

Tuesday, February 12, 1974

PRESIDENT

In observance of Lincoln's Birthday - a brief service today at the Lincoln memorial in Washington; including a surprise appearance -by President Nixon.

The President noting that Lincoln - "was perhaps the most heavily criticized President;" but now ranks as the most revered of all Presidents - not only in American history but in the world."

Why is this so? First - said the President - because of his success in freeing the slaves - preserving the Union. "But perhaps more than anything else" the President went on - "people admired his poise under pressure - his great strength of character never to display his feelings no matter how harsh and unfair the criticism might be."

The President adding that "this particular fact is an inspiration for us today."

SWARTHMORE

In the same vein, the latest Sindlinger Poll - results of which reported today from Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. The President's popularity rating jumping from thirty-point eight to eighty-nine per cent - in the wake of his State of the Union message; while that of eongress was dropping to less than twenty seven per cent.

The Sindlinger poll also said to show that nearly two thirds of all Americans - are against impeachment. Even more agreeing with the President - that "one year of Watergate is enough."

WASHINGTON

The U S Energy stand won solid backing today -
at that world energy conference in Washington. Of the thirteen
nations taking part - all but France endorsing the U S call
for a common energy policy.

ASH

Budget Director Roy Ash - today was discussing the energy crisis. The problem is of "critical dimensions now" said he, but is a "one-time and short term" problem - not "pernicious and long lasting." Ash adding, that indeed, the present crisis "will be over - in a matter of months."

WHITE HOUSE

President Nixon today announced the appointment of Carla Anderson Hill⁵ as new head of the civil division at the Justice Department. Mrs. Hill⁵, who hails from Los Angeles, thus to become the first woman assistant attorney general since the nineteen twenties.

BERKELEY

In the kidnapping of Patricia Hearst another bizarre twist today. Miss Hearst's abductors - who call themselves the Symbionese Liberation Army - sending a second letter to a Berkeley radio station. In it a tape recording by the kidnapped victim indicating that she was still unhurt as of last Friday. Also, a written message addressed to Miss Hearst's father's newspaper⁻⁻ to publisher Randolph Hearst. The kidnapers demanding a massive distribution of free food - to the poor people of California. Estimated cost: About a hundred and thirty million.

MOSCOW

○ FOR refusing to submit to interrogation by Soviet officials Russian author Alexander Solzhenitsyn was forcibly arrested today in Moscow. The dissident writer ~~he~~ was then taken to ~~the~~ the State prosecutors office whose summonses earlier he had twice refused to accept.

ROME

At a pre trial hearing in Rome - a decision today almost certain to have wide spread repercussions. A three judge panel - agreeing to hear a defamation suit brought by a niece of the late Pope Pius the Twelfth. This - in connection with a film called - massacre in Rome.

The judges thus to decide whether the late Pontiff could have averted the Nazi reprisal slaying of some three hundred Romans during World War Two. ~~(According to public prosecutor Giorgio Santacroce - SNW "the first time that an Italian court will judge the actions of a Pope."~~

REES

Even Congressmen are finding it difficult to get enough gas. Says Congressman Rees of California. "We in Congress get nervous sometimes as we wait in line, because when people notice our Congressional license we become the nearest most convenient symbols to blame."

Rees saying that he recently saw a fellow Congressman waiting in line - and went over and "rapping on his window to say hello". Rees saying: "He was afraid to lower the window [REDACTED] until he recognized me - probabbly thought I was the hit man of the line's lynch mob."

TUNIS

Plans for a merger between Tunisia and Libya

hit still another snag - this in a public dispute - over the role of women. Libya's Colonel Khadafy suggesting that the so called Emancipation of Tunisian women - is really an invitation to prostitution. To which Tunisia's ruling Socialist party caustically replies that Khadafy's statements merely "betray his ignorance." And now, from W D B F Delray Beach, Florida where the climate is perfect if you like sun and sea and all that - so long.