

Wednesday, October 10, 1973

BALTIMORE

As you no doubt have heard, Vice President Spiro Agnew has resigned. The Vice President's letter of resignation - delivered today to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, as per official protocol; this at almost the same time as the sender himself was arraigned in a Federal court in Baltimore.

Vice President Agnew there pleading no contest - to a charge of income tax evasion dating back to Nineteen-Sixty-Seven. Also, a brief statement as follows: "My decision to resign and enter a plea of nolo-contendere" said he - "rests on my firm belief that the public interest requires swift disposition of the problems that are facing me. I am concerned" he continued - "that the intense media interest in the case would distract public attention from important national problems - to the country's detriment." Judge

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Walter Hoffman then pronouncing sentence: Three years on probation along with a fine of ten thousand dollars. Spiro Agnew the first U.S. Vice President - ever to resign, under fire.

WHITE HOUSE

The question of a successor - now becomes paramount; a fact quickly noted, by the white House.

Press Secretary Ron Ziegler telling reporters; President Nixon will promptly begin consultations with ~~appropriate~~ national leaders - both ~~within~~ within and outside the Administration. Ziegler adding that the President "intends to move expeditiously to select a nominee -- and trust^s that Congress will act promptly to consider the nominee.

Just who it will be - remains to be seen.

The names most prominently mentioned ~~though~~ - Governor Rockefeller of New York, former Texas Governor John Connolly, and Attorney General Elliott Richardson.

MIDDLE EAST

The new war in the Middle East is now five days old and still/no end in sight. The fighting continuing today -- amid a cloud of conflicting claims.

The Egyptians saying their troops and tanks - are pouring across the Suez Canal. This following Israel's admission - that it has been forced to abandon its ~~ambitions~~ vaunted Bar-Lev Line. The Syrians also claiming to have taken key positions - overlooking Quneitra, ~~the biggest city~~ ^{a town on} in the Golan Heights.

~~However in~~ ^{Reverse side} a nationwide TV address ^{today said} ~~from~~ Israeli Premier Golda Meir, Israeli forces have ^d driven the Syrians from the Golan Heights; - ~~said she.~~ Adding that Israeli troops are similarly driving back the Egyptians - along the East Bank of the Suez. Madame Meir further warning of "difficult days" ahead - but predicting that eventually Israel will win.

PRESIDENT

Meanwhile

~~Here at home~~ - President Nixon was

briefing congressional leaders - on current "military and diplomatic efforts in the Mid East." The President also referring to the mid-east war - in bidding farewell to visiting President Mobutu of Zaire. "What we're searching for - is a lasting peace" - said he. Adding that "we will play a responsible role - very fair to both sides."

The President later ~~was~~ presenting awards to a group of distinguished scientists - mathematicians and engineers; again - referring to the mid-East; saying the U S ~~is~~ must be strong "and its strength credible at this time." If not - said he - "we would not be able to play a mediating role - and, we think a peacemaking role."

MOSCOW

For Japan's Premier Tanaka, in Moscow -
a press conference today following three days of talks
with Soviet leaders. Tanaka saying ~~that~~ Russia and
Japan have failed to reach an agreement - on a peace
treaty officially ending world war two. The main
stumbling block - said he - the fact that Japan still
considers the return of the Kurile Islands - a
pre-requisite to any such treaty.

A high Japanese official later adding, however,
-- that ^{the} Russians have agreed to talk about the Kurile
problem. And that in itself, said he ^{is} a very large
step forward.

BRINEGAR

From Transportation Secretary Claude

Brinegar -- a warning today that prolonged war in the Middle East could lead to gasoline rationing here in the U S. Even if a few ~~are~~ tanker loads of fuel get held up - said Brinegar - it could lead to serious shortages. And, the longer the war goes on ~~the~~ he continued - the sooner the U S will have to go to a rationing program.

VIENNA FOLLOW BRINEGAR

A related item - from Vienna; where there was a break down today in negotiations - aimed at setting a new price on mid-east crude oil. The six Arab nations, taking part in the talks, ⁴ demanding a sixty-six percent price increase. The western oil companies - calling this an "impossible" demand. An Arab spokesman now saying: "It is up to the companies - to make the next move."

COME BY CHANCE

Up at Come By Chance, Newfoundland - a giant celebration today; marking the opening of a big new oil refinery - built by American oil zillionaire, John Shaheen.

Those present and taking part - numbering ~~more than ten~~ ^{some six} thousand, including some twelve hundred who arrived aboard the Queen Elizabeth Two, especially chartered for this occasion. ~~And~~ The main speaker ~~young~~ Winston Churchill, ^{the grandson of course. Those} ~~indeed, the big Shaheen~~ who were there and who went north on the QE2 ~~back~~ ^{put on} ~~to rival~~ the party ~~thrown~~ by the Shah of Iran at ~~Persepolis~~ ^{Persepolis} a couple of years ago.

Cost of the new refinery - about two hundred million but it's only a beginning. John Shaheen, according to Richard Nixon - the greatest salesman in the world - also, currently building two more ~~Canadian~~ refineries - bigger and better than anything ever before - at a total cost of ^{nearly a} ~~one~~ billion.

John Shaheen predicting that thus, with the
oil from these refineries it may be possible to
~~Canadian oil to solve~~ solve the energy crisis along

the entire east coast.

ROME

Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor - back together again in Rome - at least for dinner. The couple dining out - following Burton's arrival ~~in~~ enroute to a new film in Sicily. This - leading to talk of a possible reconciliation. Friends saying, if so, Miss Taylor will probably accompany Burton to Sicily. In any event - Miss Taylor ^{is} now completing a ~~films~~ film of her own. ~~It's called~~ "The Driver's Seat" ⁱⁿ - which she appears ^{no doubt.} to be in. ~~the Driver's Seat~~ ^{I guess.}

PEKING

Canada's Prime Minister Trudeau - ~~a~~ visitor
today ~~in Red China~~, arriving ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ Peking - where he was
officially greeted by Premier Chou En Lai. The
Chinese welcoming ceremony - ~~a carbon copy of~~ ^{same as for}
~~that afforded previous visiting~~ ^{other} heads of State.

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Trudeau was also Chou's guest at a state
dinner tonight ~~at~~ in Peking's great hall of the people.
The Canadian Premier arriving ^{a bit} ~~about ten minutes~~
late, ~~while waiting~~ ^{with} Chou, chatting with Canadian
news men, noting that Canada is a cold country -
but the Canadians seem to be very well acclimatized.

"Do you all go skiing?" ~~He~~ he asked.

Whereupon a voice from the rear saying he goes to
the Caribbean for the winter. Chou, nevertheless,
turning to ~~Madame~~ Madame Chiang Yin - the wife
of the Chinese ~~Mr~~ Ambassador to Canada - telling her ^{Bill},
"you should learn skiing!"

METS - BASEBALL

Have you heard? In the National League playoffs - the Mets won it. In their fifth and deciding game with the Reds --hammering out a decisive seven to two victory. The Miracle Mets now heading into the World Series - against Baltimore - or Oakland -- whoever wins tomorrow -- so, solong until tomorrow.