

L.T. SUSTAINING, MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1967

(Maurice Webster, Sub.)

GOOD EVENING:

In Washington -- an expression today of growing concern; over reports that North Vietnam -- is seriously mistreating American prisoners of war; allegedly using mental and physical pressure -- to obtain, quote, "confessions" critical of U.S. policy in Vietnam.

The State Department saying that Hanoi repeatedly claims -- it is not mistreating prisoners. And yet -- refuses to permit verification by the International Red Cross. In the absence of such proof -- said the State Department -- "Hanoi's professions of humane treatment cannot be accepted."

The statement following publication today in Life Magazine -- of photos taken in North Vietnam. Showing American prisoners of war -- being paraded through the streets of Hanoi. A Life article further charging -- that the prisoners were being "brainwashed" to act like puppets.

VIETNAM

Halfway round the world -- in Vietnam itself -- a new American drive today along the Central Coast. U.S. Paratroopers -- attempting to cut off the Viet Cong; from food resources and recruiting grounds -- in the lowlands of Vietnam.

Meantime, more action today on the other side of the country -- near the Cambodian border. U.S. Infantrymen -- continuing to maul the Viet Cong's Two Hundred and Seventy-First Regiment. The one that lost nearly six hundred men-- in two days of bloody fighting over the weekend.

HANOI

United Nations Secretary General U Thant -- turned down flat today by North Vietnam; in Hanoi's first official response -- to ~~xxx~~^{his} latest peace proposal.

Thant, as you may recall, urging a standstill ceasefire -- as the first step toward peace. However, the Communists calling this -- "an encouragement to U.S. ¹³⁰ aggressors in Vietnam." Tantamount -- said Hanoi -- "to demanding that the Vietnamese lay down their arms -- and give up the ~~fight~~^{fight}; while nearly a half-million U.S. and satellite troops -- still tread on Vietnamese soil."

Hanoi adding that the Communists -- "are sure to win complete victory" in time. In part -- said the broadcast -- because world opinion is behind North Vietnam -- and against American "aggression."

LONDON

A related item -- from London. An interim report -- on Vice President Hubert Humphrey's current "grand tour" of Europe.

The Vice President said to be telling America's critics in Europe -- to quit moralizing about the bombing of North Vietnam; unless they're also ready to pass some moral judgments -- on terrorist activities of the Viet Cong.

Hubert Humphrey also quoted as saying -- the carnage could be stopped on both sides; if Hanoi would only show the slightest desire -- to negotiate a peace.

The message -- beginning to get through -- we're told.

ADD LONDON

More on the same subject from Hubert Humphrey himself in an interview broadcast tonight over British television . The Vice President saying "we are prepared to stop bombing -- for one act of mutual reciprocity." He added, however, that the bombing -- is not intended to force Hanoi to the peace table; only to stop infiltration of men and materials -- from North to South Vietnam.

PEKING

Crisis in the Communist world -- kept at boiling point today by another diatribe from Radio Peking. Red China accusing Russia -- of deliberately sowing discord in Southeast Asia; hoping thus to force North Vietnam -- to surrender to American military pressure. "The Soviet revisionist ruling clique -- U.S. imperialism's number one accomplice in Vietnam" -- said Radio Peking. 300

On the domestic front -- a later broadcast reporting growing strength -- for Chairman Mao's so-called "cultural revolution." With many Red Army commanders -- said to have joined in a drive against Red China's President Liu Shao-Chi; the latter branded -- simply -- "a traitor."

Other reports reaching Hong Kong -- telling of personal rehabilitation for Foreign Minister Chen Yi. And how did he accomplish that? By turning in his wife -- as the real revisionist in the family.

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PEORIA

A jury finally seated after six weeks of wrangling -- the "trial of the century" began in earnest today in Peoria, Illinois. Then, pale Richard Speck -- accused of murdering those eight Chicago nurses.

In opening remarks -- the prosecution demanding death in the electric chair. Making it plain that a Filipino exchange nurse -- will be the chief witness against Speck. -400
Twenty-three-year-old Corazon Amurao -- who escaped the slaughter by hiding under a bed.

As for the defense -- Speck said to be solely the victim of mass hysteria; the drive to find a scapegoat -- no matter who. 415

REPUBLICANS

~~Present~~ Johnson Administration economic policies --
the target of a thirty-three-page barrage today from top
Republican leaders. The President's budget for fiscal
Sixty-Eight--coming under special fire. With the GOP charging
that a possible "deterioration in economic conditions"--
could lead to a deficit of as much as Thrity Billion.

Immediate withdrawal of the President's requested six
per cent surtax -- on personal and corporation incomes --
best way to head off the threatened slump -- said the
Republicans. *They also urge* ~~Further urging~~ a lot more effort -- to check the
growth of non-defense spending. The report asserting
specifically that so-called "social goals" -- must be
achieved "within the nation's current means."

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GENEVA

The weather here in New York -- and throughout the Northeast -- about as perfect as you can get the past couple of days. Shirtsleeve weather -- with sunny skies and temperatures in the seventies.

All of which leads up to this next -- from Geneva. Where one of man's greatest dreams -- moved a step closer to reality today. That of achieving a flawless weather prediction system -- leading, hopefully, to eventual control of the elements.

This the goal -- of the Fifth Congress of the World Meteorological Organization. Some four hundred delegates from a hundred nations -- drawing plans for a "world weather watch." Using weather satellites, weather ships and weather-observing stations all over the ^{globe}~~world~~ -- to feed giant computers in Washington, Moscow and Melbourne, Australia.

The system planned to be in operation -- as early as next year. Providing accurate weather forecasts -- for

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up to two weeks ahead of time. Saving business, industry
and farmers -- billions of dollars.

More than that -- providing a wealth of information.

Enough perhaps -- when combined with space-age techniques
-- to enable man at last to alter and modify the weather.

To the point -- we hope -- where every day will be a
perfect day.

ADEN

British troops and Arab terrorists -- in bitter battle today in the British colony of Aden. The troops attempting to break up a demonstration -- hundreds of nationalists demanding freedom now; when Arab snipers opened fire -- from streets overlooking the mob scene. First reports indicating at least two dead -- and more than twenty wounded.

The shooting and shouting -- within earshot of a special three-man U.N. commission. Currently meeting with British officials -- in an effort to determine how best to bring about independence without chaos. Meanwhile, the entire colony remains in the grips of a paralyzing general strike -- called by nationalist groups.

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PARIS

French President Charles DeGaulle -- a big winner today; in the first test of his authority -- in the new National Assembly. With Gaullist candidate Jacques Chaban-Delmas -- easily reelected speaker of the Assembly.

The vote billed in advance -- as a life-or-death political struggle. With the Gaullists majority down to one -- because of those recent election losses. However, the new speaker swamping his Communist-backed opponent -- by a margin of forty-seven votes. The apparent result of a number of defections by anti-Gaullists -- who refused to support the Communist cause.

WASHINGTON

President Cevdet Sunay of Turkey -- a visitor today in Washington. President Johnson personally greeting the Turkish official -- and joining him in a quickie parade; through Washington streets -- crowded with tourists. 730

The parade -- shorter than usual; because of that bomb that went off early this morning -- outside the Turkish Embassy in Washington. Police saying there was nothing to indicate -- that the bomb had any connection with Sunay's visit. But Secret Servicemen -- taking no chances. And luckily -- nothing happened.

MUNICH

What's in a name? Sometimes -- a lot; as evidenced by news today -- from Munich, Germany. Telling of the marriage of a local nobleman -- to young Hungarian beauty of noble birth.

What makes it worth mentioning -- the groom's name: Baron Moritz Von Und Zu Frankenstein -- Baron Frankenstein, for short. Who takes as his wife -- Gabriella Marian, Countess Zichy Zu Zuch Und Vasonydeoe; to be known from this day hence -- as the "Bride of Frankenstein."

Which has to be easier than her real name.

MARCOS PAZ

A final item -- from Marcos Paz, Argentina. Where a young fireman was arrested today by police -- on charges of setting fire to ten houses; causing damage -- estimateed at Sixty Thousand dollars.

The fireman -- Juan Carlos Roman -- admitting all. And why did he do it? So he could be a hero -- by helping to put out the fires; and so, perhaps, to impress a girl friend -- who had been giving him a cold shoulder of late.

In effect, the young man carrying a torch -- in the worst possible way.

This is Maurie Webster -- and that's it for tonight.

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