

CANBERRA

American Tobacco + Plough - Reid Collins (sob.)  
Wednesday, December 20, 1967

A somber occasion today -- at Canberra, Australia; with the arrival of President Johnson -- to pay his last respects to a cherished friend -- the late Harold Holt.

The President telling an airport crowd: "You have lost a leader -- the world has lost a great man -- but we shall not lose his visions and inspirations."

Sixteen other world leaders -- expected to attend a memorial service this Friday; for the Prime Minister who vanished Sunday -- as you know -- while swimming in the sea.

The President's travel plans after Australia -- still cloaked in secrecy. However, growing speculation he may go on to ~~London~~ <sup>VIET NAM</sup> -- and then to Rome; possibly for a meeting with Pope Paul -- on the quest for peace in Vietnam.

DEC. 20, 1967

thomas show sub WASHKANSKY:

THE LATEST FROM CAPE TOWN-- GRIM NEWS ABOUT HEART PATIENT  
LOUIS WASHKANSKY.

THE 53-YEAR-OLD MAN STRUGGLES TO MAINTAIN HIS SECOND CHANCE  
AT LIFE, BUT A RELIABLE HOSPITAL SPOKESMAN SAYS "HIS VITAL  
FUNCTIONS ARE FLAGGING."

EARLIER IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT A RESPIRATOR WAS INSTALLED TO  
ASSIST BREATHING. HIS WIFE SAW HIM TONIGHT, THEN WAS TAKEN TO  
THE HOME OF RELATIVES TO WAIT.

A MEMBER OF THE TRANSPLANT TEAM SAYS "HE IS A VERY SICK MAN."

AMONG THOSE WHO PRAY FOR WASHKANSKY TONIGHT: EDWARD DARVALL,  
FATHER OF THE WOMAN WHOSE BORROWED HEART BEATS WITHIN WASHKANSKY'S  
BODY.

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## VIETNAM

Today in Vietnam -- seventh anniversary of the founding of the National Liberation Front. Accordingly -- Viet Cong guerillas making the most of the occasion. Overrunning a government outpost on the outskirts of Saigon -- staging two terrorist attacks within the capital-proper -- also invading and briefly occupying a village deep in the Mekong Delta. Victims including at least twenty civilians -- killed or maimed.

Another try -- about forty miles west of Saigon -- near the Cambodian border; where a force of about five hundred Viet Cong -- attempted to overrun U.S. base camp. For a change though -- they bit off more than they could chew. After a five-hour battle -- the enemy taking flight leaving behind at least forty dead.

On the political front -- this from South Vietnamese President Thieu: The Saigon government is willing to hold "informal" peace talks with the Viet Cong -- as President Johnson has suggested; but it will never -- said he -- it will never recognize them as a legal political party.

## CALCUTTA

At Calcutta -- still another student riot today. With hundreds of Indian youths marching into the famed Calcutta Esplanade -- in defiance of a ban on public gatherings. When they were routed by ~~the~~ police -- the students later raging through the streets of Calcutta -- setting fire to cars and street cars. The running battle -- accounting for about two hundred injured.

This -- according to police -- the worst violence in a month of continuing protest; over the dismissal -- of West Bengal's Communist-dominated state government.

PARIS

Here's a switch -- reported today from Paris. Where a mob of riotous French youth -- today stormed a movie theater showing a Vietnam war ~~film;~~ <sup>film;</sup> smearing tar over the theater's walls and lobby advertisements -- also smashing an exhibit set up in connection with the film.

The surprise -- in the fact that it was definitely a pro-American mob. The film disrupted -- a blatant piece of Communist anti-war propoganda; and the exhibit destroyed -- that of the Soviet Union.

## DEGAULLE FOLLOW PARIS

Elsewhere in Paris -- DeGaulle of France today called a surprise year-end Cabinet meeting; there publicly commending his Foreign Minister -- Maurice Couve de Murville -- for successfully blocking Britain's new bid to enter the Common Market. DeGaulle specifically quoted as praising de Murville -- for ~~his~~ his "precision, cool head and firmness." This "above all -- safeguarding" future development of the European trade group -- said De Gaulle.

Not so -- comes the answer today from London. British Foreign Secretary George Brown calling DeGaulle's attitude -- "a false view of the future of our continent." Adding that Britain will continue to press its application -- through the five Common Market countries that do favor British membership. Thus -- hopefully -- overcoming that French veto.

## UNITED NATIONS

At the United Nations -- a final press conference today -- for U.S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg; final -- for Sixty-Seven, at least. Goldberg telling reporters -- he has just completed a survey of the U.N. Security Council; on the question of whether Council members -- are, indeed, willing to take up the question of Vietnam; as recently requested -- by the U.S. Senate.

Results of the poll -- now in the hands of the President -- said Goldberg. Adding that a Presidential decision -- whether to proceed or not -- probably will come some time after the first of the year.

Next question -- what about Goldberg himself? <sup>7</sup> Is it true -- as rumored -- that he would like to quit the U.N.? Goldberg replying that as of now -- he has not submitted his resignation. As to his future role at the U.N. -- that -- said he -- "is in the hands of Providence."

## PENTAGON

Some thirty-five thousand American soldiers and airmen stationed in Germany -- soon to come home. The announcement today -- from the Pentagon. Part of a long-planned redeployment of U.S. NATO forces -- aimed at easing the U.S. balance of payments deficit.

The Pentagon emphasizing that these redeployed forces -- will remain committed to NATO; ready for instant return to Germany -- in the event of a new crisis. <sup>With</sup> ~~and~~ none to be sent to Vietnam -- said the Pentagon -- except in the course of normal rotation.



## VIEWNA

For Michigan's Governor George Romney -- a brief stopover today in Vienna. Time enough for a short statement -- on his two-day mission to Moscow. Romney saying he is convinced now-- the United States must do more to ~~xxx~~ erase "uncertainty and concern about our foreign policy." The Republican Presidential hopeful -- later explaining for Tel Aviv.

His path there -- perhaps to cross that of a second Republican contender. Senator Percy of Illinois -- another round-the-world traveler -- who has been visiting Israel for the past two days. Percy's itinerary today including a visit to Tel Aviv -- an inspection tour of an Arab refugee camp -- and finally a meeting with Premier Levi Eshkol. Along the way -- Percy telling the Israelis that since his last visit -- they had "succeeded in both war and peace."

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thomas show -- sub Athens-King

FROM ATHENS TODAY, WORD THAT GREEK'S THREE TOP MILITARY LEADERS HAVE RESIGNED THEIR ARMY COMMISSIONS. APPARENTLY A STEP TOWARD TURNING THE JUNTA INTO A MORE ACCEPTABLE GOVERNMENT... WITH THE PROMISE OF ELECTIONS IN VIEW....

AND FROM ROME, WORD FROM EXILED KING CONSTANTINE THAT HE MIGHT RETURN TO GREECE, ON CERTAIN CONDITIONS....ONE THAT THE JUNTA HAVE AN "ACCEPTABLE DATE" FOR A NEW CONSTITUTION AND A POPULAR VOTE ON IT.

ARLINGTON

Home are the honeymooners -- home from the Virgin Islands. Major Chuck Robb -- and the new Mrs. Robb -- nee Lynda Bird Johnson -- slipping back into Washington overnight; and settling down today at their new home -- in nearby Arlington, Virginia.

The couple expected to take part<sup>y</sup> -- in several pre-Christmas White House parties. Also to help Mrs. Johnson <sup>to</sup> celebrate her fifty-fifth birthday -- coming up this Friday.

By the way -- how did the newlyweds manage to escape trailing reporters -- on their way home? Easy. They traveled by regular commercial jet<sup>Warren</sup> -- registering as "Mr. and Mrs. Rosenthal" -- and <sup>nobody</sup> ~~anybody~~ paid them the slightest attention.

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FOR TWO YEARS, WARREN, THE BROOKLYN JEWISH WAR VETERANS POST NUMBER 51 HAS BEEN SENDING TROOPS IN VIET NAM PACKAGES OF SOAP, FILM, SHAVING GEAR, AND SNACKS.

BUT THIS YEAR IT PLANS THE BIGGEST GIFT OF ALL-- A G-I BRIDE.

IT TOOK WEEKS IN THE PLANNING. BUT THIS IS THE WAY IT WILL GO. SPECIALIST FOURTH CLASS JAMES CUMMINGS IS TO BE FLOWN FROM VIET NAM TO HAWAII. MARY LOU CUMMINGS IS TO BE FLOWN FROM NEW YORK TO HAWAII....AND THERE THEY WILL REMAIN FOR SEVEN DAYS.

THE CUMMINGS WERE MARRIED LAST JUNE, 16 DAYS BEFORE HE LEFT FOR VIETNAM. MRS. CUMMINGS LEAVES TOMORROW FOR A CHRISTMAS REUNION IN THE PACIFIC.