

Monday, March 3, 1975

WHITE HOUSE

The White House - President Ford met today with top Republicans in Congress. Senate minority leader Hugh Scott saying the meeting was devoted mainly to discussing the President's options - with regard to energy policy; adding that the President was seriously considering - a possible compromise with Democratic leaders. It was even said the President would probably make his decision known by four this afternoon. However, Scott's remarks were later amended by White House spokesman Ron Nessen who said the President would confer by phone - with Democratic leaders; but stressed - "there will be no announcement today." That to come tomorrow - we are told; along with the President's veto of the bill - aimed at banning an increase on oil import fees.

WASHINGTON

Eight members of a U S congressional
delegation ^{to} ~~in~~ Southeast Asia -- returned home today
with mixed reactions. Bella Abzug of New York saying
she was still ~~is~~ opposed to any additional U S aid
to South Vietnam and Cambodia. But John Flynt of
Georgia who served as spokesman for ^{most} ~~the bulk~~ of the
committee -- saying ^s ~~he~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ convinced that "eight
sets of eyes and eight sets of ears had been opened."
While ~~was~~ Millicent Fenwick of New Jersey ^{was} ~~λ~~ saying
"some money is going to have to go there."

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PHNOM PENH

Back in Southeast Asia - Communist gunners were again raining rocket and artillery fire on Phnom Penh. Today's attacks - leaving at least ¹⁹~~thirteen~~ dead and nearly a score injured. The beleaguered Cambodian ~~capital~~ capital now having suffered through sixty-three straight days of Communist shellings.

BANGKOK

Bangkok - the new civilian government of

~~Thailand~~ Thailand today called for the withdrawal of
all U S troops from Thai soil - within eighteen months.

Thai defense minister General Thawit Seniwong ~~said~~

~~including~~ ^{of} the deteriorating situation in neighboring

~~South~~ South Vietnam and Cambodia ^{which} may be partly to

blame. The new Thai government not only has a duty

but a right - said he - "to look for ways and means

to save the country."

BROOKLYN

The conviction of Dr. Thomas Mathew for allegedly misappropriating ~~medicaid~~ medicaid funds - reversed today by a Brooklyn Appeals court. Dr. Mathew ~~you may recall~~ - head of the N. E. G. R. O self help organization, following his conviction in late ~~67~~ Seventy Three ^{was} _^ sentenced to three years in prison. However, the appeals court today ruling "there is not one ~~fragment~~ fragment of ~~testimony~~ testimonial or documentary evidence to suggest that the defendant acted with larcenous intent."

BELFAST

The latest truce in Northern Ireland - was marked today by two more bombings; both - in Roman Catholic areas; and this following weekend attempts - on the lives of two members of the official wing of the Irish Republican Army. But the protestants there - apparently not involved. Police saying the violence appeared to be part of a feud - ~~between~~ ^{among} three rival factions within the I R A.

NAIROBI

At Nairobi, Kenya - a weekend blast in a crowded bus - killing twenty seven and injuring more than a hundred. And now a series of bomb scares - forcing the evacuation of thousands from downtown buildings. Police reporting at least ten full-scale bomb hoaxes along with about a thousand telephone bomb threats. Adding that obviously this is all the work of terrorists - but who and why they say - is ~~still~~ a mystery.

REPUBLICANS

Washington again - a two day meeting of the Republican National Committee - to hear a report that fewer than two of every ten Americans - now call themselves Republicans. This on the basis of a survey -- ordered by ~~the~~ Republican National Committee executive director, Edward Mahe.

~~Next question:~~ Why? ~~And the answer -~~ says Mahe - in part, Watergate; but also the fact the Republican Party - is generally regarded as ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ quote "against the little people." Mahe adding that the G O P is ~~xxxxxxx~~ faced ~~with~~ ^{with a} not only ^a "confidence problem" - but also an image problem. ~~And~~ The only solution - said he - to demonstrate that the Republican Party - "is in the main stream on ~~to~~ its position on the issues."

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And now this m -

AUSTIN

One of the many measures recently introduced in the Texas State ~~Legislature~~ Legislature - a bill to make the lady bug the state insect, **But** ^{was} ~~this~~ side-tracked by ~~Representative~~ Representative ~~Uher~~ Uher of Bay City, Texas - and the lady bug lobby has been swarming ever since.

~~Indeed, the~~ letters keep pouring in. One ~~of the latest~~ - telling Uher: "If you don't get the lady bug bill out of committee - all the lady bugs in Texas will swarm into your house and fly up your britches; and then instead of having ants in your pants you'll have lady bugs in your pants." ~~The~~ letter signed, ~~by the way~~ - "a. lady bug."

Wouldn't you know it?

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now for CBS