

L.T. -BUICK, FISHER. FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1966

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The big story today at Cape Kennedy -- first from the lips of astronaut Tom Stafford. "Lift-off confirmed -- oh, boy!" -- said he. The Gemini-Nine -- airborne at last. And it's been "oh, boy" and then some---ever since.

Once securely in orbit -- Command Pilot Stafford and his buddy, Gene Cernan -- closing quickly on an Agena target satellite. Completing the rendezvous as planned -- only to find the target entangled in a fiber glass shroud; a protective shield -- that should have been jettisoned last Wednesday.

Stafford's graphic description was as follows:--

"It looks like an angry alligator -- rolling around out there."

His next request was -- for permission to ram the Agena satellite; hopefully, to shake loose the shroud -- and permit the Two

vehicles to dock in space.

Permission -- denied -- at least, temporarily,  
pending successful completion of Astronaut Cernan's scheduled--  
"walk around the earth," set for tomorrow morning.

In the meantime -- the Gemini-Nine withdrawing from  
its target -- and then completing another rendezvous. Apparently  
all quite easy all in a day's work.

At last report -- all systems working perfectly.  
Even a balky computer -- that had failed twice on the ground.

## SURVEYOR

AS for that other American triumph -- the Surveyor -- it's parked on the face of the moon -- still going strong; today relaying to earth -- a total of Eight Hundred and Sixty-Three pictures, ranging from panoramic views of the lunar landscape -- to close-up pictures of the Surveyor itself.

These pictures described as -- "beautifully clear;" even showing in vivid detail -- nuts and bolts on the spacecraft. AS well as an unexpected "bump" -- on the lunar horizon. Either a hill close by -- or a mountain far away -- we are told. Later pictures are expected to clarify the mystery.



VIET NAM

Political crisis in South Viet Nam -- boiling anew today. Militant monks in Saigon -- seizing control of the Buddhist movement, <sup>and</sup> once again demanding the resignation of Premier Ky -- and his entire military regime. This despite a just-concluded agreement -- between Ky and the old Buddhist leadership ~~of~~ that would have brought civilians into the government this weekend. A nun later burning herself to death -- Seventh Buddhist to die in recent days -- by self immolation.

The situation further aggravated -- by personal attack on President Johnson for his continued support <sup>of Premier</sup> of Ky.

However, American officials expressing confidence -- that the Buddhists' attempted power grab -- is fast running out of steam. The best evidence -- said to be their own internal dissension.

## BOMBING

Here at home -- the State Department today confirmed a pair of published reports: ~~One~~ -- that the U.S. is willing to stop bombing North Viet Nam -- if Hanoi will take some "reciprocal action." And Two -- that Washington would be interested in "clarification" -- of a recent proposal by Peking; to the effect that Red China and the United States -- should agree that neither will be the first to use nuclear weapons against the other.

As to the First item -- an end to the bombing -- the State Department defining necessary "reciprocal action" -- as withdrawal of all North Vietnamese forces from South Viet Nam. Such withdrawal to be verified -- by an international control commission.

As to the Second item -- the U.S. reportedly willing to enter into a nuclear weapons ban with Red China; but only on condition that the Chinese -- immediately stop their atomic testing program.

DeGAULLE

Meanwhile, a surprise move today by DeGaulle of France -- to serve as intermediary in Viet Nam. DeGaulle sending French diplomat Jean Sainteny to Peking -- there to seek a means of ending the war. Sainteny -- French representative to the Communist North years ago -- when it was still a part of French Indo-China.



## BLAST

The quiet of a rural countryside near McArthur, Ohio -- was shattered today by an ear-splitting blast. The scene -- a dynamite plant tucked away in the rolling Ohio hills. One building disappearing in the twinkling of an eye -- Two others badly damaged. Death toll -- at least Five.

The blast felt -- as far as Five miles away. But of some Two Hundred employees of the plant in neighboring buildings -- apparently none was injured. A series of earthen revetments -- preventing a possible disaster.

## AUTOS

The auto industry -- under fire again today in Washington. Administration officials accusing the nation's automakers -- of trying to "emasculate" pending legislation -- that would set Federal auto safety standards.

The President himself later voicing strong support of the proposed bill.

"The time for action is now" -- said he. Adding that "every day wasted -- is a day in which more lives will be wasted."



## FRANCE

Fourteen years ago -- the French launched a national campaign to use up a growing surplus of wine -- mainstay of the French economy. Slogans of the day -- such as: "wine-drinking can start at the age of Three -- if the wine is diluted with water."

Now the wheel has turned -- full cycle. For the first time in history -- the powerful French wine and liquor industry ordering a full study -- of the health hazards of drinking.

The reason -- a dramatic increase in chronic alcoholism -- especially among young people. No less than Twenty-Four Thousand Frenchmen having died in the last year -- from acute alcoholism or related disease. The cause evident -- in latest government figures. Showing that the average Frenchman -- drinks about Fifty gallons of wine a year, ~~That's~~ in addition -- to a national taste for brandies, liqueurs and whiskies.

DeGaulle himself has ordered a ban on new bars --

along with ~~strict~~ regulations restricting sales to minors.

Even so -- the seeds of Fourteen years ago <sup>· seem to be</sup> continuing to bear  
bitter fruit.

## PAINTING

Now if you're in the market for a painting -- in London -- famed Italian artist Pietro Annigoni -- offering for sale the portrait of a semi-nude woman; said to have -- "the most beautiful shape in the world." Price -- Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars.

The woman in the picture -- a statuesque California blonde -- indentified only as "Mrs. A.S." Artist Annigoni reporting that she traveled all the way to his studio in Florence -- to commission the portrait. But when it was finished -- announced that she never had any intention of buying it.

With a shrug of his shoulders -- Annigoni explaining the lady's actions as follows: In view of her figure -- Warren -- "all she wanted was to be painted in the nude -- by a great artist" -- said he -- modestly.



LYNDA

The President and Mrs. Johnson -- at Austin tonight, when daughter, Lynda Bird -- receives her diploma from the University of Texas. In the process -- making the honor list, despite a recent social whirl -- that has attracted widespread interest.

Lynda's grades including an A in Latin -- an A in history -- and an A-plus in Classical Civilization. With either an A or B in chemistry -- still to come. After graduation she'll recuperate -- in Europe.