

MIDDLE EAST

Mon. May 29-67.

A political showdown fast building tonight at the United Nations. With the United States - demanding a vote from the U N Security Council; a note that would place it on record - against the Egyptian blockade of the Gulf of Akaba.

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Meanwhile in the Middle East there was a fifty minute exchange of fire today on that tense Arab-Israeli frontier. Casualties - apparently at a minimum. Still, there was shooting - in what till now has been largely a battle of words.

In Cairo Nasser today was claiming full support from Russia - for Egypt's blockade of the Gulf of Akaba. Said Nasser: "The Soviet Union - stands with us in this battle."

SAIGON

News from Saigon tells today of a fierce battle in coastal hill country - about a hundred and fifty miles south of Hue. The Viet Cong cutting loose on U S infantrymen - with a withering barrage of mortar, recoilless rifle and small arms fire. American G I's responding in ~~ma~~ kind - killing at least twenty-nine of the enemy.

Meanwhile at Da Nang - a statement today from departing ~~maxgax~~ marine Commander General Lewis Wall, saying the Viet Cong have become "desperate" - in the face of heavy losses to American fighting men. The situation now at the point - ~~sa~~^{LA} General Wall - where enemy troops often break ~~to~~ and run - "leaving their bodies and their weapons behind them." This - totally "unprecedented in Vietnam" -- said he.

BOSTON

At Boston and Hyannisport in Massachusetts -- at New Ross in Ireland -- at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia -- there were ceremonies today; in memory of the late President Kennedy -- who would have been fifty, today -- had he lived.

The U.S. government honored the occasion by issuing a new thirteen cent Kennedy stamp; with Postmaster General Lawrence O'Brien -- a former Kennedy aide -- handling the dedication. O'Brien listing things and places -- named in honor of the late President, and adding that "we should assess John Fitzgerald Kennedy" -- not in the "physical reminders of his greatness", but rather "in the way he would have preferred -- through the political events that he brought about."

Another former Kennedy aide -- in the current McCall's; Theodore Sorenson saying that John F. Kennedy's "continuation in the White House" would not have

"somehow vanquished by magic all the problems facing President Johnson today."

It remains for history then -- to correct that many Kennedy myths -- said Sorenson. Adding, however, that "those of us who really knew John Kennedy as he was -- must content ourselves with the knowledge that his place in both history and human hearts -- is too secure to be deflected by the carping of lesser men."

PARIS

Unable as yet to achieve cooperation in space - a pair of American and Russian spacemen today settled for peaceful cooperation right here on earth. U.S. astronaut David Scott and Soviet Cosmonaut Payl Belayev - briefly breaching the "space gap" at that Paris air show.

With Scott showing the way - Belayev wedging himself into the display model of an American spacecraft. Getting the feel of instruments, switches and levers - ^{and} keeping up a running line of questions; While Scott - for his part - was asking ~~to~~ and getting comparisons between U S and Russian space ~~equipment~~ equipment.

One interesting note: Scott reporting that U S spacemen used manual controls for re-entry -- in all but the last two of their Gemini flights; when they finally ~~and~~ switched - to automatic controls. However, the Russian Vostok series - exactly the opposite - said Belayev; all automatic - up to the last two flights; when the switch there - was to manual controls.

SUPREME COURT

Another ~~big~~ decision day today - at the U S Supreme Court. Including a pair of five-to-four rulings -- in cases involving widespread controversy.

The first declaring unconstitutional a measure passed by California voters - nullifying the state's open housing laws. This so-called "proposition fourteen" - involving "the state in racial discrimination - and therefore invalid under the Fourteenth Amendment" - said the high court.

The second verdict - striking down congressional power to expatriate a U.S. citizen. The court ruling that Congress may not revoke an American's citizenship - unless the person in question voluntarily renounces his allegiance to the United States.

At the same time - the Supreme Court refusing to get involved for now - in Adam Clayton Powell's attempt to regain his seat in Congress; also agreeing to review the

*Lindbergh Kidnapping Law -- because it seemingly places
a potential price of death - on the right of trial by jury;
and, lastly, agreeing to hear the appeals of two Cleveland
men - sent to prison in a "stop and frisk" case.*

VATICAN

At the Vatican - Rome - four more Americans were elevated today to the Sacred College of Cardinals. Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle of Washington, D. C. -- Archbishop John Krol of Philadelphia -- Archbishop John Cody of Chicago; as well as Monsignor Francis Brennen of Shenandoah, Pennsylvania - who serves as Dean of the Vatican's Tribunal of the Sacred Rota.

The new appointments raising to nine the total number of American Cardinals - highest ever in the history of the Church. In all - twenty-three other new appointments, raising to a record one hundred and twenty - the total number of Princes of the Church.

DALY

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Veteran television personality John Charles

Daly -- new head of the Voice of America; by appointment today from Leonard Marks - Director of the U S. Information Agency.

Tom Daly - moderator of "What's My Line?" for years -- to take up his new duties in the fall. Succeeding John Chancellor - who returns to NBC.

ROUEN

A strange and bizarre story -- comes today from Rouen, France. A story of death -- an apparent suicide -- at the local zoo. The victim -- twenty-one-year-old Madeleine Merle. According to police -- Madeleine, visiting the zoo all by herself, slipped into a tiger cage -- just before feeding time.

By the time help arrived -- it was too late. Two tigers -- clawing the girl to death. Leaving police still wondering -- why?

RIO FOLLOW ROUEN

*From Rio de Janeiro - a story equally bizarre;
telling of murder - on the installment plan.*

*The man with the plan - one Ruben Reis - alias
"bad character Lulu." His gun for hire - on easy credit
terms. Police estimating that "Lulu" may have committed
as many as fifty murders - under a sort of "budget charge
plan."*

*Only trouble for "Lulu" - he welched on his last
job. Leading to a complaint - from the dissatisfied
customer; a complaint - that eventually found its way to
the police. So now - it's "Lulu's" turn to pay up.—
down in Rio.*

PLYMOUTH

Through all the ages of history -- man has thrilled at great feats of adventure. And such a one -- is the solo-round-the-world voyage of Sir Francis Chichester; who arrived back at Plymouth, England, over the weekend -- after nine months of life and death struggle against the sea.

His journey completed -- sixty-five-year-old Sir Francis is enjoying a brief rest today. Girding his strength -- for a final voyage up the Thames two weeks hence, when Queen Elizabeth will officially knight him -- as one of the ~~great~~ heroes of the British Empire.

In the meantime ~~the~~ ^{have been} plaudits pouring in. Seafarers and landlubbers alike -- paying tribute to a brave and courageous man.

As one newspaper editorial puts it -- "Sir Francis, single-handedly and uncontestably, has not only established himself as the world's foremost sailor -- but he has ranked himself with the navigational genius

of James Cook -- the daring seamanship of Francis Drake
-- and the courage of Horatio Nelson." *How is that
for praise?*

The article concluding that "so long as there
are Britons of the calibre and character of Sir Francis
Chichester -- there will always be an England."

As to the why of his voyage -- Sir Francis
himself perhaps expressing it best. Said he: "It
intensifies life -- makes it really worthwhile -- to
live life to the fullest."

COLUMBIA FOLLOW PLYMOUTH

Here on our own shores a man who seems to have lived his life to the fullest and then some -- an elderly gentleman by the name of Sylvester Magee was today celebrating his own hundred and twenty-sixth birthday.

Sylvester Magee has been visiting with friends at Columbia, Mississippi -- on his natal day; there telling of his recollections -- as a slave in pre-civil war Mississippi; of his later exploits -- after he ran away and joined the Union Army; how he was wounded twice -- helping the North to free his kinsmen.

In the years that have passed -- Sylvester has long since become the oldest living Civil War veteran. More than that -- according to his insurance company -- the oldest living person in the U.S.A.

Taking a bite of plug tobacco -- Sylvester today revealed the secret of his longevity. Said he -- it's because "the Good Lord above has been smiling down on me." And I hope he's smiling down on all of you -- you too Hal!