From earth orbit

From Washington

From Ankara.....comes today's news. Good Evening,

Everybody. I'm Jerry Landay sitting in for Lowell Thomas.

High above the earth - you might call it an orbital summit meeting. The commanders of the U.S. Apollo and Russian Soyuz spacecraft today exchanged handshakes in space. Tom Stafford told Alexei Leonov - in Russian:

"Hello - very happy to see you." Leonov replied in English:

I'm very glad." And then there was a ceremonial get-together - with the whole world looking on and eavesdropping.

Along the way, a message from Soviet leader

Leonid Brezhnev - was relayed to the Apollo-Soyuz crew.

Brezhnev told them - "To you, the courageous conquerors of space - goes the great honor of opening a new page in the history of research." After that - President Ford spoke

directly to the two crews, saying: "It's taken us many years to open this door - to useful cooperation in space." He added: "I am confident that the day is not far off - when space missions made possible by this first great effort will be more or less commonplace."

SAMARKAND FOLLOW EARTH ORBIT

Meanwhile, here below, the astronauts received a signal tribute - from ancient Samarkand in Soviet Central Asia. All five spacemen were given "Freedom of the City" hnors - which means, henceforth, in Samarkand, they can literally do no wrong.

Now this message....

PEACEKEEPING

Members of the Security Council today have met -and failed - to produce a formula for keeping that U-N Emergency Force of Four Thousand men as a buffer between Israeli and Eygptian forces in the Sinai Desert. The legal mandate keeping the U-N peace force in business expires in eactly one week. Its future - now in doubt. What would happen were the force withdrawn - a question mark. Council meets to try again tomorrow. The crisis - begun when Egypt withdrew its support for extending the mandate beyond next Thursday. Some diplomats believe Egypt is not after withdrawal of the force - but another U.N. resolution declaring the occupied territories belong to the Arabs.

The Congress and the Senate - moved toward

checkmate today - on energy policy. The House has okayed

a bill - already passed by the Senate - extending price

domestic

controls on controls oil - a measure certain to be vetoed

by the President. And the Senate Interior Committee formalls

asked the Senate to veto President Ford's program to

gradually remove the controls.

The Senate Select Committee looking into allegations
the C-I-A was involved in overseas assassination plots - has
decided former President Nixon had no hand in any such plots
The committee dropped its plans to seek his testimony. But
a court in Washington has ordered the former President to
give an oral deposition at San Clemente to attorneys for
columnist Jack Anderson - who wants access to the
Presidential papers and tapes from the Nixon years.

ANKARA

In Ankara - U.S. and Turkish officials began talks today - on the future of American military bases on Turkish soil. At the outset the Turks assured this country they will take no immediate unilateral action.

WHITE HOUSE

President Ford was meeting today at the White

House - with a large delegation of House members; attempting

to gain at least a partial lifting - of the present ban on U.S.

arms sales to Turkey.

wheat this year - to the Soviet Union. The Canadians will supply the Soviets - with Two Million tons of spring wheat; also have agreed that if Moscow so wishes - some of this wheat may be shipped to Cuba.

Miami Beach, Florida - the scene of the last two
Republican National Conventions; in the running - officially,
at least - as a possible site for the 'Seventy-Six convention;
but a top Florida Republican let it be known today - he'd
just as soon see it someplace else.

Mike Thompson said it's been a great honor having the convention in Florida - but it "just drains you emotionally." He added the consensus among state party leaders "is that we have enjoyed about as much of this - as we can stand."

I'm Jerry Landay for CBS News.