Viet Nam. But the lady said -- no. Her stated reason - because of "India's position as a non-aligned country."

And of course India has huge China for a neighbor, with a 2000 mile common frontier.

CALCUTTA

Across the country at Calcutta - a violent

fist

~~first~~ fight today in the ~~State~~ Parliament of West Bengal,

In the midst of heated debate - on measures to be taken

during the current food crisis. Three of the local

legislators ending up in the hospital - although none

~~was~~ believed seriously hurt.

VON LUCKNER

One of the best known, and I presume you could say one of the most popular men in the world, is reported desperately ill, in a hospital at Malmoe, Sweden -- Count Felix von Luckner, rollicking sailor, physical giant, super showman, World War raider who seemed to have a gift for making friends with everybody everywhere. He is nearing his eighty-fifth birthday, and the last time I saw him -- three years ago -- he was as boisterous and full of fun as ever, the same old Sea Devil -- whose stories of his sailor days, and especially the tales he had to tell of the raiding he did with a sailing ship in World War One -- delighted millions of listeners in many lands, right around the world.

United Press International has just checked with the hospital in Malmoe where the doctors say that although he is dangerously ill he seems a little better today. So far they have not revealed the ailment that has stricken the

irrepressible, always laughing Count Luckner. But the hospital says more information may be given out tomorrow.

Teen-age drivers -- are generally better and safer drivers by far -- than their elders.

The findings based on a study of fatal accidents in Cleveland -- where one of every eight drivers is a teen-ager -- or less. Of nearly two hundred such accidents over the past two years -- teen-agers were involved in only thirteen -- and in only five of those thirteen were the teen-agers at fault.

A Cleveland safety expert commenting: "It's about time we gave the very good young drivers -- a pat on the back."

CLEVELAND

Also from Cleveland -- news today of a survey that may come as a surprise to some of us. A survey showing that teen-age drivers -- are generally better and safer drivers by far -- than their elders.

The findings based on a study of fatal accidents in Cleveland -- where one of every eight drivers is nineteen or less. Of nearly two hundred such accidents over the past two years -- teen-agers were involved in only thirteen -- and in only five of these thirteen were the teen-agers ^{at} fault.

A Cleveland safety expert commenting: "It's about time someone gave the many good young drivers -- a pat on the back."

PANCAKE

A new trans-Atlantic record - set today by an
eighteen year old American girl, ~~In~~ the annual Shrove
Tuesday international pancake race - ~~between~~ between the
women of Liberal, Kansas, and Olney, England.

Rachel Crites of Liberal- flitting four hundred
and fifteen yards in a minute-four-and-a-half seconds.
While flipping a pancake in a traditional skillet - as
required by the rules of the race.

At that - young Miss Crites barely edging Janet
Bunker -- a sixteen year old English school girl, who
equaled the old record of a minute-five-and one-tenth ^{Warren.} seconds,
~~sedan seconds in the earlier leg of the race at Olney.~~

RIO

Speaking of Shrove Tuesday - this next from
Rio de Janeiro; ~~Where it's last day - of Rio's~~ ^{famous} ~~traditional~~
~~pre-lenten~~ carnival.

Police figures for the week showing at last
report ~~only~~ two homicides - three hundred arrests -
and fifteen hundred injuries. According to authorities -
one of the most peaceful carnivals in years.