

BEN HET

Wed. June 25 - 69.

War news from Vietnam - marked today by a counter-attack at Ben Het. With a force of about four hundred South Vietnamese - knifing forth from that beleaguered camp; scouring the nearby jungle for enemy gunners - attempting to break a siege that has lasted some seven weeks. ~~from~~.

As for enemy hopes of ever taking Ben Het - they^{re} practically nil - we are told today. Green Beret Major William Wilson - who is second in command ~~there~~ - saying: "The threat is not really serious - we've got too much firepower on call." And then he added: "They^{re} going to pay ^{heavy} hell - for anything they try to do to us."

WHITE HOUSE

Here at home - President Nixon met today with his National Security Council. Attempting to establish an overall U.S. policy - for upcoming arms talks with the Russians.

Meanwhile, White House Press Secretary Ron Ziegler - meeting with reporters, ^{speaking of} ~~with regard to~~ Vietnam - brushing ^{ed} ~~ing~~ aside the Communists' latest hard line on peace talks. "The President has made very fair and just proposals - it is now time for a response" - said he. Adding: "The obstacle to a settlement - is the other side" - not ours.

CONGRESS

On Capitol Hill - a bid to ^{put}~~extend~~ the present income tax surcharge - back on the track, ~~today~~. With the House rescinding an earlier move - that would have delayed action on the measure for two weeks. Instead, setting a floor vote for Monday - the last day before the surcharge is scheduled to expire. After counting heads again - House leaders concluding they do have the necessary votes for passage.

CAIRO-TEL AVIV

For months - if not years - Arab leaders have been looking for some face-saving success against Israel. And ^{they say} now, at last - they have it. At any rate - the Arab world ^{was} today hailing the sabotage of ^{those} Israeli ^{oil} pipelines at Haifa. Calling this the Arab's biggest guerilla victory - since the war of Nineteen-Sixty-Seven.

~~At the same time though~~ Israel again invoking its "eye for an eye" policy, ~~Launching~~ launching two retaliatory air raids ~~today~~ against Arab ~~targets~~ targets in Jordan, ^{and} ~~these - for past~~ ~~Arab strikes - said Tel Aviv~~ Suggesting that someone may yet pay dearly - for ^{happened} what ~~brief success~~ at Haifa.

DHARAMSALA

~~This next =~~ From Dharamsala ^{high} on the ^{side of the} Indian Himalayas.

The story of a religious sermon - perhaps the longest ever.

A dissertation on certain aspects of Buddhist doctrine -

lasting altogether sixty hours - spread out over eleven days.

The preacher - if such he can be called - the exiled

The 36 yr. old head of the Buddhist-Lamaist world
Dalai Lama of Tibet. ~~Summoning~~ ^{Summoning} more than a thousand monks

and lay leaders to his mountain retreat - to take part in

this spiritual marathon. The faithful flocking from Nepal,

the thrilling Himalayan section of the
Bhutan, Sikkim - from all over ~~that vast~~ ^{that vast} subcontinent of

Hindustan.

*His older brother, Taktsel Rinpoche -
Thubten Norbu, is ^{now} a member of the faculty
at the Univ. of Indiana - 1/2 way around
the world from Dharamsala in the Himalayas.
I must talk to him about his bro's 33 hr. sermon.*

HOUSTON

Veteran astronaut Jim McDivitt - latest U.S. spaceman to return to earth ^{-ie} - for good. At Houston - announcing today his retirement from the astronaut corps - though not from the space program. Taking on as his next assignment - the job of heading up a new office planning future moon landings.

Colonel McDivitt - only forty. The man who served as command pilot - on the first Gemini spacewalk flight. Commander again of the Apollo-Nine mission earlier this year ^{the one} - that successfully tested for the first time America's new lunar lander. Truly - a space pioneer.

SEOUL

By the way - June Twenty-Fifth - today - the nineteenth anniversary of the start of the Korean War. For a change - the date marked with a welcome silence - the full length of that Korean Armistice line. No fighting - no shooting. - ~~no~~

~~Nothing~~ Just a hope of better days ahead - in Korea and Vietnam. *June 25th. Also my only grandson's birthday, which he's celebrating up there in Alaska - somewhere north and east of Korea.*

SAN FRANCISCO

Here's one - sounds like science-fiction. Doctors at the University of the Pacific in San Francisco - developing a technique that actually permits the blind to see; not with their eyes - but rather their skin.

The principle based on a discovery that nerve receptors in the eye - are remarkably similar to nerve receptors in ~~the~~ certain skin areas. Hence, the doctors perfecting a television-like camera - that transmits electrical impulses, or "images," to four hundred small electrodes. In laboratory experiments - these attached to a blind person. The signals relayed to his brain - and presto! He can visualize at a distance - shapes, patterns, movement, depth - much the same as a sighted person. The prototype model - even equipped with a zoom lens for closer scrutiny.

We also hear ^a that similar technique - is in development for pilots, policemen, underseas explorers and so on. One that would give them - almost literally - "eyes in the back of their heads."

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Plans for a royal vacation - announced today from Buckingham Palace. Come August - Britain's Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip and all their children - heading for a holiday cruise of the Norwegian Fjords.

First stop - Gamlehaugen - for a private lunch with Norway's King Olav. After that - the royal party expected to visit Bergen, Trondheim, Trollstigveien; and lastly - also, hardest to pronounce - picturesque Stjordalshalsen.

over my left hand
I should have telephoned *Strøm* for *07 of Bergen* *Warren*
correct the pronun of that -

From Moscow comes word today - the Russians have just come up with a new invention. It's called - the mini-skirt. Appearing recently for the first time - on ^{Moscow} ~~public~~ streets; and already - sweeping the country.

The proof - in a letter in the current issue of the Soviet Literary Gazette. With the writer - a male - saying: "I am being pursued by mini-skirts - I see bare knees everywhere - in buses, in parks, in theaters, in streets, in planes, in trains, on land and on the sea." And he adds that the effect on "a normal man" - is a flood of "emotions in the wrong direction."

Ah, but patience, Comrade - maybe a cold shower ^{will} ~~and~~ calm you down. Comrade you should be ⁱⁿ the streets of N.Y. at 5 P.M. - any week day, ~~rest of us~~ ~~you, too, can learn to appreciate it - just like all the~~ here this Summer they are micro-mini-