

Thurs. June 12 - 69,

On the space front- it's official at last.

The planned flight of Apollo Eleven - formally approved today by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration,

clearing the way for blast-off July sixteenth - to be followed by a ^{lunar} ~~water~~ landing four days later. ^{That's the plan.} ~~we hope~~

~~Of course - there could still be a hitch.~~

There is ^{will} ~~indeed, the~~ one remaining question! - ~~whether~~ the three

Apollo Eleven astronauts ~~will themselves~~ be ready on time; or ^{will} ~~whether~~ they ~~might~~ need some extra training - ^{that might} ~~possibly~~ delaying the flight until August?

At last report ~~though~~ Neil Armstrong,

Mike Collins, and Buzz Aldrin ^{were} ~~are~~ ^{to be} ~~ready.~~

~~will be~~ And so it appears - our first man on the Moon ^{will be on the moon about} ~~is just a little over~~ a month ^{from now!}

Fantastic!

PARIS

Paris again; ^{at} another session of ^{the} Vietnam
peace talks ^{the} participants included ^{ed} as usual - a
delegation of Viet Cong. Only ^{this time they were} ~~they called~~
^{saying they are the} ~~themselves this time~~ ^A official representatives of the
"Provisional revolutionary government of South Vietnam."
Going so far as to use the peace ^{forum} ~~for~~ - to appeal for
"stronger support" from Communistic bloc countries;
which so far have been slow to recognize the new
rebel regime.

^{at Paris}
In any event ^{at} U S and South Vietnamese
negotiators ^{were} ~~are~~ acting as if nothing had changed. Saigon
asserting that "many more" American troops could be
withdrawn - if the Communist side would merely
demonstrate its good will for peace. The U S ~~assert~~
asserting - we are not tied to a "rigid diplomatic
formula." Adding: "Peace on paper is not as important -
as peace in fact."

VIETNAM FOLLOW PARIS

In the meantime - ~~half a world away~~ more fighting, ~~Including today~~ a Viet Cong assault on a just-completed U.S. artillery base -- on the edge of that war zone D for death. About twenty of the attackers - actually breaching the camp's outer defenses: charging all the way to an inner ~~earth~~ embankment - before they were ~~finally~~ turned back by Howitzers firing at point ~~to~~ blank range.

When the smoke had cleared - a check of the battlefield disclosing twenty-three enemy dead; as compared with American losses - set at one. ~~For the Viet Cong - another lop-sided defeat; following in the same pattern as similar, seemingly senseless attacks that have ~~at~~ cost them nearly four thousand men in just the past week alone.~~

WHITE HOUSE

At the White House - a tax parley today between President Nixon and top House leaders. The President there winning bi-partisan support - for an extension of the present ten percent income tax surcharge. Promising in turn to support a companion measure - striking from the tax rolls ~~about~~ about five million poor people. Congressman Hale Boggs - who is acting chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee - later setting a hearing for Monday on the new tax package. Predicting it will win speedy approval 4 in committee and also in the full House.

LONDON

For the first time in ages, it seems -
Britain is back in the black. The good news coming
to light ~~today~~ in London & with the publication of
monthly trade figures showing that the world bought
more British goods in May - than ever ~~before~~ before
in history. While at the same time, the country's
so-called "invisible" ~~earnings~~ earnings - in services,
shipping, insurance and banking - were also soaring
to new heights.

End result: A balance of payments surplus -
amounting to more than fifty million. This enabling the
Bank of England - to forstall another expected drive
in British interest rates. ~~Bank directors announcing~~
~~today the figure will stay at eight percent - instead~~
~~of jumping to ten percent as many had feared.~~

WASHINGTON

From the United Mine Workers of America -
a final tribute ~~today~~ to founder and President Emeritus
John L. Lewis. Union chief Tony Boyle ordering all
coal miners to lay down their tools - as of ^{midnight tonight.} ~~noon tomorrow.~~
Adding that the work stoppage will continue until the
"fallen leader" is finally laid to his rest. Further
asserting: "It is altogether fitting that the coal mines
be silent - while the men who work in them come
together to do honor to John Llewellyn Lewis."

Looking to the future - Boyle also urged -
as a fitting memorial to the great John L. - speedy
congressional approval of "strong coal mine health
and safety legislation." Thereby echoing the words of
his illustrious predecessor - who once proclaimed:
"If we must grind ~~us~~ up the human flesh and bones of
men in an industrial machine then before God, I assert
that we owe protection to those men first. And we

owe security to their families after," no matter
"who in Heaven or Hell may oppose it".

John L. Lewis - he was eighty-nine. ^{And}
I too knew him - as a friend. One
of the giants of our time.

PHILADELPHIA

Something of a social note today - from the Philadelphia zoo where local bird keepers were ~~bursting~~ ^{cheering} ~~with pride today~~ ~~over~~ the birth of three rare New Zealand mountain keas. First such blessed event in Philadelphia history and one of the few on record in any zoo, anywhere, any time.

~~Better still~~ - consulting ornithologists claim discovery of a new breeding technique that could result in a resurgence of the entire species. The key to successful procreation among the Keas - they say - ~~Warren~~ ^{Warren} - complete privacy. ~~W. O. Warren~~

~~It figures~~

LATIN QUARTER FOLLOW NEW ORLEANS

~~Meanwhile, a sort of convention side show -~~

~~is playing nightly~~ In the New Orleans Latin Quarter,

Delegates by the thousands attending ^{a religious} special service -

along with strippers, prostitutes, dope addicts and

so on. Services conducted by the Reverend Bob

Harrington - the so-called "Chaplain of Bourbon Street."

Although a Baptist himself - the Reverend Bob quick

to take advantage of the situation. Telling his new-

found guests that "New Orleans has never had so many

Baptists acting like Christians." He also called his

present parish "a very ecumenical street." His main

message - still the same though. The Reverend Bob

lashing out at speed without direction - thrills without

happiness - houses without homes - and religion without

Christ.