

N.Y. City Nov. 13 - 12.

CAMP DAVID

For President Nixon - a short hop today to Camp David; where he plans to confer with General Haig - on the outcome of the latter's recent talks with South Vietnam's President Thieu.

At the same time, the White House was backing off a bit - from its earlier statement that "peace is at hand in Vietnam." Press Secretary Ron Ziegler saying it is not likely - that arrangements for a cease-fire can be worked out in only one more meeting. "Other consultations will be required" - said he - "with the South Vietnamese and perhaps with the North Vietnamese."

SAIGON

On the other side of the globe - Saigon was also urging caution; with a newspaper backed by President Thieu - saying today that he and General Haig had "not made progress!"

South Vietnam's Foreign Minister Tram Van Lam - also stressing that any cease-fire agreement must be signed by South Vietnam. Adding that there is as yet - "no fixed date" for doing so.

FIGHTING FOLLOW SAIGON

Meanwhile, the fighting continues. Government troops attempting once more today - to clear vital Highway Fourteen between Pleiku and Kontum. But they were forced to give up two towns in the Central Highlands - which they reclaimed only last week.

In the air war - U.S. Navy jets streaking across the Communist North; dodging at least seven SAM missiles - in order to blast a North Vietnamese Mig fighter base.

PENTAGON

the fighting notwithstanding -

Here at home again - the Pentagon was laying the groundwork today - for future cuts in the U.S. military establishment. A Pentagon spokesman saying: "We will be making some prudent plans - for possible base closings." Adding that the number of U.S. fighting men - will also be cut back.

All this - to take about eighteen months; an attempt to cut defense spending by ten per cent - in line with the President's new Federal spending ceiling. The Pentagon further noting that these cuts - have been in the works for some time; but the news was withheld till now - we are told - because of, quote, "the political realities" of the recent Presidential campaign.

SUPREME COURT

After months and months of delay, a green light today - for the resumption of the trial of Daniel Ellsberg. Remember - the fellow who admittedly stole those so-called "Pentagon Papers"? Anyway, the Supreme Court refusing to hear an appeal - based on the inadvertent tapping of a telephone conversation involving one of Ellsberg's attorneys. The full court thus ending a stay earlier granted by Justice Douglas alone.

STATE

From the U.S. State Department to the government of Cuba - an expression of appreciation today; for the way ~~that~~ Cuban officials - handled the wind-up to ~~the~~^{the} marathon weekend skyjacking. ^{U.S.} A spokesman noting ~~that~~ this was one case - where "there was real danger to the lives of all concerned." Adding that Cuban officials were "most cooperative" in getting the plane in and out - and "cordial to the passengers and the crew."

The U.S. is also pressing for the return - of the three skyjackers involved. But a broadcast monitored today from Cuba ^{said} ~~saying~~ they have already been jailed; on orders apparently - from Cuba's Fidel Castro; who is quoted as saying the three men will spend the rest of their lives - in boxes "four by four by four."

KOHIMA

The State of Nagaland in Northeastern India - one of the most hostile regions in all of India; filled with insurgents - allegedly supported by Red China and Pakistan; with the result that Westerners - are almost never granted permission to enter there.

Ah, but Nagaland is also - one of the most staunchly Christian areas in all of India. And now comes a report that American Evangelist Billy Graham - will be allowed to preach in Kohima, the capital Nagaland, for "a few days" next after next. This - as part of his latest "Indian Crusade."

HOLLYWOOD

The death of one of America's foremost composers - is reported today from Hollywood. The great Rudolf Friml - a child prodigy in his native Czechoslovakia. Later, threatening to quit music - and become a barber.

Explaining: "There are a lot of good musicians around - but very few good barbers."

Luckily though - reason prevailed. Young Rudolf emigrating to the U.S. - in Nineteen-Oh-Four; here composing nearly thirty operettas - among them, "Rose Marie", "Firefly" and "The Vagabond King." Filled with songs like "Indian Love call" - "The Donkey Serenade" - a whole galaxy of hits; when translated into movies, making Jeanette McDonald and Nelson Eddy - the symbol of lovers the world over.

Rudolf Friml - age ninety-three.

RICHMOND

The Republicans, as you know, were unable to gain control of the Senate - in last week's election; but they still may pick up ^a seat or two or maybe even three. A Richmond newspaper saying today that Senator Byrd of Virginia - will switch to the Republican Party before Congress reconvenes. Adding that Senator Eastland and Senator Stennis, both of Mississippi - may also tag along. This information - said to come from unnamed White House sources.

As for Bryd's response: "No unnamed source speaks for me" - said he. "I would speak for myself" - he went on - "but I don't have anything to say." Not yet, anyway.

OKLAHOMA CITY

At Oklahoma City - a gathering of chieftains representing forty-seven Oklahoma Indian tribes. These disavowing any connection with Indian militants - who took over the Bureau of Indian Affairs last week; also, calling for the resignation of Federal officials - who allowed the takeover to occur.

A spokesman for the tribal council saying: "We do not want the American people to equate these destructive dissidents - with the working, voting, taxpaying Indians represented here." Adding: "The taxpayers of this country" - Indians included - "have had about, all of this kind of action they are going to take.."

TULARE

From **T**ulare, California - the sad story of one John Benevides; whose home was struck by lightning - once - twice - in rapid succession. With the fire that followed - causing damage estimated at Sixty Thousand Bucks. A total loss.

- Bill -
All of which *^*calls to mind - a line I once heard from Harry Hershfield. "Lightning seldom strikes twice" - said he - "because once is usually enough."

BISHOPS

Elsewhere in Washington - the start of another National Conference of Catholic Bishops. Keynote speaker - Cardinal Krol of Philadelphia; who said that "God willing, the long and tragic conflict in Southeast Asia - is apparently drawing to an end." Adding: "It is time for Americans - to address themselves to the challenges of reconstruction and reconciliation; not only in Vietnam - but here at home as well."