

Mon. June 24-'68,

Bedraggled by rain - bedeviled by congressional indifference - besmirched by violence - phase one of the Poor People's campaign came to a sudden end today in Washington.

By mutual consent - with peaceful cooperation all around - Washington police closing down Resurrection City; arresting eighty-five ~~stragglers~~ stragglers - who remained behind for just that purpose. While a mile away - in the shadow of the Capitol Building - additional police were taking into custody the Reverend Ralph Abernathy; also, some two hundred of his remaining followers - all charged technically with disorderly conduct.

In sum, the Washington campaign ending not with a bang - not with a whimper either; but ~~more~~ more like - a collective sigh of relief.

WHITE HOUSE

*From President Johnson - a special message  
to Congress today urging expanded gun control - beyond  
those he originally proposed after the assassination of  
Robert Kennedy. Controls calling for the ~~re~~gistration  
of all guns as well as the licensing of all gun owners.  
In line with recommendations last week - from Vice  
President ~~Hubert~~ Humphrey.*

## VIETNAM

*On the war front - a highest priority "Red alert" is in effect tonight in Saigon. With more than twenty-five thousand American and South Vietnamese defenders - ready and waiting for a threatened new Viet Cong invasion.*

*Earlier though - U S B-Fifty Two's perhaps setting back the enemy timetable; when they bombed a giant underground ammunition dump - only thirteen miles from the heart of Saigon. The resulting series of explosions - lasting six minutes. According to the U S command - destroying "several hundred tons" of Viet Cong bombs, rockets and grenades - probably meant for Saigon.*

*From the Vatican in Rome -- comes an impassioned plea today for world peace. <sup>Peace for</sup> ~~in~~ Vietnam, -- ~~in~~ Nigeria -- in the Middle East; -- right around the globe.*

*Pope Paul -- dealing first and foremost with Vietnam. Calling for an immediate cease-fire by both sides -- as a first step toward ending the current Paris impasse. Asserting that such a solution -- is "relatively near and easy."*

*As for civil war in Nigeria -- the Pontiff urging speedy resumption of interrupted peace talks. Also imploring the Arabs and Israelis: "Don't take up arms again."*



## PARIS FOLLOW VATICAN

*Just the reverse -- from Paris; where Hubert Humphrey's weekend plea for a Vietnam cease-fire -- was flatly rejected today by North Vietnam.*

*Hanoi's Xuan Thuy suggesting the Vice President had "mixed up" -- both the "aggressors and their victims." Adding that the "only objective of the Paris talks -- was to agree on a cessation of U.S. air raids." Concluding that "only if an agreement is reached on this matter -- can we move on to other subjects."*

*~~By the way -- Thuy also passed along his "heartfelt thanks" -- to what he said was a growing number of people in the United States. Those who -- in his view -- fully support Hanoi's position.~~*

## DEGAULLE FOLLOW PARIS

Elsewhere in Paris - triumphant Charles DeGaulle met today with French Premier Georges Pompidou, Mapping campaign strategy - for the second week of voting in French National elections. Hoping to steamroller the Gaullist party to its biggest majority - in the ten-year history of ~~the~~ the Fifth French Republic.

<sup>with</sup> Sunday's first test & the Gaullists <sup>are</sup> assured of at least a hundred-and-forty-eight seats in the next national assembly. Gaullist candidates also topping the preliminary vote - in a hundred-and-fifty other districts.

All but guaranteeing the Gaullists of a vast majority - in the four-hundred-and-eighty-seven seat French Parliament, where they <sup>had</sup> ~~are~~ been forced to rely lately - on coalition governments.

Incidentally, a group of about a hundred students - attempted to stage another demonstration tonight in the Latin Quarter of Paris. However, club-swinging riot police - quickly dispersing the mob.

WASHINGTON

*Serious crime in the United States - up seventeen per cent during the first three months of this year; according to a report tonight - from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This including an eighteen per cent increase in crimes of violence - robbery, rape, assault and murder. With cities of a hundred thousand or more - showing the greatest increase. Suburban areas - right behind.*

REYKJAVIK

U S Secretary of State Dean Rusk - a keynote speaker today - at opening sessions of the Nato Foreign Ministers Conference - in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Asserting that America is "deeply disturbed" - about the threatening new Berlin crisis. Also accusing the "other side" - as he put it - of creating problems in the Middle East, Latin America, southeast Asia and Korea.

Dean Rusk adding, however, that these conditions only point up the need for renewed Nato solidarity -- in the continuing struggle for peaceful accord. Said he: "There must be no ~~αα~~ open hostility across the board -- when thousands of tons of nuclear bombs and the possibility of a nuclear exchange is threatening the world."



SAN ANTONIO FOLLOW HOUSTON

More on space - from San Antonio; where a top U S space official - today addressed the Fourth International Space Writers meeting. Dr. Edward Welsh declaring that abandonment of the U S space program - would be "the worst mistake in history."

This - said he - because of resulting damage to the domestic economy - that would lower our standard of living; while leaving the United States in a position of "secondary strength" - to the Soviet Union. Dr. Welsh further noting that Hubert Humphrey is the only presidential candidate - who favors an aggressive U S space policy.

What about that so-called "race to the moon?"

Dr. Welsh ~~was~~ asserting ~~that~~ the United States still hopes for a manned lunar landing - some time in the fall of Sixty-Nine. <sup>Warren,</sup> Whereas, <sup>— said he only</sup> Russia appears <sup>^</sup> ready to settle temporarily - for a "fly around" of the moon. - ~~said he.~~

## HOUSTON

*At the U. S. Manned Space Center in Houston -- three bearded astronauts emerged today from a mock moon flight in an Apollo spacecraft. After eight days of simulated space travel -- Joe Kerwin, Vance Brand and Joe Engle calling the Apollo capsule letter-perfect. Space higher-ups -- also said to be "elated" by the test. Promising more details Wednesday -- after de-briefing.*