

RHODESIA

L.T.-Buick, Fisher. Thurs. Nov. 11-65.

Rhodesia today became the first British colony to seize its independence - since the American Revolution of Seventeen Seventy-Six. Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith - announcing the fateful decision by radio and television. In a declaration that began ironically - almost word for word like the United States Declaration of Independence.

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British reaction - swift and positive. Prime Minister Harold Wilson - declaring Rhodesia in treasonable rebellion; Dismissing Smith and his ministers - from their government posts; Recalling the British High Commissioner from Salisbury - and ordering the Rhodesian Commission out of London.

Wilson adding that Britain will further strike back - by banning purchases of Rhodesian tobacco and sugar; By cutting off British aid - by freezing Rhodesian assets - by refusing to back Rhodesian currency.

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He said, however, that Britain plans no military intervention. "Unless" - he went on - "unless our troops

*are asked for - to preserve law and order and to avert
tragic subversion or murder."* →

REACTION FOLLOW RHODESIA

As for reaction around the world: - almost universal condemnation of the Rhodesian revolt.

Washington reaffirming its determination - not to recognize the all-white regime; and, indicating that it will soon follow the British lead - in declaring diplomatic and economic sanctions against Rhodesia.

Moscow threatening to lend support to black National elements within Rhodesia. African delegates at the United Nations - demanding immediate, collective action - to help put down the rebellion.

A meeting of the U N Security Council - set for tomorrow morning. British Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart - enroute to the United States right now - to present the British case against Rhodesia.

BYRD

The immediate resignation of Senator Harry F. Byrd - fiscal watchdog of the U S Senate - was announced today at Richmond, Virginia. The seventy-eight year old Byrd retiring from half-a-century of political strife - because of arthritis and age. "I have concluded" said he - "that the time has come for someone younger - to bear these burdens and shoulder these responsibilities.

Virginia's Governor Albertis Harrison will appoint a successor to Byrd - pending a special election next year. Top candidate - his son, Harry F. Byrd Junior. The younger Byrd - a state senator and newspaper publisher - from Virginia's Winchester County.

IKE

Former President Eisenhower - reported in satisfactory condition today at Fort Gordon, Georgia. A warning however, that he may have repeated seizures of chest pain - that could result in a full blown heart attack. His doctors describing such a course as - "not uncommon for patients with known coronary disease."

In the meantime, Ike was praised as a "gallant warrior" - at Veteran's Day ceremonies today elsewhere at Fort Gordon. Base Commander Colonel Walter Richardson adding of Ike - "may he win yet another victory."

VIET NAM

Grim retribution - today in Viet Nam. The Communists plotting an ambush of a government convoy - about thirty miles southeast of Saigon. When they were spotted by their intended victims - who immediately called for air support.

U S and government planes - racing to the rescue. Combining with concentrated ground fire - to kill a hundred and thirty of the guerillas. Best of all - the convoy suffered no damage - and no casualties.

Far to the north - Operation Blue Marlin" -today entered its second day. U S and Vietnamese Marines sweeping both sides of strategic highway one - in an effort to clear the road to Chu Lai.

~~*Some thirty five hundred Communist guerillas - originally reported in the area. But so far - only minimal contact.*~~

CHINESE AIRMEN

Three Red Chinese airmen - defected today to Nationalist China. Landing their Soviet built jet bomber - at an air base near Taipei. The Formosa government - promptly awarding them a hundred and forty thousand dollars in gold. The standard reward - for Communists who defect with their aircraft.

Unfortunately, for one of the men - the new found freedom and wealth was short-lived. The plane's radio operator seriously injured when the craft skidded off ~~the~~ runway - and he ~~did~~ died a short while later.

MINE

Unconfirmed reports today - of a terrible mine disaster in Red China, with some five hundred trapped by a cave-in at a coal mine near Canton.

First news of the disaster - carried today in a Hong Kong newspaper. If true - perhaps the worst mine disaster in history.

PHILIPPINES

War hero Ferdinand Marcos took a commanding and apparently insurmountable lead today - in the race for President of the Philippines. Marcos more than a half-million votes ahead of incumbent President Macapagal - with two-thirds of the tally now complete. ~~interest~~, So sure of victory ^{is he} that tonight he called his first news conference as unofficial President-elect.

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Marcos stating that he plans no major changes in Philippine foreign policy. Adding, however, that he is willing to send Filipinos - to help fight the war in Viet Nam. A political solution would be better - said he, but war seems to be the only language the Communists understand.

INDONESIA

Another turn today - in the Indonesian situation, casting grave doubt on the future role of President Sukarno. Sukarno himself ordering an end to the martial law - that has prevailed since the attempted coup of October One, the attempt to wrest control from military authorities - and return the country to civilian rule.

The Army's reply to Sukarno? It was broadcast today over Radio Jakarta, with the local military commander stating that the Army has no intention of relaxing its hold on Jakarta and surrounding areas. He emphasized that Sukarno notwithstanding the military regulations were imposed to prevent a leftist take-over and will remain in effect!

POWER

In Washington, Federal Investigators conferred today with officials of twenty one electric companies - party to that massive northeast power failure, and ended up with just about as much knowledge as to what caused it - as they had before.

Perhaps the best explanation - from Federal Power Commissioner Charles Ross. Warren he says:

"It's like a jigsaw puzzle - and we don't know what the picture is - 'til we get the last piece."

LUCI

From Washington, a report today that Luci Baines Johnson - was, in fact, seeking her father's approval of engagement plans, When she visited the Texas White House two weeks ago - with twenty one year old Pat Nugent of Waukegan, Illinois.

In any case, the President is said to have used his eminent powers of persuasion - to get them to wait a while. His argument based on a desire to see Luci finish school - also the fact that Nugent will soon be in ~~the~~ service.

The couple described as "far from happy" - with the outcome of the meeting. But resigned now - to patience.