

Friday, August 3, 1973

**MOSCOW**

*The first phase of the Senate Watergate hearings was originally scheduled to terminate today. This may account for what we hear from Moscow. The Soviet News Agency Tass - offering its first comment on Watergate; in effect, a summation - of all the testimony to date.*

*Tass saying that "former government officials and White House staff members" quote "have sworn that President Nixon was blameless." Tass adding that the Senate investigation has "thus absolved the President of any wrong-doing." That - from Moscow.*

WATERGATE

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In Washington - at  
the Senate Watergate hearings - L. Patrick  
Gray ~~to the fore~~ today <sup>was</sup> telling of how he received  
secret papers - taken from the safe of convicted  
Watergate conspirator E Howard Hunt. This <sup>done</sup> in a  
White House meeting <sup>^</sup> with John Ehrlichman and  
John Dean. The former F B I director saying he then  
took the Hunt papers - to his home in Stonington,  
Connecticut, <sup>e</sup> read them - and burned them - along with  
the Christmas trash.

The former acting F B I Director going on  
to say: "It is true that neither Mr. Ehrlichman nor  
Mr. Dean - expressly instructed me to destroy the  
files." "But there was and is no doubt" - he continued  
"that destruction was intended." Gray adding that he  
distinctly recalls "Mr. Dean saying - "these files were  
political dynamite and clearly should not see the light  
of day."

WALTERS FOLLOW WATERGATE

Gray's testimony & follow<sup>ed</sup> ~~ing~~ that of Deputy  
C I A Director Vernon Walters; who told of an apparent  
White House attempt ~~to~~ to involve the C I A in the  
Watergate coverup. <sup>Said</sup> General Walters; ~~stressed - however,~~  
"in all fairness & it was John Dean who was giving him  
a hard time." The General adding that except for a  
meeting immediately following the break-in-- he had  
"no further contact with Mr. Ehrlichman, or Mr.  
Haldeman - at any time".

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## BOMBING

With Congress about to begin a month  
long recess <sup>there was</sup> ~~2~~ a special message today from

President Nixon. Subject: The scheduled August  
fifteenth cut-off ~~in~~ on U S bombing in Cambodia.

The President failing to ask for a bombing  
extension - as some thought he ~~was~~ might. Instead  
saying: "The Congress has expressed its will in the  
form of law - and the administration will obey that  
law." He then added: "I cannot do so, ~~how~~ however,  
without stating my grave personal reservations -  
concerning the dangerous potential consequences of  
this measure."

The President's message - though addressed  
to Congress - also serving as a warning to Hanoi, -  
"I can only hope" - said he - "that the North Vietnamese  
will not draw ~~an~~ <sup>the</sup> erroneous conclusion from this action ~~4~~  
that they are free to launch a military offensive in other

**BOMBING \_ 2**

**areas." If so - he continued - "North Vietnam would  
be making a very dangerous error;" and, "the  
American people would respond to such ~~any~~ aggression -  
with appropriate action."**

WHITE HOUSE

*From*  
~~At~~ the White House *today* = the publication  
of a report - from the Presidential commission on  
financial structure and regulations; *together with*  
~~thereon~~ a series of banking proposals from *the* President.  
~~Nixon~~ These including a seven point program -  
for spurring new housing construction. The President  
urging removal of federal limits ~~on~~ on the interest  
rates paid on savings deposits - also, calling for  
an end to interest ceilings on both VA and F H A  
*Pres. Nixon*  
home mortgages. *^* Further urging additional changes =  
to provide for increased competition between banks  
and thrift ~~institutions~~ institutions.

"Such competition - said the President -  
"would help eliminate the inequities - now imposed  
upon the small saver and borrower; and should reduce  
the cost of the entire package of ~~the~~ financial services -  
for the consumer".

## UNEMPLOYMENT

On the ~~economic~~ economic front - the U S  
job picture continues to improve. Government figures  
announced today - disclosing ~~one~~ another drop in  
the U S Unemployment rate; from four point eight  
percent in June - down to four point seven percent  
in July. And that - we are told - the lowest  
figure since April of Nineteen Seventy.

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**JUSTICE**

**By order of Attorney General Elliott**

**Richardson - an old wound is re-opened. Peterson  
today ordering a new investigation ~~of~~ into the  
Nineteen Seventy shooting of ~~the~~ four Kent State  
students by Ohio National guardsmen. This on the  
basis of a month-long study ~~of~~ <sup>the</sup> of ~~previous~~  
investigation. A spokesman saying: "We think there  
were - several facts missing".-**



## EARTH ORBIT

Their place in space safely assured -  
at least, for the time being - the Sky Lab Two  
~~at~~ astronauts were back <sup>at their routine</sup> ~~in business~~ today; as they  
orbited the earth - taking a photo sweep from Seattle  
to Houston and on South; also setting up preliminary  
preparations for their first space walk - which is  
now scheduled for Monday. For the first time ~~but~~  
since they went aloft - the three astronauts <sup>said</sup> ~~all~~ ~~not~~  
to be "in excellent condition."

While here below - at Cape Kennedy -  
Nasa ground teams were ~~reading~~ readying a possible  
rescue mission. One that will never be needed -  
they hope. Indeed, the Sky Lab Two shuttle craft  
is reported today in "minimum ~~fly~~ flyable condition."  
But still - they're taking no chances.

## ISLE OF MAN

The death toll in that fun palace fire on the Isle of Man - is now set at fifty; with "two or three" more - still missing, at last reports.

Britain's deadliest blaze in more than thirty years.

A fire so fierce that even after ~~so long that even~~ eighteen hours ~~later~~ only one

body had ~~yet~~ been ~~and~~ identified.

**BERKELEY**

**We hear times are a-changin' - as witness the following from Berkeley, California. The Berkeley Barb one of the nation's first so-called underground newspapers - announcing a new ad policy. Publisher Max Scherr saying that as of today - the Barb will no longer accept slimy advertising. So, maybe Bill, the underground press is coming up for air.**

## TRELLEBORG

Over the past couple of years Ugandan President ~~Idi Amin~~ Ide Amin has proved himself a specialist ~~at~~ in stepping on other people's toes.

In the same vein, Amin disclosing recently he has extremely large feet - size fourteen; so big, in fact, that he's unable to get a fit in Uganda - except in army combat boots. All of which serves as a ~~prelude~~ prelude -- to a brief item recorded today from Trelleborg, Sweden.

A local newspaper there -- taking note of Amin's foot troubles. Saying it was therefore sending him a gift - that may help him out. The newspaper saying: "By Saturday, President Amin should be able to remove his boots - and put on a pair of Swedish sandals."