

Fri. May 2nd. 69.

VIET NAM

War news from Viet Nam is marked today by the first official word -- that the enemy's current offensive is waning. U.S. headquarters in Saigon -- noting that the Viet Cong have lost thirty-eight thousand men since late February. Adding that Red commanders now apparently have no choice -- but to scale down their attacks and pull back into jungle hideouts.

MID EAST

That cease-fire in the Mid East -- again a cease-fire in
word alone ~~today~~ ^{since} with Arab and Israeli forces ~~clashing~~ ^{were at it} on
all three ~~major~~ ^{this} fronts. Including an artillery duel across the
Suez ~~at~~ that lasted more than five hours.

Adding to tension -- another demonstration in Beirut;
with an estimated twenty thousand Lebanese -- pledging ~~their~~ support
^{for the} of Palestinian guerrillas. Guerrilla leaders pledging in return --
to destroy the Jewish state ^{of Israel} in a "holy war".

VATICAN

At the Vatican -- a final papal audience today -- for ~~these~~^{the} thirty-three new Cardinals and the pilgrims ~~to~~^{who} accompany~~d~~^{ed} them to Rome. Pope Paul personally greeting each of the new princes of the church -- to the cheers of their various countrymen. Indeed, Americans present -- making the rafters ring ~~with~~ when it came their turn; singing loudly and proudly -- "God Bless America."

~~By the way --~~^{Oh yes, and} the Pontiff's ~~earlier~~^{today} lifted a ~~ban~~ nearly two thousand years old, ~~his~~^{ban - the} ruling ~~that~~^{henceforth} Catholic women will not have to wear head-covers in Church.

WHITE HOUSE

The White House -- President Nixon steps up the federal war on obscenity. Asking of Congress today three new laws -- to impose stiff penalties on mail order smut peddlers; up to five years in jail and a ~~one~~^{five} thousand dollar fine for the first offense alone. The President also urging adoption of new postal regulations -- further to stem the commercial ~~sex~~ exploitation of "prurient interest in sex."

Ultimate goal, said the President: "to keep" unsolicited, unwanted and deeply offensive mail" --out of American homes.

Half a world away, on that vast sub-continent of
In India a ~~Hindustan~~ ^{just launched,} another new political party ~~was formed~~ just this
past Wednesday. The so-called Naxalites -- an offshoot of the
original Indian Communist Party. Vowing to take control of the
country -- through a "bloodsoaked revolution." In a number of
cities -- posting pro-Peking propaganda; ~~in one case~~ actually
attacking a rural police station.

~~Result:~~ New Delhi today order^{ed} a crack-down on the
Naxalites. With police ~~quickly~~ seizing ^{some of them in} Naxalite propagandists --
~~the south of~~ ^{the south of} Coimbatore in Madras state. Also, putting to flight
party leader ~~Kanungo~~ Kanu Sanyal -- who was attempting to ⁺ ~~setup~~
~~headquarters~~ ^{headquarters} ~~establish a beachhead~~ at Calcutta.

HANOVER

A ghost from the past -- hovered today over the city of Hanover, West Germany. The ghost -- or at least the haunting memory -- of Adolph Hitler infiltrating every nook and cranny; as the city played unwelcome host to the founding convention -- of post-war Germany's first self-avowed Nazi Political Party.

The new Nationalist Socialists -- as they called themselves -- officially outlawed as of Wednesday. ^{PP} ~~But this~~ failed to stop the convention though. The twenty-five Nazi leaders present -- merely taking their consultations underground.

Goal of the ^{is leader} ~~founding fathers~~ according to ~~their~~ ~~leader~~ twenty-nine year old Wolf-Dieter Eckart: to bring together all Germans -- "who are permeated with the spirit of our Fuehrer, Adolph Hitler -- and want to work with us for the reconstruction of Germany." Eckart ^{Adding; emphatically} "We agree with the ideals of Adolph Hitler and the Third Reich -- we agree with all he did," ^{said this would-be Fuehrer.}

AVANANCHE TRAGEDY

So far, ~~we have had~~ no details on ~~that~~^{the} Himalayan avalanche tragedy -- the six men, four Americans and two sherpas killed on one of the slopes of the ^{world's} seventh highest mountain, ~~in the world~~, Daulgahiri, in Nepal, next door to Annapurna. I decided to try and get through to Katmandu by short wave. A ham radio operator, Ford Cavallari, of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, came to my rescue. From time to time he had been in touch with a friend of mine ^{who is} ~~just~~ about the second or third best known person in Nepal. The King ~~would be~~ number one, ~~Next~~ ^{of course. Next either} the fantastic White Russian, Boris Lissonavich, or ^{the equally fabulous} Father Moran from Chicago. Seldom have I ever encountered a man more beloved by the people than this ~~magnificent~~ priest who has devoted his life to the ~~exotic~~^{exotic} Himalayan country of which Katmandu is the capital.

My ham radio friend in Chelmsford ~~really~~ performed a miracle. He sent out a signal to ham operators all over the world, asking them to take it easy for a while. This enabled us to get through to Katmandu, and, ^{we just} I had a talk with Father Moran, ^{who}

^{He} says they have no further details on the Daulgahiri tragedy, except that the survivors are ^{now} on their way to Katmandu. ~~This means~~ ^{So} we should get the details over the weekend. Maybe ~~even~~ by tomorrow morning.

~~King Mahendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva had a heart attack a few months ago, and Father Moran tells me he apparently has made a~~

OBERSASBACH FOLLOW HANOVER

~~Another who once sang the same tune~~ -- ^{clever, fox-like} The ~~notorious~~ Franz

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von Papen. Remember? He was a German master spy during World War One -- ~~next~~ ^{and later} one of the chief engineers of Hitler's rise to power. --

~~later~~ ^{The} ruthless diplomatic manipulator ^{of} World War Two ^{on} finally passing ^{whatever that will be} to his ~~just~~ reward -- ^{if such it can be called} --

at his Black Forest home near Obersasbach, West Germany.

^{age 89} -

Franz von Papen -- ~~absolutely~~ ^{he} a master of survival. Though he was interned after the war -- ^{ed} escaping ~~from~~ punishment at Neurnberg. Though he was then sentenced to ^{eight} ~~ten~~ years by a German de-Nazification court. -- ^{he} ~~served~~ only two years, ^{then} ~~he~~ was released because of, QUOTE, "failing health." That ^{was} ~~is~~ twenty years ago.

Living in relative obscurity the past few years -- ~~this~~

^{Maxi} ~~he~~ Machiavlli found time at last to write his memoirs. He called the book -- "A Path to Truth", a path, ^{I wonder if it was} ~~no doubt~~ paved with good intentions, Warren.

~~Franz von Papen - he was eighty-nine.~~

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