

L.T.-BUICK, FISHER. THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1966

(Dallas Townsend substituting)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Senate today approved a fifty-eight-billion-dollar defense money bill, with a warning that ten billion more might be needed in January if the Vietnamese war build-up continues.

Tacked onto the bill was that amendment -- giving President Johnson authority to call up individual reservists who have served no active duty other than their required training. Mr. Johnson didn't want the authority and is not expected to use it.

WAR

Explosions rocked Saigon today as the Viet Cong continued what appears to be a campaign of terrorism against the national elections which are scheduled for September Eleventh. Communist guerrilla units also stormed two villages for Catholic refugees from North Vietnam -- burning one hundred and twenty homes while the frightened villagers stood helplessly by.

In the air war, American fighters again returned to the North. No details -- given of the latest raids, but a spokesman said more than a hundred strikes were flown yesterday with oil depots and a missile site coming under heavy bombardment.

The North Vietnamese government has denounced its Asian neighbors for proposing an "All-Asia Peace Conference" to end the war. / The suggestion -- made jointly by the Philippines, Malaysia and Thailand + was termed ~~as~~ "shopworn merchandise from President Johnson's clique."

In Moscow, a Soviet magazine warned that the war is "approaching the brink" / and might even spread beyond Southeast Asia. / It condemned alleged American threats to Soviet shipping in North Vietnamese ports / and said "no one will succeed in intimidating the Soviet Union."

Reports from Peking indicate that Defense Minister Lin Piao has emerged as second only to aging Chairman Mao Tse-tung in the top echelons of the Chinese Communist Party. / The reports also imply that the Red Army is in full control of the current purge of intellectuals / and other leading figures on the mainland. / Mao is said to be wearing a military uniform in public for the first time in years.

DRAFT

President Johnson says that the people directly concerned with the question of military service -- students and younger citizens -- will be asked to recommend changes in what he calls "our crazy-quilt draft law." Speaking before a gathering of fourteen thousand students in Washington, the President said he has instructed his Commission on Selective Service to take a fresh, hard look at the draft law which, he said, applies to some but not to others. We have inherited that ~~system~~ system -- said the President -- "but we are not wedded to it."

A brief announcement tonight from Albany -- from the office of New York's Governor Nelson Rockefeller. The Governor and his wife expect their second child -- early next year. The announcement contains no further comment or details.

Pat and Luci Nugent have ended their honeymoon in the Bahamas, and flown to New York.

M.I.T.

Most of us consider the process of "thinking" as being
a highly individual proposition -- but the Massachusetts
Institute of Technology thinks differently. Lowell Thomas tells
us why in this report:

TAPE RUNS: 1:39

MIT

Greetings Dallas and Good Evening Everybody:

Sometimes you hear it said there is nothing new under the sun. I wonder. Take this for example. A new concept in college training that they are offering these days at MIT. A course called "system engineering." Perhaps it could be described as a "team think course." The idea sounds rather simple. According to Massachusetts Institute of Technology the bringing of students together from various departments to work as a team can give you magic results. In practice the class is far from simple. It brings together some of the finest young minds in America, they tell us -- for the purpose of devising practical applications of the new techniques of science and technology -- that is, for the benefit of all mankind. The first product of this unique experiment I hear is a complete design for building launching and operating an equatorial weather satellite. You've heard of that -- good enough to interest the U.S.

MIT--2

Weather Satellite program.

They've also worked out a MIT plans for a six ton unmanned satellite equipped with a hundred inch telescope to study the universe, that is -- do it unobstructed by the earth's atmosphere -- do it from out in space. Not to mention more plans for a thirty day expedition to Mars. I want to be in on that one. They say it will be in the year Nineteen Eighty-Four. So, as you can see -- at MIT the sky's the limit.

Solong,

SPACECRAFT

Thank you Lowell. Speaking of satellites -- America's Lunar Orbiter went into action with its television camera today and came up with thirty-two pictures of the Moon's dark and bright sides. But their quality was so bad that it left scientists puzzled -- wondering whether they showed a dull, featureless part of the moon or whether something is wrong with the camera. The Orbiter will also focus its camera on nine possible lunar landing sites for American spacecraft.

The Pioneer-Seven satellite is speeding toward a rendezvous with the sun while exploring the perils of interplanetary travel. Launched yesterday from Cape Kennedy, it has reached a point a little more than ninety-four MILLION miles from the sun.

AIRLINES

The Machinists Union votes tomorrow on whether to ratify a new contract proposal and end its forty-three-day-old strike against five major airlines -- and union sources ~~say~~ *generally predict* ~~it's touch and go as to whether~~ the new contract will be approved. The results of the vote will be announced at union headquarters in Washington tomorrow night at eight o'clock -- Eastern Daylight Time. The leaders of the Miami and San Francisco locals are reported to be undecided on what to recommend to their members -- and the votes in these two cities could be a deciding factor in the nationwide poll.

RADIUM

The search for a tiny capsule of radium -- missing from an interstate shipment -- was concentrated in the Pittsburgh area today. The U.S. Public Health Service warns that the pellet could produce severe radiation burns if kept in a persons' possession for several hours. The capsule is missing from cargo that traveled by both rail and truck while being shipped from Texas to New York.

Warren, do you have a capsule comment at this point?

TWINS

Those who claim that nowadays the Democratic and Republican Parties are very much alike, may find some support for their argument in the current political campaigns in New Jersey. Thirty-six-year-old twin brothers -- Jerry and Jack Burmeister -- today launched their campaigns for the September Thirteenth primary elections. Jerry is making a bid for the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate -- while Jack is running for the House of Representatives in the Twelfth District as a Republican. "If we are elected" says Jack, "New Jersey residents will have added confidence in two public officials who can be counted upon essentially to think alike."

Good night.