

L.T. BUICK, FISHER. MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1965

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Round and round they go -- astronauts Borman and Lovell. For entertainment they even have music piped in from below; including a recorded version of Sinatra singing "Fly me to the moon."

For comfort and a part of the experiment, Jim Lovell -- all set to remove his bulky space suit -- and fly around in what he has under that

For special excitement they say they had a clear and unobstructed view of the submarine Benjamin Franklin, as it fired a Polaris missile from beneath the waters of the Atlantic -- off the coast of Florida.

Gemini mission control reports tonight -- that "It's like a broken record -- from everywhere ward the same -- all systems are go."

CAPE FOLLOW GEMINI

Back here on earth - ~~prep~~ preparations for
the flight of the Gemini-Six -- way ahead of schedule,
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With every indication that it will be launched in eight-
instead of the scheduled nine days - in pursuit of the
Gemini Seven.

The two craft together - ~~apparently~~ destined
to rewrite virtually every page - in the history of space
exploration - we hope.

VIET NAM

In ~~far-off~~ Viet Nam - U S infantrymen today killed an estimated two hundred Communist Viet Cong, in a ~~farious~~ jungle battle on the outskirts of a rubber plantation - about thirty-five miles northwest of Saigon.

The Communists - waiting in ambush for the American force. At one point - completely surrounding the U S troops, ~~Till~~ American warplanes zoomed in - to help break up the attack. American casualties - described as "moderate".

A second Communist assault - just ten miles from Saigon. The guerrillas inflicting heavy losses on a government outpost - before withdrawing into the jungle.

A third action - about twenty-five miles northwest of the capital. Where a big force of Viet Cong - jumped a government battalion in broad daylight. The battle still raging - at last report.

MCNAMARA

Defense Secretary Robert McNamara today announced plans - to close or curtail the operations of a hundred and forty-nine U S Military Bases. A hundred and twenty six of them - here at home. The rest - abroad. For an estimated annual ~~us~~ saving - of four hundred and ten million dollars.

First congressional reaction from Chairman L. Mendel Rivers - of the House Armed Services Committee, ~~who~~ said that in view of present world conditions - the military cutback "might prove very costly to the country" in the long run.

Not so - said McNamara. Emphasizing that the ~~new~~ economy measures - "will be completed without decreasing military effectiveness - or limiting our activities in southeast Asia." The bases simply no ~~are~~ lon^ger needed - said he.

REPORT

On the home-front - publication today - of the long awaited McCone report. On that bloody riot last August -- in the Watts District of Los Angeles.

The riot - "formless" and "quite senseless" - says the ~~xxx~~ report. In essence -- an expression of deep economic and social frustration - triggered by the routine arrest of an allegedly drunken negro.

This is said to emphasize the need for "revolutionary" remedies - in education, ~~amp~~ employment and police-and negro relations. Otherwise - says the report - the Watts riot "may seem by comparison only a curtain-raiser - for ^{what} ~~that~~ _x could blow up one day, in the future."

SUKARNO

Sukarno of Indonesia today told his political enemies - to put up or shut up. Preferably - the latter.

The President-for-life voicing his challenge - at a Jakarta meeting of the Indonesian Congress. This theoretically - the highest deliberative body in the land. Said Sukarno - "there are those ~~xxx~~ among you - who say it must be thus and so." Well, he went on, "if you no longer want me - it is not even necessary to kick me out. I will step out/myself"- said he.

Sukarno adding, however, that if he stays ~~xxx~~ as President - he must have "unconditional" powers. Either way- he concluded - nobody, but nobody, can change the course of the Indonesian revolution.

TOGO

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President Grunitsky of Togo on the West Coast of Africa - today declared a state of national mourning, following a tragic weekend accident at Soutouboua Village - about a hundred and eighty miles from the capital city of Lome.

About a thousand men, women and children - were snake-dancing along a national highway, to the beat of tom-toms; - in celebration of an annual tribal feast, when a tractor-trailer hurtled down the road - out of control - and slammed into the crowd.

The death toll put at more than a hundred - with about a hundred more in serious condition at ~~ka~~ last report.

Among the dead - an American peace corps worker. James Driscoll - twenty-- of Buffalo, New York - who was watching the procession.

GUEVARA

Renewed speculation today - on the fate of Ernesto "~~che~~" Guevara, sparked by a report that he has been executed by Fidel Castro - on orders from Russia. This according to ~~Filipe~~ Felipe Alvahunate - a Trotskyite now living in Mexico City.

The Cuban revolutionary - number two man in the original Castro regime. Since found guilty - says Alvahunate - of urging Cubans to follow the Peking "hard line." His fate, ~~was~~ a firing squad - we're told.

Guevara - as you no doubt recall - missing since last April - when he returned from a tour of African nations. Castro's only explanation to date - that Guevara has left Cuba "for new battlefields."

DEGAULLE

DeGaulle in seclusion today at his country estate; following that unexpected setback -- in Sunday's French Presidential elections; with his next move known -- if at all -- only to DeGaulle.

Prior to the election there were repeated hints from DeGaulle that he might quit, rather than face a run-off election -- two weeks hence -- if he failed to receive a majority -- on the first ballot.

Most Gaullists officials are nevertheless convinced -- that he will stand and fight, rather than abandon the principles he has stood for -- over the last seven years. DeGaulle -- they say -- Warren, is one old soldier who will never fade away.

POWER

The Texas White House today released a federal report - on that northeast power failure. Including a list of recommendations - from the Federal Power Commission, designed - said the F P C -- to make the possibility of another major power failure - "so remote" as not to be a "major worry".

The President himself - urging nationwide adoption of the commission's recommendations, To make sure - said he - that "widespread power failures will be not only improbable - but impossible."

A few hours later - the third major American "blackout" in less than a month. A breakdown in electrical facilities near Beaumont, Texas - triggering a chain-reaction power failure in at least six southeast Texas counties. This the second major power failure in Texas - in less than a week.