

Monday, September 24, 1973
Dallas Townsend

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Chilean Foreign Ministry says the U.S. has officially recognized Chile's new military junta. Panama, Haiti and Venezuela have done likewise - bringing the number of countries taking that step to twenty. The junta seized control after deposing the late President Allende two weeks ago tomorrow.

WATERGATE

In the Senate Watergate hearings, Phase Two - the lead-off witness today was confessed Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt; in an opening statement - attempting to explain his role in that ill-fated venture. Hunt saying his "participation in Watergate" was either - "an activity authorized within the power of the President of the United States;" or - he "justifiably believed that it was."

Hunt explaining his reasoning more fully - in response to later questions. Saying he had been told by fellow conspirator G. Gordon Liddy - that money from Castro Cuba was "reaching Democratic coffers." Hunt adding: "There was speculation among us - that Hanoi money was coming in as well." "Nobody told me" - he continued - "but Senator McGovern was saying he would crawl to Hanoi - if it meant release of our prisoners."

UNITED NATIONS

Here in New York - Henry Kissinger today addressed the U. N. General Assembly - in his first formal speech as Secretary of State. Kissinger calling for more - than just an easing of the "cold war." "My country seeks true peace - not simply an armistice" - said he. Adding that the ultimate goal is "a world in which the rule of law governs - and fundamental human rights are the birthright of all."

Kissinger's remarks - delivered to a packed hall. When he was done - a burst of applause lasting about twenty seconds. - Observers noting, however, the delegates from China, Cuba and Albania - did not join in.

EARTH ORBIT

*In the flight of America's Skylab-Two - nearly
fifty-nine days in orbit - the end is now in sight.
Astronauts ^{Alan} ~~A~~ Bean, Owen Garriott and Jack Lousma -
beginning to close down the systems aboard their giant space
station; getting set to reboard their Apollo ferry ship -
in preparation for their return to earth late tomorrow. While
here below / space doctors saying they expect no major
problems.*

WHITE HOUSE

A speed-up was ordered today in a Federal review of retail gasoline prices. President Nixon telling his Cost of Living Council - he wants a decision this week on allowable increases. spokesman saying the President wants to clear up - "any confusion that might exist in the minds of dealers."

The President also announced today - the appointment of Dr. William Fellner as a member of his Council of Economic Advisers. Dr. Fellner - who was born in Hungary and later emigrated to the U.S. - a former Professor of Economics at Yale; succeeding Dr. Marina Whitman - who recently returned to private life.

TIMBER FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

From the President's Advisory Committee on Timber and Environment - a report today urging a substantial increase in U.S. logging operations. This to include so-called "clear-cutting" - under "appropriate conditions;" in order to offset - a growing lumber shortage.

The panel's report - quickly endorsed by the President. Its findings - said he - showing that "most of the damage caused by logging operations - can be avoided or minimized." The President adding that fears of widespread environmental damage - "would appear to be unfounded, misleading or exaggerated."

MAIL

Postmaster General Elmer Klassen today announced plans - to seek a new postal rate increase, effective in January. Klassen saying the cost of mailing a first class letter - will jump from eight to ten cents. "The cost-price squeeze has affected us" - said he - "just as much as it has affected the entire economy."

TASHKENT

From Tashkent in Soviet Uzbekistan - just across the border from Red China - a nationwide address carried live today throughout the Soviet Union. Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev - telling of an attempt to reach an accommodation with Peking. The Soviet Union proposing a non-aggression treaty last June - said he - and still no answer.

In the meantime - Brezhnev went on - Peking continues to "make a noise all over the world - about an alleged Soviet threat hanging over China." But the fact remains - said he - Russia has "absolutely no territorial claims on China."

Breznev also called the improvement in Soviet relations with the U.S. - an "organic component" in building world peace; and not - as some have claimed - a common attempt to decide the fate of other peoples. "Such ~~contentions~~^{contentions}" said he - "contradict the very nature of the Soviet Union's policy - our entire thinking - and the actual course of events!"

BUENOS AIRES

The new President-elect of Argentina - remained virtually incommunicado today in his suburban Buenos Aires home. Juan Peron meeting only with Interim President Raul Lastiri - and the latter's Cabinet; apparently mapping plans for officially resuming power - after eighteen years in limbo.

Earlier, Peron going so far - as to refuse even a victory statement. "What else can I say?" - said he.

"What is more eloquent - than the verdict of the ballot box?"

WANGATE

At Wangate, England - an address today by the head of the British government's foremost "think tank." Lord Rothschild warning that Britain could become - one of the poorest countries in Europe by Nineteen-Eighty-Five. This will come to pass - said he - "unless we take a very strong pull at ourselves - and give up the idea that we are one of the wealthiest, most influential and important countries in the world."

Lord Rothschild adding that "somehow or other, every man and woman in Britain - must be made aware of the dangers and difficulties ahead; and of the need to contribute to their solution - even if that necessitates giving up a small fraction of freedom of action."

GLENEDEDEN

At Glen Eden

~~This next~~ from ~~Gleneden~~ Beach, Oregon; where the Western Governors Conference - is now in session, Host Governor Tom McCall - bitterly criticizing an apparent attempt to discredit Vice President Spiro Agnew.

Some of the charges against the Vice President - are "tremendously picayunish" - said he. Adding that "more frightening" is the role of informers - who are given immunity in exchange for "telling the wildest stories." "I think" - said Governor McCall - "this is spawning a new kind of justice - of the most vicious nature."

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SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "HONG KONG"

And now - a special report from Lowell Thomas.

Subject tonight - Hong Kong. Lowell...

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "HONG KONG"

Thank you, Lowell. A final story - in a moment.

POPULATION

A look at the changing patterns of American Society; as seen through the eyes - of Director Vincent Barabba of the U.S. Census Bureau.

Barabba notes, for example, that young men and women - are apparently growing more reluctant to "take the leap." The median age for first marriages - now twenty-three for men and twenty-one for women; an increase of nearly a year apiece - since the mid-Fifties. Barabba also noting that the number of children per family - is way down; from three-point-three in Nineteen-Sixty - to a present figure of only two-point-four.

In the same vein, an additional finding that forty per cent of all American women - ~~are~~ now hold jobs. Many - working right alongside their husbands. And thus an increase in family income - to an average of nearly Fourteen Thousand-a-year; or three times what it was - just a couple of decades ago.

Dallas Townsend saying Good Night.