

L.T. FISHER. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1966

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A far-reaching, five-point program for fighting inflation was launched today by President Johnson.

Including a request to congress for temporary suspension -- of the present seven percent investment tax credit for business, which many economists have denounced as the single most inflationary injection into the nation's economy.

In addition -- the President asks Congress for a sixteen month suspension -- of laws permitting business to benefit from an accelerated depreciation program. Also, the Federal Reserve Board -- to help bring down high interest rates. And -- a government survey -- to see if certain government securities should be withheld from the market. Plus a final promise to reduce federal spending personally -- by "impounding, postponing and freezing" government expenditures,

PRESIDENT--2

wherever possible.

"Our hope" said the President -- "is that this will cool off the situation."

## SPACE


*At Cape Kennedy - a final series of checks today - in preparation for tomorrow's two-part space spectacular; the flight of Gemini-Eleven - in hot pursuit of an Agena target rocket. At last report - all phases progressing satisfactorily.*

*Meanwhile, a comparative day of rest today - for astronauts Pete Conrad and Dick Gordon. Status ~~brief~~ briefings - followed by one more check of the flight plan - and then to bed before sundown.*

*Early to bed - early to rise - we hope. The Agena target rocket - set to go off at ~~eight~~ eight-forty-eight tomorrow morning. Gemini-eleven to follow - at ten-twenty-five.*

## CLOTHESLINE FOLLOW SPACE

Incidentally, Gemini-Eleven is equipped, of course -- with the latest and greatest of scientific gadgetry. But the newest innovation in space equipment -- we are told today -- is a little item considered by many -- to be "old fashioned" right here on earth: A clothes line.

A specially constructed clothesline -- with clips attached sophisticated clothes pins -- to which the astronaut will attach various items -- when their hatch is open. To keep supplies and equipment from floating around the cabine, and from floating right out the door. As happened on a recent flight -- when  a camera with valuable shots took off into space.

~~On the other side of the globe - Communist~~

*Viet Cong*

terrorism is reported at an all-time peak today in South

Viet Nam. Part of a last-ditch effort - to nullify Sunday's national elections.

Four terrorist bombs exploding in crowded places

-- wounding a dozen ~~na~~ civilians. *also* Mimeographed death

threats sent to almost all ~~candidates~~ candidates -- warning them to withdraw from the race before it's too late. Teams of Viet Cong roaming the countryside -- telling the local populace: "We have your name. If you vote - you risk your life."

Be that as it may - the biggest bombshell of all - from South Vietnamese Premier Ky himself. In a statement today at his birthday party - Ky saying he would be a candidate for future President of South Viet Nam - if "drafted" to run. This -- said Ky - because his first choice of the job - Chief of State Nguyen Van Thieu - has just withdrawn from the race.

Ky's announcement expected to have wide  
repercussions -- especially in the northern provinces  
~~Still~~ smoldering from that recent Buddhist led rebellion -  
against the Ky government.

~~But as to~~ What effect, if any, <sup>this</sup> ~~it~~ will have ~~to~~  
on the overall vote -- we'll have to wait and see.

## CHINA

Any further question about the current state of Sino-American relations <sup>seems to have been dispelled</sup> ~~dispelled once and for all~~, today in Peking, ~~with~~ public disclosure of a new version - of remarks attributed earlier ~~to~~ this week to Red China's Foreign minister Chen Yi.

In the original statement - you'll recall - Chen <sup>Xi</sup> ~~Xi~~ quote <sup>as</sup> ~~as~~ saying that China does not really want a ~~war~~ "clash" with the United States. Also that Red China - was "not necessarily dismissing" the idea of Vietnamese peace talks. Remarks construed in Washington - as a possible softening of China's customary "hard line" toward the United States.

But not so - according to Today's dispatch. What Chen <sup>Xi</sup> ~~Xi~~ actually said - we're told - is that Vietnamese peace talks are out of the question. Further, that there is no change - in Chinese policy toward the United States.

The error - simply a matter of misinterpretation -- ~~says~~ Peking. In other words - blame it on the translator.

## UNION

*American policy in Viet Nam - bitterly attacked today by the powerful British Trade Union Congress; currently in session - at Blackpool, England. A resolution passed by the full convention - asserting that the United States - quote - "seems hell-bent on all-out war," -- unquote.*

*The lone voice raised in defense of American actions - that of Fred Hayday, Chairman of the T U C's International Committee. Who said ~~that~~ that the war in Viet Nam -- "is a struggle against imposition of government by terror and force -- as opposed to government by free choice and consent." In the end, however - his remarks apparently <sup>were for</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>naught</sup>.*



## SOUTH AFRICA

The body of slain <sup>Prime Minister</sup> ~~Premier Hendrik~~ Verwoerd

was returned quietly today to Pretoria - administrative capital of South Africa. The city shrouded in mourning - on what would have been Verwoerd's sixty-fifth birthday.

<sup>Meanwhile</sup> ~~Back to~~

Cape Town - the ~~Rxw Premier's~~ Bible-quoting assassin - was arraigned ~~quietly today~~ in a special magistrate's court. Dmitrio Tsafendas ordered held without bail - until October Sixth. South Africa's Attorney General saying he <sup>will</sup> ~~may~~ be charged with murder - "as quickly as possible."

SHEPPARD

Dr. Sam Sheppard - arraigned a second time --  
today in a Cleveland courtroom ~~on a~~ charge, ~~of~~ ~~xxx~~ second-  
degree murder -- in the Nineteen Fifty-four slaying of his  
pregnant wife Marilyn.

In answer to the question -- "How do you plead?"  
Dr. Sam responding in a near-shout. "Not guilty" - said  
he. When ~~he~~ asked later - why such a loud voice - the  
defendant replying: "I've always been shouting that loud -  
if anybody had listened."

A trial date - to be set next week. In the meantime  
-- ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> remains free ~~on~~ ten thousand dollars bail.

## SKIRTS

*The question: After mini-skirts - what next?*

*The answer today - from London. It's mini-pants. ~~But~~ Not for women - but for men. Now now - take it easy London!*

*As introduced by fashion designer Hardy Amies - the new male costume to consist of a conventional shirt and tie - and a conventional jacket. All very normal - except that the trousers are to be cut off - a full ten inches above the knee. Ready for the next Great Flood!*

*However, British weather being what it is - ~~perhaps~~ Designer Amies ~~suggesting~~<sup>for</sup> his mini-pants ~~may have~~<sup>has</sup> some warmer clime in mind - maybe Capricornia, North Australia or Papua. Yes, Warren, New Guinea, ~~just that~~<sup>that's</sup> ~~where the~~ where the coffee and tea planters now wear 'em just above the knee.*

## LADY BIRD

Plans for a three-day western tour by Lady Bird Johnson - announced today ~~aa~~ by the White House. The tour set for week after next - as part of the First Lady's national beautification campaign.

First stop - ~~xx~~ ~~in~~ California; for ceremonies dedicating the Big Sur Coastal Road - start of a new scenic highway system. While still in California - Mrs. Johnson will next visit the <sup>Fabulous</sup> Hearst estate at San Simeon - <sup>and tourist center;</sup> now an historical monument; also the ~~px~~ Point Reyes National Seashore - north of San Francisco.

After that - ~~xxx~~ on to Arizona; for dedication of the Glen Canyon Dam - near Page. <sup>Then</sup> ~~Potomac~~ <sup>by</sup> a quick trip - to New Mexico; including a stop at the American institute of Indian arts and crafts <sup>at</sup> Santa Fe -- and another at the <sup>exciting</sup> San Ildefonso Indian Pueblo.