

Good evening everybody. The US has set off that thermo-nuclear device in the Aleutian Islands. The big blast occurred late today - four thousand feet underground - on the remote island of Amchitka, fourteen hundred miles west of Anchorage, Alaska. The force - more powerful than one Million tons of TNT. It may have been the first in a series of explosions to test nuclear warheads for anti-ballistic missiles - but the Atomic Energy Commission has no comment on that. Fears were expressed in advance that the blast might trigger an earthquake and tidal wave. After Northern California experienced a series of earth tremors during the night, both of that state's Senators, two of its Congressmen, and Mayor Joseph Alioto of San Francisco made a last-minute appeal that the test be called off. But the Atomic Energy Commission went ahead with it, expressing confidence that the test would be both successful - and safe.

WHITE HOUSE

President Nixon today faced a groundswell of protest - over his nomination of Judge Clement Haynsworth to the Supreme Court. The President discussed the matter for the third time this week - with key Republican leaders. Among them - the assistant Senate leader Robert Griffin; who is said to have told the Chief Executive - his colleagues are growing increasingly disenchanted with the Haynsworth appointment. Griffin reportedly asked Mr. Nixon to withdraw it.

Nevertheless, the White House later made it plain - the President has no intention of taking any such move. White House News Secretary Ron Ziegler saying the President simply heard out the Griffin report - and then said, in effect: "You are aware of my position. I stand on that position. And thank you for your report." Rumors circulated for a while this afternoon - that Haynsworth had asked the President to withdraw the nomination. Those rumors have been denied by the White House - and by Haynsworth himself.

DEBATE

Both inside and outside of Congress - the so-called "great debate" continued to swell today. ~~Republicans~~ and Democrats alike - scorning the call for a sixty-day moratorium on war ^{Talks} instead, tearing away at each other - in a kind of "Vietnam backlash."

First up - again - Senator McCarthy of Minnesota; with a charge that President Nixon is following the same path in Vietnam - as former President Johnson. McCarthy adding that he fully supports Senator Goodell's proposal - / for a total U.S. troop withdrawal from Vietnam by the end of Nineteen -Seventy.

Next / Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield; who urged the President to declare - now - / a unilateral U.S. ceasefire in Vietnam. He also demanded that the U.S. stop "kowtowing" to the ^{Lew} ~~Thieu~~ regime - in trying to work out a political settlement of the war.

Reverse side - from Republican National Chairman Rogers

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Morton; who argued ~~that~~ in Chicago that a binding timetable for U.S. withdrawal - would only cost more American lives.

Morton observing: "The chances of holding serious peace discussions under such conditions - would be nonexistent."

AFL-CIO President George Meany / in a speech at Atlantic City / also joining the fray. / Asserting: "This is not Mr. Nixon's war" / - anymore than it was President Johnson's war / or Eisenhower's - or Kennedy's. / And he added that those urging unilateral withdrawal / "are not in any way advancing the idea of a negotiated settlement." ^e

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PARIS FOLLOW DEBATE

While all this was going on - another peace session today at Paris. For all the debate at home - Henry Cabot Lodge still holding firm. Turning down flat - a Communist effort to bargain with the U.S. alone. Warning, in addition, that there can be no political settlement - without prior ~~approval~~ approval from Saigon - without final approval from the Vietnamese people themselves.

VIETNAM FOLLOW PARIS

Thus -

In the war of words ~~that~~ - an escalation, if anything.

In the shooting war, however - perhaps something else again.

At any rate / U.S. casualty figures for the past week - as
announced today in Saigon / - down sharply. / The total of
ninety-five killed in action - lowest combat death toll in
more than two years.

The US Parole Board has denied a parole to James Hoffa, the imprisoned President of the Teamsters Union.

Hoffa is now serving an eight-year prison term for jury-tampering.

The board also denied a parole to Louis Wolfson, the financier whose connections with the Abe Fortas led to Fortas's resignation from the Supreme Court. Wolfson is serving a one-year prison sentence for selling unregistered stock.

BONN

For Willy Brandt of West Germany - it's all over but the cheering. For Chancellor Kiesinger - it's all over - period, unless something unexpected happens. This - by virtue of an announcement today at Bonn. Germany's pivotal Free Democrats - publicly pledging their full support of the former West Berlin mayor, now West German Foreign Minister. Free Democratic leader Walter Scheel telling reporters: "The party caucus will vote unanimously for Willy Brandt as Chancellor - you can take my word on that."

As part of the price for said support - Brandt is expected to name Scheel his Vice Chancellor and Foreign Minister in their new coalition government. Brandt further agreeing to adopt - a "less rigid" attitude toward Communist East Germany.

INDIA

From the Malabar Coast in the South to the Vale of Kashmir in the North - a thunder of bells was heard today clear across India. Hindus, Buddhists, Moslems and Christians alike - marking the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Mohandas Gandhi .

At the same time, thousands upon thousands thronged the Memorial on the banks of the holy Yamuna River - where Gandhi was cremated in Nineteen-Forty-Eight. The mourners all but covering his marble shrine - with mountains of marigolds, roses, jasmines - his favorite flowers.

For those who may have forgotten - it was Gandhi who led India to its independence from Britain. The man who achieved through passive resistance - what centuries of ~~fighting~~ fighting had failed to accomplish. He was further the inspiration of Martin Luther King - and he even died, as Dr. King did, at the hands of an assassin.

Mohandas Gandhi - perhaps better known to millions as Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma meaning, appropriately enough - "great soul." More news in a moment.

MANCHESTER

From Manchester, Connecticut - a story of two women.

Mrs. Ruth Tucker, a Democrat, and Mrs. Rosalind Quish,

a Republican - both running for the office of Town Treasurer.

A contest that put something of a strain on their home lives -

since their husbands were each registered in opposing parties.

However, the problem finally solved - with Paul Tucker

switching from Republican to Democrat, same as his wife.

And Raymond Quish pulling a vice-versa - switching from

Democrat to Republican, same as his wife. And so ends the

politics of not so strange bedfellows - in Manchester,

Connecticut.

Goodnight.