

BAL HARBOUR

Filed, Dec. 12 - '67,  
~~Amman~~ Plough

For President Johnson - fully revitalized from  
that weekend wedding - a hectic cross-country speaking  
tour today beginning at a ~~high~~ junior college in Killeen,  
Texas; - ~~carrying~~ <sup>then</sup> on to a rocket factory at Michoud,  
Louisiana - and ending up at the national A F L - C I O  
Convention in Bal Harbour, Florida.

Along the way - the President urging Americans  
to "stay the course" -- in the battle for peace throughout  
the world and <sup>for</sup> social betterment at home. Also defending  
the U.S. space program - saying that ultimate results  
might be millions of times greater - than the twenty  
billion we have so far invested in space. (His ~~its~~ later  
remarks to the A F L - C I O - to be broadcast live over  
CBS in just a few minutes. ~~An~~ <sup>He'll</sup> attempt we <sup>understand - to</sup> ~~are told - to~~  
solidify labor support behind the Democratic Party.)

→ All this -- a striking reminder that the sixty-  
eight presidential campaign is just around the ~~work~~ corner.  
Or has it already begun -- I wonder?

*Repeat*  
TAPE FOR ~~LATER~~  
X

~~twenty billion we have so far invested in space.....~~

Further declaring there is no - cut and run

~~and~~ solution to the war in Vietnam; finally, blaming

Republicans - for so-called obstructionism in Congress.

~~All this is a striking reminder.....~~

## WASHINGTON

*Back in Washington - the ninetieth Congress was moving rapidly toward adjournment today. Giving final approval to a whopping pay increase -- for both servicemen and civilian government employees. Also speeding on its way - a bill to pay for the war on poverty. Leaving an expected floor fight on the new social security bill ~~as~~ as the only real obstacle toward a weekend adjournment.*

## GEOGRAPHIC

*Elsewhere in Washington -- a final decision today in a long-standing dispute. With the Internal Revenue Service revoking - as of tomorrow - the traditional tax-exempt status of some <sup>700</sup>~~ten to thousand~~ publications; including the National Geographic - nation's business - the journal of the American Medical Association -- and so on.*

*The revocation also applying in the case of business activities ~~of~~ of all other charitable and otherwise tax-exempt organizations, whenever said business activities - are in direct competition with non-exempt businesses.*

*Purpose - said the I R S - "to eliminate a source of unfair competition."*

VIETNAM

On the war front - ~~xx~~ in Vietnam - ~~a brazen, cowardly~~  
~~attack today - barely eight miles from Saigon.~~ With a force  
of Viet Cong terrorists - setting an ~~deadly~~ ambush for a  
South Vietnamese "pacification" team. Killing at least twelve  
of its thirty-five ~~xxxxxxx~~ members -- before fleeing into  
the bush. The "pacification" workers - for their part -  
powerless to fight back. They were unarmed.

Earlier, visiting Senator Percy of Illinois, <sup>as you may have heard, was</sup> ~~the~~  
<sup>on hand at the time</sup> ~~target~~ of a surprise Viet Cong mortar attack, when he  
landed by helicopter - with his wife and others - at the  
mountain village of Dak Son, where enemy terrorists  
last week massacred some two-hundred-and-fifty montagnards  
-- mostly women and children.

An aide passing ~~to~~ Percy a pistol - as he hit the  
dirt. However, <sup>Percy party was air-lifted</sup> the ~~party rescued~~ twenty minutes later -  
with no casualties. ~~After~~ Afterward, Percy telling  
reporters: "I don't know whether we were in greater  
danger from mortar shells - or from me carrying a pistol."

## BRUSSELS

For DeGaulle, <sup>we hear</sup> ~~of France~~ - trouble a-brewing in Brussels, ~~where~~ a top official of the Common Market's Executive Commission - today openly defied the French President, Demanding immediate negotiations for British membership in the European trade group - despite DeGaulle's veto of two weeks ago.

West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg - indeed, all members except France - clearly in favor of British membership -- said Commission President Jean Rey of Belgium. Adding that continued French opposition would bring on a "grave crisis" - both "inside and outside" the Common Market.

## NAT O

*Also in Brussels - a meeting today of Nato Defense Ministers, Agreeing to the first major change in Nato defense strategy since Nineteen Fifty-Six, when the Nato allies decided on "massive nuclear retaliation" -- as the major deterrent to communist aggression.*

*Now - Nato approving a new American plan; calling for a "flexible" Nato strategy -- based on the use of both nuclear and non-nuclear weapons. As such - supposedly giving the Nato allies more leeway - in dealing with small brush wars; while reducing the threat of a major conflagration - through errors in judgment.*

*At the same time - Nato decided to establish a small task force fleet in the Atlantic. Also agreeing to give smaller countries a greater say - in future nuclear planning.*

dodd

*Senator Thomas Dodd of Connecticut - has dropped his million dollar libel suit against two Washington columnists, Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson - whose revelations resulted in Dodd's censure by the Senate for financial mis-conduct.*

*The decision taken today - in a Washington District Court, With Dodd pleading financial hardship - as his reason for giving up the action. However, the Senator pressing on with a second charge - that the newspaper men used documents they knew were stolen.*

## DETROIT

*The prototype of a revolutionary new electric car - was unveiled for the first time today in Detroit. American Motors displaying the shell of a three-passenger, battery-powered vehicle called the "Amitron." Hopefully, the industry's first practical useful electric-powered automobile" -- said company officials.*

*The "Amitron" - a triangle-shaped car with four eight-inch wheels. Its single door opening from the front - "clamshell" fashion. Its three passenger seats - in a single row. Best of all - the car supposedly having a range of a hundred and fifty miles -- without recharging; as compared with eighty miles at most - for previous electric cars. Also, the "Armitron" said to have a top speed of fifty miles an hour -- as compared with forty tops for others.*

*How much it will cost - hard to say, as yet.*

*Exoj Company officials predicting, however, the "Armitron" could be ready for market - within five years.*

YORK

Speaking of church news - this next from York, England. Where the elders of ancient York ~~Minster~~ Cathedral ~~4-~~ were having great difficulty, trying to raise the necessary funds - to start a renovation of their crumbling fifteenth century structure; when a workman deep in the crevices of the building - accidentally stumbled on the remains of an early Norman Chapel -- nearly twelve hundred years old; ~~And a few feet below that was found~~ the remains of an even earlier Roman fortress - dating back some sixteen hundred years

The twin finds - adding up to an archaeological prize, ~~gold mine, of course~~. Also spurring <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ drive ~~4~~ to save the cathedral from collapse, ~~To the point where a number of famous British artists - have agreed to donate their works to an art auction - expected to raise nearly two million - toward rebuilding~~ <sup>York Cathedral.</sup> ~~the church~~

~~As has been said before - The Lord works in mysterious ways - his miracles to perform.~~ <sup>u</sup>

SCROOGE

The U S General accounting office - watchdog of  
the nation's purse strings - apparently trying to play  
Scrooge this Christmas. The G A O - as it is commonly  
called - urging the U.S. Post Office Department to save  
money - by eliminating all postmarks. ,

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Including such perennial favorites as Santa Claus,  
Indiana -- North Pole, New York -- even Washington, D. C.  
The G A O asserting that "the name of a community in a  
postmark - contributes little or nothing to the service  
provided; <sup>and</sup> ~~but~~ often results in added cost and delay - in  
processing the mail."

Response from the Post Office - a flat "bah-humbug."

Elimination of postmarks, -- <sup>1 That wouldn't</sup> ~~totally unnecessary to speed~~ <sup>the</sup>  
mail<sup>s</sup> - ~~see~~ <sup>say</sup> Postal officials. <sup>Thus</sup> ~~with that~~ assuring  
the continued fame, <sup>Warren,</sup> of such all-time favorite postmarks -  
as Meddybemps, Maine -- Wounded Knee, South Dakota -  
even Christmas, Florida. <sup>Prof s - I - v - t - M.</sup>