

SHARM EL SHEIKH

Fri. May 7-71.

For Secretary of State ~~William~~ Rogers - on the last day of his Mideast peace mission - an aerial tour of occupied Sharm El Sheikh; with the Secretary later explaining that "any time you see something personally - you have a better idea of the ^{whole} ~~rest~~ problem."

And then - back at Tel Aviv - a final face-to-face meeting with Israeli officials. Results of which - well, we'll have to wait and see.

VIETNAM

In the air war in Vietnam - another U.S. bombing run into Laos; when suddenly - a barrage of enemy shells from nearby North Vietnam; whereupon U.S. jets ~~storming~~ ^{ed} cross the border ^{and} knock ^{ed} out three enemy gun emplacements

Starting tomorrow - a brief truce; with both sides honoring the birth of Buddha - some twenty-five hundred years ago.

WHITE HOUSE

On the south lawn of the White House - a special "salute to agriculture" today; in the midst of giant combines, livestock pens and farm displays - giving it ^{they say} all the atmosphere of a county fair, - ~~we are told.~~

President Nixon observing that U.S. agriculture - has helped ~~to~~ enrich the lives of people everywhere. And he also noted the presence of Nobel Prize-winner Norman Borlaug - who developed so-called "miracle wheat." The President saying: "Peace is something more than simply an absence of war - it is making contributions to the well-being of peoples."

HOT SPRINGS FOLLOW UNEMPLOYMENT

~~This, in essence, the same message coming from~~

Hot Springs, Virginia - where the ~~prestigious~~ U.S. Business Council was again in session today, ~~that is~~ hearing a report from its own panel of ~~expert economists~~ ^{economic experts} - predicting at least "a moderate drop" in unemployment by the end of the year. ^{But} coming to the conclusion, therefore - "no increase in monetary and fiscal stimulus to the economy is currently required." Indeed, Council members stressing over and over - that they consider inflation still the nation's most pressing economic problem."

UNEMPLOYMENT

The U.S. unemployment rate - up again last month - but just slightly. According to government figures announced today - an increase of one-tenth of one per cent; which makes for a total figure - of six-point-one per cent; thereby matching, incidentally, the highest jobless rate - since the start of the Vietnam build-up in Nineteen-Sixty-Five.

But Labor Secretary James Hodgson - ~~is~~ saying the Administration feels "sure ~~that~~ unemployment rates will shortly be coming down!" Adding that what "we are observing now - is evidently the same pattern { that has marked previous periods of economic resurgence after a slowdown; namely, that a pickup in employment - always follows by some months an improvement in other economic indicators."

INDEPENDENCE

Coming up tomorrow at Independence, Missouri -
another birthday for former President Harry S. Truman;
who will be eighty-seven - "and still going strong" - ~~-----~~
~~-----~~ A spokesman saying ~~that~~ Mr. Truman will again pass
up - the ^{usual} ~~big~~ annual birthday party held in his honor - "too
much of a strain." But he adds that HST "still has a mind of
his own" - ~~is~~ ^{and is} still the same old "Give 'Em Hell, Harry."

Congressional Medal of Honor." And he adds, what's more,
the Medal of Honor is traditionally given for bravery in
combat - and any attempt to change that would only cheapen
it.
The former President concluding: "This does not
mean that I do not appreciate what you and others have done -
because I do; therefore, I close by saying, thanks - but I will
not accept a Congressional Medal of Honor."
As usual, Harry Truman - telling it "like it is."

HOUSE FOLLOW INDEPENDENCE

To emphasize this a letter went
~~and driving home that points a letter~~ today from Mr.

Truman; ~~a letter addressed~~ to his hometown Congressman -
Congressman Randall of Missouri; asking the latter to head
off a Congressional movement - aimed at awarding the former
President a Medal of Honor.

Said Harry Truman: "I do not consider that I have
done anything - which should be the reason of any award,
Congressional or otherwise." And he added, what's more,
the Medal of Honor is traditionally given for bravery in
combat - and any attempt to change that would only cheapen
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TOULOUSE

For French President Pompidou - a new title today:

The world's fastest chief of state. Monsier Pompidou taking a brief ride - in France's new supersonic ~~jetliner, the~~ Concorde; traveling from Paris to Toulouse - with a short dog-leg over the Mediterranean; along the way, hitting a top speed of Mach Two - one thousand, three hundred and twenty-five miles an hour; or just about the same speed - as ~~the~~ the ~~average~~ average rifle bullet.

On landing, the President saying - there was no real sensation of speed - in the plane, that is. But he added: "To see the shore of France moving by so fast - that is fantastic."

MOSCOW

Here's one - Moscow - another attempt to bridge the culture gap; with the Kremlin agreeing today to permit a five-week Russian tour - by jazz great Duke Ellington and his band. This under the auspices - of the Soviet-American Cultural Exchange Program; marking the first such venture - since Benny Goodman visited Russia nearly a decade ago.

NEW YORK

Speaking of jazz greats - a brief note today from

Louis Armstrong; ~~who is currently~~ ^{Just out of a} hospitalized here in New

~~York~~ the victim of a heart ailment, ~~Louis Armstrong~~,

telling his many fans - please, no more flowers; suggesting

instead - cash contributions to homes for children.

A spokesman for the great trumpeter explaining:

"Satchmo loves flowers - but he loves kids more."

DALLAS

Dallas, Texas - Mrs. Clifford Ward giving birth
to quadruplets; who were listed temporarily - for
indentification purposes - as Baby A, Baby B, Baby C and
Baby D.

Ah, but now they've been given real names. Mrs.
Ward dubbing her brood - Amy, Amber, Cary and Curtis.

~~No "B" and no "D" - you'll note. And like as not - "no mo' "~~
~~cause that's plenty.~~

PUERTO ORDAZ

This next - from Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela; where a Latin beauty by the name of Maria Hernandez - was married today to her Latin lover, Pedro Pablo Bonalde. The bride - age a hundred-and-five. The groom - age a hundred-and-twenty. But wait - there's more.

Today's nuptials - formalizing a "relationship" that has now lasted eighty years ^(--count'em, eighty.) As evidenced by the fact that those present - included the couple's six living children, forty grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. The "new" husband telling friends: "I just thought it was about time - ~~that~~ we regularized our situation."

Pedro Pablo Bonalde ^{and Maria Hernandez! Now it's} ~~at long last, a "regular" guy~~

legitimate, Warren.

MOTHER

The White House again - President Nixon today

*urged all Americans - to "fly the flag" this coming Sunday
- Mother's Day; to do so - said he - as a "public expression"
of love and respect for all mothers.*

*The President adding that "American mothers have
played a very special role - throughout this nation's history;
helping to pioneer the land - enriching our community life -
and bringing deeper meaning to the lives of their husbands
and children." Right you are Mr. President!*

~~So "have a happy," Mom.~~