

Tue. Mar. 26-68.

From former President Eisenhower <sup>came</sup> a ringing denunciation ~~tonight~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~for~~ U S war ~~critics~~ critics. General Ike asserting that certain "armchair strategists" -- are giving "aid and comfort to the enemy." Further declaring that the conduct of "militant peace-at-any-price groups" - is "not honorable dissent." "It is rebellion" <sup>said he</sup> - "and it verges on treason" - ~~said he~~. Adding, what's more, that "the behavior of the dissenters themselves" is probably "making honorable negotiations impossible."

This - in an article written for the Reader's Digest. With the General going on to say that our rea<sup>son</sup> for being in Vietnam is "so obvious <sup>it</sup> ~~that~~ we shouldn't ~~we~~ have to be explained." We are there - said he - "trying to save a brave little cojntry - to which we have given our solemn promise of protection - from being swallowed ~~up~~ by the Communist tyranny."

## WASHINGTON FOLLOW IKE

More on the war - from Washington, where General Creighton Abrams - on a hurry-up trip from Vietnam - was conferring secretly today with top administration officials. General Abrams -- as you know - ~~recently~~ U S Deputy Commander in Vietnam, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> logical successor to General Westmoreland -- assuming, ~~of course, that~~ he passes presidential scrutiny.

Meanwhile, at Philadelphia -- the mighty battleship New Jersey was roused today from eleven years in mothballs. The forty-five thousand ton dreadnought - steaming out into the Atlantic for three days of sea trials. First step toward its new assignment - as a floating gun platform off the coast of Vietnam.

Incidentally, one of the first ~~fast~~ foreign ships to pass the New Jersey - a Russian water tanker - The Buguruslan. Arriving at Philadelphia to pick up

*water - or so we are told - under terms of a recent  
Soviet American shipping agreement.*

VIETNAM

On the fighting front - a ~~deadly~~ surprise attack today in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam. ~~with~~ A force of a thousand or more Viet Cong - armed with flame throwers -- attempting to over<sup>run</sup> a U S artillery base; a base defended by a mere - three hundred Americans.

As it turned out - the enemy's first strike actually breaching <sup>the</sup> U S defenses. In the end though - superior American firepower and air power ~~finally~~ turning the tide of battle. The fleeing enemy leaving behind - one-hundred-and-thirty-five dead.

SEOUL

*Also* From the Far East, comes a progress report ~~today~~ on the striking comeback of South Korea; a tiny nation that lay in ruins fifteen years ago - after a vicious anti-Communist war.

According to the World Bank - which is generally credited with a heart of gold and the head of a thrifty Scot - South Korea is now rated officially <sup>as being</sup> in a "state of sustained growth". Indeed, its industrial production gaining by leaps and bounds -- jumping more than twenty-two per cent ~~just~~ last year. Or as one U S aid official put it: "South Korea has taken off!"

A preview of things to come in Vietnam? We certainly hope so.

TOKYO

~~A startling variation on a very old, a very sad joke - in this next from Tokyo.~~

As you ~~may~~ have heard - the U S Army is soon to open a new hospital -- in ~~the midst of~~ Tokyo's heavily-populated Oji District, ~~Purpose~~ To handle the overflow of Vietnam wounded. ~~An idea idea that~~ <sup>This</sup> ~~has~~ already caused three riots <sup>with</sup> -- injuring <sup>at</sup> ~~to~~ more than a hundred students and police.

~~Now this latest~~ <sup>Today</sup> Japanese Premier Sato ~~asserting today~~ <sup>said</sup> the hospital will have to be relocated; ~~as soon as possible. Sato~~ explaining that the hospital "is not desirable" ~~to use his own words~~ "is not desirable" because it will have unfavorable effects on the neighborhood."

MADRAS

From the City of Madras - a story today of escalation - Indian-style. Beginning with an argument on a bus; the conductor berating a college student - for refusing to give up his seat to a woman passenger; whereupon the driver and conductor both - were attacked by a gang of students.

Step two -- a few hours later; when a group of busmen armed with sticks - staged a reprisal raid on a nearby college dormitory. The battle spilling over into the street - where police joined the fray with tear gas and flailing clubs. Setting the stage for step three - a student firebomb raid on the local police station.

When police opened fire to drive off the mob - hospital workers and others staging sympathy strikes throughout the city.

End result: The <sup>great</sup> city of Madras, <sup>metropolis of Southern India,</sup> turned into a city of chaos tonight.  
~~a violent ghost town tonight - for want of a bus seat.~~

NEW YORK

50 1/2  
Today in New York -- a beautiful sunshiney spring day. "For, lo, the winter is past - the time of the singing of birds is come - and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."

All of which is a way of leading into this next: About a book called the Isles of the South Pacific - by Maurice Shadbolt and Olaf Ruhen - published by the National Geographic Society. Full of strange tales about stranger people - like, for example, the Nathamakis on the island of Koro; who can summon giant turtles from the depths of the sea - with a kind of South Pacific -- "sooee!"

Another intriguing note -- from the big Nambas tribe on the island of Malekula; where a husband shows his appreciation of a virtuous, hardworking wife - by knocking out her two front teeth in a solemn tribal ritual. And the women love it - we hear.



ADD NEW YORK

What if the wife - has not been <sup>both</sup> virtuous  
and hard-working? ~~Why, then, I guess, the husband~~  
~~simply knocks out - all her teeth.~~ I wonder what then Warren?

LAS VEGAS

Howard Hughes strikes again! The story -  
from Las Vegas; where the famed billionaire today won  
a green light - for the purchase of two more gaming  
spots -- the Silver Slipper and Stardust Hotels.

When the deal is completed - probably by  
Thursday -- Hughes will then control six gambling  
casinos in all. Giving him a virtual one-man monopoly -  
for a distance of <sup>a</sup> ~~one full~~ mile <sup>along</sup> ~~on~~ Las Vegas' glittering  
"strip".