

Mon. December 14, 1970

WHITE HOUSE

The White House - another major cabinet change today, coupled with an attempt to broaden the base of administration support - on economic policies. President Nixon announcing the resignation of Treasury Secretary David Kennedy - to be succeeded by former Texas Governor John Connally.

The latter - a Democrat who you recall was almost killed along with the late President Kennedy - in Dallas back in Nineteen Sixty Three. The President calling the Connally appointment - a bi-partisan move, observing: "We have a Republican President and a Democratic Congress but the problems we have are American problems. And he added - "we need to approach them in a bi-partisan manner."

SAIGON

At the top of the war news tonight - a report that President Nixon's phase three withdrawal program has now been completed three weeks ahead of schedule.

The U S command in Saigon adding that another seven thousand troops - will be heading home by the first of the year; a good head start - toward a further reduction of sixty thousand planned for ~~May One~~ May One by which time, hopefully, the number of U S troops in Vietnam - will have been cut back nearly fifty percent from peak strength.

MADRID

By order of Madrid - a state of national emergency tonight in Spain; permitting unlimited arrests for a period of six months. This leading to speculation that a military court trying sixteen Basque nationalists will now hand out death sentences.

LIGHTS

~~Over~~ In Britain the lights went on again today - all over the country. ~~Britain's~~ power supply workers - ~~finally~~ agreeing to end a week old work slowdown.

A union spokesman calling this "an act of good faith" - while negotiations continue on a new contract; an opportunity - he added - for everyone to have second thoughts on the situation.

It appeared though - it was really the ~~union~~ union having some second thoughts. ~~Sporadic~~ Sporadic blackouts the past week - having caused untold hardships - including a death toll - estimated at a hundred a day. In the end, public condemnation of the power workers - mounting by leaps and bounds.

LONDON

From the British Interplanetary society - a report today that the Russians plan to attempt a soft landing on Venus - probably some time tomorrow.

The Britons basing their prediction on information received from space research centers in Moscow -

If true - and it probably is - this ^{will be} ~~marking~~ Russia's

third attempt - to ~~make~~ soft land an instrument package

on the surface of Venus.

TAIPEI

~~From Taipei, on the island of Formosa - a report~~
~~today~~ the nationalist chinese ^{say they} have just smashed a major
Communist spy ring. Those arrested - said to include
eight high-ranking news executives and journalists -
~~in~~ two of whom - have since committed suicide. - ~~was~~
~~said~~ Chinese sources adding that the confessed king
pin of the spy group - was a man by the name of
Li Ching-Sun, ~~the~~ board chairman of the ~~great~~ China
Evening News - also Deputy General Manager of the
State - operated broadcasting Corporation, ^{on Formosa,} ~~of China~~

LORD SLIM

Elsewhere in London - another old soldier fades away. Britons ~~forgot~~ Field Marshal Lord Slim - ~~the~~ *after a* ~~victim of a~~ *colorful* brief illness; ending a career, - ~~one of the~~ ~~most colorful in recent history.~~

Too poor to attend Sandhurst - young William Slim joining the territorials; serving as an enlisted man in World War One - where he was wounded twice, rising to the rank of Corporal - till he lost his stripes for leaving a marching column to accept a glass of beer from a friendly bar maid.

After the armistice - ~~he was then~~ assigned to the ~~famed~~ Gurkha Rifles in India *he rose* ~~through~~ through the ranks - to become Lord Mountbatten's second in command during World War Two. Eventually routing the Japanese - by pioneering techniques such as fighting through Monsoons; also, using air drops - to supply whole divisions.

In time, Lord Slim succeeding Vicount Field Marshal Montgomery - as the chief of Briton's imperial General Staff.

Later serving eight years - as Governor General of Australia.

Lord Slim ~~remains~~ always ~~though~~ a favorite of the exlsted man. In part, because of a standing order to his officers - which read: You would neither ~~eat~~ eat, nor drink, nor smoke, nor sit down, nor lean against a tree - until you have personally seen that your men have first had the chance to do these things. If you do this for them" - he added - "they will follow you to the ends of the ~~the~~ earth."

~~was~~ Britain's Field Marshal Lord Slim - aged seventy-nine.

BOSTON

Coming up this Wednesday in Boston - the one hundred and ninety-seventh anniversary of the Boston tea ~~party~~ party; which accounts for a check sent today - to Boston's mayor Kevin White; a check in the amount of forty-one pounds ~~,- fifteen-shillings-and-one-pence~~ - about a hundred bucks American, drawn on the account - of a Chicago ~~tea~~ based tea ~~tea~~ company. Purpose - we are told: To compensate the city of Boston - "for pollution damages incurred to Boston harbor ~~by~~ the original Boston tea party."

PARIS

~~Across the Channel - in~~ Paris - DeGaulle triumphs

again!

~~after~~ The Paris City Council today reverseing

itself a second time. Voting to remain the ~~Place~~ ^{area around}
the Arc de Triumphi

de L'Etoile -- in honor of ~~the late General Charles~~

DeGaulle. Today's final decision - coming on a vote

of forty-four to forty-one. French Premier Jacques

Chaban-Delmas -- promptly ~~is~~ announcing plans to

preside at ^a ~~the~~ name changing ceremony, ~~now set~~ -

~~for~~ tomorrow. The new Place de General Charles

DeGaulle ^{- at the top of the Champs Elysees}
~~to surround France's Arch of Triumph~~

~~Only skin fitting, it seems~~

HELSINKI

Following a weekend holiday in Leningrad -
U S and Soviet disarmament negotiators returned today
to Helsinki - there to wind up this week - the third
round of strategic arms limitations talks.

There is
~~Coincidentally~~ a report ~~today~~ that Gerard Smith
and Vladimir Semenov - the chief U S and Soviet
delegates - have now become good, if not old, friends.
They've even learned to speak each others language -
we are told - up to a point.

Bill Martin -

For example *7* the Russians and Americans -
sharing a Thanksgiving dinner this year. *where did not*
~~By~~ Smith
caused something of a ~~stir~~ stir when he said to Semenov -
well, shall we talk turkey now?"

HOLLYWOOD

For comedian Bob Hope - the start today of another Christmas tour of U S military ~~instk~~ installations. His twentieth such trip - dating back to World War Two. ~~Bob Hope~~; Bob Hope's troop this year, including, as usual, a bevy of lovely leading ladies - also, ^{the} Cincinnati Red's catcher, Johnny Bench.

One and all - getting a fond farewell from fellow Comedian Jack Benny; who turned up for the occasion wearing a Santa Claus outfit. Lest there be any mistake though - he also handed Hope a ~~the~~ bill; Three bucks - for costume rental. ~~some~~ ~~at some~~ And then he drove off in his fifty year old Maxwell!