

Tues. Feb. 20 - '68.

VIET NAM

War news from Vietnam--~~dominated~~<sup>around</sup> today by the story of  
Saigon ~~in a pressure-cooker~~<sup>again where</sup>. With U.S. and Allied troops ~~and~~  
battling enemy guerillas--on ~~at least three fronts on the~~<sup>three sides.</sup>  
~~outskirts~~ of the capital. ~~Even as~~ Viet Cong gunners continue  
to pour round after round--into ~~the~~ big Tan Son Nhut airbase  
complex, ~~housing~~<sup>which</sup>--among other things--the nerve center of the  
U.S. High Command; ~~which warn~~<sup>with a jing</sup> ~~tonight~~ that a big new ground  
assault on Saigon ~~appears to be~~ imminent.

~~Be that as it may~~<sup>Also</sup> the battle for the cities ~~is~~ continued  
full blast today; at Hue--on the North Coast; at Phan Thiet--  
on the Central Coast; also at Song Be--along the Cambodian  
border. ~~As ever~~<sup>The</sup> ancient walled Citadel in Hue--proving  
~~the~~<sup>a</sup> toughest nut to crack. Die-hard guerillas holed up in the  
fortress--stalling an advance by U.S. Marines for a seventh  
straight day.

TONKIN FOLLOW VIET NAM

Here at home--the start of closed Senate hearings today; aimed at exploring circumstances surrounding that Gulf of Tonkin incident--back in Nineteen-Sixty-Four.

First witness--Robert McNamara--making his last trip to Capitol Hill as Secretary of Defense. Stoutly refuting a suggestion that the Johnson Administration deliberately provoked attack--as an excuse to start the bombing of North Vietnam.

Such a charge--nothing sort of "monstrous"--said ~~Robert~~ <sup>McNamara.</sup> ~~McNamara.~~

PANMUNJOM

47  
Latest from Panmunjom: News today of still another secret meeting--between U.S. and North Korean negotiators. Eighth such meeting--since the capture of the U.S.S. Pueblo and its eighty-three-man crew. As to results, if any--nobody's talking.

...in our country--they will get the punishment provided by the law of this country. ... If the American imperialists dare to take reprisals--this war will break out immediately. ... according to the ...

U.S. reaction--from a State Department spokesman in Washington, who said that even the "capture" of ... punishment by the Communists--constituted a ... aggravation of an already tense situation.



MOSCOW

Meanwhile, an ominous note--was sounded today in Moscow; where a North Korean diplomat <sup>indicated that</sup> ~~asserted flatly~~--the crew of the Pueblo "will be punished."

This according to North Korean Embassy Counselor **Zang** Ie Zoon--who said of the men of the Pueblo: "Having committed crimes in one country--they will get the punishment provided by the law of this country." <sup>Zang Je Zoon</sup> ~~sub~~ adding: "If the American imperialists dare to take reprisals--then war will break out immediately." *This according to the United Press.*

U.S. reaction--from a State Department spokesman in Washington; who said that even the "contemplation" of punishment by the Communists--constitutes a deliberate aggravation of an already tense situation.



## SENATE

Turning to domestic affairs--a long-awaited cloture vote today in <sup>the</sup> Senate; attempting to halt debate on a civil rights bill--that has stalled all other business since the start of the current session.

In the end though--the motion failing by seven votes to achieve a necessary two-thirds majority. Senate Minority Leader Everett Dirksen--leading a coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats in defeating the measure.

Even so--<sup>Sen.</sup> Dirksen predicting there will be a new civil rights bill--before Congress adjourns. When the time comes--<sup>he --</sup> said ~~it will be~~ "a moderate, equitable, and enforceable" bill.

## PITTSBURGH FOLLOW HOUSE

~~Underscoring the urgency of these House hearings-~~ A pair of rapid-fire bank robberies today in downtown Pittsburgh; in the space of a single block--less than three minutes apart. Each crime--said to have been committed by a single gunman; his appearance marked by a "glassy stare"--as if he were under the influence of drugs.

~~Turns out-~~ It was apparently the same man in both, ~~cases-~~ Police nabbing a suspect--just two blocks from the last crime. Confirming that he was--doped up.

OTTAWA FOLLOW BOMBAY

~~Closer to home~~ At Ottawa, ~~to be exact~~—a desperate Parliamentary maneuver today; saving Canada's current Liberal government--for at least one more day. Prime Minister Lester Pearson--forcing adjournment of the Canadian House of Commons; in the face of mounting opposition determined to topple the Pearson Administration--after defeating a government tax bill.

Final showdown--now set for ten tomorrow morning. Giving the Liberals just a little more time--to try to muster enough votes to survive that inevitable vote of confidence.



## NEW YORK

Here in New York--the story today of a revolutionary new development in aircraft equipment. Aeronautical engineers reporting perfection of a so-called--"night window" for night flying. In reality, a "seeing-eye" screen suitable for mounting on the windshield of an aircraft--that practically turns night into day.

This "night window"--similar in certain respects to infra-red aerial TV equipment already in limited use. But as far as known--the first to present images that look like real objects--in their true positions. As such--a tremendous advance in air safety.

## CALCUTTA FOLLOW GANGTOK

~~Back In Calcutta though--anything but a joyous occasion.~~

~~Indeed,~~ the fledgling government of India's riot-torn West Bengal, ~~state--there~~ resigning <sup>ed</sup> today after only three months in office. Chief Minister R. C. Ghosh--confessing he is unable to muster a majority in the ~~State~~ Parliament.

The reigns of West Bengal leadership--thus falling again to State President Dharma Vira; same as ~~they did~~ last year--when he ~~originally~~ fired a trouble-making Communist-dominated coalition government.

## GANGTOK

In the mountain city of Gangtok--near the roof of the world--a ~~joyous~~ homecoming today for the Queen of Sikkim--the former Hope Cooke. Also for the newest addition to the royal family--<sup>the</sup> ~~that~~ tiny princess born ~~just~~ eight days ago in Calcutta.

Thousands of Sikkimese on hand for the occasion--as the Queen's helicopter landed at the Royal Palace. The crowds waving thousands of white scarves--symbol of respect and good wishes. While monks throughout the land were chanting hymns--  
lighting hundreds of yak butter-oil lamps--and praying for a long and happy life for the newborn child; who remains as yet--unnamed.

~~The reason:~~ Sikkimese tradition; barring the Princess from receiving a name--till Palace Oracles select the best date.



MILAN

From Milan, Italy, comes the story today--of a modern-day Diogenes; a reporter for the Milan newspaper Il Giorno-- searching the world over for a capsule definition of "truth." Coming to the conclusion that where truth is concerned-- "Italians believe they possess it--Frenchmen analyze<sup>z</sup> it-- Spaniards defend it--Germans complicate<sup>it</sup><sub>λ</sub>--and the Dutch print it."

What of Americans and truth? Why, <sup>Warren</sup> the "Americans finance it"--said Il Giorno. ~~And, Warren, isn't it~~ <sup>Is that</sup> the truth?<sub>λ</sub>

PARIS

The crumbling nature of French and American relations--  
subject of a series of articles beginning today in the Paris  
newspaper ~~Le~~ Figaro, whose New York correspondent reports--  
"it is no longer any fun to be French" over here.

Main reason said to be a tendency on the part of--quote--  
"the irrational"--to equate DeGaulle with France. Even  
"reflective" Americans--have adopted "an attitude of pained  
resignation"--said the article. Adding <sup>oddly</sup> ~~strangely~~ though that  
for some--DeGaulle, <sup>apparently</sup> still commands a strange "sort of  
fascination."

~~phenomenon said to be~~  
~~this according to Le Figaro typified by "the uncommon~~  
~~man" who often says to himself: "Oh, if only DeGaulle was~~  
~~an American."~~

W B R K

Now before saying "So Long" ~~I want to add~~ Happy  
Birthday to our CBS RADIO friends at W B R K in Pittsfield,  
Massachusetts--a station from which I often broadcast.  
Today the 30th anniversary for the "Voice of the Berkshires,"  
and all of us at CBS RADIO send our best wishes for many more  
great years!