

WONSAN

Tues. Jan. 23-68,

For the first time since the Civil War -- a U.S. Naval vessel has been boarded and captured by enemy forces. As you doubtless have heard by now -- North Korean patrol boats today hijack~~ed~~^{ed} the U.S.S. Pueblo in the Sea of Japan. With the help of MIG fighters circling overhead -- forcing the ship and its crew of eighty-three -- to sail at gunpoint into the North Korean port of Wonsan.

The Pueblo -- an admitted intelligence ship, jam-packed with sophisticated electronic gear -- for monitoring possible enemy activities. The United States quickly noting, however, that the ship was -- "approximately twenty-five miles from the mainland of North Korea" at the time. Clearly -- in ~~an~~ international waters. Therefore, demanding ^{immediate} ~~immediate~~ release -- of both the Pueblo and its crew.

The White House further emphasizing -- this is a "very serious situation." While on Capitol Hill -- members of Congress were calling the incident -- "a dastardly act of piracy;" some going so far as to call it -- "an act of war."

PYONGYANG FOLLOW WONSAN

A later development: Radio Pyongyang in North Korea--tonight confirming capture of the American vessel. Calling it a "spy ship"--engaged in "hostile activities" in North Korean territorial waters.

These "hostile activities"--Radio Pyongyang went on to say--the result of "a fit of frenzy" on the part of U.S. and South Korean authorities; in the wake of that ~~an~~ attempt by Communist terrorists--to assassinate South Korean President Park Chung Hee.

This latest: The U.S. Aircraft Carrier enterprise--now reported en route to the scene.

CHARLESTON

~~Charleston, South Carolina -- a grim commentary today,~~
~~on that capture of the U.S.S. Pueblo,~~ ^{Says} from General Mark
Clark -- who negotiated the original armistice in Korea:—

~~"It angers me, of course" said Mark Clark -- "but~~
~~it doesn't surprise me.~~ This isn't the first time.-- The
enemy in Korea ~~had~~ violated the armistice, as soon as I
signed it." -- ~~they began to violate it.~~

~~If nothing else though --~~ ^{Then added} said Mark Clark -- "this
is a ~~good~~ lesson for us to remember ~~when~~ when everybody is
pleading for us to go to the conference table in Vietnam.

~~For the Communists" -- he added -- "the conference table~~
^{said he --}
¹
is just an extension of the war."

VIETNAM

Meanwhile, in Vietnam -- the United States rushed massive reinforcements today -- to embattled Khe Sanh near the D.M.Z. At the same time -- launching an all-out land, sea and air bombardment -- against enemy troop concentrations just across the no man's land, attempting to break the back of a ^{North Vietnamese} ~~Viet Cong~~ offensive -- apparently concentrating on either end of the Allied defense line.

So far -- South Vietnamese troopers bearing the brunt of the ground battle. According to latest report -- government forces killing some four hundred would-be enemy infiltrators; in two days of heavy fighting -- at both the east and west anchors of the buffer zone.

WASHINGTON

Here at home -- on the domestic front -- President Johnson today presented to Congress his first special message of the new session; a call for a new -- Two Billion-dollar-plus manpower program; aimed at wiping out hard-core unemployment -- in the nation's big city slums.

The big switch from past programs -- in that the President now places major emphasis on a giant cooperative effort; joining government and private business -- in a scheme to "help Americans who want to work -- get a job."

The President conceding -- it might not work. Adding though: "It's better to have tried and failed -- than not to have tried at all."

CAPE KENNEDY

At Cape Kennedy -- the unmanned first flight of America's lunar landing ship today was termed -- "a fantastic job -- just great." Chief Flight Director ~~Chris Kraft~~ ^{Kraft} -- brimming with praise for the moon bug ground crew; forced to substitute an alternate flight plan -- when a robot pilot aboard the craft failed to function properly.

Results -- couldn't be better. The moon bug proving conclusively -- its capability for ferrying astronauts back and forth between the moon's surface and an orbiting mother ship. Chris Kraft summing it all up -- when he ~~asserted:~~ ^{said:} "We ^{now} are ready to fly men -- in the next lunar module."

ATHENS

After five weeks of review -- the United States has decided to resume full "normal diplomatic contacts" with Greece. U.S. Ambassador Phillips Talbot -- relaying that decision today to the Athens government, ~~Ending~~ a sort of -- diplomatic twilight, in effect ever since King Constantine tried -- and failed -- to overthrow the ruling Greek military ~~9~~ junta.

All this prompting fresh reports -- that the King might return home soon. Indeed, the King today receiving in Rome -- retired Greek Air Force General Harálabós Potómíanos; a personal emissary from the military junta -- also a longtime personal friend. Object -- reconciliation.

KREMLIN

At the Kremlin -- an exchange of views today at the highest level. Visiting British Prime Minister Harold Wilson -- conferring jointly with Soviet Premier Kosygin -- ~~and~~ ^{also} Soviet Party Chief Brezhnev. Chief topic-- Vietnam.

At a later luncheon -- Wilson saying he believes there is now -- a "much shorter bridge to peace" than before. Kosygin -- promptly ~~burns~~ burning Wilson's bridge behind him. Replying that if Britain really wants peace in Vietnam -- Wilson himself should demand a U.S. bombing halt.

HONOLULU

Hawaii's famed Duke Kahanomoku -- one of the most impressive athletes of our time -- dead today in Honolulu, at seventy-seven -- victim of a heart attack.

Duke Kahanomoku -- a pure Hawaiian Polynesian of whom there are not many left -- a most impressive, handsome man -- Hawaii's first Olympic champion. He won a gold medal at Stockholm -- way back in Nineteen-Twelve; another -- in Nineteen-Twenty. Along the way, -- churning a one hundred-meter course in the then-unheard of time of fifty-five and four-tenths seconds.

Duke Kahanomoku later to become one of the most colorful personalities ^{those renowned} ever to grace ~~the~~ sands of ~~Maika~~ Waikiki. ^{also} ~~Beach~~ a motion picture star; ^{and,} for many years sheriff of Honolulu. He had become a ^{living} legend, ~~of history~~. Now to receive -- at his own request -- a traditional beach boy funeral. A fleet of outrigger canoes -- to paddle out to sea; there

HONOLULU--2

to scatter his ashes near his beach at Waikiki -- across those high rolling waves that he rode so easily and gracefully.

Then they'll make a mad dash -- to see who can get back first.

With a special toast awaiting the winners -- courtesy of

Duke ~~Papa~~ ^{Warren} Kahanomoku. One of the most impressive men I have ever known.

NEW YORK

Joe "Ducky" Medwick -- scores again. The story -- from New York. Where the slugger of old -- sparkplug of St. Louis's fabled Gas House Gang -- was finally voted today into the Baseball Hall of Fame; ~~receiving~~ ~~passing~~ grade of eighty-five per cent -- in a nationwide poll of baseball writers.

The news relayed to Ducky Medwick in St. Louis -- where, or once in his ^{life} ~~life~~, he was speechless -- almost. Coming out of it long enough to say: "I feel like I've just ended -- a twenty-year slump."