

In the midst of a new U.S. peace offensive in the Middle East - a sudden outbreak of fighting earlier today on the Syrian-Israeli border. Israeli tanks attacking across that Golan Heights cease-fire line, driving their deepest into Syrian forces later launched a counter-offensive - storming Israeli positions near Qnteira in hand-to-hand fighting. Both sides - claim major victories. The fighting now reported over.

Now this: Middle East sources say that today's action - may have been caused, in part, by the new U.S. blueprint for peace; in that that plan failed to call for an Israeli withdrawal - from the occupied Golan Heights. The sources ^{note} further the U.S. stand prompted a speech from Egypt's President Nasser - calling the Golan Heights the most crucial area in the Middle East. And - for the moment, at least - so it would appear.

INDOCHINA

U.S. troops in Cambodia - here discovered another big weapons cache. This latest find including a hundred and fifty tons of armaments - stored in a Cambodian border area less than a hundred miles from Saigon. And it comes, incidentally, only four days from the President's self-imposed deadline - for a complete withdrawal from Cambodia.

SENATE

Here at home - In the U.S. Senate - still another amendment was added today to that catch-all Cooper-Church proposal. At the urging of Senator Javits of New York - the Senate asserting that Congress alone has the right to declare wars and regulate the armed forces. This an attempt to offset an earlier amendment / reaffirming the President's power to protect American troops, "wherever deployed." Senator Javits saying he didn't want to see an ^{2 whole} army committed to battle - if, for example, "a Marine guard's live was in danger in an embassy in Nepal."

PRAGUE

At Prague in Czechoslovakia - Alexander Dubcek today was officially stripped of his membership in the Czech Communist Party. The man who engineered Czechoslovakia's brief bid for freedom back in Nineteen-Sixty-Eight - also expelled from the Czech Parliament. This following his removal earlier this week - as Czechoslovakia's Ambassador to Turkey; which means he now holds - no public position.

POLITICS

48:30

Washington again - a bipartisan ceremony today -
 ratifying the Nineteen-Seventy Fair Campaign Practices
 Code. House Speaker John McCormack - signing for the
 Democrats. Vice President Spiro Agnew - signing for the
 Republicans. Whereupon the Vice President was asked:
 Does that mean you intend to tone down your own speaking
 style? Spiro Agnew replying: "I don't think that question -
 is worth an answer." And McCormack apparently
 agreeing - for he later told the Vice President: "You're
 doing great work - keep it up."

We'll have a right for Lowell - in a moment

49:50

SUGGESTED INTRO TO THOMAS TAPE "SIBERIA VI"

And now - it's time for another report from Lowell

**Thomas; discussing again tonight - his impressions of modern
-day Siberia. Lowell...**

SIBERIA VI

Good evening everybody: I suppose its quite understandable that one's pre-conceived picture of Siberia should be shattered when you get to this not too well known part of the world. After all Moscow hardly would have consented to this flight - this first from America to the heart of Russia-in-Asia if our Communist neighbors hadn't been pretty sure we would be surprised.

One of our first surprises first in Khabarovsk and then deeper in Siberia at Irkutsk and the new city of Bratsk has been that we haven't been watched. This has been obvious because there have been some sixty of us and we've all gone in different directions, doing anything we pleased.

Guides and interpreters are available, but you don't have to use them. You can go off on your own. Take pictures? Yes, of almost everything; so long as you don't take panoramic shots from your plane. Also for some curious reason they don't want you to film their Trans-

Siberian trains.

The whole attitude toward foreign visitors seems to have changed since Stalin's day. They want our American dollars, obviously. And they seem proud of what they have accomplished so far. Otherwise they wouldn't have permitted Alaska Airlines to fly us to Siberia. But so far they are not allowing their people to do likewise. When will that happen - and will it be a step towards better international relations? All of us on this flight are much interested to know. I wonder if we will by the time we return to America? So long.

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "SIBERIA VI"

SYDNEY

Thank you, Lowell. And now - a final item...

49'00

(12)

50:11

TAPE

52:15

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which were used without her approval, of course, stand for Elizabeth Regina, who is perhaps better known to America and Queen Elizabeth the Second. Now for Lowell - This is Allen Jackson saying so long.

SYDNEY

From Sydney, Australia - the story of a recent letter to Dame Zara Bate - the local "Dear Abby." Dame Zara's correspondent - complaining that her "eldest son was found drinking at age thirteen" - adding that her eldest daughter attended "lewd stage shows." Further reporting her husband "spends most of his time - following the horses and getting into arguments with strangers - and now he says we can't afford our lovely home." The writer of this tearful tale - asked finally: "Should I leave this man before it's too late?" And she signed herself - "E.R."

As for Dame Zara's answer - well, the less said the better. Her newspaper admitted today - Dame Zara had been the victim of "a hoaxer." The initials "E.R." which were used without her approval, of course, stand for Elizabeth Regina; who is perhaps better known to Americans - as Queen Elizabeth the Second. Now for Lowell - This is Allen Jackson saying so long.