

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

From trench-to-trench -- from tunnel-to-tunnel -- a fierce and perhaps decisive battle today; in the northernmost province -- of South Viet Nam. U.S. Marines finally crashing through a wall of machine gun fire -- to drive the Viet Cong from their stronghold village of An Dinh.

Ground, sea and air forces -- later ~~joining~~<sup>joining</sup> in combined attack on the fleeing enemy. Attempting to seal off once and for all -- key infiltration routes; through that supposedly demilitarized zone -- between North and South Viet Nam.

Viet Cong losses -- at least Sixty-Eight men -- in today's fighting. Raising the toll to more than Five Hundred and Thirty enemy dead -- since the start of the American border operation last month.

A burst of fire--billowing clouds of steam--and another perfect lift-off today at Cape Kennedy--as you <sup>may</sup> have ~~doubtless~~ heard by now. Surveyor Two soaring skyward-- exactly as planned. Destination--<sup>the</sup> moon.

An hour later--space officials reporting the picture-taking moon scout--dead-on-target. Its energy-absorbing solar panels--successfully pointed toward the sun. Estimated arrival at the moon's Sinus Medii--the so-called Middle Bay-- around Eleven o'clock Thursday morning.

Surveyor Two attempting to duplicate the feat of its trail-blazing predecessor--Surveyor One--and then some. Its hoped-for "soft landing" on the moon--to be made from a slanted or airplane-type approach--instead of tail first.

If successful--another <sup>big</sup> ~~great~~ step toward manned flight to the moon.

In Congress--a second life today--for the President's "fair packaging and labeling" bill. The House Commerce Committee--which voted to table the Senate-passed legislation last week--narrowly reversing itself. Voting to reconsider the bill--as of tomorrow.

Among other things--the measure calling for labels--bearing full statements of contents, quantity and place of manufacture, on upwards of Eight Thousand items--presently sold in supermarkets and drug stores across the land.

A reporter later asked Committee Chairman Harley Stagers of West Virginia--whether this meant ~~that~~ the committee would eventually pass the bill. Stagers' courtly reply: "Lord bless you--I don't know."

Meanwhile, on the House floor--Democrats and Republicans ~~disputed~~ <sup>clashed</sup> angrily over that GOP "white paper"; pinning full responsibility on President Johnson--for America's deep involvement in Viet Nam.

Democratic Whip Hale Boggs charging that Republicans had abandoned bipartisan support of the war--in an attempt to reap political advantage. Congressman Pepper of Florida suggesting the Republican statement--could well encourage the enemy; if the Communists interpreted it--as a lack of unity in the American war effort.

Republican Congressman Laird of Wisconsin--firing right back. Dissension within the Democratic Party--has already prolonged the war--said he. Adding--"we"--meaning Republicans--"support our country." *and so on.*

Ironically, a second attack on the "white paper"-- comes today from Moscow, of all places. The Soviet News Agency Tass asserting that GOP criticism of the President-- was-quote--"characteristic of Republicans"--unquote.

"They advance no proposals of their own for ending the war--but only blame the Democrats"--said Tass. Adding that the Republicans have only one purpose--to "win the present election campaign in the United States."

~~As the saying goes - politics makes strange bedfellows.~~

DAWSON FOLLOW MOSCOW

Elsewhere in Moscow--the Kremlin today <sup>finally,</sup> granted U.S. officials--permission to see ~~that~~ American Peace Corpsman-- Thomas Dawson; arrested by Soviet guards last week--when he accidentally wandered across the Russian border with Iran.

The meeting set for tomorrow--at Baku; where Dawson is being held--while the Russians decide whether to charge him with illegal entry.

All the makings for a first-class mystery--in this next from Niteroi, Brazil. "The case--of the lead mask murders."

The victims--two men found dead on a mountaintop. Both television technicians--both dressed in their Sunday best--both wearing heavy lead masks that completely covered their faces. Both bearing mysterious notes--advising them to take certain "capsules"--put on their masks--and wait. But for what--nobody knows.

Authorities as yet--unable to find any cause for death. Po'isoning, asphyxiation, shock--all ruled out. The only clue to a possible motive--disappearance of Twenty-Three Hundred dollars the men were supposed to have. In addition--nearby residents reporting seeing orange and blue lights on the mountaintop--on the night the men died.

In the absence of concrete evidence--best police guess: That the men were victims of some kind of religious experiment--  
*apparently*  
that backfired with fatal results.

Despite a plea from President Johnson--a major business assault today on the Administration's wage-price guidelines. In Detroit--the Ford Motor Company raising retail auto prices--from Fifty-Two to ~~Three~~ Hundred-and-Forty-Seven dollars per car.

According to Ford--the new prices including a flat increase--averaging Twenty-Five dollars per ~~car~~ <sup>model</sup>. Plus varying amounts for ~~new~~ <sup>certain</sup> improvements--including a number of <sup>new</sup> safety features.

Higher costs and lower profits--cited by Ford as the reason for the price hikes. Even with the increase--said Ford--it's projected "profits and rates of return" in Nineteen-Sixty-Seven--"will be lower" <sup>er</sup> than they were in Nineteen-Sixty-Six.



Plans for the launching of a new multi-million-dollar satellite--with the exotic name of EROS--announced today by the Interior Department. EROS to scrutinize the <sup>globe</sup>~~globe~~--for possible new sources of mineral wealth; also to keep a lookout--for possible volcanic eruptions or other natural disasters.

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Why then the name EROS--which, as you know, is the name for the Greek god of love. Because in this case--say space officials--EROS stands for "Earth Resources Observation Satellite." E-R-O-S.

SEATTLE

Question: Where is the biggest, most modern gambling house -- in all America? Answer: Not in Las Vegas, as you might expect, but rather -- in Seattle, Washington. Headquarters -- of the Pacific Northwest Regional Mathematics Learning Center.

The center -- full of immense and complicated equipment. In effect -- gambling equipment; which it uses to demonstrate the laws of probability -- especially as they apply to space science.

For instance, there's one device -- a kind of giant crap table. The number that comes up with each cast of the dice, -- Warren flashing a light on a field of some Five Hundred light bulbs.

The case for longevity--put forward today by former Governor A. B. "Happy" Chandler of Kentucky, ~~As~~ he formally filed petitions--qualifying himself for the next gubernatorial campaign two years hence.

The filing 'way ahead of time--said the veteran politician--to scotch rumors that at Sixty-Nine--he<sup>s</sup> ~~was~~ too sick, too tired and just "too old" to run again.

"If the British had chloroformed Churchill at Sixty-Five--there would be no Britain today"--said Happy. Adding that Adenauer "did all right at Eighty-Seven--and DeGaulle is not doing <sup>so</sup> bad <sup>by</sup> at Seventy-Six."

~~That's the spirit,~~ Happy. *still narin' to go.*