

"Earth Day" - so called - just a few hours away; in advance of which - a flurry of activity today on the ecology front. Thousands of New Yorkers - putting the final touch on posters, banners, booths and buttons, getting ready for a demonstration they hope will be the biggest ever in that city - or anywhere else in the U.S.A.

Meanwhile, at Trenton - the New Jersey state legislature was voting to establish a new Department of Environmental Control. At Hanover, New Hampshire - Dartmouth College announces plans for a new environmental studies program. And at Atlantic City, New Jersey - the United Auto Workers are demanding an Environmental Bill of Rights for all American; and also pledging to make pollution control a prime issue in their contract talks with the nation's auto makers this year.

WHITE HOUSE

Public reaction to President Nixon's Vietnam report - "largely positive". ⁵⁰the White House reported today. The President's big new troop withdrawal plan - was also winning bipartisan support in Congress; including public praise from Democratic leaders - in both the House and Senate. House Speaker ~~James~~ McCormack calling the President's speech - "a very good one - very strong - very hopeful." Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield adding that the size of the planned troop pullback - was both surprising and pleasant.

SAIGON

South Vietnam's President Thieu - was another who publicly praised the President's stand. In Saigon today - fully endorsing the scheduled withdrawal of a hundred and fifty thousand U.S. troops. Thieu asserting that Saigon realizes - it cannot demand the presence of too large an American force for too long a time.

"The final" outcome of the war - he went on - will depend on "whether the Republic of Vietnam itself - has enough ability and strength to defeat the Communists." Toward that end - Thieu adding that he hopes the U.S. will increase its material aid.

WAR FOLLOW SAIGON

In the meantime - business as usual in Viet Nam; that is the business of war, with forty enemy shelling attacks on U.S. and Allied targets. The heaviest such barrage - in five days. Killing at least one American - wounding some twenty more.

U.S. Headquarters in Saigon also announced the downing of two additional U.S. helicopters. One of these crashes - claiming the lives of eleven U.S. servicemen.

SAANG FOLLOW WAR

Elsewhere on the fighting front - Cambodian troops were again involved in another questionable episode. This at the village of Saang - about twenty miles south of Phnom Penh; where a hundred or so Vietnamese civilians - were forced to march up to a position held by insurgent Viet Cong, in the hope that they could somehow persuade the invaders - to leave Cambodia.

Only trouble - the Viet Cong opened fire with automatic weapons. In the first burst - killing or wounding a number of the civilians. Cambodia's Army commander - General Sustene Fernandez - only ^{making} matters worst - when he observed later that the use of civilians had been "extremely fruitful." The General adding: "It was the only way to determine where the Viet Cong were - to have them shoot at us."

CAPITOL HILL

Capitol Hill again - the House judiciary Committee today created a special five-man panel; with it's one and only task - to investigate charges that Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas should be impeached .

This - an attempt to assert committee jurisdiction in the Douglas matter; and prevent the appointment of a special investigative team - that might prove to be more conservative in nature. However, Chairman Congressman Celler pledged the judiciary study will not be a "white wash or a witch hunt." And he added that Douglas undoubtedly would be invited to testify - and "should testify" - said.

HOUSTON

At the U.S. Manned Space craft Center in Houston the three Apollo Thirteen astronauts made a full report to Space Agency investigator Edgar Cortwright. He's the man who will attempt to fix the blame, if any - for the explosion that crippled their ill-fated space craft.

Tonight - the three astronauts taking part in a nationally televised press conference. Telling publicly for the first time - how they managed to survive America's worst space emergency to date.

LOS ANGELES

(Bo-so-ley)

Los Angeles - twenty-two year old Robert Beausoleil

- was condemned today to death in the California gas chamber

This in the torture slaying of bagpipe musician Gary Hinman

- allegedly at the command of hippie cult leader Charles

Manson. Hinman's death supposedly setting the pattern for

eight murders, in all - including that of actress Sharon Tate

SUEZ

In the Middle East - Egyptian jets ^{again} ~~to~~ attached Israeli positions across the Suez Canal; - for the third time in four days. This the first major strike - since the start of Israel's Passover holiday. Tel Aviv later claiming that one of the raiders was shot down - by means of a Skyhawk surface-to-air missile. Cairo, in turn, calling the raid - an indication of Egypt's growing confidence; an indication that Egypt is now ready to defend itself - against any reprisal raids ~~that~~ Israel ^{may} ~~will~~ launch.

MOSCOW

At the Kremlin in Moscow - a gathering today of some six thousand Communist leaders; from everywhere ^{except} ~~the~~ Red China and Albania. The Communist elite hearing a marathon speech from Soviet Party Chairman Brezhnev - keynoting a celebration marking the One Hundredth Anniversary of the birth of Lenin. Along the way - Brezhnev condemning the Communist Chinese - also, Israel; at the same time - defending the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

In the end, Brezhnev further admitting that there had been "many mistakes and failures" - as he put it - in the building of the Soviet Union. He predicted, nevertheless, an ultimate triumph of Lenin's ideas - adding that imperialism is likewise ultimately doomed.

PENN STATE

The campus of Penn State University - scene of seven deliberate fires last night and early today. Militant students also stoning the house of University President Eric Walker - forcing Walker and his wife to flee through a rear door. The militants demanding amnesty for twenty-nine fellow students - who were arrested in a previous campus disturbance. President Walker says there will be no amnesty; explaining his reasons - as follows:

"They" - meaning the militants - "they tell us the University should be destroyed - that they must use violence" - said he. And then - "when they are put in jail" - he went on - "they say they are political prisoners;" and immediately contend that "all political prisoners - should be released." At which point - Walker added - "I have to ask - why should we grant amnesty? and if we keep on granting amnesty - where will the thing stop?"

In the final analysis - he concluded - "sometime, somehow, we have to do something about" this violence - if

we are ever again to "run this campus in a lawful, legal and calm manner."

That Warren, from the President of Penn State.

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PARIS

Hollywood film star Jane Fonda - one of the top contenders for an "Oscar" this year. In fact, there are those who claim she might have won a "best actress" award - but for recent participation in a number of public demonstrations. Miss Fonda proving a militant crusader - in behalf of Indian rights; also strongly - anti/Vietnam.

At any rate, it appears now that Jane has lost in addition to an "Oscar" - a "Roger" as well. Her husband - French film-maker Roger Vadim - (Vah-Deem) confirming today in Paris that the couple have called it quits. Vadim explaining: "I prefer to be married to a soft and vulnerable woman - rather than an American Joan of Arc"