

PITTSBURGH

Tues, July 30 - 68.

Good news. No

Pittsburgh steel strike. ~~averted with~~ The

executive board of the United Steel Workers - today accepting an eleventh hour industry offer, said to contain "the largest pay and benefit package - in the history of the steel union." Thereby heading off a nationwide steel strike, ^{announced for} ~~for~~ midnight tomorrow.

Exact terms of the proposed agreement - still a secret. However, a union source estimating cost of the pact - at ninety cents an hour over the next three years.

STATE

1/2
The myth of Hanoi's apparent de-escalation of the war in Vietnam -- publicly exposed today by U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk, ~~who says that~~ a recent lull in enemy operations -- is in no way a response to ~~the~~^e limited U.S. bombing halt; but ~~rather~~^{is} a pre-planned first step -- in getting ready for another major assault. This ^{is} borne out -- said he -- by all the evidence from defectors, captured documents and other intelligence sources.

Dean Rusk adding that the United States is as ready as ever -- to order a complete bombing halt over North Vietnam. ~~But~~ we must know in advance -- said he -- "from some responsible authoritative source" -- exactly what it is ~~that~~ Hanoi will give in return.

VIETNAM FOLLOW STATE

~~Almost simultaneous with the secretary's~~

There was
~~remarks~~ a sudden resurgence of ground fighting ~~was~~
reported today in Vietnam, including a deadly
ambush near Da Nang - another near Ban Me Thuot in
the Central Highlands; ~~coupled with~~ ^{also} a Red terror attack
~~on~~ on a civilian market place just northwest of Saigon.

Allied ~~is~~ intelligence ~~also~~ ^Sreporting a
concentration of about a hundred thousand enemy troops -
in the five northernmost provinces of South Vietnam.
These expected to bulwark an enemy offensive - that
could come as early as August. - ~~or so we are told.~~

CIERNA NAD TISOU

From the Czech border village of Cierna Nad
Tisou -- we hear ~~today that~~ ^{those} Czech ~~and~~ Russian crisis-talks
have started badly, so badly, in fact, that Swedish
newspapers are quoting authoritative sources -- as saying
the meeting is near collapse. Radio Prague ~~saying that~~ ^{says}
the peril is something akin to a heart transplant operation
-- only "much more dangerous." While the Soviet news
agency Tass is treating the situation -- with a silence
~~bordering on the~~ ^{that may be} eloquent, and ominous.

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Meanwhile, the Kremlin today announcing a broad
expansion of its current "war games" -- centered just
across the border from Cierna Nad Tisou. With troops
from Poland and East Germany -- both "hard line"
Communist Satellites -- scheduled to join ~~soon~~ in the
exercise. Obviously, another Soviet gambit -- in the
Communist "war of nerves."

MOUNT AERENAL

The first known eruption of the Mount Arenal volcano in Costa Rica - ^{so far has} ~~has already~~ claimed at least fifteen lives. This according to ~~figures~~ ~~announced today~~ ~~by~~ the Costa Rican National Guard. ~~which adds that~~ The volcano, ⁷¹ once thought to be extinct, ⁴ is still pouring ~~on~~ forth huge quantities of lava, ~~rock~~ ash and sulphurous gases.

Hardest hit - the nearby village of Pueblo Neuvo, where eight families were missing - at last report. The rest of the village's two hundred residents ^{have been} ~~now safely~~ evacuated, ^{along with} ~~Also~~ some four thousand ~~persons~~ from the neighboring town of Arenal.

VATICAN

The Vatican ^{today} defends its ban on birth control. ~~This~~

in an article ~~published today~~ in the ^{official} ~~Vatican newspaper~~ --

L'Osservatore Romano. ^{Admitting the} ~~Asserting that~~ heated worldwide

reaction to the Pope's stand -- is "not surprising," ~~Adding,~~

^{it says the} ~~however, that~~ chief criticism of the Pope's encyclical ~~is~~

comes from persons who fail to understand it. ~~Also~~ ^{and from} those

who are "carried away by a dominating common sense" -- or

~~by an erroneous conception of man"~~

WASHINGTON FOLLOW VATICAN

Far from subsiding though -- the furor only
increases. ^{This} Including a statement from eighty-seven top
Roman Catholic theologians -- made public today in
Washington, ^{Calling the Pope's ruling -- insufficient,}
inadequate, insensitive. ^{Even} Adding that Catholic couples "may
responsibly decide -- according to their conscience -- that
artificial contraception in some circumstances is
permissible and, indeed, necessary -- to preserve and
foster the sacraments of marriage." Asserting, in short,
that Catholic couples do have the right to defy the Pope's
ban -- and still remain in the church.

United Nations special peace envoy Gunner Jarring -- will be returning soon to the tense Mideast. ~~The~~ ~~announcement today~~ ~~from~~ U. N. Secretary General U Thant ^{says} ~~Asserting~~ that Jarring's recent talks with Arab and Israeli leaders in New York -- have made it "important and advisable to pursue further" peace efforts.

At the same time -- U Thant also paid a special tribute to Jarring; for -- quote -- "the patience, persistence and statesmanship he has demonstrated -- in carrying out his extremely vital mission."

TSKHALTUBO FOLLOW UNITED NATIONS

A related item -- from the Soviet Republic of Georgia. Reporting today that Egypt's Colonel Nasser -- is thoroughly enjoying his ~~rest~~^{re}-cure at the Soviet health resort in Tskhaltubo. (His health -- also said to be improving steadily; ^{recovering from} from an ailment now described as -- acute inflammation of one of his sciatic nerves.

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Miami Beach ~~again~~ -- a look at Presidential campaigns of the past. Political historians today recalling the mid-Nineteenth Century -- as the "golden age of political invective." Noting, for example, a Republican handbill -- published in Eighteen-Sixty, *Describing Democratic nominee Stephen Douglas* -- as "about five feet of nothing in height -- with a red face, short legs and a large belly; a man who talks a great deal -- very loud -- always about himself."

Another case in point -- the Eighteen-Forty campaign.

When the Democrats called Whig candidate William Henry Harrison -- "A clodpoll, a dunderpate, a ninnyhammer -- too stupid to know a bee from a bull's foot." Conversely,

Harrison's backers telling him to "say nothing -- promise nothing." Which he did -- ~~winning~~ ^{and won} handily -- ninnyhammer or

no. Ninnyhammer! How's that for a political insult, Stew?

MIAMI BEACH

At Miami Beach -- Nixon backers charged ahead today at a full gallop. ^{evidently} ~~Supremely~~ confident of sewing up ~~the~~ nomination, ^{This} on the strength of ^{the} new Gallup poll, ~~the~~ one said to show that the former Vice President -- could defeat either Humphrey or McCarthy in November.

When asked whether the poll wraps it up -- Senator Tower of Texas ^{remarked:} ~~asserting~~: "You bet it does." Senator Dirksen of Illinois ^{also added} ~~declaring~~ that Nixon now -- "is within hailing distance of the nomination." ^{Meanwhile}

^{was} In Denver ~~though~~ -- Rockefeller, refusing to concede anything. ^{While} Admitting the new poll was "no asset" -- ^{he said:} ~~but adding~~ "One Gallup doesn't make a race."