

Mon. September 11, 1972

PARIS

Like ships that pass in the night - America's Henry Kissinger and Hanoi's Le Duc Tho passed each other in Moscow. The former - just arriving for talks with Kremlin leaders; the latter - just leaving.

However, Tho later indicated, on arrival at Paris, that he and Kissinger may yet meet again - in another attempt to find a Vietnam peace formula; but more on that - said he - "in a few days time."

BIENHOA

Meanwhile, ^{there was} a series of explosions - at the big Bienhoa airbase near Saigon, wounding some forty Americans - as well as destroying or damaging seventy South Vietnamese helicopters. This said to be the worst such attack of the entire war.

To the North - a massive U S air strike against suburban Hanoi - knocking out a huge bridge and all but obliterating four military barracks.

At the same time, a broadcast from Viet Cong Radio - later echoed in Paris; a broadcast conceding that "no Communist government" should be forced on South Vietnam but adding - no "U S puppet - either. And ~~the~~ thus the only acceptable alternative -- say the Viet Cong - a new ~~thing~~ "Tri- Partite" government. All of which the U S promptly labeled - "nothing new."

VERNON CENTER

On the ~~own~~ campaign trail - George

McGovern travelled today to Vernon Center, Minnesota;

the site of farm-fest U S A -- and the national plowing

contest. The Democratic nominee there pledging ~~there~~

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to increase farm income to ninety percent of parity;

and quote "stop the take-over of American agriculture

by ~~absentee~~ absentee corporations and Fifth Avenue

farmers." McGovern also recalling how, as a boy ,

he saw ^a hard pressed farmer cry. " I resolved that

afternoon" said he - "that there was something terribly

wrong with a system - that would do a ~~terrible~~ thing like

that to a decent, splendid, hard working, honest man, ^{and}

I resolved if I ever had the chance - I would throw

myself into the fight to change that system. "

BUGGING

Elsewhere on the political front - the Democratic National Committee filed an amended complaint today; in connection with that watergate - bugging incident. The Democrats citing former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans as the chief culprit - charging that Stans' financed the creation - of a so-called political espionage squad - ~~that he~~ did so - with Republican Campaign funds; ~~that he~~ then concealed his actions - by destroying party records.

ADD BUGGING

Whereupon - an immediate denial. Maurice Stans calling the Democratic charges - a "scurillous pack of lies." And the President's campaign manager, Clark MacGregor, saying he plans to sue the Democrats for "political libel and slander."

LAS VEGAS

For Vice President ~~Spiro~~ Agnew - a visit today to Las Vegas; where he addressed a national convention - of the brick layers, masons and plasterers union; stating that one of the administration's "most important" ~~is~~ goals is ^{to} ~~is that of~~ "finding ways to accord high prestige and acclaim to skilled labor."

The Vice President adding that "youth of today ~~do not~~ deserve a better break - than to be encumbered by white collar values;" values - said he - "which have made college education - a by-word for achievement."

MUNICH

As the twentieth Olympiad draws to a close in Munich - one of America's top sports writers, Red Smith poses a question: Should there be a twenty-first Olympiad - should Montreal try to do this all over again four years hence?

And the answer - again from Red Smith - a tentative yes; but, "not unless first there is a thorough house-cleaning!" "If the games are to continue, then the self-perpetuating Oligarchy that calls all the shots, must be replaced - from the top down - by younger men in touch with the world around them." Says Red Smith: "The world cannot afford to trust another undertaking of such magnitude to the atrophied egg-heads who made a botch of this one."

MOSCOW

When he left ~~for~~ for Reykjavik a couple of months ago - Boris Spassky was the toast of Moscow the world's chess champ - sallying forth to defend his title; with radio and TV, newspapers and magazines - all taking due note. Now we have

~~Over the past weekend~~ Boris Spassky returning home on a second class ticket - if not an un-person -- at least, unannounced and unheralded. Soviet news officials when queried - saying they knew nothing "about any interview plans." And even the Soviet Chess Federation - which had planned to hear from Spassky's chief second - now having some second thoughts. A spokesman explaining that Comrade Spassky's comrade - "doesn't seem to want to appear in public."

If he himself was daunted though - Spassky failed to show it. The Russian ex-champ telling an American journalist - he planned to take a brief vacation;

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**and then - said he - he hopes to compete in a chess
tournament to be held this ~~and~~ fall in San Antonio,
Texas.**

REYKJAVIK

Oh yes and

~~Reverse side~~ from Reykjavik ^{comes} a report

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today that reigning champ Bobby Fisher is thoroughly savoring his new found wealth; with additional offers - continuing to pour in; enough perhaps - to earn him as much as ten million. This - according to Brad Darrach ^{one of his few confidants} of Life Magazine, who writes that Fisher's future plans include - an expensive new car - a house in California and a social life that includes women." Fischer is also quoted as saying, however - his primary goal is that of winning public respect. Chess masters ^{he says} should play under superb conditions and be paid as well as top athletes." ^{Adds} ~~says~~ Bobby Fisher: ^{- Bill -} ~~And he adds:~~ "Whatever Mohammed Ali gets - next time, I want more."

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WASHINGTON

Washington again - Julie Nixon Eisenhower was discussing today - Life with Father; recalling that Life was darkest for the Nixon family - when the head of the household lost first for President of the U.S. and second for Governor of California. But even then said she - her father was always "an optimist - always saying things are not as bad as they seem."

~~As for~~ now? Julie described ~~the~~ ^{as} the President as ~~being~~ - "easy going, not stuffy." Adding ^{that} he "loves being President" [^] couldn't be happier.