

For the first time in Nineteen-Sixty-Eight - a major U.S. air strike today against the North Vietnamese Capitol of Hanoi; with American jets taking advantage of a break in the monsoon weather - to deliver a telling blow to the enemy's industrial heartland. This as the Vatican called anew today - for an end to U.S. bombing of the Communist North.

Inground action to the South - the Vietcong launching a rocket against the big U.S. Marine base in Da Nang. Following that with a series of assaults - against four American positions South of Da Nang. Casualty reports: Twenty-Five American dead - as against Two-Hundred-Eighty enemy dead. Raising the toll of Vietcong to more than One-Thousand-Two-Hundred killed - in the first three days of this new year.

PHNOM PENH FOLLOW VIETNAM

Meanwhile - at Phnom Penh in neighboring Cambodia - Prince Norodom Sihanouk today reaffirmed his determination not to challenge U.S. troops, should the Americans enter sparsely populated Cambodian border areas - in hot pursuit of fleeing Vietcong.

This as he put it - in defiance of demands from "some foreign, left-oriented friends" of Cambodia. Meaning - presumably - North Vietnam and Red China. Said Sihanouk: "These people do not have a responsibility for human lives - nor for the future of our nation."

This latest - from Peking; A warning tonight that Red China will be "watching closely" to see whether American troops actually do enter Cambodia. If they do - said Peking - Red China "will not look on with folded arms"; - whatever that means.

CAPE TOWN

The world's second successful human heart transplant patient - "improving" - a favorable report today at Cape Town, South Africa. Dr. Philip Blaiberg awaking for the first time from heavy sedation - telling doctors: "I am thirsty." And then: "Please give my regards to my wife."

Dr. Christian Barnard - who installed Blaiberg's new heart - later reporting he was "very optimistic" about his patient's outlook for survival. However, Dr. Barnard adding: "There is no possibility - of another such operation being done in the near future." Why he said this is a mystery - he wouldn't explain.

PARIS

Michigan's Governor Romney is homeward bound tonight - after a whirlwind global fact-finding tour. Despite his low rating in recent polls - the Republican presidential hopeful apparently is more confident than ever.

At a brief stopover in Paris - Romney blaming his decline on a hostile press. Adding that now - the voters will have their say. The "grapefruit league" is over - said he - and "the real season is just starting."

LANSING FOLLOW PARIS

Awaiting Romney's consideration back in Lansing - a special Michigan Crime Commission report just made public today, accusing "certain organized elements" - of trying to expand last summer's riots in Detroit. But what "elements" - it didn't say.

As for means of preventing future riots - the ██████████ Commission urging creation of special police intelligence ██████████ units; also an absolute ban - on the "sale of military-type fire arms;" plus a riot-control measure - outlawing possession of "Molotov Cocktails!"

ALBANY FOLLOW LANSING

Meanwhile, New York's Governor Rockefeller was sounding more and more today - like a bonafide Republican presidential contender. In his annual State of the State message at Albany - Rockefeller stressing what he called "storm signals of distress" in the U.S. economy. Urging appropriate measures to deal with the problem - including a possible moratorium on new spending programs.

Be that as it may - the Governor also calling for a Half-Billion Tax increase in New York this year - to help pay for expanding state Medical and Educational programs.

"Nothing of value is free" - he explained. Adding: "If the people truly want and need these services - there must be ^{to pay} ~~be~~ to pay for them"

CONCORD FOLLOW ALBANY

*Reverse side from Concord, New Hampshire - where
Senator McCarthy of Minnesota made it official: He will
be a candidate - in New Hampshire's First-In-The-Nation
Presidential primary in two months.*

*At nearby Nashua - the Chairman of President
Johnson's campaign efforts in New Hampshire - quickly
welcoming the challenge. Bernard Boutin saying it is now
"incumbent" on the President's supporters - to show that
LBJ does have the strength to overcome McCarthy's peace
candidacy.*

LBJ RANCH FOLLOW CONCORD

For the President himself - another work day today at the LBJ ranch; including the signing of that new - One-Point-Eight Billion War on Poverty Bill. The President thereby clearing his desk of all legislation - passed by the first session of the Nineth Congress.

Also - another Presidential appointment. LBJ naming Merton Peck - to fill that newly created vacancy on the President's Council of Economic Advisors. Again - the accent of youth. A former Harvard Professor - presently Chairman of the Yale Economics Department - Peck is only Forty-Two.

ACCRA FOLLOW LBJ RANCH

While the President was thus occupied - the Vice President was arriving today at Accra, Ghana. Hubert Humphrey carrying in his pocket - the pledge of a Twelve-Million U.S. Food for Freedom Loan, as he launched his third stage - of his current nine-nation goodwill tour of Africa.

Among the crowd that greeted him - the Vice President spotted several home-made signs that read: "We love H.H.H - not less than L.B.J." Said Hubert Horatio Humphrey: "I have seen many signs in my own country - but seldom any I like as much as these." And what say you, Warren?

LONDON

From London the story of one of the strangest honeymoons on record; that of Nine-teen-year-old Anne Markie - who spent the first three weeks of her marriage - cooped up in a chest of drawers.

The reason - love, of course; also money - or lack of same. Pretty Anne - a resident of Auckland, New Zealand; met and married British seaman Terrance Markie in a whirlwind courtship - just before his ship was due to sail home for London.

With no money to pay for regular passage - Markie smuggled his bride aboard the vessel and concealing her as best he could: In an old, hollowed-out chest of drawers - where she remained almost constantly for the next three weeks until the deception - finally came out.

Appearing in court this week in London - the two were let off with a fine of Eighty-Two-Dollars American. Mrs. Markie later commenting: "It was very dark in the chest - very hard - but now that we are here - it was all worth it." As once again - love conquers all.