

L.T. BUICK FISHER TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23, 1965

**GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:**

From Viet Nam today -- reports of a dramatic new change in Buddhist policy. One of South Viet Nam's top Buddhist leaders -- calling for an immediate end to the war against the Communist Viet Cong. The Venerable Tam Chau calling the conflict a fratricidal war -- pitting brother against brother -- a war that "you cannot win through fighting."

This the first time any Buddhist leader has publicly proposed a cease-fire -- in the war against the Communists. To be sure -- there were Buddhist-inspired demonstrations behind the downfall of three recent South Vietnamese governments. But until now -- the Buddhists flatly rejecting any talk -- of a negotiated peace.

DODD FOLLOW VIET NAM

Meanwhile, this from Washington. Democratic Senator Thomas Dodd of Connecticut <sup>USA</sup> today strongly opposing the possibility of U.S. withdrawal from Viet Nam. Warning that the result could only be a gigantic "blood-letting" by Communists -- "on a genocidal scale."

Dodd's remarks <sup>were in the form of</sup> ~~contained in~~ a thirty-page speech -- in response to recent pleas here and abroad for a negotiated settlement. Dodd declaring that if the U.S. pulls out of Viet Nam -- it will leave one million refugees and peasants at the mercy of the Communists. Adding that defeat in Viet Nam -- would touch off a "dozen more Viet Nams -- in different parts of the world."

## WILSON

Nevertheless, word from Great Britain tonight would seem to indicate that the U.S. has given at least tacit consent for the British to conduct diplomatic soundings on the possibility of a negotiated peace.

Prime Minister Harold Wilson reporting that Great Britain is actively engaged in "diplomatic consultations of a confidential nature"--to seek a peaceful settlement in Viet Nam.

The U.S. State Department following up Wilson's remarks with this cryptic comment: "The British and other governments have been in touch with us with respect to our attitude on South Viet Nam. And we have naturally given them a full account of the situation and our views." The State Department comment indicating that the U.S. has made no effort to prevent the British effort.

## GLIDER

The Air Force today launched a speckled space glider from Cape Kennedy--the glider one possible forerunner of a whole new breed of aerospace craft. Equipped with a five-foot-wide wing--the thousand-pound glider shotting to a height of thirty-nine miles--then soaring out over the Atlantic--just as originally planned. But then it disappeared--not as planned!!

Two radio beacons installed in the glider--apparently failing to function up to maximum power. So far, the Air Force recovery force of six aircraft and two ships has been unable to find any trace of it; and finally admitting--"we just don't know what happened."

SYRIA

A bitter protest from the State Department today -- over the execution of a U.S. citizen living in Syria. Farhan Attassi -- a naturalized American -- one of two men hanged in the main square <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ Damascus at dawn today -- on spy charges.

The State Department charging that Attassi was held incommunicado for seventy-five days -- that he was denied legal counsel of any kind -- and that an alleged confession had been extracted from him by torture. The U.S. calling Attassi's execution -- the product of an anti-American "spy hysteria -- based solely on unfounded suspicion."

## BRITAIN

The Labor Government of Great Britain today announced a record defense budget of five-point-nine billion dollars -- for Nineteen Sixty-Five and 'Sixty-Six. The Laborites noting, however, that the projected Defense Budget is actually one hundred fifty million dollars less -- than the one they inherited from the Conservatives last November.

The Labor Government calling Communist China's development of nuclear weapons -- the greatest present threat to world peace. But adding that it was able to trim defense costs -- in the firm belief that the immediate danger of a major nuclear war -- can now be "almost entirely excluded." That from the British.

## INDIA

India's ruling Congress Party agreed today to give English equal status with Hindi -- throughout that vast subcontinent of the East. The move prompted by three weeks of bloody rioting that claimed some fifty lives in Southern India -- where the common tongue is ~~that of~~ Tamil.

The imposition of Hindi as the official language of all India -- threatening thousands with loss of government jobs. But the anti-Hindi forces <sup>are</sup> finally assured that now as in the past -- an understanding of English is sufficient to keep them on the Federal payroll.

## LAUREL

To three generations of television and movie viewers, Stan Laurel was the lovable member of that famed comedy team -- of Laurel and Hardy. Stan Laurel -- the skinny, bungling, bumbling scamp -- at odds with authority -- at odds with his partner -- yet somehow winning through.

A victim of diabetes, Stan Laurel refused to appear in public after the death of his long-time partner, Oliver Hardy. That was in Nineteen Fifty-Seven. Tonight, Stan Laurel himself is dead. The famed comedian succumbing to a heart attack -- at his home in Santa Monica, California. He was seventy-four.



## TRAVEL

"Look homeward," traveler--that advice today from Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall. Udall asserting that overseas vacations--accounted for a two-billion-dollar drain on the American economy last year--further aggravating the U.S. balance of payments deficit.

Udall calling it a national disgrace that so many Americans who head abroad--have actually seen so little of America. He argues that New Orleans is as exciting as Naples--that the Hawaiian Islands have more charm than Capri . And noting that New York alone has more Rembrandts--than there are in all of Amsterdam, home of Rembrandt.

The Interior Secretary urging a fuller understanding of our American heritage--through travel at home. Asserting that the American traveler owes his nation at least this minimum of respect--before he journeys abroad.

SAKE

The tragic aftermath to a sake-drinking contest -- disclosed today in a report from Japan. Two farmers from the district of Kamaishi -- challenging each other to a drinking match in a local restaurant. The younger -- only eighteen. The elder -- sixty-three.

In any case, the youth winning the contest -- downing about two quarts of sake in four minutes. His time -- one minute better -- than that of his elder. But within ten minutes -- both men ~~were dead~~, keeled over. And by the time a doctor

*— Dick —*  
arrived -- it was too late. Both <sup>were</sup> ~~were~~ dead. — all for the sake of sake would you say?

## TEETH

A remarkable new dental technique -- disclosed today in Chicago, by Dr. Louis Grossman of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Grossman describing a method for pulling damaged or decayed teeth -- and then putting them back in the mouth -- good as new -- after repairs.

As explained by Dr. Grossman -- the roots of the tooth and its socket -- are wrapped in sterile packing during alterations. Treatment completed -- the tooth is replanted in place -- with wire splints, attached to nearby teeth, speeding full recovery.

Pick up and delivery service? Not yet. But who knows -- that may be next.