

TROOPS

Mon. June 9 - '69.

Defense Secretary Melvin Laird - first of the U. S. contingent to arrive home from that Midway meeting. At a plane-side news conference - explaining that the first twenty-five thousand troops to be withdrawn from Vietnam - will be pulled back in units. These to be "heavily weighted" with combat forces - from the Army and Marines said he. Adding that additional cut-backs could be ordered possibly by August - and at "regular intervals" thereafter.

Ultimate goal - said Melvin Laird: "Vietnamization" of the entire war.

Meanwhile, in Paris - Communist peace negotiators were blasting the whole idea of a troop withdrawal - as expected. Calling it a "crude farce" - a propaganda move to appease public opinion both at home and abroad. The Kremlin also branding it - too little and too late.

Reverse side - a formal statement from the British Foreign Office. Calling the planned troop withdrawal a "unilateral contribution" on America's part - to promote a peace agreement through "serious negotiations."

Here at home - the psychological impact perhaps uppermost in mind. Observers noting that if nothing else - the high water mark of nearly twenty years U. S. involvement in Vietnam - is now apparently passed; ~~and never to return we hope.~~

Back in Saigon - another homecoming today -  
for South Vietnam's President Thieu. <sup>KPM arrival</sup> Taking advantage  
of the occasion - to reject again the idea of a coalition  
government with the Viet Cong. Adding that any politician  
who advocates such a government - will be "severely  
punished." However, Thieu expressing confidence that  
the mechanics of ~~free~~ elections - including Communist  
participation - "can be decided at the negotiating table."

*Turning to domestic affairs - an economic break-through today **if** such it can be called. For the first time in modern history - the nation's major bank raising their prime interest rates to eight and one-half percent. An increase of one full point - over the previous seven and a half percent charged on business loans.*

*Reaction in Washington - a quick charge of "conspiracy." Chairman Wright Patman of the House Banking Committee commanding a full investigation; followed by prosecution - if called for - under Federal anti-trust laws.*



*In the Senate - it's signed, sealed and all but delivered. The man who will serve as the nation's fifteenth Chief Justice of the Supreme Court - sixty-one year Warren Earl Berger; confirmed today - by a near-unanimous vote. Clearing the way for his <sup>assuming</sup> ~~ascension to~~ the post now held by Earl Warren - as soon as the present court term expires.*

*Judge Berger's confirmation - following remarks by Senate Minority Leader Everett Dirksen - who said:*

*"I do not expect the new Chief Justice to become an arch-conservative or an arch-liberal - I do not expect him to be ~~either~~ left of center or right of center - I only expect him to apply common sense and the wisdom of the laws."*

*That - from Senator Dirksen.*

*In the meantime - the "Warren Court" was busy handing down another batch of decisions. ~~today~~. Including one - upholding the "fairness doctrine" in radio and TV. Another forbidding the garnishee of a worker's wages - without first granting them a hearing. A third blocking Senator Dodd of Connecticut - in an attempt to sue columnist Drew Pearson for publishing stolen documents. These - you'll recall - the basis for Dodds later censure by the full Senate.*

## VIOLENCE

*A year to the day after it was formed - the President's Commission on Violence today filed its first official report. Topic "A" - campus riots. The Commission asserting that college administrators - have often been too slow to react to trouble. Adding that all school officials should develop plans - for dealing quickly and firmly with student violence. However, the report strongly opposing any attempts - to cut off Federal financial aid to student militants.*

BAR FOLLOW VIOLENCE

More on the same - from New York; where the

American Bar Association ~~has condemned~~ - for the first

time - <sup>condemns</sup> violent student protest. Further declaring that

campus riots - have "no justification in law or morality."

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According to <sup>Bar Assoc -</sup> ~~A B A~~ president William Gossett - the

statement <sup>was</sup> "inspired" by a meeting with President Nixon

two weeks ago.



*Famed evangelist Billy Graham - a guest today in New York City. Getting ready to start his second "Crusade for Christ" - in the nation's largest city. By his own admission - older and tired "than he was in his first crusade in New York - twelve years ago. Nevertheless - tanned and trim. Vowing to preach a message to New Yorkers - "precisely the same as the message preached two thousand years ago.*

*Said Billy Graham: "I think anyone walking down Times Square would realize - that New York is in need of a great moral and spiritual awakening."*

Young Trisha Nixon - headed soon for  
Caernarvon Castle in Wales. <sup>So</sup> ~~Announcement~~ today - from  
the White House. Miss Nixon there to attend the  
installation of Britain's Prince Charles - as the new  
Prince of Wales. Date - July 1. After that - Trisha  
traveling on to London - with American Ambassador  
and Mrs. Walter Annenberg. <sup>Then</sup> ~~At~~ the U.S. Embassy - to  
be guest of honor at a pre-Fourth of July dinner dance;  
~~and later - she will~~ also attend the Wimbledon tennis  
matches.

<sup>Might</sup>  
~~And what if~~ she brings back - her own Prince  
Charming? ~~HE~~ wouldn't that be something, John?

## ALASKA OIL

The other evening I mentioned the Arctic oil pipeline for which the survey has just been made, the pipeline to cost nearly a billion. In addition to that vast sum of money to be spent in Alaska, in September there will be another sale of mineral rights which I'm told will bring our Forty-Ninth State at least another billion. ~~Alaska with Alaska~~

However, as I have said over and over, don't come North unless you have a job or a sizeable grub stake. The boom is on, but getting that flowing gold out of the Arctic is a lot different from panning a Klondike stream for nuggets or gold dust. ~~can again touring American boys have~~