

OKLAHOMA CITY

Tues, Oct. 22nd. 74.

President Ford came out swinging today - in another campaign tour through Middle America. The President telling a crowd at Oklahoma City - the election of "Democratic extremists" could well jeopardize world peace. "I am concerned" - said he - "that we may get a Congress that is ^{Veto-}~~not~~-proof; a Congress that has the wrong philosophy - both domestically and internationally;" a Congress that would fail to meet the challenges we face - "in the Middle East, in the Mediterranean, in the Caribbean and South America, in the Pacific."

The President also blamed the Democrats - for what he called "the Pandora's box of inflation; adding that a new wave of Democrats on Capitol Hill - would almost certainly mean a "new wave of inflationary spending."

The President heading next for Cleveland - where he plans to address a Republican dinner before returning to Washington.

STRAUSS FOLLOW OKLAHOMA CITY-CLEVELAND

Meanwhile, a charge that the President is resorting--
to so-called "Nixon-Agnew" campaign tactics. This--from
Democratic National Chairman Robert Strauss, who adds:
"It was rejected in Nineteen-Seventy--and it will be
rejected in Nineteen-Seventy-Four."

MUSKIE (TO BE TAPED FOR LATER BROADCAST)

From Senator Muskie of Maine--a Democratic response to the President's economic speech of last week. Muskie saying tonight--the President's program would not alleviate inflation; but it would invite recession--weaken the nation--and cause undue hardship.

Muskie saying: "These are the depressing realities --of the President's message." Adding: "It strikes hardest against the average American family"--but "exempts those who already have most."

RABAT

A Palestinian guerilla plot to murder King Hussein of Jordan - is reported ~~today~~ from Rabat, ~~for~~ Morocco.

Police there arresting more than a dozen guerillas - who drifted in over the past few weeks. The Palestinians said ~~to have~~ ^{ed} ~~to be~~ ~~planned~~ an attack against the King - during the

Arab summit starting Saturday in the Moroccan capital.

This an old story for King Hussein. They've tried many times.

DEFENSE

From Secretary of Defense ~~James~~ Schlesinger -
a claim ~~today~~ that the nation's armed forces - are
suffering from a "wasting disease;" the result of seven
straight years ~~of~~ of cutting back on military expenditures.
"And in terms of public spending" - said he - "we're at
the lowest point since before Pearl Harbor."

Schlesinger adding - we have now reached the
crucial point. "The question" - said he - "~~is~~ does the
U.S. wish to maintain a military balance" in the world -
"or does it not?"

KISSINGER

Secretary of State Kissinger ~~leaves~~^{off} tonight - on
another extended diplomatic mission. Dr. Kissinger
heading first for Moscow - then India, Bangladesh,
Pakistan and Afghanistan - ~~followed by~~^{then} Iran, Romania,
Yugoslavia and Italy_^ ^{on the way back,} We're also told he may try to squeeze
in some negotiations - on the Cyprus and Middle East
problems. Dr. Kissinger^{is} attempting to promote peace -
^{also} and_^ draw attention to the world's long-range food problems.

WATERGATE

Former White House counsel John Dean today completed his direct testimony - in the Watergate cover-up trial. He was then cross-examined by the first of five defense counsel - seeking to refute his allegations. Dean admitting he tried to obtain immunity - in return for testifying as a government witness. Also conceding that he himself was guilty of obstruction of justice - and subordination of perjury.

DETROIT

In Detroit - Chrysler ~~Corporation~~ today became
the first of the "Big Three" ~~automakers~~ - to report its
third-quarter earnings; ^{only} ~~except~~ in this case - it wasn't
earnings but losses. Chrysler running in the red - by
Eight Million. ~~And thus~~ - ~~an attempt to regroup.~~
Chrysler Chairman Lynn Townsend telling^s of plans for a
series of cutbacks, - ^{and maybe there'll be} ~~expected to include~~ extensive layoffs.

NOISE

From the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency -
an order today requiring heavy trucks to install quieter
tires and mufflers. This ^a~~the~~ first step in an anti-noise
campaign ~~expected to~~ ^{may} cost the trucking industry nearly
Half-a-Billion over the next ten years. The ~~ultimate~~ goal
~~we are told~~ ^{for} trucks that ~~"emit noise"~~ at low speed to be
as silent as your own car when
~~"no greater than a modern automobile in acceleration."~~

CENSUS

The U.S. Census Bureau today released a new set of figures - on latest population trends. The South and West - again showing the greatest gains; with Arizona and Florida - still the nation's two fastest-growing states.

Going the other way —
~~At the reverse end of the scale — the population of~~ Illinois
dropping ^{some} ~~by an estimated~~ forty-five thousand.

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Another member of that snake-handling cult in the hills of West Virginia - has just paid the price for his freedom of religion. Twenty-eight-year-old Lonnie Richardson of East Lynn, West Virginia - the victim of a rattlesnake bite on his upper right arm; the same type of bite - that killed his father-in-law two months ago.

VATICAN

At the Vatican ~~in Rome~~, the World Synod of Bishops today rejected three parts ~~of~~ of a four-part draft proposal on evangelization. Archbishop Quinn of Oklahoma ~~City~~ ~~later explaining the rather surprising vote,~~ saying the three rejected parts - "did not come to grips with the ~~specifics of the~~ issues."

SAN FRANCISCO

The City of San Francisco - once the center of the nation's hippie culture, - ~~the~~ breeding ground for communal living, Now - the site of a new and possibly dangerous fad. Local pet shops reporting that long-haired, bearded types - are buying flea collars for their own personal use. And so a government warning today - that flea collars "may be poisonous" when worn by humans.

Why not
~~Better by far, are hair, in they want~~ a shave
and a haircut - and maybe an occasional bath?

MOSCOW

Tennessee Ernie Ford's "Country Music USA" - a show just back from a tour of the Soviet Union; now drawing a rave review - from the newspaper Soviet Culture. The Ford show applauded for its "high professionalism - fine acting, dancing and excellent performances of folklore and contemporary music;" all of which ^{said to} impart a special beauty and charm." Tenn. Ernie gung ho in Moscow.

~~Now if the next Ford to visit Moscow can do as well - we should be in pretty good shape.~~