

Thursday, June 14, 1973

MOSCOW

Today over in Moscow - Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev met American newsmen - the first time ever. He repeated that the Watergate affair would have no effect on his visit to the U.S. next week. "It is entirely a domestic affair" - said he. Adding: "What right have I to interfere?"

Brezhnev also said he has a "very great respect" - for President Nixon; due mainly to the President's "realistic and constructive approach" - to improving relations between the U.S. and Russia. "I am not going to the United States to bargain with President Nixon" - he continued; "but we are going to have negotiations - and they will be conducted in the spirit of confidence and in the spirit of improving relations."

That - from the top man at the Kremlin.

WATERGATE

One of the Nixon Administration's brightest young men - or who once was presumed to be - was telling all today in the Senate Watergate hearings. Former White House aide Jeb Stuart Magruder - laying bare the moves that led to the Watergate break-in and later cover-up; along the way, naming the names of those involved - up to and including former Attorney General John Mitchell, who was then the President's campaign director.

The trail leading to the White House - to the doorstep of H. R. Haldeman. Magruder saying the President's former chief-of-staff had apparently approved, as early as last January - Magruder's plan to perjure himself at the Watergate trial. Magruder stressing, however - the President himself was not involved; nor to his own knowledge - the President's chief domestic adviser, John Ehrlichman.

The question that naturally arises from all of this -

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is why the Watergate escapade was ever undertaken. At one point, young Magruder - attempting to explain. "During this whole period" - said he - "when the President was trying to settle the war - we saw continual violations of the law; done by men like William Sloan Coffin of Yale - who recommended on the Washington Monument grounds that students burn their draft cards - that we have mass demonstrations - and shut down Washington.

Magruder going on to note that the Rev. William Sloan Coffin - had taught ethics in college. "Now here were ethical, legitimate people - whom I respected tremendously" - said he; people who were "breaking the law - without any regard for any other person's pattern of behavior or beliefs; and consequently, when these subjects came up" - such as Watergate - "we had become somewhat inured to using questionable activities in what we thought was a legitimate cause."

Magruder then adding: "That's absolutely incorrect -

- two wrongs do not make a right. For the past year, I've had to consider that - and I understand completely that that was an absolutely incorrect decision;" but there came "to all of us who worked at the White House - a feeling of resentment and frustration in not being able to deal with issues on a legal basis."

KISSINGER-SCOTT

Just back from Paris - Henry Kissinger met today with key members of Congress; explaining the terms and conditions - of the new Paris agreement on Vietnam. Dr. Kissinger expressing confidence that a bona-fide cease-fire in Vietnam - can be achieved. Under questioning ^{he did} ~~though~~ - conceded ^{that} ~~ing~~ "The Cambodian situation is pretty much where it was." Adding: "In other words - ^{Cambodia} ~~it is~~ still a battleground"

This leading to a later statement - from Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott; who said ~~that~~ he will continue to support U.S. bombing in Cambodia - only "until the end of this month." "Thereafter" - said Scott - "my personal decision will have to be that I can no longer support U.S. bombing in Cambodia - or in or over any of the nations of Indochina."

REACTION

Public reaction to President Nixon's newly-ordered sixty-day price freeze, as you may have heard, was generally mixed today. A number of Democrats calling the President's action - "too little and too late." With at least one major exception - Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield, who termed the freeze - "a good move." "I think it hit the areas that needed some shock treatment" - said he. Adding: "The psychological impact will be good."

The President's action was also strongly supported by Democrat Peter Brennan - who is now serving as Labor Secretary. By freezing prices but not wages - said he - the President has shown "his deep concern for the working men and women of the nation;" and he also has guaranteed - that the U.S. economy "will continue to provide jobs."

EARTH ORBIT

In the flight of America's Sky Lab One - another photo-sweep today; from the Pacific Coast of Oregon - to the Atlantic shores off Porto Alegre, Brazil; the eleventh and final pass - in a massive earth resources study.

The three Sky Lab astronauts and ground officials - later discussing plans for another possible spacewalk; trying to decide whether to put up a second sun shade - in an effort to keep the Sky Lab's temperatures down. Also, packing a few things - in preparation for their scheduled return to earth a week from tomorrow. Flight Director Neil Hutchinson saying: "We're beginning to think - about coming home," that two-hundred-seventy mile road home to Earth from where they are out there in space.

WHITE HOUSE

The White House - an announcement today that a former key aide to the President - is returning to public service. Bryce Harlow to resume the post of Presidential Counselor - which he earlier held for two years; from January, Nineteen-Sixty-Nine - through December of Nineteen-Seventy. He quit then - to become a vice president of Proctor & Gamble; from which he now takes - a leave of absence.

well-known, well liked
The President's long-time secretary - is also getting a new title. *Rose Mary Woods to serve, henceforth - as Executive Assistant to the President.*

SANKT GALLEN

*From Sankt Gallen, Switzerland - good news for
fatties - bad news for smokers. Professor Siegfried Heyden
telling of extensive studies - in the field of heart disease;
noting that people who stop smoking - normally gain an
average of about ten pounds over the next five years; those
who smoked the most - also gaining the most; thereby
placing a greater strain - on their hearts.*

*Professor Heyden stressing, however - that's no
reason to keep on smoking. Why not? Because - said he -
"even the thinnest cigarette smoker is in more danger of
having a heart attack - than the fattest non-smoker." A
colleague adding that, indeed, the danger of heart attack
among smokers - is actually three times as great as that
for non-smokers.*

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

In the newest town in Texas - newly-incorporated South Padre Island - that's no lady! - that's the new town marshal! Tall, shapely Ronalyn Adams - the mother of two - winning election as South Padre Island's first - and so far only - law enforcement officer.

Mrs. Adams later telling newsmen - her uncle was a police chief in her native Poplar Bluff, Missouri. "I always wanted to be a cop" - she continued. Adding: "I'm a mean redhead - if anybody ever calls me 'pig,' they'd better be careful - I might take it the wrong way."

The new pistol-packing' mama - can also count on help from local sheriff's deputies, if need be. ^{Bill -} Observers noting though - with a figure like that - thirty-seven, twenty-four, thirty-six - she could disarm anybody.

WASHINGTON

The winner of the Nineteen-Seventy-Three National Spelling Bee ^{we are told is} a pretty, young blonde from Fort Worth, Texas. Thirteen-year-old Barrie Trinkle claiming her crown - by successfully spelling "onomastics," which her last challenger had just missed; and then ^{correctly} spelling "vouchsafe" - sealing her victory.

This marking Barrie's third attempt - to win the national spelldown. She finished twenty-eighth two years ago - fifth last year - and now tops. Barrie later saying: "I studied so hard - I sort of expected it would come some time." Admitting, however - she was still wrung out. "I feel" - said she - "like the taffy in a taffy pull."