

L.T. BUICK, FISHER MONDAY MARCH 8, 1965

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

President Johnson today called for a complete ban on the shipment of firearms across state lines -- except by licensed dealers. The proposed ban -- a key measure in the President's program for a strengthened local, state and federal campaign -- against what he called "the malignant enemy" of increasing crime.

Mr. Johnson stating that a national police force is neither practical nor warranted -- but adding that "crime is no longer merely a local problem." Calling for a cooperative effort the nation over -- to "arrest and reverse the trend toward lawlessness"; which -- he said -- costs the country tens of billions of dollars annually -- as well as countless lives.

The President emphasizing that any war on crime -- must begin with the individual citizen; who must help law enforcement officials rather than merely criticize them.

## COURT

The Supreme Court today struck down as unconstitutional - a controversial Louisiana voter-literacy-test. The Louisiana law requiring prospective voters - to understand and interpret any section of the state ~~of~~ federal constitution. ~~However~~ The Supreme Court calling the statute - "not a test but a ~~trap~~ trap" ~ designed to prevent negroes from registering.

In a related civil rights case, the Supreme Court today agreed to hold a test hearing - on the constitutionality of Virginia's new poll tax law. The new law -- requiring payment of a poll tax in state and local elections - adopted after the poll tax was outlawed in all federal elections.

In a third case, the court today set aside the convictions of three conscientious objectors - ~~this~~ this case focusing on a federal law. The law providing that a conscientious objector must declare a belief in a supreme being -- before he can be excused legally from military service.

*The three defendants 4 had refused to declare such a belief. The court holding, however, that the wording of the law 4 was intended solely to exclude exemption on the basis of political, sociological or philosophical views. Adding that whether or not the men stated a belief in a Supreme Being - their views clearly paralleled the orthodox belief in God. Thus clearly qualifying them - for an exemption from military service.*

## RUBY

Dallas Judge ~~Joe B.~~ Brown today ordered a full sanity hearing for Jack Ruby -- the condemned ~~skayka~~ slayer of presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. Judge Brown setting the trial for March twenty=ninth -- and reassigning lawyer Joe Tonahill to the case - despite Ruby's objections and those of his family.

However, the Judge rejected two defense motions - offered by Tonahill. The first - for pre-trial hearing. The second for a change of venue - that would have moved the ~~aa~~ sanity trial out of Dallas. In Dallas - it stays.



## VIET NAM

Now about those Marines who have just landed in Viet Nam -- reporting the situation so far well in hand. One battalion arriving by ship -- the rest by plane in the first Marine landing in a combat zone -- since the Korean War.

About half of the Thirty-Five hundred battle -- ready Marines -- already in defensive position tonight, spotted around the Da Nang Air Force Base -- only eighty miles from Communist North Viet Nam.

The Marines are there to release South Vietnamese government troops -- for field duty against the Communist rebels. But U.S. officials admit there is no doubt that if the Marines are shot<sup>at</sup> -- "they will shoot back."

*Heated reaction to that Cairo visit of East German Communist leader Walter Ulbricht - continued to reverberate today throughout the Middle East.*

*In Tel Aviv, a West German parliamentarian met secretly today - with Israeli Premier Levi Wakkol. The meeting arranged by West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard - presumably the first step ~~to~~ toward establishing diplomatic ~~relations~~ relations with Israel.*

*As a result - the personal representatives of the ~~30~~ Arab heads of state - have been summoned to an emergency meeting tomorrow in Cairo. A spokesman for the thirteen-nation Arab League asserting that Erhard's decision - poses grave "new challenges" for the Arab world. <sup>With</sup> ~~the~~ Nasser tonight denouncing the West Germans - as "imperialists and liars."*

*Cairo newspapers - carrying the feud one step further. The newspaper Al Misra ~~for now~~ urging recognition of East Germany - 'as representative of the entire German people.'*

## MAUGHAM

Author Somerset Maugham - reportedly near death last week - was released from a French hospital today. The ninety-one year old writer returning to his home <sup>on the Riviera</sup> ~~at St Jean Cap Ferrat~~ Apparently completely cured of the influenza and lung congestion - that so recently threatened his life.

The author's personal physician admitting today that when he ~~was~~ ordered Maugham to the hospital -- he "thought it was the end". But adding that as of now - Maugham is "as good as any ninety-one year old" has a right to be.

## MACHINE

*From London tonight - here's a report of another round in that eternal struggle - between man and machine.*

*The million-member amalgamated engineering union - purchasing a brand new computer - intended to streamline the efficiency of its welfare program.*

*Did it work? You bet. The new ~~po~~ computer discovering that two hundred fifty thousand members of the union <sup>actually were</sup> delinquent in paying their dues - to the tune of one point-four-million dollars.*

*— Dick —*

*As a result -- a full ~~25~~ quarter of the union's total membership <sup>are</sup> declared ineligible for further welfare benefits -- until they pay up in pounds, shillings and pence.*



## SOVIETS

It was ladies day today in the Soviet Union;-  
and throughout the land, Russian women laid aside their  
pens, slide rules and stethoscopes, and <sup>their picks and</sup> shovels.

In many Russian places of business - there was  
free champagne for workers of the ~~fair~~ fair sex - as well  
as presents from their male colleagues. At the same  
time, Russian stores reported a brisk business in perfumes,  
candies, clothing and ~~caviar~~ caviar intended to gladden  
feminine hearts.

<sup>all the way from Odessa to Tashkent -</sup>  
At home - husbands pitching in to do the cooking.

The Communist Party even issuing an official proclamation  
praising Soviet women for their "eminent place in  
running the state." The occasion - a Russian sort of  
combination of Mother's Day and Valentine's Day.

So Russian women <sup>are</sup> enjoying the champagne  
and caviar - while they can, For tomorrow - it's back  
to the pens, slide rules, stethoscopes - and the <sup>picks and</sup> shovels.