

(Sent early)

WEST POINT-COLORADO STRIKER

The big story tonight - apparently still to come;

with President Nixon scheduled to address the nation - at

Nine O'Clock, Washington-time. Subject - the war in

Indochina. A broadcast report that will be carried live -

on many of these CBS R^Adio stations.

At the same time - Vice President Spiro Agnew

traveled to West Point; there to deliver a commencement

address - at the U.S. Military Academy; while Defense

Secretary Melvin Laird was doing the same thing - at the

U.S. Air-Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Both men

strongly defended U.S. foreign policy.

Along the way, the Vice President charged that

"criminal misfits of society are being glorified - while our

best men die in Asian rice paddies." Melvin Laird, for his

part, accused that the Nixon strategy of the Seventies - is

aimed at moving "from an era of confrontation to an era of

negotiation."

WEST POINT-COLORADO SPRINGS

Even in advance of the President's remarks though - the Nixon Administration was already taking the offensive. Sending off to Southeast Asia today - a special White House task force assigned the job of assessing U.S. war policy.

At the same time - Vice President Spiro Agnew traveled to West Point; there to deliver a commencement address - at the U.S. Military Academy; while Defense Secretary Melvin Laird was doing the same thing - at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Both men - stoutly defended U.S. foreign policy.

Along the way, the Vice President charged that "criminal misfits of society are being glamorized - while our best men die in Asian rice paddies." Melvin Laird, for his part, stressed that the Nixon strategy of the Seventies - is aimed at moving "from an era of confrontation to an era of negotiation."

SENATE

Reverse side - a test vote today in the Senate.

This in connection with a proposed amendment - in effect, nullifying a move to cut off funds for U.S. military operations in Cambodia; after July First except that today's measure was soundly defeated - on a roll-call vote of fifty-four to thirty-six. Senate "doves" hailed the outcome - as an indication that they will ultimately win their point, with approval of the basic amendment itself. However, Administration supporters are noting - there's still a long way to go.

BEISAN

The Israeli village of Beisan near the Sea of Galilee - was again the target of an Arab rocket attack today; second time - this week. The Arab barrage killed two more school girls - aged seven and nine; also, wounding seventeen - including ten additional children. In response to which - Israeli jets launched a series of air strikes against Arab targets in nearby Jordan. These reprisal raids - lasted about five hours; and in turn, set off a long-range Arab artillery barrage - followed by still more Israeli air strikes.

SUGGESTED INTRO TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED "BOMBAY"

BOMBAY

And now - it's time again for Lowell Thomas;

In the tropic lands of Southeast Asia - from India
discussing 'tonight betel nuts - and the implications

in Vietnam and beyond - part of the futuristic pastimes in
thereof. Lowell...

2 11

48:32

Tape - 115

49:50

Men, women and children
... much the same as Westerners have
... to chewing tobacco and to cigarettes. And now this - a report
from Tata Hospital in Bombay, which links the
... to a number of serious mouth
... including a risk of developing cancer - about
... of the non-betel chewer.

Only trouble - the great majority of betel-chewers
... refuse to accept the evidence. Dr. ... of the Tata
Hospital - listing four main reasons: First - the fact that
betel-chewing is considered - by men - a sex stimulant;
second - it's used by women to redden their lips - without
using lipstick; third - it's said to aid digestion; and fourth
it tastes good - to those who chew it. All of which makes
betel chewing - in Asia, at least - well, would you call it
"betel-mania?"

BOMBAY

In the tropic lands of Southeast Asia - from India to Vietnam and beyond - one of the favorite pastimes is chewing red betel nut leaves. Men, women and children taking to betel chewing - much the same as Westerners take to chewing tobacco and to cigarettes. And now this - a report from Tata Memorial Hospital in Bombay; which links the chewing of betel leaves - to a number of serious mouth ailments; including a risk of developing cancer - about fifteen times that of the non-betel chewer.

Only trouble - the great majority of betel-chewers - refuse to accept the evidence. Dr. Paymaster of the Tata hospital - listing four main reasons: First - the fact that betel-chewing is considered - by men - a sex stimulant; second - it's used by women to redden their lips - without using lipstick; third - it's said to aid digestion; and fourth it tastes good - to those who chew it. All of which makes betel chewing - in Asia, at least - well, would you call it "betel-mania?"

**SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE SLUGGED
"BOMBAY"**

**Thank you, Lowell - and I can't think of a better
word.**

In the process, disregarding the political niceties
long enough to deliver a stinging rebuke of U.S. foreign
aid and trade programs. Caldera called U.S. assistance to
developing nations - generally inadequate and especially
so in South America - he said. Further charging that the U.S.
was "oblivious to the plight of other nations" when it engaged
in such acts, for example, in cutting back Venezuelan oil
imports.

CONGRESS

Here on our own shores again - Venezuela's visiting President - Rafael Caldera - addressed a Joint Session of Congress; in the process, disregarding the political niceties long enough - to deliver a stinging rebuke of U.S. foreign aid and trade programs. Caldera called U.S. assistance to developing nations - generally inadequate; and especially so in South America - he said. Further charging that the U.S. was "oblivious to the plight of other nations" - when it engaged in such acts, for example, as cutting back Venezuelan oil imports.

THE HAGUE

In the Netherlands - Dutch voters went to the polls today - in local elections that spawned this year more than two thousand new political parties. Among them, the so-called "Free Sex Party" - the "Pub-Owners Party" - and the "Gnomes Of the Orange Free State Party"; also, the "Party of Forgotten Groups" - apparently just in case the other had missed anybody.

It was not all fun and games though. Serious contenders for municipal council seats - including, for the first time in Holland, a Catholic nun. Political observers nothing, what's more, Warren, that the deciding factor in the Netherlands - even as here in the States - is still the "silent majority."

SPELLING

Washington, D.C. - another exercise in "capital punishment" today - with the start of the Forty-Third Annual National Spelling Bee. A two-day competition bringing together some seventy youngsters from clear across the country - but not for long. Thirteen-year-old Laurie Miller of Beachwood, Ohio, became the first to fall by the wayside - when she spelled "oyster" H-O-I-S-T-E-R. And then - they started dropping like flies Little Tina Katayama - who came all the way from Okinawa - misspelling the word "palliative;" Sylvia Sandovol of Vanadium, New Mexico - a victim of the word "auk;" Roberta Bogner of Henry, Illinois - succumbing to the word "faldstool."

Nevertheless, the fate of Carol Sue Humphrey of Wilmington, North Carolina - perhaps the most poignant of all. She left out the "G" - in "poignant." To which we might add - Golly gee! As Lowell would say - so long until tomorrow

MOSCOW-PARIS

While Russia's Soyuz-Nine spacecraft was continuing its flight today around the globe - U.S. space spokesmen were also continuing their travels here below. Neil Armstrong, for one, taking in a meeting of Russian scientists - at the Soviet Academy of Science in Moscow. The "first man on the moon" saying of his cosmonaut hosts; "I am looking forward to meeting them again in space - and shaking their hands." In Paris - Dr. Thomas Paine voiced similar sentiments. The U.S. space chief told a meeting of European space experts - that greater cooperation is essential to the effective exploration of space. And he added that Russia's current flight - in mapping natural resources around the globe - holds "great promise of future benefits back on earth!"