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VIET NAM

From the jungles of Viet Nam -- the story today of a gallant American stand -- in the face of overwhelming odds.

A U.S. Army platoon of Twenty-One men -- on routine patrol near the Cambodian border, When they were suddenly attacked and surreunded ## by a full battallion of Viet Cong -- about Four Hundred men.

Despite the odds of Twenty-to-One -- the Americans with out for Four hours -- exacting a first toll of the enemy.

Finally calling in artillery fire on their own position -- when they could no longer withstand the human wave assault.

In the end -- there were only Three Americans -- who survived the battle; and these -- wounded men who played possum. The Viet Cong, nevertheless, paying dearly -- leaving behind more than a Hundred dead.

UNITED NATIONS

At the United Nations--Italy was joined by Five other nations today--in presenting a formal resolution; calling for a full study of the "Two China" question--to be completed next year.

The goal--said Italian Ambassador Piero Vinci--to find a "new approach" to the question of who shall represent China in the United Nations. And thus, hopefully, to end the Sixteenyear-old dispute that has haspered "universality" in the world body.

U.S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg--quickly announcing that America will support the study proposal; which virtually guarantees--its approval.

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President -- why did not endorse the party ticket in

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Governor Romney of Michigan and Governor Rockefeller of

New York -- in a top-secret policy meeting today at Dorado

Beach, Puerto Rico. Romney later telling reporters -- he

whas not yet made up his mind -- whether to seek the

Republican Presidential nomination in Sixty-Eight. The

governor adding that he won't make up his mind until -- as

he put it -- "until I think it is time."

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Romney was of course asked about the weekend statement

-- by Governor-elect Reagan of California; to the effect

that the Republican Party should not endorse anyone for

President -- who did not endorse the party ticket in

Sixty-Four, unless he acknowledges his error. Said Governor

Romney to that: "I think we need to sit down and talk

things through -- and; he went on, "I think we can come

to an understading."

Still another attempted coup today--on the troubled continent of Africa. A small band of dissident Army officers--invading official Radio Lone in the tiny Republic of Togo.

Thereupon announcing that the Army had seized power--and had dismissed President Grunitzky.

As it turned out--the broadcast was mostly wishful thinking.

evidently

Army leadership remaining loyal to the President--and quickly

putting down the rebellion. Grunitzky later firing his entire

Cabinet--and placing his vice president in charge of all

government agencies.

If it had been successful -- the coup would have been the Sixth in Africa -- since the first of the year.

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PITTSBURGH

Veteran politician David L. Lawrence--a power in the

Democratic Party in Pennsylvania for Fifty years--dead today in
a Pittsburgh hospital. Victim of a heart attack he suffered
early this month--while campaigning for the state Democratic
ticket.

David L. Lawrence—the only man ever elected to Four consecutive terms as mayor of Pittsburgh. The man who led the fight to clear the city of smoke—and fostered development of the famed "Golden Triangle," Before he left to become Governor of Pennsylvania—in Nineteen-Fifty-Eight.

Lawrence's last words—at a party rally November Fourth—when he said: "I was never more proud of the Democratic Party—than with the unity we now have." Whereupon he keeled over—never to regain consciousness. He was Seventy-Seven.

For President Johnson -- a "strictly routine" day at the LBJ Ranch. According to Press Secretary Bill Moyers -- the President confining himself largely to a study of official reports. Also conferring briefly by telephone -- with Cabinet officials in Washington."

SAN FRANCISCO

More than half the doctors in California who specialize in pregnancy, child birth or gynecology -- have, at one time or another, performed illegal abortions. This according to a poll by the magazine of the California Medical Association -- results of which were published today in San Francisco.

Forty-Nine per cent of the doctors -- admitting they performed abortions when they felt the mother's health might be impaired. Fully Two-Thirds admitting they performed abortions -- when there was a probability the baby would be defective. Whereas existing state law permits abortions -- only in cases where the mother's life is actually in danger.

The point of the article: That California doctors are agreed overwhelmingly -- that abortions should be legally permitted for a number of good and valid reasons.

LONDON

Latest word on the escape of Soviet masterspy George Blake:

A report today from London that Blake may have fled Britain-within minutes after he scrambled over the wall of Wormwood Scrubs
Prison; that he has since reached asylum--in Communist East Berlin.

The report--based on a reconstruction of Blake's which is embarrassing escape, Said to disclose that he was met outside the prison--by a pair of Communist agents, who reportedly supplied him with new clothes--an airline ticket--and a false passport; later driving him to the London Airport--where he allegedly boarded a regularly-scheduled flight for Germany.

If true--Blake was safely clear of recapture--before his escape was even discovered.

PARIS

The most coveted literary prize in all of France--the Prix Goncourt--was awarded today to a woman for the first time in a dozen years. Mademoiselle Charles-Roux winning the honor--for her novel, "To Forget Palermo." A book--strangely enough--about Two American girls who work for a New York fashion Magazine.

Mademoiselle Charles-Roux--a story in herself. Having been wounded twice--while serving as an ambulance driver in World War Two. Later becoming executive director of the French edition of Vogue--the American fashion magazine.

This next -- from Zurich, Switzerland, where male voters on Sunday rejected a Constitutional amendment that would have given Swiss women the right to vote.

First official comment today -- from Swiss Foreign
Minister Willy Spuehler; who called the outcome -- "a
black day in the history of Switzerland."

Bu t the last word -- as you might expect -- from a woman; Mrs. Lotti Ruckstuhl -- president of the Swiss Association for Womens Suffrage.

"We shall fight on" -- and on -- said Madame President,

-- Lotti Ruckstuhl. "It is a case" -- she added pointedly -
"of slowly overcoming ignorance." So, Warren, she and

Foreign Minister Spuehler agree.

UPPER TEESDALE

In London--a special committee of Parliament is scheduled to meet tomorrow--to decide the fate of a rare community of plants. So rare, in fact, that scientists the world over--have expressed a vital interest in saving them from extinction.

The plants -- a unique mixture of Alpine, Arctic and European vegetation. Plora and fauna that have remained virtually unchanged -- for the last Ten-to-Fifteen Thousand years. This in an area known as Upper Teesdale -- in Northeast England.

The threat to their existence--planned construction of a nearby dam; to provide the necessary water--for a new chemical plant. One that would provide the local population--with hundreds of badly-needed jobs, while at the same time--flooding the rare plants.

Lord Ritchie-Calder--in the forefront of the battle to save the vegetation; comparing it to the first folio--of William Shakespeare's plays. His lordship asserting: "If somebody were freezing to death--I would gladly burn the first folio to save him--if there were no alternative." "But let us choose the alternatives"--said he--"before we burn this first folio."