

Thursday, March 27, 1975
Reid Collins

From Washington.....

From Da Nang.....

From Mount Everest....comes today's news. Good

Evening, everybody. This is Reid Collins sitting in for
Lowell Thomas.

The White House is allowing the freshly bagged
tax bill to hang and age before deciding whether to accept it.

Secretary Ron Nessen said today it will take
"several days" for President Ford to decide whether to veto
the measure, which calls for more relief than he originally
had wanted.

For what it's worth, the White House said it
believes Congress would uphold a Presidential veto should
it come.

As for the emergency aid to Vietnam and Cambodia
the White House said there'll still be time to tackle that when
Congress reconvenes April 7th.

VIETNAM

In South Vietnam, Communist forces overran the coastal town of Tam Quan and consolidated further their hold on the Central Highlands.

The airlift out of Da Nang is still in its fledging stage, but plans were made to get more planes on the evacuation run.

In Saigon, police rounded up several opposition politicians, claiming there was a plot brewing to overthrow the regime.

Former Premier Nuygen Cao Ky told newsmen that Thieu should broaden his regime to include men like himself, though Ky stopped short of calling outright for Thieu's resignation.

PRESIDENT FOLLOW TAXES

In an interview published in the Hearst newspapers - the President took up today where Henry Kissinger left off yesterday; saying the latest quest for peace in the Middle East would have been better served - if Israel had proven more flexible. The President also claiming that Congressional failure to supply additional aid to Cambodia and South Vietnam - "undoubtedly was a factor" in Israeli intransigence.

TRADE

On the economic front - a report today telling of a record U.S. trade surplus - in February. The total of all U.S. exports exceeding that of all imports - by more than Nine Hundred Million. This as compared with a trade deficit of more than Two Hundred Million - just the month before.

The government also released today - its latest index of leading economic indicators; and these indicating a business upturn - for the first time in six months, which could mean - we are told - the current recession is finally bottoming out.

INTERIOR

Sources in Washington now believe that former Wyoming Governor Stanley Hathaway is President Ford's choice to succeed Rogers Morton as Secretary of the Interior. Morton is moving over to Commerce Secretary.

Hathaway is a two term Republican who didn't run for re-election in the last Wyoming elections. As Interior Secretary he would wield considerable power over the vast strippable coal resources in his native state.

HIKES

The civil aeronautics board today agreed to allow airlines flying between the states and Europe to raise fares by as much as 16 percent but to allow discounts to youths and those who buy tickets in advance.

But the board turned down increases for routes over the South Pacific and between the United States and Mexico and South America. The hikes had been worked out by international carriers earlier and they become effective April First.

BOMB

A series of bomb blasts knocked out electric power to some thirty-five thousand homes in the vicinity of San Jose, California, last night and some two and a half hours later another explosion caused heavy damage to a building in Berkeley that houses an FBI office.

The Bay area has been rocked by several unsolved bombings in recent years.

HILLARY

Sir Edmund Hillary's autobiography is out today and it should put to rest whether it was he, Sir Hillary, or his Sherpa porter, Tenzing Norgay, who first set foot on the summit of Mt. Everest that day in May of Nineteen-Fifty-Three.

In the book, "Nothing Venture, Nothing Win," Sir Hillary says they got there simultaneously. "We had operated as a team" he says, - "and the question of who actually placed a foot anywhere first was of no consequence to us, or to any mountaineer."