

Good evening everybody. The U.S. sets its sights on Mars - a manned landing on the Red planet - but not right off - not before the Nineteen-Eighties. That was the word late today from the White House - where President Nixon met with his special task force on space. The group submitted formal recommendations for our future manned space activities. It calls for a landing on Mars, but rejects any sort of crash program in that area. It also turns down any phasing - out of manned and un-manned activity, with that landing on Mars as an integral part. As to the timing - presidential news Secretary Ron Ziegler says "We are talking about the Nineteen-Eighties and beyond."

Another recommendation submitted to the President - this one by a group of lawyers from the American Bar Association. It proposes that the Federal trade ~~Commission~~ <sup>commission</sup> be ~~abolished~~ abolished - unless it gets new leadership - and dedicates itself to consumer protection, and enforcement of the

anti-trust laws. If change does not occur, the report says, there will be no substantial purpose to be served by continued existence of the Federal trade commission. It declares that Paul Rand Dixon should be replaced as FTC chairman.

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Reaction to this in Washington - at first, guarded. From all appearances - by apparently "jumping the gun" on U.S. officials. However, the White House finally declared President Nixon will announce tomorrow a second round of troop withdrawals. Adding that "actual figures" will be announced at that time.

Incidentally, the more delayed two weeks - we are told - because of that usual slip-up to Communist military activity.

## SAIGON-WASHINGTON

Coming soon - another big U.S. troop withdrawal from Vietnam. South Vietnamese Vice President Ky - first to signal the pending pullback. At a news conference today in Saigon - setting the number of expected returnees at forty thousand, five hundred. Adding that the figure could well reach two hundred thousand in all - by the end of next year. Ky asserting, what's more - the Americans will be replaced by South Vietnamese fighting men. And he added: "We think it is time - to take on more responsibilities."

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**UNITED NATIONS**

*At the United Nations - New York - Secretary General*

*U Thant - on the eve of another General Assembly -*

*asserting that the world has been caught up - in the "mad  
momentum" of an arms race. One that increases "the threat  
of nuclear war" - with every passing day. Adding that it must  
be ended - if we are ever "to fashion a world free from fear."*

*In the same vein - the Secretary General calling Red  
China's current state of quarantine - "a tragedy" in world  
affairs. He further urged a restoration - of "normal, if not  
cordial," relations between Washington and Peking. U Thant  
saying: "The association of all five nuclear powers" - is  
an "indispensable step" in any disarmament talks.*

**(SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED)  
"TALLAHASSEE-SNORING"**

As you no doubt know by now - Lowell Thomas is currently heading for the South Pacific - there to keep a rendezvous with the headhunters of New Guinea. In the meantime - another special report he left us. Subject - snoring. Lowell.....

*Hello Everybody: Of all the human frailties known to Man - perhaps the least understood is snoring. Recent medical advance notwithstanding - the who, what, where and why of this affliction - is just as much of a mystery now as it ever was. And along comes Marcus Boulware - he's a speech professor at Florida A & M; and he has just embarked on a one-man crusade - to fathom, the secrets of snoring.*

*One of his first findings - on the basis of spot surveys is an indication that upwards of forty million Americans are chronic snorers. Are you one? Most of them he says are men -- and then some are women and children. Many special cases - as, for example, the bald-headed man who snored and snored - till he bought a toupee and wore it to bed and then he stopped snoring. And a woman who started sawing wood - every time she wore curlers in bed. Only then. For the most part*

*though - the cause seems to be just as elusive as the cure. Indeed, Professor Boulware says: "It's a bit like stuttering - if we knew what caused it we could cure it."*

*Incidentally, the Professor's interest - is not entirely academic. His first marriage - he was a victim of his own incessant snoring - that's what his wife said, and she gave him up. Which raises another point about snoring -- one that Mark Twain remarked nearly a century ago. Said Mark: "There ain't no way, no how, to find out why a snorer can't hear himself snore." And you know what? Mark apparently was absolutely right.*

*Solong.....*

( SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED

"TALLAHASSEE-SNORING")

Thank you, Lowell. That certainly was an eye-opener.

Back to the news...

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## DAMASCUS

*A study in contrasts - reported today from the Middle East. On the one hand - the government of Syria opening at Damascus - a new Four-and-a-half Million-Dollar international airport; part of bid - we are told - to increase that country's tourist business. At the same time - just a short distance away - Arab commandos attacking an Israeli settlement in the occupied Golan Heights of Syria. Arab sources later saying they blew up vital installations - inflicting "high" casualties.*

*More news in a moment.*

*In Omaha, Nebraska, the county attorney's office is pondering the case of a pugnacious couple - who tried to settle a family argument in a novel sort of way. The husband says that when his wife jumped into the family car and drove off, he gave chase in a pickup truck - caught his wife at an intersection - and rammed her car from behind. It jumped the curb - crashed through a fence and into a yard. The wife says that when this happened, she backed off, got up a good head of steam, and rammed her car into the side of the truck. Neither husband nor wife was hurt - but both the car and the truck took a beating. And presumably the argument hasn't been settled yet.*

*Good night.*