

Tuneau, Alaska,
Dec 19-67.
American Tobacco

PACIFIC

PRESIDENT JOHNSON IS HIGH OVER THE PACIFIC TONIGHT

- FLYING TO AUSTRALIA TO ATTEND A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE LATE HAROLD HOLT. THE PRESIDENT TAKING OFF FROM ANDREWS AIRFORCE BASE AT NOON - EXPECTING TO ARRIVE AT CANBERRA EARLY THURSDAY MORNING, AUSTRALIA TIME.

MEANWHILE, JOHN MC EWEN WAS SWORN IN TODAY - AS PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA'S NEW CARETAKER GOVERNMENT. IMMEDIATELY PLEDGING TO ~~OUR~~ FIGHT ALONGSIDE THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES IN VIET NAM - TO MAKE "CERTAIN AGGRESIVE COMMUNISM CANNOT OVERRUN A FREE PEOPLE." MC EWEN ALSO SAYING THAT THE ARRIVAL OF WORLD LEADERS FOR THE HOLT MEMORIAL SERVICE - WILL LEAD TO DISCUSSIONS "ON GREAT MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST."

THE WHITE HOUSE DENIED, HOWEVER ~~THE~~^{the} INCREASED SPECULATION ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEW ASIAN SUMMIT MEETING. AT THE SAME TIME ~~4~~ LEAVING OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF AN LBJ CHRISTMASTIME VISIT TO THE VIETNAM WAR ZONE. IN ANY CASE - LBJ IS EXPECTED HOME BY CHRISTMAS EVE - TO SPEND THE HOLIDAY WITH HIS FAMILY.

VIET NAM

WAR NEWS FROM SAIGON - TELLS TODAY OF AN ~~MONORXX~~ ARMOR-
-BACKED ATTACK; WITH SOUTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS ABOUT 1500v STRONG -
SWEEPING THROUGH A VIET CONG STRONGHOLD IN THE MEKONG DELTA
REPORTEDLY KILLING MORE THAN A HUNDRED OF THE ENEMY - WHILE SUFFERING
ONLY LIGHT CASUALTY^{70A} IN RETURN.

IN THE AIR WAR - A SIXTH STRAIGHT DAY OF MASSIVE U.S.
AIR STRIKES AGAINST THE COMMUNIST NORTH, FOLLOWING UP AN EARLIER
ATTACK THAT FELLED THREE SPANS - ON THE KEY PAUL DOUMER BRIDGE
WITHIN THE RED CAPITAL OF HANOI.

STILL FARTHER TO THE NORTH - AT PEKING - RED CHINESE
PRESIDENT CHOU EN-LAI TODAY ISSUED ONE OF HIS STRONGEST PLEDGES
OF SUPPORT FOR THE VIET CONG. TELLING THE GORILLA TROOPS -
" YOUR FIGHT IS OUR FIGHT!" ALSO PROMISING " MORE POWERFUL"
SUPPORT IN THE FUTURE. BUT STOPPING JUST SHORT OF PROMISING TROOPS
TO JOIN IN THE FIGHTING.

DANANG

HERES ONE - A FOOTNOTE TO THE WAR IN VIET NAM;
UNDER THE HEADING OF - OPERATION CHRISTMAS TREE.

IT ALL BEGAN WITH A LETTER FROM AIRMAN SECOND CLASS
RON KEY - ORIGINALLY OF MT. VERNON, WASHINGTON - CURRENTLY
STATIONED AT DANANG. AIRMAN KEY ~~BARRY~~ TELLING GOVERNOR EVANS
OF WASHINGTON: "ITS CERTAINLY WOULD LIGHTEN THE HOLIDAY SEASON
- IF WE COULD JUST GET A GIANT SIZE CHRISTMAS TREE FOR OUR
PASSENGER TERMINAL."

ONLY TROUBLE - THE GOVERNOR QUICKLY DISCOVERED -
IT WOULD BE AN ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE JOB GETTING A "GIANT SIZE"
CHRISTMAS TREE TO VIET NAM. SO HE MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO SEND
OVER A FEW SMALLER TREES - ONE ^{of them} THOUSAND TO BE EXACT.

WITH THE RESULT THAT AMERICAN SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND
MARINES THROUGHOUT VIET NAM _ WILL HAVE THEIR ~~ONE~~ CHRISTMAS TREES
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. DECORATIONS TOO - ALL COURTESY OF THE STATE
OF WASHINGTON.

MOSCOW

IN MOSCOW - MICHIGAN GOVERNOR ROMNEY MET TODAY WITH SOVIET PREMIER KOSEGIN. THE PARLEY - LASTING TWO HOURS; COVERING SUBJECTS SUCH AS VIET NAM - THE MIDDLE EAST - ALSO SOVIET AND AMERICAN RELATIONS IN GENERAL.

ROMNEY LATER CALLING THE TALKS - "VERY INTERESTING." ADMITTING FURTHER THAT HE DID "MORE LISTENING THAN TALKING." BUT REFUSING TO DISCUSS ANY DETAILS - OF WHAT THE TWO MEN SAID TO EACH OTHER. THE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL ADDING ONLY THAT - "A DISCUSSION WHICH PRODUCES GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE POSITION OF OTHERS - IS ALWAYS USEFUL."

EARLIER THOUGH - ROMNEY GIVING A HINT, AT LAST, TO HIS OWN SIDE OF THE CONVERSATION. TELLING A GROUP OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS - HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE SOVIET CONTENTION THAT A U.S. BOMBING HALT WOULD LEAD TO PEACE TALKS IN VIET NAM. INDEED, ROMNEY SUGGESTING THAT AMERICA'S VIET NAM POLICY WILL REMAIN ESSENTIALLY THE SAME - NO MATTER WHO WINS IN 68.

CAPETOWN

RALLY AT CAPETOWN. HEART TRANSPLANT PATIENT LEWIS
WASHKANSKY - TONIGHT SCORING A SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT, AFTER MASSIVE
TRANSFUSION OF WHITE BLOOD CELLS - TO HELP FIGHT REJECTION OF
THE DEAD WOMAN'S HEART ^{THAT} ~~IS~~ NOW KEEPS HIM ALIVE.

DR. CHRISTIAN BARNARD - WHO PERFORMED THAT HISTORIC
TRANSPLANT - LATER REPORTING WASHKANSKY'S CONDITION AS "STILL
SERIOUS." ADMITTING, MOREOVER, THAT HE WASN'T QUITE CERTAIN -
WHAT HE WAS "DEALING WITH." THE DR. ADDING, ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~, ~~REDACTED~~
"I AM ALWAYS HOPEFUL."

ATLANTA

ON THE HOMEFRONT - REPORTS OF FLU OR FLU LIKE OUTBREAKS - WERE POURING IN TODAY TO THE NATIONAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CENTER IN ATLANTA, TELLING OF WIDESPREAD SICKNESS - IN NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK, MICHIGAN, INDIANA, ILLINOIS, OKLAHOMA, KANSAS, FLORIDA, ALABAMA, GEORGIA, TENNESSEE -; ALSO, WASHINGTON, D.C. - WHERE THE ABSENTEE RATE IS RUNNING NEARLY 30% IN SOME SCHOOLS.

DR. STEVEN SCHOENBAUM OF THE ATLANTA CENTER NOTING THAT HEALTH AUTHORITIES WARNED LONG AGO ~~IN~~ OF A POSSIBLE HEAVY FLU ~~WAVE~~ SEASON THIS YEAR. ADDING THAT "THIS PREDICTION" - NOW APPARENTLY "IS COMING TRUE."

VANCOUVER

ON OUR WAY TO ALASKA WE HAVE BEEN SPENDING THE WEEKEND IN VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, ONE OF THE MOST --- WELL, YOU SHOULD SEE VANCOUVER! HUNDREDS OF YACHTS, STEAMERS, FISHING BOATS AND OTHER CRAFT IN THE HARBOR; SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS OF THE COAST RANGE JUST ACROSS THE WAY; THREE OF THEM - SEYMOUR, GROUSE AND WHISTLER WITH CHAIRLIFTS TO TAKE YOU UP TO THE SNOWFIELDS; AND THEN THE CLEAN HANDSOME CITY -- ALL IN FULL VIEW FROM YOUR BAY SHORE HOTEL WINDOW. ~~NEAR~~ VANCOUVER ISLAND JUST A FEW MILES ACROSS WATER -- AN ISLAND ABOUT AS BIG AS ENGLAND -- COVERED WITH A GREAT FOREST, 12,400 SQUARE MILES.

WHEN I FIRST SAW VANCOUVER 53 YEARS AGO, IT HAD A POPULATION OF AROUND 125,000. JIM ^SBENCHLY, ONE OF THE CITY OFFICIALS, TELLS ME TODAY IT'S NEARLY A MILLION.

IF I WERE A YOUNG MAN I'D GIVE SERIOUS THOUGHT TO ~~MAKING~~ VANCOUVER, ~~MY HOME~~. WITH VAST BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR A BACKGROUND -- HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THE MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, AND IT'S COAST ON UP TO PRINCE RUPERT AND THE STIKINE RIVER COUNTRY, ENTRANCE TO THE YUKON? IF YOU HAVE, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

VANCOUVER - @ 2

EVERY AGE HAS BEEN AN AGE OF MIRACLES, BUT NONE TO
EQUAL THE AGE IN WHICH WE LIVE. IN VANCOUVER I SAW A MIRACLE,
AND IF HEAVY NEWS DOESN'T CROWD IT OUT I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT
TOMORROW ~~NIGHT~~ *Evening.*

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WHITE HOUSE FOLLOWS PACIFIC

EARLIER - AT THE WHITE HOUSE - ANOTHER BILL-SIGNING CEREMONY TODAY, WITH PRESIDENT JOHNSON PUTTING THE FINAL TOUCH - TO A MEASURE CREATING A NEW NATIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION; A PANEL DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE PARTICIPATION - IN CONSERVATION PROGRAMS OF THE NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE.

THIS - SAID THE PRESIDENT - AND "ADVENTURE IN PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND CONCERNED PRIVATE CITIZENS." HOPEFULLY, CONVEYING "TO ALL OUR CITIZENS'" - SAID HE - "THE NEED AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE PARK LANDS - IN THE CITIES, ON THE RIVERS,

AND SHORES, IN THE WILDERNESS." *No doubt this also will ~~would~~ include Alaska where I will be for the next week or so. Alaska has so many natural wonders.*

LONDON

WHY ARE SOME PEOPLE OLD AT FORTY, & WHERE OTHERS
REMAIN ALIVE, ALERT AND ACTIVE - WELL INTO THEIR SEVENTYS,
EIGHTYS EVEN NINETYS? THE QUESTION - ONE THAT HAS PLAGUED
MANKIND SINCE THE EARLIEST DAYS OF CIVILIZATION. AND STILL DOES.

WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR THIS NEXT - AN ARTICLE IN THE CURRENT
EDITION OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, CITING A GROWING BODY
OF EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF A NEW THEORY - THAT AGING IS CONTROLLED
BY THE SO CALLED "CELL NUCLEAR". A THEORY - IN OTHER WORDS -
THAT A PERSON SUFFERS THE RAVAGES OF OLD AGE - IN DIRECT PROPORTION
TO THE GROWING INSTABILITY OF HIS GENES.

ITS TRUE, - SAYS THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL - THE
PROBLEMS OFT BECOME ONE OF GENES CARE. ONCE PERFECTED - THE
TECHNIQUE SUPPOSEDLY CALLING FOR A PERIODIC TRIP TO THE GERONTOLOGIST-
- ~~FOR TOUCHING AND~~

FOR PATCHING AND POLISHING OF THOSE OLD GENES. ~~SOMEHOW~~ LIKE GOING
TO THE DENTIST PERIODICALLY, - ~~TO KEEP YOUR TEETH FROM FALLING~~ OUT.

I wish they'd hurry up and perfect this!

FT. LEWIS

WHAT'S IN A NAME? NOT A WHOLE LOT - AS EVIDENCED BY
A RECENT PHYSICAL ~~CONEXBARK~~ ^{COMBAT} PROFICIENCY TEST - AMONG ARMY TRAINEES
AT FT. LEWIS, WASHINGTON; WHERE A NEW PRIVATE POSTED THE HIGHEST
SCORE EVER - ALSO SETTING A RECORD FOR THE MILE RUN.

Warren
THE WINNER - A FULL BLOODED CHEYENNE INDIAN; ^{by} NAME, ~~OF~~

1/2 JOHN J. WOODENLEGS - FROM LAME DEER, MONTANA, & *el-ut-mor*.