

PANAMA

L.T. Buick, Fisher Fri. Sept. 24 - '65

A new agreement -- abolishing the old Panama Canal treaty of Nineteen Oh Three. Announced simultaneously today by President Johnson in Washington -- and President Robles in Panama City.

The new pact - said ^{Pres.} ~~Mr.~~ Johnson - one that will "effectively recognize Panama's sovereignty" over the Canal Zone. But including terms - "under which there might be constructed across Panama -- a new sea level canal."

The joint announcement - capping negotiations that began after the canal zone riots of last year, ~~in~~ which twenty-three were killed - including four U. S. soldiers.

Incidentally, no decision yet - as to whether that sea level canal will be built in Panama, ~~or~~ whether somewhere else ~~in~~ Central America. It all depends on studies - still under way.

VIET NAM

From Qui Nhon in Viet Nam - news today of what appears to be a tremendous government victory.

South Vietnamese soldiers - said to have killed more than six hundred Viet Cong, ~~In~~ a pitched battle along a highway - just twenty miles from a major American marine base.

The dead - part of an attack force that attempted to over^{run} a government outpost ^{but} failed, and was then caught in a pincers movement between two government relief columns ^{with} U. S. and Vietnamese air support - a major factor in the tide of battle.

The victory all the more significant -- in that it foiled what was apparently the Communists' first strike, ~~In~~ a long-rumored full-scale assault on the coastal plains - during the monsoon season just ahead.

UNITED NATIONS

At the United Nations - a Russian demand today
that the United States - end its so-called "aggression" in
Viet Nam. ^{Do it} At once - with no preliminary conditions. Just
pack up - and get out.

Because - said Soviet delegate Gromyko - U. S.
intervention in Viet Nam - is a clear ~~xink~~ violation of the
Geneva agreements of Nineteen Fifty-Four. No matter how
much we now pretend to - "talk of peace."

From U. S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg - this
reply:- The Russian tirade - said he ^{is} "merely a restatement
of old positions - which have never been accepted by any
U N body."

"Everyone" he went on - "everyone knows the
war in Viet Nam - was caused by North Viet Nam's military
interference. And no amount of rhetoric - can change that
fact."



UNITED NATIONS

The U N General Assembly decided later today to hold a new debate on the seating of Communist China and with a show of reluctance ~~to~~ also agreed to ~~also~~ consider Peking's ~~human~~ treatment of the people of Tibet.

KASHMIR

That Peace in Hindustan seems anything but secure, as India and Pakistan today exchanged repeated accusations -- that each has violated the U.N. ceasefire.

The Indian Government at New Delhi -- asserting that Pakistani forces have crossed the truce-line -- in at least two places, and that pro-Pakistani guerrillas -- have killed eighty-three Indian soldiers, in a new flare-up of fighting -- in Kashmir.

And there's a Pakistani charge that India has violated the truce -- at least four times since it went into effect on Wednesday. The latest an artillery attack -- on Pakistani outposts near Lahore.

FIRE

A tragic -- and perhaps needless loss of life today, in a blazing fire -- at a top-secret U.S. Navy Communications Center near Tokyo. Japanese firemen -- at first barred from the scene were finally admitted two hours later -- when the flames were totally out of control.

Result: Twelve U.S. servicemen -- killed in the blaze and fourteen others -- seriously injured. The Japanese say they could have saved some -- if they hadn't been locked out.

Nevertheless there is a compelling reason why they were denied entry. The communications center is said to be the largest in Japan; and a key link between Washington and the U.S. Seventh Fleet -- in the waters off Vietnam.

FLOOD

Another disastrous flood, - ~~reported today from~~

In Morocco, A flash-flood - caused by heavy rains, That swept through a crowded market place in the village of Khemis Nagua - a hundred miles south of Casablanca.

Human bodies, dead cattle and debris - strewn for miles, As the flood-wave raced across the unobstructed coastal plain -- on to the sea. The toll: At least seventy-five dead, ^{and many} ~~dozens~~ more - ~~missing~~ missing.

ECUMENICAL

- that was the
The nature of Heaven and Hell - focal point
of debate today at the Vatican. As the Ecumenical Council
continued its discussion of ~~the~~ document - "on the church
in the modern world."

A Belgian Bishop, for one, challenging the old
church view - of a paradise in the sky. This - said he - ~~is~~
totally "out of date in an interplanetary age." More to
the point - he went on - the church might well consider
the possibility - that there are living intelligent creatures
somewhere up there - far out there in Space, on planets
~~is~~ far distant galaxies.

By contrast - an Italian Bishop charged that the
document is faulty - because it "ignores the presence of
evil." Said he: "We should remind men - of the devil in
the modern world."

SUICIDE

From Fort Worth - the story today of an attempted suicide, ~~That~~ failed - because of an accident in World War Two.

The principal character - a thirty-eight year old Texan - with problems bigger than he could handle → ~~So~~ distraught - that he finally fired a bullet into his head. Under normal ~~xxx~~ circumstances - a shot that would have killed him instantly.

But somehow - he didn't die. And when doctors probed the wound - they found the bullet imbedded in a steel ~~ps~~ plate. The plate inserted in his head following a service accident - some twenty years ago.

SOLDIER

A professional Marine who fought back from dishonor -- was a guest today at the White House and thanked the President personally.

Master Sergeant Carl Buck of Seattle, was a veteran of twenty-two years in the Marines, when he was accused thirteen years ago -- of stealing five hundred dollars worth of chevrons. Subsequent conviction -- resulting in a bad conduct discharge.

But he never stopped proclaiming his innocence. And early this month -- the President was convinced. Buck getting back his rank and his uniform -- and full Presidential pardon. Said he: "I'm proud to be an American -- and I'm proud to be a Marine."

BULL

The latest in do-it-yourself activities - reported today from a suburb of Mexico City. A tourist hotel offering its patrons a chance at - do = it = yourself bull-fighting!

Traditional bullfighting costumes and equipment - ^{for} ~~to be~~ guests; Who will then have the dubious privilege - of entering a bona-fide bull ring; There to demonstrate their courage - or whatever you care to call it - against a young fighting bull.

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The one rule - no killing. ^{traveller -} ~~Let's hope~~ ^{I wonder if} they tell the bulls?

SPACE

America's newest space twins set down today - at Lagos in Nigeria, ~~On~~ the next-to-last stop - of their eight-day goodwill tour of Europe and Africa. Astronauts Cooper and Conrad - later to present Prime Minister Balewa - with a picture album of their flight.

Back at the ranch - that is, ^{at} the U S manned space center at Houston - a news conference today, ^{where a} ~~and~~ question ^{was} asked of Dr. Charles Berry - medical director of the U S space program. To wit: "Are we now ahead of Russia in the space race?" ^P Said ~~Mr~~ Dr. Berry: "We're not sure we were ever behind."