

CAPE KENNEDY

Wed. Nov. 8-67.

At Cape Kennedy -- ~~as of noon today~~ -- America's first Saturn-Five moon rocket ^{all set to go - now} ~~was officially cleared for its maiden flight~~, Space Scientists and technicians ~~and~~ breezing into the final third of the ~~the~~ ^{of the} countdown, as ^{the} Apollo Program Director ~~General Samuel Phillips~~ reported ~~flatly~~: "the mission ~~is~~ ready to go."

Then -- a few problems, including a temporary "hold" -- to allow for adjustments in a safety system. Weather forecasters also predicting "marginal" wind conditions -- with gusts up to twenty-five knots. Which means there will have to be a reevaluation of the outlook -- around midnight tonight.

~~But as of this hour - the mission is still "ready to go"~~ Blast-off ^{time} ~~for the momentous Saturn-Five~~ -- set for seven tomorrow morning, Florida-time.

VIETNAM

Ground action in Vietnam -- marked today by three new enemy attacks in the Central Highlands. Heaviest fighting - barely six miles from Dak; where *the* American Commander, General ~~William~~ Westmoreland, - was carrying out a personal inspection of the battle area. Indeed, the clash continuing on until dusk - with some three to four hundred Americans still pinned down by enemy fire.

Why this sudden concentration on the Central Highlands? An American ~~officer~~ officer explaining: "The Communists hope that we will have to shift substantial forces - ^{thus} thinning them out in other areas. But we think we will be able to thwart this," said he. General Westmoreland adding himself that the Viet Cong have "failed miserably" - in recent attempts to score a major military - and thus a major propaganda - victory.

SAN FRANCISCO-CLEVELAND

Here at home - political pundits of both parties ~~are~~ still trying to find a focus on the crazy-quilt pattern of yesterday's election results. Cutting clean across party lines, however - that striking verdict in San Francisco; where the voters rejected nearly two to one a resolution calling for unconditional withdrawal of U S forces in Vietnam.

Former Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois - chairman of a "peace with freedom" committee whose members include former Presidents Eisenhower and Truman - one of the ~~first~~ first to hail the vote. "Especially striking" said he - "in a city where a thoughtless peace movement has been notably strong."

As for election post-mortems in Cleveland, Gary and Boston - where race was a key issue - Democratic National Chairman John Bailey calling results in these ~~cities~~ cities-- a clear repudiation of so-called "white

backlash". However, House Minority Leader Gerald

Ford ^{was} _λ also drawing consolation from the strong Republican


showings. Proving - said he - that the "campaign to

build a strong Republican party in the big city areas

is paying off."

BANGKOK

*Fresh from her triumph in Cambodia -- touring
Jacqueline Kennedy arrived today at Bangkok in Thailand.
The former First Lady met at the airport -- by the wife of
Premier Thanom Killikachorn; also a stampede of onlookers
-- plus temperatures around the hundred mark. (It's said,
however, that Mrs. Kennedy remained -- remarkably cool.
This perhaps due in part -- to a slight stomach ailment --
we hear. Whatever the case -- Mrs. Kennedy skipping an
airport reception; traveling directly to the mansion in
Central Bangkok -- where she will spend the next three days.*



ADD BANGKOK

By nightfall, ^{we are told} ~~nevertheless~~ the former First

^{was} Lady sufficiently refreshed to attend a dazzling dinner party;

at Kittikachorn's elegant villa -- on the shimmering Choa


Phrya River. Except for the ^{flying rats and other insects} ~~bugs~~ -- quite a night -- they

say.

Meanwhile, back in Phnom Penh -- Cambodian Prince Sihanouk admitted today -- that "small groups" of Viet Cong sometimes enter Cambodia. A million Allied troops in South Vietnam "cannot close the frontier -- so, how can we?" -- said he.

Sihanouk adding though -- "There are no sanctuaries" for the Viet Cong in Cambodia. "We make patrols" -- he went on; "and sometimes we meet them -- ask them to withdraw -- and ^{said he} they always withdraw."

As to the possibility that American planes might some day bomb Cambodian territory -- trying to get at the Viet Cong -- this from Sihanouk:- "If the Americans ever did bomb or occupy this country" -- said he -- "we will be with the Viet Cong -- with the Viet Minh -- with China -- and we will fight you."



ADD PHNOM PENH

A later report; Sihanouk tonight saying the Viet Cong will soon release into his custody -- those three American prisoners of war supposedly turned loose earlier this week. The Prince adding ^{that} he will "take care of them -- and send them back to America."

RED CHINA

Continuing ferment in Red China. A report reaching Hong Kong tonight - telling of a newly established guerilla base in southern Szechuan Province. The anti-Maoists supposedly claiming half-a-million/followers, in this so-called "bread basket" of Red China.

True or not - the report drawing no comment from official sources. For what it's worth though - Peking Radio today ^{was} broadcasting ninety-six times -- a single quotation from the thoughts of Chairman Mao. To wit: "Every communist must grasp this truth - political power grows only out of the barrel of a gun."



ADD RED CHINA

Maybe so. But there's another "truth" - that predates even Chairman Mao. To wit: "He who lives by the sword - shall perish by the sword."

~~This next -- a clarification in Washington. The~~
~~clarifier --~~ Dr. James Goddard -- Chief of the U. S. Food
and Drug Administration, ~~Appearing~~^{ed} before the House
Commerce Committee ^{today} with regard to recent news reports;
quoting ~~Goddard~~^{him} as saying "he would not object to his
daughter smoking marijuana -- any more than if she drank
a cocktail."

~~In the first place --~~ ^{Dr.} Said Goddard -- ~~he~~^I didn't say
it. The proof -- he pointed out -- in a public apology today
from United Press International -- which first carried the
story. Lest there be any ~~remaining~~ doubt -- Goddard ^{added} ~~said~~
~~on to say:~~ "I did not and I do not condone the use of
marijuana -- I did not and I do not propose legalizing the
drug."

The Food and Drug Chief ~~saying~~^{saying} ~~said~~^{adding} however, that
penalties for possession of marijuana -- are "inconsistent"
-- as he put it; ^{Alan-} when compared with those relating to more
potent drugs, such as LSD.

ATLANTA FOLLOW HOUSE

More on the same -- from Atlanta; where a group of Dixieland Hippies today accused police of growing "harrassment" -- on alleged phony drug charges. Vowing to take their case to the man they called -- "the leading Hippie of them all" -- Governor Maddox of Georgia.

A spokesman for the group saying, in effect: The worm has turned. "We're not weirdos -- we're not slobs" -- said he. Adding: "We've got to show people that we're not just thirty people living in one house -- giving each other hepatitis."

By the way -- the leader of these "non-weirdos" -- a fellow ^{who goes} by the name of "Mother David." Oh, Mother!

And s-l-u-t-m.