

Thurs, June 5th '75

SUEZ CANAL

After eight years as a virtual no man's land - the Suez Canal was reopened today in a ceremony worthy of the pharoahs. ~~Indeed~~ The official honors ^{were} performed by Egypt's Anwar Sadat - from a rostrum shaped like a pharoah's barge. With white doves flying overhead & Sadat calling the reopening "a gift to the world" - "a contribution to peace." Then boarding a destroyer called the October Sixth - after the starting date of the last Middle East war [^] heading a procession ^{of} horn-blowing, bell-ringing, gaily-decorated ships - ^{Sadat accompanied} on the first trip through the Canal.

~~The last ship~~ In that procession, incidentally, ~~was~~ the cruiser Little Rock, flagship of the U.S. Sixth Fleet; ~~especially~~ invited by Sadat ^{as a} ~~in~~ tribute to U.S. help in bringing about ^{the reopening of the Canal.} ~~this glorious day~~

And now —

WHITE HOUSE

The White House ^{said} ~~an announcement~~ today that

President Ford has signed - with "mixed feelings" - a bill aimed at spurring sagging highway construction. The President noting that states will now be able to start Federally-supported highway projects - without first producing matching funds; ^{Saying} ~~saying that~~ he strongly opposes this "in principle" - ^h ~~but~~ is willing to make a "one-time exception."

DEFENSE

On Capitol Hill - a series of attempts at cutting back U.S. defense spending - were defeated overwhelmingly today in the Senate. Senator Cranston of California, for one, saying: "If we make these reductions - we will appear to be on the run and becoming isolationist." ~~Adding~~
~~that right now - that's something we just cannot have.~~

RAILS

~~Washington agents~~ The Interstate Commerce

Commission today approved a Five Per Cent across-the-

board increase - in railway freight rates. This ~~increase~~

~~we are told~~ in order to offset increased labor costs.

NAIROBI

One of the worst droughts in all history - is
reported today from Ethiopia and Somalia, in Eastern Africa.
Officials in Nairobi saying as many as forty thousand persons
- may have already died; ^{with a} ~~and another~~ million ~~more~~ - ~~addition~~
^{more,} ~~be frightened on the edge of starvation~~ ^{ing.}

ORANGE PARK

Remember Victoria Fyodorova? The "love-child"

of a Russian actress - and U.S. Navy Captain Hugh Tate; who came to this country last March - to see her father for the

first time? ~~Well, it now looks as if she's~~ ^{Well, she's} going to ~~be~~ ^{stay} here.

~~permanently. The Tate family announcing today at Orange~~

~~Glamorous~~
~~Park, Florida - that~~ Vickie will be wed Saturday to Pan Am

~~striking~~ pilot Fred Pouy of Stamford, Connecticut. ~~He was~~

~~also told that Vickie's mother, in Russia, has approved -~~

~~especially since her husband-to-be is~~ an ex-Navy officer,

like her father."

PIRAEUS

This next - from shipping heiress Christina Onassis - at Piraeus, Greece; an announcement today that she plans to use about half of her estimated One Billion-Dollar inheritance - to create a sort of Greek equivalent of our own Ford ~~Foundations~~ *and Rockefeller Foundations, in memory of her late father,* Aristotle Onassis - and her brother, Alexander, who was killed in a plane crash two years ago.

COMMENCEMENT

Proud father Gerald Ford - the main speaker today - as young Susan Ford was graduated from high school in suburban Maryland. The President starting out by saying: "You might be interested to know - my daughter Susan gave me some advice on this speech; she asked me not to talk too long - not to tell any jokes - not to talk about her - and not to talk about the way things were when I was your age." The President adding: "And so, in conclusion..."

He was only fooling though - quickly launching into a pitch for the Equal Rights Amendment. And later - when Susan actually received her diploma - the President saying: ~~"I may have slipped and tumbled in Salisbury just now"~~ Today, I assure you, I'm walking on the clouds."

And now -

FORT DRUM

A young housewife by the name of Marilyn Poling of Sea Isle, New Jersey - a recent recruit to the New Jersey National Guard; signing up in hopes of earning a little extra money - and to get out of the kitchen; ^{And then today at} ~~except~~ her first summer training camp - at Fort Drum, New Jersey, ~~where~~ she was assigned ~~today~~ to washing pots and pans, peeling potatoes, ~~sweeping, picking up garbage~~ and so on.

This, by the way, on orders from her husband - unit commander Ray Poling; who explains that wife or not - "she'll have to pull KP just like anyone else."