

Tuesday, November 25, 1969

WHITE HOUSE

The White House: - So, President Nixon renounces biological warfare - as you may have heard. And in no uncertain terms. Renouncing it - even in retaliation for an enemy attack. The President further ordering the Defense Department to destroy all existing germ weapon stockpiles. His statement today saying: "Mankind already carries in its own hands - too many of the seeds of its own destruction."

In the same vein, the President specified that biological research will be restricted henceforth to protective measures such as immunization.

Next question: What about chemical warfare? And here the President reaffirmed long established U.S. policy - prohibiting any first use of lethal chemical weapons. Indeed, he extended this policy today - to cover chemical agents which merely incapacitate; excepting only tear gas and chemical defoliants. They have been used in Vietnam.

Maybe, maybe, someday Man will get wise and

outlaw war! Maybe. Come the Millenium.

U S S HORNET

For the men of Apollo Twelve - more tests
more questions and more waiting, ~~today~~ The astronauts
now in their second day of ~~quarantine~~ quarantine aboard the
Aircraft Carrier Hornet, heading for Hawaii, ~~and~~ then on to
Houston ~~for~~ the final leg of their million mile voyage
to the Moon and back.

In the meantime, the first shipment of treasure
they brought back ~~✓~~ has already arrived at Houston.
And a second plane load of Moon rocks, camera and
film, cable and so on - due to arrive shortly. Another
bonanza - for earthbound scientists.

BU PRANG

~~In the U S - in Europe - around the world,
it seems - the controversy continued to mount today
-- over that alleged "massacre" by U S troops in~~

In South Vietnam, At Bu Prang though, ~~precious little~~
~~time for recriminations.~~ U S troops there - sustaining
today a near endless barrage of enemy shells. The
Viet Cong taking advantage of a low-lying haze -- that
prevented allied planes from striking back.

CAIRO

In the Middle East, an encouraging sign.

Egyptian officials reportedly voicing a willingness today - to meet with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco. Purpose: To discuss a possible peace formula - for ending the current Arab-Israeli impasse.

If the meeting does come off - Sisco would thus become the first ranking U S diplomat to visit Egypt - since ^{Egypt} ~~the latter~~ severed diplomatic relations with Washington in Nineteen Sixty-Seven. As for the timing of said visit - Cairo is said to suggest mid-December.

Just prior to that Arab summit conference - set for December Twentieth at Rabat. — Morocco.

WASHINGTON

Here at home again - another report ~~today~~ from The National Committee on Violence. Subject - the youth of America. The commission noting for example, that the crime rate in Urban America - is two to three times higher among youthful offenders. It also cites young people as the cutting edge of "sometimes violent social protest." Adding that such violence can be explained in part as mis-placed idealism - or as a result of slum deprivation.

However, the report went on to say: "We cannot accept violent attacks on some of our most valuable institutions - - or upon the lives of our citizens - simply because some among the attackers may be either idealistically motivated or greatly disadvantaged.

At the same time - the Commission urged a number of draft reforms - also a lowering of the

minimum voting age to eighteen. These seen as
~~minimum~~ minimum first steps - if we are ~~ever~~ to turn
alienated youth back into the main stream of ~~our~~ society.

SENATE

Elsewhere in Washington - the Senate defeated ~~today~~ a proposal - intended to kill the present income tax surcharge as of January One. This - we are told - "almost certainly" assuring that the surtax will continue until next June Thirteenth, ^{with} ~~however~~ the final six months -- at five percent instead of the current ten.

At the Vatican - Rome - an announcement today that Pope Paul will take part in a ceremony on December ~~Eight~~ - ~~marking~~ marking the first centenary of the Vatican Council of Eighteen Sixty-Nine. That's the one - that first proclaimed the creed of "Papal Infallibility." Vatican sources saying the Pontiff will probably take advantage of the anniversary - to reassert once again his own authority in Church matters.

Meanwhile, the Pope ~~was~~^{is} under fire ~~today~~ - oddly enough, from conservative Catholics in Italy itself. These ~~are~~ planning to boycott ~~the~~ Church this Sunday - in protest against the Pope's order instituting a so-called new mass.

LONDON

When the Beatles were honored by ~~B~~ British royalty a few years ago the public outcry was loud and long. Now - Beatle John Lennon is returning the favor. In London today ^{re}~~ann~~ouncing his membership in the Order of the British Empire. Explaining his reasons in identical ~~katex~~ letters to the Queen, to British Prime Minister Harold Wilson, to the Secretary of Britain's Central Chancellory.

Said Beatle Lennon, I am returning this M.B.E - in protest against Britain's involvement in the Nigerian-Biafra thing in protest against Britain's support of America in Vietnam - in protest against 'cold turkey' slipping down on the charts, whatever that is.

~~the~~ ~~That last~~ ^{Ignorance} A reference to the Beatle's latest record. [^] Would you call this ~~And so another entry in the big legend of~~

1/2 Beatle-mania, Stew Metz?

WARSAW

From Warsaw - a study today of the life expectancy for Polish newsmen. Disclosing an "average age at death" only fifty-three. The survey further reporting that "only twenty newsmen in a hundred have a chance of reaching retirement age."

And why do Polish newsmen die so young?

According to Warsaw - primarily because of "disorders of the blood ~~circulation~~ circulation, the respiratory system - the stomach," -- as well as assorted neuroses." These - we are told - the result of "nervous tension, constant haste, ~~and~~ an irregular way of life;" and no doubt, a Communist censor or two.

And a-l-u-t-m -