

Mon. Oct. 30-'67,

The big story today from suburban Cleveland -- an end at last to nearly two days of ~~almost unbelievable~~ ^{fantastic} terror for a teen-aged bride, held at gunpoint by a rejected suitor -- while police waited helplessly outside.

The climax -- written in human blood; that of the abductor -- Robert Batch -- as well as his captive -- Mrs. Lida Caldwell; after police summoned Batch's mother from her home in Johnstown, Pennsylvania -- to come and "talk some sense into him."

Mrs. Martha Smith entering her son's apartment -- trying to succeed where police, priests and others had failed before her. But suddenly -- a few seconds later -- two shots. Batch shooting the nineteen-year-old Mrs. Caldwell point-blank in the chest -- then pumping a bullet into his own heart.

By the time police arrived -- the abductor was dead. Amazingly though -- Mrs. Caldwell was still alive. At last report in serious condition -- but she is expected to live. and what a story she'll have to tell!

On the space front -- ~~a tremendous~~ ^{a major} achievement today for the Soviet Union. Russian scientists successfully completing ~~the~~ history's first automated docking in space. With two unmanned spacecraft launched days apart -- locking automatically in a single orbit around the earth.

The two satellites said to be prototypes of Russia's new Soyuz spacecraft -- to be used in later manned flight. Indeed, Russia quickly calling today's feat -- the initial step toward the building of a permanent space platform. American scientists adding that it could serve equally well -- as the first step toward a circum-Lunar flight; that is, a flight around the moon and back -- without landing.

Be that as it may -- this the first known launching of a Soyuz spacecraft -- since the death of Soviet Cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov in just such a ship -- last spring. The flight thus considered a test of new, improved equipment -- which apparently worked to perfection.

From the Texas White House ^{come word} ~~a grim concession~~

today; that Congress is speeding toward adjournment -- possibly by Thanksgiving; with many of the President's pet projects -- still in a state of limbo.

White House Press Secretary George Christian voicing the hope, however -- that Congress may yet complete action ^{on} ~~of~~ several administration proposals. Among them -- bills dealing with crime control -- civil rights -- truth in lending -- social security -- air pollution -- highway beautification.

Toward that end -- President Johnson flying back to Washington tonight -- to begin applying the pressure.

^{Yes!} Christian asserting: "We expect there will be some busy times -- in the next two or three weeks."

What about the President's requested -- ten per cent tax increase? The consensus seems to be -- it's dead for the current session of Congress. However, ^{Pres. Sec.} ~~Christian~~ Christian

remarking in effect: Wait'll next year.

VIETNAM

~~Was~~ From Vietnam ^{comes word} ~~a story today~~ of two days of savage fighting near the Cambodian border. Beginning with a band of Viet Cong - overrunning a U.S. special forces camp; only to end up in a devastating pincer movement - set off by pursuing American reinforcements.

The scene of battle - about seventy miles north of Saigon. ~~First~~ the enemy actually seized ^{ed} the U.S. camp - after a wave of suicidal attacks. Holding it for hours - before the American counter-attack; which eventually trapped the Viet Cong - on a ~~old~~ ^{former} French rubber plantation. American air and artillery support - helping ~~to~~ finish the job.

In the final tally - the Americans losing six - their South Vietnamese allies fourteen; as against enemy losses - totalling more than two hundred and ~~four~~ forty men. For then a costly raid.

HUMPHREY FOLLOW VIETNAM

Elsewhere in Vietnam -- visiting Vice President Hubert Humphrey today toured American bases in the Mekong Delta. Later heading for Saigon - to take part in tomorrow's inauguration of President-elect Nguyen Van Thieu; despite Communist threats - to try to ~~disrupt~~ disrupt the ceremony.

Along the way - ^{Vice Pres,} ~~Hubert~~ Humphrey hearing from a South Vietnamese Army major - who complained about corruption among government officials. The Vice President commenting: "I think the greatest thing I've heard today - is that the major could stand up and criticize constructively -- and tell the truth - and not to afraid."

MOSCOW

Meanwhile, in Moscow - the Kremlin today threw cold water on another peace move. Soviet Premier Kosygin rejecting the idea of reconvening that Nineteen Fifty-Four Geneva ~~conferece~~ conference - of which Russia was co-chairman. Asserting it would be "unreal" to hope for peace through such a move -- because neither North Vietnam nor the Viet Cong were ~~represent~~ represented at the earlier parley.

Kosygin further reaffirming Soviet support - of Hanoi's stated conditions for any peace talks. These to include a U S bombing halt - withdrawal of all troops - and full recognition for the Viet Cong. The Soviet Premier adding: "our sympathies, our moral and political support and our aid - are completely on the side" of the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese.

STOCKHOLM

At Stockholm, Sweden - the year's latest list of Nobel Prize-winners was announced today. The group headed by -- Professor Hans Albrecht Bethe of Cornell University; winner of the Nobel Prize for physics -- for his work in unlocking some of the ~~xxxxx~~ secrets of the sun.

A native of Germany - Professor Bethe fled his homeland just a jump ahead of the Nazis; ~~Here~~ in the United States ^{he} ~~helped~~ ^{helped} develop the hydrogen bomb. Now ^{he} ~~become~~ ^{is} America's twenty-seventh - Nobel prize-winner for physics.

At the same time - the Nobel prize for chemistry was awarded today to ~~by~~ two Britons and a West German. ~~But~~ For the second straight year - there will be no Nobel Peace prize. The Norwegian Parliament - which rules in this category - relaying its "no" verdict from Oslo.

Why - they never say. Observers noting, however, that Nineteen-Sixty ^{Swam} ~~has~~ ^{is} been anything but peaceful.

GULFPORT

Here on our own shores - a series of silent killers whipped a widespread path of destruction today- across the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The State Highway patrol telling of a number of tornadoes - that "sliced ~~kn~~ like a knife" all the way from Gulfport to Biloxi.

First reports indicating at least three dead - several missing - and hundreds more injured. In some cases, the twisters picking up cars and trailers - shaking them ^{and then} ~~like a monster~~ ^{- Warren -} before stacking them like heaps of junk. Additional debris ^{at} almost everywhere; often forcing use of bulldozers ^{to} clear a path to ~~the~~ stricken areas,

ORANGE FOLLOW GULFPORT

~~Facing~~ ^{Also -} on to the West Coast - a major fire threat today in tinder-dry southern California, where seventy-mile an hour Santa Ana Winds - are whipping brush blazes into uncontrollable infernos.

Worst of these - a twenty-eight thousand acre fire in heavily populated Orange County, Destroying dozens of expensive homes - and forcing thousands ~~of~~ to flee the ~~advancing~~ ^{crushing} flames. Temperatures in the mid-nineties -- adding ~~still more~~ to the problem.