GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A supersonic battle today -- high in the skies over

North Viet Nam; an aerial duel between America's best fighter
-- a U.S. Air Force Phantom jet -- and Russia's best -a souped-up Mig-Twenty-One.

Winner -- the Phantom jet. Blasting its Russian-made opponent -- with a heat-seeking Sidewinder missile. This the first Mig-Twenty-One shot down so far in the Vietnamese war.

No clue -- as to the nationality of the pilot. Informed sources in London insisting, however -- that he was probably
a North Vietnamese; rather than a Chinese -- as first suspected.

In any case -- a warning today from the U.S. State
Department to the effect that if Red Chinese air bases are ever used in the war effort -- they will find "no sanctuary" from American retaliation.

Defense Secretary McNamara -- back on the Congressional griddle today: in that continuing controversy over the size of the U.S. manned bomber force: also his decision -- to delay construction of a new strategic bomber.

Secretary McNamara -- who yesterday accused Congressman of painting a "shockingly distorted picture" of Pentagon decisions -- today was himself accused of insulting and impugning The House Armed Services Committee. The charge -- from Congressman He?bert of Louisiana; who also challenged McNamara's apparent contention -- that the Joint Chiefs of Staff support him fully on the bomber question. "That" -- saidCongressman Hebert -- "is not only misleading but completely untrue.

On a related issue -- the Senate Armed Services Committee today urging Congress -- to overrule the recommendation of Secretary McNamara: by approving an appropriation of a Hundred and Sixty-Eight million dollars -- to speed the development of an anti-missile system.

## PRESBYTTERIANS

Another forward step today by the Southern Presbyterian Church -- in convention at Montreat, North Carolina. The Southern Presbyterians voting to join in an Ecumenical Council --with Seven other major Protestant denominations, Theluding the African Episcopal Church -- largest of all Negro denominations. All of them -- agreed to eventual union. Purpose of the council -- said a convention resolution: "To explore the establishment of a united church -- truly catholic -- truly evangelical -- and truly reformed."

## EXPLOSION

A devastating explosion followed by raging fire today -at a cottonseed oil plant in the city of India of Armitavi some three Hundred miles -- east of Bombay. The combination destroying the plant itself -- and causing heavy damage in a surrounding workers' viliage.

Early reports indicating some Twenty known dead -- another twenty missing -- and more than Sixty injured. Several so badly hurt -- they were not expected to live. Cause of the blast -- as yet unknown.

At Tashkent in Soviet Central Asia -- a pair of powerful earthquakes today. One at dawn -- called the worst there in a hundred years. Another at dusk -- in the midst of eff orts to clean up initial damage.

Four killed -- in the first tremor. The injured -totaling at least a Hundred and Fifty more. No figures as yet -- on the second.

Russia's two top leaders -- Premier Kosygin and Communist Party Leader Brezhnev -- were both in Tashkent at the time of the second quake having flown to the city with a special emergency commission -- personally to supervise recovery operations from the earlier quake.

At Houston -- a tragic ending today to the story of Marcel DeRudder; The former coal miner from Westville, Illinois -- who lived for nearly five days with an artificial heart imbedded in his chest.
The operation a success -- but the patient died. Marcel De Rudder -- Sixty-Five -- succumbing suddenly and unexpectedly this morning. A later autopsy disclosing cause of death -- as a ruptured left lung.

The same autopsy confirming however, that his artificial
heart -- was doing precisely what was expected of it. Dr. Wicturez-DeBakey -- who implanted the instrument -- reporting that it worked perfectly up to the time of death. Taking over most of the work of DeRudder's damaged heart -permitting the organ to begin healing itself.

To that extent, at least -- a medical miracle; with the promise of new hope for millions -- suffering from heart disease.

## UNITED NATIONS

Dr. James M. M Nabrit Jr. -- a prominent Negro educator-today named America's Number Two man at the United Nations. 70 Succeedif the retiring Charles W. Yost -- as deputy U. S. Representative to the U. N.

Dr. Nabrit -- currently on leave from Howard University-will also continue in his present assignment; that of Deputy U.S. Representative -- to the U. N. Security Council.

For a change -- a non-violent victory today for militant anti-Communist students -- in Indonesia. The students forcing Russia to close a Lenin exhibit -- at the Soviet Cultural Center in Jakarta. Merely by threatening to prevent people-from coming in.

The Russians -- at first refusing to close the exhibit; on grounds that it was technically on Russian territory -- in full "accordance with international law." What's more -- the Russians quickly provided with an Army guard; under strict orders -- to prevent the students from destroying Russian property.
Nevertheless -- no visitors; and by mid-afternoon -- a
terse announcement from the Russian Embassy. The statement simply -- "we shall lock the door."

Here's the news we've been waiting for -- only it isn't what we wanted.

At Rome -- inal selection today by the International

Olympic Committee; of scheduled sites -- for the Nineteen-Seventy-Two Olympics. The winter games? To be held at

Sapporo -- in Japan the summer games -- at Munich.

## RADIATION

It's been said in reset that the things we like best-are either illegal, immoral or fattening. Now it appears .they may also be radioactive.

This according to a report today -- from a couple of government scientists who have found that some of man's favorite beverages -- attack the reproductive centers of animal cells tin much the same way -- as atomic radiation.

Coffee, for example -- said to be one of the prime
offenders. With liquor -- even worse. One ounce of alcohol
a day -- said to do as much harm to your chromosomes -- as a

One-Roentgen dose of gamma radiation a week.

- Warren

In case you're wondering - that's Ten times the maximum permissible dose -- for employees of the Atomic Energy

## INVITATION

King Fisel of Saudia Arabia -- today received a White

House invitation to visit the United States. Pending completion of details -- the trip tentatively set for some time in June.

The king -- an occasional visitor to the United States -when he was crown prince. This, however, to be his first state visit to America -- since succeeding his half-brother Saud to the throne -- in Nineteen-Sixty-Four.

