

Friday, March 6, 1973

Mike Wallace

(original lost, taken from carbon)

PARIS FOLLOW SPRINGFIELD

Overseas - in Paris - more of the same tonight -
from the President's top foreign policy advisor. Henry
Kissinger appearing in filmed interview - on French
television. There expressing confidence the U.S. will
achieve peace in Vietnam - as he put it - "in the first
term of this Administration." Either by negotiation - said
he - or else "Vietnamization."

SAN ANTONIO

The latest from San Antonio: A report today that former President Johnson is up and around again. His chest pains apparently gone - his heartbeat once again steady and smooth. His doctors going so far as to say the former President "can and will" return to normal activity - "if his progress continues as expected." Good news.

SPRINGFIELD

For First Lady Pat Nixon - a final stop today at Springfield, Missouri - enroute back to Washington. Mrs. Nixon there remarking that she thought her tour of college volunteer projects - had been a success; "because" - said she - "the students said so." Mrs. Nixon added that she had discovered: "I wasn't as old as I seem - and there is no generation gap."

What about those anti-war protestors - who surfaced occasionally along her trail? She hadn't seen them - said Mrs. Nixon. As for her own feelings on the war - the First Lady saying: "I think that many things are going on now - that peace is just around the corner."

KEY BISCAYNE

In response to charges of increasing U. S. involvement in Laos - a special statement today from the Florida White House. President Nixon attempting to explain - why we're there. Additionally, spelling out in more precise detail - the limited nature of current U. S. activities there. Adding that the U. S. has "no plans - for introducing ground combat forces in Laos."

However, the President asserted that North Vietnamese troops in that country - have recently been increased to sixty-seven thousand men. A force that now threatens to penetrate government territory - further than ever before - said he. In view of which - the President ~~pledged~~^{appealed} to Soviet Premier Kōsygin - also, Britain's Harold Wilson. Urging a joint East-West effort - in restoring to Laos the neutralist status originally envisioned by the Nineteen-Sixty-Two Geneva Agreements.

The President's going on to say: "We desire nothing more in Laos - than to see a return to the Geneva Agreements

and the withdrawal of North Vietnamese troops, leaving
the Laos people to settle their own differences - in a
peaceful way."

WASHINGTON FOLLOW KEY BISCAVNE

A short time later - in Washington - the Laotian Ambassador to the U.S. issued a similar statement.

Khamking Souvanlasy asserting that his government - does not want American ground forces operating in Laos. Further, it's doing its utmost - said he - to prevent a war like that in Vietnam.

The Ambassador then went on from there - accusing certain American Senators of playing politics with the war in Laos. He also criticized - American press coverage of the war. Observing it's apparently "all right to criticize U.S. activity in Laos - but not to criticize Communist aggression."

(SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED
"JORDAN-VESTER PARK")

*Next - Lowell Thomas; reporting tonight - from
Old Jerusalem. Lowell...*

JORDAN-VESTER PARK

Good evening, everybody - again from The Holy Land. Although I am on my way to the Himalayas I stopped off here in the Middle East to pay a brief visit to Jerusalem. For more than fifty years, since I was with Allenby's army when it was sweeping the Turks out of Palestine, Sinai and Syria - and Lebanon, too - I've been interested in the social service, humanitarian work of Americans in Jerusalem.

The one time famous editor of The New York Times, Dr. John Finely, was the first president of The American Colony Charities Association. He was succeeded by Dr. Fosdick of the New York Riverside Church, then by Dr. and Mrs. Peale of Marble Collegiate in New York, and for a long time I too have been on the board - and President in recent years.

It was all started by a modern Florence Nightingale, Bertha Vester, daughter of a Chicago lawyer. She lived in Jerusalem for eighty-seven-years, and two years ago died

at age ninty. Her two daughters Frieda and Anna-Grace carry on the work. In all they have taken care of more than one-million-two-hundred and fifty-thousand mothers and children - in Turkish days, under the post world-war one British mandate, under Jordan when King Hussein's government held the old city - and now under the Israelies.

The popular and able Jewish Mayor, Teddy Kollect, tells me the Israelies are about to name a park in old Jerusalem for Bertha Vester in recognition of her unique humanitarian work. So I've been checking up on the hospital and clinic before flying across Arabia and on to India.

**(SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED
"JORDAN-VESTER PARK")**

Thank you, Lowell. More - in a moment.

MUNICH

From Munich, West Germany - the story today of a man who didn't want to set the world on fire - he just wanted to start ~~the~~ flame in her heart.

The gentleman in question - one Johann H; who is said to have had an agreement with his wife - his fourth wife, incidentally. The lady threatening to leave him - like all the rest; whereupon Johann poured gasoline on ~~the~~ their bed - set it afire - and nearly burned down their whole apartment house. Johann later telling the Judge: "I only wanted to open her eyes."

Anyway - the story has a happy ending, sort of. Man and wife - happily reunited; or, at least, they will be - when he gets out of jail - in two years.

UNITED NATIONS

At the United Nations - here in New York - the focus of attention turned today to the self-proclaimed Republic of Rhodesia. Britain's Lord Caradon asking the U.N. Security Council to pass a resolution - barring any member-state from extending official recognition to the breakaway colony. Lord Caradon asserting that what the white-ruled government of Rhodesia "wants more than anything" - what it needs more than anything - "is to be recognized."