

CHICAGO

Fri. June 25-71

From President Nixon - Chicago - a hard hitting speech today. The President charging that many nursing homes for the elderly - are unsanitary and over-crowded; becoming "little more than warehouses for the unwanted - dumping grounds for the dying." The President adding that such conditions - cannot be tolerated; and, pledging a cutoff of federal Medicare and Medicaid payments to any institution so operated.

The President's remarks coming before the combined convention, of the National Retired Teacher's Association, and the American Association of Retired Persons - where he also said: "The time has come to stop regarding older Americans as a burden - and start regarding them as a resource."

The President telling his elderly audience: "We need your experience - we need your prospectives; and above all - we need your sense of values."

SUPREME COURT

*In the dispute over those Pentagon papers -
pro and con - the main event is about to begin. The
Supreme Court agreeing today to hear the case - as of
eleven o'clock tomorrow morning; scheduling arguments
from government attorneys - as well as lawyers
representing the New York Times and the Washington Post;
with a verdict expected to follow - shortly thereafter.*

HOUSE FOLLOW SUPREME COURT

A related item: The President-elect of the American Society of Newspaper Editors - testifying today before the House Freedom of Information Sub-Committee - J. Edward Murray of Phoenix, Arizona observing that the public tends to put great faith in the man they've elected President; and, therefore, when a dispute arises - tend to believe him rather than the newspapers.

Murray adding that he hopes the present case will help to ease this dilemma; by ~~xxxx~~ restoring "public confidence" in the traditional axiom - that you can believe what you read in the newspaper."

INDOCHINA

In Vietnam - a U.S. Tactical Fighter Wing - flew its final combat mission today. Officers and men later beginning a stand-down -- in preparation for their return to the U.S. This marking the start of Phase Eight - in the President's troop withdrawal program which is expected to cut U.S. Strength in Vietnam to two hundred and eighty-four thousand by December One.

To the South - in the Mekong Delta - all U.S. soldiers have been confined to their bases - indefinitely. This to permit a "shake down inspection" - in one of the biggest narcotics crack-downs of the war.

FORT McPHERSON

*Here at home - at Fort McPherson, Georgia
a military judge refused today to dismiss charges against
army Captain Ernest Medina; which means that the
defendant who is accused in the My Lai incident -
will now face a full court martial; set to begin -
tentatively - July twenty-six.*

*However, the Army itself is asking and getting
a reduction of the charges; with Medina's alleged crime
cut back from a capital to a non-capital offense. Meaning
no death penalty. This to permit the taking of ^{depositions} ~~dispositions~~
which are admissible only in non-capital cases.*

TEL AVIV

In the Middle East - at Tel Aviv - Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban publicly criticized today - two of that country's top war heroes. First - Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan; whom he said had not done "us any good" - by calling a new war "inevitable". And second - former Israeli Air Force Chief Exer Weizman; for saying that Israel should occupy Cairo - if a new war does break out.

At just about the same time - Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir - taking note of recent labor disputes and religious differences in Israel, saying: "The danger of internal divisions - is sharper than the enemies who surround us."

HARLEM

New York City- a visit from four members of the U S Senate sub-committee on alcoholism and narcotics; taken by the local drug fighters on a tour of a Harlem tenement known to be frequented by addicts - a shooting gallery they call it. The tour group surprising six young men- in the basement of the building apparently in the act of "shooting up". One of them threatened the Senators with a knife - forcing them to make a hasty retreat.

Senator Hughes of Iowa - one of the group - later ~~said~~ saying: "When it's so wide open that United States Senators can walk into a shooting gallery - when heroin can be bought on any street - then it's a ~~national~~ national tragedy."

Here's one from Spezia, Italy; Signora Maria Angiola Arpesella - age one hundred and three - taking advantage of Italy's new divorce law; filing for and winning a divorce - from Aldo Arpesella, her husband of sixty three years.

The Signora explaining that Aldo had left for Argentina - back in Nineteen Fifteen, never to return. So the fire that once burned between them - has flocked and gone out. Wonder, Warren, how old Aldo is if his ex-Maria Angiola Arpesella is a hundred and three?

JAKARTA

This next- from Jakarta; a story of political campaigning - Indonesian style; with President Suharto's Sekber Golkar Party - staging its last big rally prior to the national elections. One candidate - hiring Jakarta's giant Seajan soccer stadium; also booking a full stage show including dancing girls, dare-devil motorcycle riders and karati experts - to help draw a crowd; which - they did.

More than a hundred thousand - in all - jamming every seat in the stadium and spilling over onto the playing field; loudly applauding a gala stage show, and then it came time - for the political speeches; whereupon - an unbilled vanishing act. Except for a few party faithfuls - the crowd simply disappearing. And, solong Until Monday!