

PRESIDENT

Mon. Dec. 4 - '67.

~~A year or more of backstage Marine maneuvers~~  
~~-- was finally ended today; with President Johnson has~~  
named <sup>ed</sup> General Leonard Chapman - as new commandant  
of the U S Marine Corps. ~~General Chapman -~~ moving him  
up from deputy ~~commander~~ commander.

16/2  
The President ~~thus~~ by-passing <sup>the</sup> two ~~men - here~~  
~~tofore considered~~ leading candidates ~~for the job;~~ General  
Lewis Wall - just back from Vietnam; <sup>and dynamic</sup> ~~also~~ General  
Victor Krulak - Marine commander in the Pacific.

This an apparent attempt to head off further bickering -  
between Marine factions supporting each of the <sup>or</sup> two ~~men~~.

At the same time - President Johnson denied today  
persistent reports- that others of his Cabinet will soon  
follow ~~Robert~~ McNamara in resigning. These rumors -  
spread - "by some kids who have been setting up straw men"  
- said the President.

## VIETNAM

War news from Vietnam - a throwback to civil war - days. With Ironclad U S Navy gunboats - called "monitors" - slashing their way today into the Mekong Delta. There discharging a combined force of U S troops and South Vietnamese Marines - who promptly decimated a marauding band of Viet Cong ~~there~~ attempting to clamp a stranglehold on ~~Vital~~ Highway Four - and thus to prevent rice shipments ~~forth~~ to Saigon.

U. S. air strikes and artillery bombardment - ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> support <sup>of</sup> the American amphibious assault, ~~with~~ first reports indicating about two hundred Viet Cong dead -- nearly ~~an~~ half the enemy's total estimated strength. As compared with American losses - called extremely light.

CAPITOL HILL FOLLOW SUPREME COURT

*Elsewhere in Washington - House and Senate*

*conferees are still deadlocked tonight -- over the question of local control for anti-poverty ~~pr~~ programs. The conferees now working under a self-imposed twenty-four hour ~~deadline~~ -- either to reach a compromise by tomorrow night or ~~give up~~ trying.*

*If the latter - conflicting ~~house-and-senate-passed-~~ bills will fall by the wayside; perhaps giving way - to a simple one-year extension of the present anti-poverty program.*

ST PATRICK'S

At St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York - a moving  
"mass of the high priests" today; with all ~~the~~ seats  
<sup>at this mass</sup>  
reserved  $\lambda$  for schoolchildren of the Archdiocese of New  
York; ~~Among~~ the first of countless thousands - paying  
their final homage to Francis Cardinal Spellman.

Tomorrow - a special service for Nuns only.

Wednesday -- another for servicemen. Thursday - a

solemn Pontifical mass - to be ~~celebrated~~ <sup>celebrated simultaneously</sup> by

surviving ~~the~~ American Cardinals. Plus regular masses

-- along the way. All leading up to interment Thursday

afternoon - in ceremonies to be broadcast around the world.

~~The Marco Polo of the Catholic Church - ~~the~~~~  
~~Francis Cardinal Spellman - the man once called~~

<sup>called</sup>  
 $\lambda$  "The American Pope;" - victim of a weekend stroke. He

was seventy-eight. A remarkable, friendly,  
gracious man, Francis Cardinal Spellman.

ATLANTA

Atlanta - Dr. Martin Luther King today announced plans - to lead thousands of the nation's poor to Washington next spring. ~~Purpose - a massive "live-in" demonstration.~~

~~"This will be no mere one day march in Washington"~~

~~Said Dr. King~~ <sup>he</sup> ~~that~~ a trek to the nation's capital by suffering and outraged citizens; who will go to stay for months, if necessary; <sup>and</sup> until some definite, ~~and~~ positive action is taken -- to provide jobs and income for the poor."

Dr. King saying he will also ask various anti-war groups - ~~to~~ to lend their physical support to the campaign. This -- said he - because "we feel the two causes are inter-related."

## HERSHEY

*Draft Director Lewis Hershey - under heavy fire of late - as you know; because of a ~~pa~~ recent directive to local draft boards -- suggesting an end to student deferments for violent anti-war protesters. And one of his chief critics - Congressman Moss of California; ~~ca binx~~ calling Hershey's directive "unconstitutional" -- a violation of the letter and spirit of the draft law.*

*Gen.*  
Now - ~~λ~~ Hershey fires back. In an open letter to Moss the Draft Director today questioning whether he and the Congressman - are "thinking of the same constitution and the same law." Hershey going on to say that induction of student protestors -- falls under the heading of "privilege" - rather than ~~push~~ punishment. The "privilege" said he - for a young man to serve his nation.

NEW YORK

*Bert Lahr - one of the greatest of America's comic actors - dead today in New York. The famed funnyman - victim of an abdominal ailment. After nearly sixty years as a showman - clowning his way into the hearts of three generations of Americans*

*Bert Lahr, ~~surely best known~~ <sup>remember as</sup> ~~for playing~~ the cowardly lion in "The Wizard of Oz". <sup>also</sup> ~~Beyond that~~ an accomplished performer in virtually every field of show business - from early burlesque to Broadway drama. He was seventy-two.*

WHITE HOUSE

At the White House - a brief bill-signing ceremony today; extending <sup>the</sup> aid program - ~~fx~~ for the mentally retarded. But more than that - a chance for L B J to play "Father of the bride" -- a role he clearly enjoys.

The President welcoming his guests to the East Room - where Lynda will be married Saturday -- by calling it "The poor man's chapel." "You can have a wedding here" - said he - "and no one thinks it's cheap." The idea perhaps especially prudent - he went on - in view of "one of my more recent experiences in the Church" - meaning - at Williamsburg.

The President later complaining merrily - that he and Mrs. Johnson "are still paying" for last year's wedding -- Luci's. But "that is no excuse for deficit financing" - said L B J. Adding that if he should need "a small wedding loan" - fortunately, he has a good friend coming into the Presidency of the World Bank - meaning - Robert McNamara.



FRANKFURT

Former Republican presidential <sup>candidate</sup> ~~hopeful~~ Barry

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Goldwater -- busy drawing headlines again today in Frankfurt, Germany; with some sharp and often cutting observations - on the American political scene.

Of Senator McCarthy's decision to run as a "peace candidate" against President Johnson - Goldwater declaring: "Why that's sort of like a mosquito - biting an elephant." By contrast -- Governor Wallace of Alabama poses a serious threat to the Republicans - said Barry. Adding, "If I were Johnson - I'd put Wallace on the payroll."

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As for Vietnam - Goldwater saying the President is now running the war - just as he - Goldwater - said it should be run way back in Sixty-Four. "In his heart - he knows I was right" - said Barry. <sup>Goldwater,</sup> Further telling reporters: "In your heart - you know he's right."

What of the pending resignation of his favorite <sup>Def. Sec.</sup> ~~Warren~~ <sup>Warren</sup> nemesis ~~Robert~~ McNamara? <sup>That</sup> - said Goldwater -

52 1/2 "probably the greatest thing since the invention of women."

VARPAISJAERVI

Speaking of brides-to-be -- <sup>we were</sup> ~~as I was~~ a moment ago -  
this ~~next~~ from the village of Varpaisjaervi, ~~in~~ Finland;  
where a widow by the name of Mrs. Emma Korhonen - age  
seventy-four -- today announced her ~~an~~ engagement to one  
Tauno Pentinnen - age twenty-two.

The couple reporting that love blossomed quickly -  
when young Pentinnen came to work at Mrs. Korhonen's  
farm a few months ago. The widow justifying her choice of  
the young swain - by pointing out <sup>that -</sup> ~~the fact~~ he's "young  
and able to work."

Besides - said he - "what's the use of two old people  
getting together?" That's the way it is in  
Varpaisjaervi, Finland.