

WHITE HOUSE

Thurs. Oct. 22 - 70.

Here at home - President Nixon met for two-and-a-half hours today - with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. According to a later White House announcement - subjects discussed including^{ing}: West Berlin - the Middle East, Vietnam, strategic arms limitations talks.

White House Press Secretary Ron Ziegler saying the exchange of ~~views~~ views was "helpful for laying the basis of improved relations between the U S and the Soviet Union". The importance of which - in maintaining world peace - will be stressed by the President in the U S speech tomorrow - said he.

The Soviet embassy in Washington - also issuing a rare press statement of its own. Quoting Gromyko as saying the parley was - "very interesting". Adding that he, too, hoped it would be "of positive significance for the development and improvement of Soviet American relations."

DAMASCUS

From Damascus - by way of Beirut - a report ~~report~~ telling^S of an armored build-up ~~of~~ on Syria's southern border with Jordan. We are also told that Arab guerrillas - have been streaming across the border - supposedly joining up with fellow commandos - who still hold several towns in northern Jordan.

On the plus side though - a report that Arab leaders are seriously considering for the first time - the ~~possibility~~ possibility of establishing a separate Palestinian state. These Arab leaders ^{are} ~~are~~ said to include a number of militant Palestinians, ^{who} who now view a separate state - ~~as~~ as perhaps the only way of solving the current mid-east impasse.

SIAGON FOLLOW PARIS

Meanwhile
~~Half a world away~~ in Saigon - another weekly

casualty report. The U S toll for the past seven days -
~~coming to~~ forty ~~men~~ killed in action.)

^ Six less than the week before. The U S command
noting once more, that American combat deaths this
month - are now running at their lowest level in five
years.

PARIS

At the peace table in Paris - the sparring continues. U S ambassador David Bruce saying today - he was ready to discuss the enemy's latest eight point peace plan; was ready to do so - said he - if the Communist side would only agree, in turn, to discuss President Nixon's latest peace bid. However, the Communists ^{ed} turning him down flat. Calling the President's peace offensive - merely an effort at prolonging the alleged American "occupation" of South Vietnam. ~~But~~ Bruce later telling reporters - "we, of course, do not take these hasty generalizations as a final ~~our~~ answer."

MOSCOW FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

Meanwhile - Moscow - an announcement today ^{that} the Soviets are holding two U S Army generals - also a U S air force Major - also a Turkish Colonel.

The Americans listed as Major General Edward Scherrer of Shawnee-town, Illinois -- Brigadier General Monroe McQuarrie Junior of Buston, Mississippi. Along with the Turkish officer - passengers in a small plane that strayed across the Turkish frontier; ~~and~~ thereby violating "Soviet air space" - said the Kremlin and finally landing in Soviet Armenia. This coming at a specially bad time - in Russia's relations with Turkey.

As you know - the Soviets ^{are} still pressing for extradition of those two Lithuanians - who last week hi-jacked a Soviet airliner to Istanbul.

SHREVEPORT

The death of John T. Scopes - reported today from Shreveport, Louisiana. Remember? The defendant in that famed "Monkey Trial" back in Nineteen Twenty-five.

Young Scopes - a school teacher at the time - in Dayton, Tennessee, where he was charged with teaching evolution - in violation of state law. His trial - later becoming a part of the nation's legal folklore; William Jennings Bryan pitted against Clarence Darrow. Later it served as the basis of a hit play and then a movie - both entitled "Inherit The Wind."

The U S Supreme Court finally upholding his stand - just last year. Now the final judgment. John T. Scopes - age seventy-five.

BATON ROUGE

Baton Rouge, Louisiana - Billy Graham launches another ~~20~~ "crusade, ~~for Christ~~". The famed evangelist - beginning with an attack on way-out worship. Billy Graham noting there are some churches - that have become a combination of discotheque and hippy-pad, where the ~~with~~ minister [^] is seeking to emulate a swinger." He also noted the existence of at least one so-called Christian church - "where the morning worship service is achieved through psychedelic lighting, dancing and incense jags - and another said he - "where the members lie on the church floor - arms and legs outstretched - many of them high on drugs."

They call this being "with it" - Billy Graham went on; when in reality - said he - it's "far more representative of the ancient prophets of Baal - rather than the Church of Jesus Christ."

HOUSTON

This next - well, would you call it a scientific backlash? At any rate, a couple of top U S scientists - attempting to draw the line on the ecological front.

Dr. Philip Hnadler - President of the National Academy of Sciences who declares that the environmental threat is "all too genuine" but also challenges the growing trend -- to abandon fundamental research in favor of anti-pollution projects. Dr. Handler asserting: "You can't tell a scientist to stop looking at the stars - and start looking in the sewer -- it just doesn't work."

Dr. Fred Finger - chairman of the American Geophysical Unions environmental Quality Committee stresses his concern at wide spread charges - that the end for all of us is near because of excessive air and water pollution. Nothing of the sort - he contends - adding that scientists "should be careful not to cry 'wolf' either needlessly or too often" Warren - lest they lose their "scientific credibility" says Dr. Finger.

ROME

From the Rome tax office comes ~~today~~ - a list of the biggest money makers, Italian style. At the head of the pack, as usual - Prince Alessandro Torlonia - a wealthy land owner whose income last year totalled six hundred thousand. Second on the list - Actress Sophia Loren who hauled in five hundred and sixty thousand - mainly on the strength of a single film - Miss Loren's husband - film producer Carlo Ponti - also scoring high with a reported income of four-hundred-and-fifty-six thousand. Perhaps the biggest surprise of all though - the fact that Rome's tax accessor~~y~~ - Ugo Langione was another of the city's leading money makers. Senor Langione - who works on a commission basis - taking in last year three-hundred-and-twenty thousand bucks ^{in commission.} ~~That's~~ seven times his income - for the previous year. Or as Enzo Stuarti might say - "that^{'s}-a-nica."