

Wed. Apr. 29-70. Salt Lake City

ECONOMY


For the first time in nearly two years -- the U.S. Wholesale Price Index -- apparently down last month. Preliminary government figures announced today -- showing an estimated drop of one-tenth of one percent from the previous month; which is not much, ~~and is not~~ but still highly significant -- we are told. And the main reason for the decline -- said to be sharply falling prices for farm products -- especially meats, poultry and fish.

WALL STREET

Elsewhere in the economic news -- a rally today on Wall Street. The New York Stock Market -- chalking up its biggest gain in a month; with the Dow-Jones Industrials -- jumping more than thirteen points. The sudden improvement apparently sparked, in part, by President Nixon's statement of yesterday that now is surely a good time to buy.

SAIGON

On the Viet Nam war front -- a series of fast-breaking developments today, starting with an announcement from Saigon -- that South Viet Name^sse troops have just launched a major search-and-destroy mission inside Cambodia. An attempt -- we are told -- to smash a big complex of Viet Cong bases -- just across the border from South Viet Nam. Saigon adding that U.S. forces were involved -- to the extent that they were providing air and artillery support; also, "logistics assistance -- medical evacuation" and so on.



PENTAGON FOLLOW SAIGON

This promptly confirmed by the Pentagon -- here at home. A Defense Department spokesman adding that U.S. advisors -- are also taking part in the mission. He further called the action "a necessary and effective measure -- to save Americans and other free-world lives and also to strengthen the U.S. Vietnamization program."

WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW PENTAGON

About an hour later -- the White House joining in. Announcing that President Nixon will make a broadcast report to the nation -- tomorrow night. The President to discuss, Quote, "The entire situation in Cambodia -- as it relates to both Cambodia and U.S. forces in Viet Nam." For what it's worth though, the White House stressing that today's border engagement -- was "not a response" to Cambodia's request for U.S. military assistance.

STOCKHOLM

Another related item -- from Stockholm; where the Swedish government issued a statement today -- sharply criticizing President Nixon's "Vietnamization" policy. Asserting that gradual withdrawal of U.S. troops -- coupled with a build up of South Viet Nameese troops -- could well "prolong the war."

At the same time, the Swedes sharply condemned anti-war demonstrators -- who have been hounding the new U.S. Ambassador to Sweden, Dr. Jerome Holland. These nothing more than "scoundrels" -- said the Swedish government; adding that they were only damaging -- "the reputation of their own country."

JAKARTA

In the meantime -- Jakarta -- Indonesia's Foreign Minister Adam Malik -- addressing an appeal to Washington. Urging the U.S. not to send arms or military aid to Cambodia -- at least, for time being. Malik explaining that Indonesia is attempting to arrange, even now -- an all-Asian summit meeting; in the hope -- said he -- that Cambodian neutrality will thus be guaranteed.

TEL AVIV

Turning to another of the world's trouble spots -- Israel charged today that Soviet pilots are currently flying so-called "Operational missions" inside Egypt. The Soviets supposedly standing guard against Israeli jets -- that might be bent on deep-penetration raids against key targets. Tel Aviv newspapers -- usually well-informed -- adding that there has already been at least one near-clash. It was further suggested that Israel, as a result -- is once more pressuring the U.S. for additional Phantom jets.

REACTION FOLLOW TEL AVIV

Here at home again -- President Nixon quickly taking note of the new development. Ordering "an immediate and full evaluation -- of all U.S. intelligence reports;" attempting to determine whether the presence of Russian pilots might have had any serious "implication on the strategic balance in the Middle East." White House Press Secretary Ron Ziegler suggesting, what's more, the U.S. might provide additional arms to Israel -- if such, indeed, were the case.

SENATE

Federal Appeals Judge Harry Blackmun -- who is President Nixon's latest nominee to the Supreme Court -- the lead-off witness ^{at} ~~with~~ ^{the} the start of confirmation hearings today. Judge Blackmun basing his ^{remarks on his} ~~case~~ ~~on~~ ten years as a member of the eight Circuit Court of Appeals. Telling the Senate Judiciary Committee: "My record will show in civil rights and labor cases -- and in the treatment of little people -- what I hope is a sensitivity to their cause." The Judge adding later he would probably dispose of all of his stock holdings¹-- if and when he is finally confirmed.

In the end, Judge Blackmun ~~thereby~~ winning high praise -- from liberals and conservatives alike. Senator Hart of Michigan, for one, asserting that Judge Blackmun clearly bears "the mark of excellence" -- which he said President Nixon had earlier promised.

BOSTON

Up at Boston -- a transcript of that heretofore secret Kennedy-Kopechne inquest -- was finally made public today; along with a summary from Massachusetts District Judge James Boyle -- who presided over the case. Judge Boyle noting among the twenty-~~seven~~ seven witnesses, in all -- numerous "inconsistencies and contradictions." Coming to the eventual conclusion that Senator Edward Kennedy -- with Mary Joe Kopechne beside him -- had operated his car "Negligently;" and and, therefore, he apparently did contribute to her death -- said the Judge.

Reaction from Senator Kennedy -- a prompt statement in Washington.

Asserting that Judge Boyle's findings -- "are not justified." "I reject them" -- said the Senator. Adding ~~that~~ "the facts are now fully public" -- leaving ultimate "judgement and understanding where it belongs" -- with the people.

SACRAMENTO

Sacramento, California -- a post-script to history. The venerable Chief Eagle of the Teton Sioux tribe -- telling the Indian version of that famous battle at the Little Big Horn nearly a century ago. Asserting that General Custer -- was not, repeat, was not killed by the rampaging Sioux of that day; but rather shot himself through the temple -- in preference to capture by the Indians.

Chief Eagle admitting this is at variance -- with practically every history book, insists nevertheless, that he himself confirmed the facts -- in talks years ago, with four Indians who actually took part in the massacre. Chief Historian Robert Utley of the National Park Service, who is also something of a Custer expert -- says the great 'weight of evidence' tends to cast doubt of the Custer suicide theory. He says however: 'who knows?' And so it goes -- in what is a sort of second Battle of the Little Big Horn. But rejoins the Chief: "You may not like it -- but that's the way it was and you better believe it."

^{John Cooper}
1/24 ago at the Cooper Cin-Theater in Den., at the premier of a film called H-the-Red-War? I sat with this same Sioux Chief Eagle - and after a couple of reels he turned to me and said: "This is not etc." "This is How The West was Lost!"

BUCKHANNON

Buckhannon, West Virginia -- the final chapter today in the story of an
^{alleged} killer coyote -- a ^{long} way from home. The stranger from way out West -- bringing
down an estimated twenty thousand dollars worth of sheep over the past year or so.
One Coyote doing all that? Fantastic! But this item says he
~~so in the process,~~ -- successfully eluding ^{ed} hounds, helicopters, even a professional
hunter. Finally coming-a-cropper when he was trapped by a local farmer -- one
Charles Marple -- who ^{they} ~~promptly~~ shot him.

Farmer Marple succeeding, where all others had failed, ~~by~~ by using a special
bait for his trap: a sexy female coyote name of Ginger -- specially imported for
this decoy assignment.
~~the job,~~ When the killer came looking for Ginger -- snap went the trap. ~~observed~~
~~nothing~~ " 'Twas beauty -- killed the beast. "