

February 19, 1970
Dallas Townsend

For the second day, the South was victorious on Capitol Hill. Both the House and the Senate voting to prohibit Federally-ordered bussing of school children. The votes came on separate amendemnts and the proposals were worded differently. But the net effect of each is to bar the Department of Health, Education and Welfare from requiring bussing as a means of achieving racial balance. The Hous e also voted to legalize "freedom of choice" school assignment plans. As for the Senate amendment, Republican Jacob Javits of New York said what it means, in the absence of a Federal court order, - "If it's all black it stays all black - if white it stays all white." Having passed the amendment, the Senate then went on to approve the basic measure - the thirty-five Billion dollar aid to education bill. The final vote - eighty to nothing.

The House also passed the basic measure it was considering - the money bill for the Labor and Health, Education Welfare departments. It did so in the form that the White House has indicated may invite a presidential veto.

CHICAGO

Groups of young people protesting the verdict in the Chicago trial demonstrated late this afternoon outside the Watergate apartment complex on the Potomac river in Washington. Watergate is the home of Attorney General John Mitchell and many other high government officials. The demonstrators clashed with police - and dozens were arrested.

A similar demonstration occurred in Boston. Both took place during the afternoon rush hour.

In a brief statement of his own, McLain himself admitted that he didn't have "much to say." But he did promise to hold a news conference - either tomorrow or Saturday at the Detroit training base in Lakeland, Florida.

NEW YORK

Here in New York - Detroit Tiger pitching star Denny McLain today was suspended indefinitely from baseball. This by order of baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn - following a meeting between the two men. Kuhn citing McLain's alleged involvement "in Nineteen-Sixty-Seven bookmaking activities" - and also "his associations at that time." ~~These~~ These - said Kuhn - leaving him no alternative but to suspend McLain from all organized baseball" - pending a complete review of the situation.

In a brief statement of his own - McLain himself observed that he didn't have "much to say." But he did promise to hold a news conference - either tomorrow or Saturday at the Detroit training base in Lakeland, Florida.

(SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED
"ELEPHANTS")

L. T. Tape - unedited

**For Lowell Thomas - a brief stopover today in
Jerusalem; en route to his date with "high adventure" -
in the Kingdom of Nepal up near "the roof of the world."
About which - we'll be hearing more in future broadcasts.**

**Meantime, another special report - starting out with a
question - well, novel, to say the least. Lowell...**

ELEPHANTS

App. air time - 1:30

L. T. Tape insert - unedited
Good evening, everybody. "Can elephants swim?"

That's one of the queries that are asked in - and also the title of - a fascinating new book from author Robert M. Jones. "Can Elephants Swim?" - a compilation of unlikely answers to improbable questions; in effect, an encyclopedia of trivia - covering everything from aardvarks to yoga.

Did you know, for example, that Spain got its name from a rabbit? That gorillas are really gentle creatures?

Did you know that fish are noisy - and also have a sixth sense? That buffalo were once native to New York? "And here's one, that Eskimo, often buy refrigerators? And what about bears - do they really hibernate? Are ants really industrious? Are larks really all that happy?"

The answers to these and more are all here - including the one that covers the question I asked back there at the beginning. "Can Elephants Swim?" You better believe it.

**(SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED
"ELEPHANTS")**

Thank you, Lowell. Back to the news...

PARIS

At the peace table in Paris - an attempt at a new approach. America's Philip Habib - laying aside his prepared speech. For a change, attempting to engage the Communist side - in a free discussion of Vietnam war issues. Only trouble - was it didn't work.

Instead of accepting the challenge - Hanoi's Nguyen Minh Vy launching another anti-American tirade. Accusing President Nixon of attempting to extend the war. Also, demanding the release of the "Chicago Seven" - whom he called victims of U.S. "fascist repression."

SAIGON

From Saigon - another weekly casualty report.

Setting the latest number of American combat deaths at ninety-six - the second highest for any week this year.

During the same period - the South Vietnamese losing two hundred and twenty-two men. As compared with enemy losses - set a nearly twenty-two hundred.

INFLATION

The U. S. cost of living index - up again last month; but this time - just slightly; rising only four-tenths of a per cent - according to government figures made public today. An indication that the worst inflation since the Korean War - may be nearing an end.

Elsewhere in the Middle East - Arab broadcasters today denounced President Nixon's "State of the World" message. Calling it a call-out to Israeli interests. Reversed side - Israeli officials hailing the President's message. Calling it a clear warning to the Soviet Union - to keep "hands off" in the Middle East.

Now a word from Warren Moran.

MIDDLE EAST

In the Middle East - Egypt's air force continued to display its new-found muscle today. Egyptian warplanes attacking Israeli positions along the Suez Canal - for the third straight day. Some time later - Israeli planes pounding Egyptian targets in their canal area.

Elsewhere in the Middle East - Arab broadcasters today denounced President Nixon's "State of the World" message. Calling it a sell-out - to Israeli interests. Reverse side - Israeli officials hailing the President's message. Calling it a clear warning to the Soviet Union - to keep "hands off" in the Middle East

Now a word from Warren Moran..

WHITE HOUSE

At the White House - it was "hats off" today for the President's new ceremonial guard unit. On orders from the Chief Executive himself - the White House policemen stowing away their new Prussian-style hats; the ones that helped to cause such a commotion - when they were first worn during a recent ~~visit~~ ^{visit} by Britain's Harold Wilson. The White House explaining that the new hats - were "too tight" and uncomfortable; thus ignoring - officially, at least - a general opinion that the new uniforms looked like something out of a comic opera.

Indeed, the White House emphasized that the rest of the new uniform - the white tunic with fancy gold braid - will stay. The "new look" at the White House - remaining half-new anyway - for the time being.