

VIET NAM

Thurs, Apr. 20 - '67,

For the first time--a massive U. S. air strike today; against the vital port city of Haiphong--in North Viet Nam. Wave after wave of American jets--pounding the city's two main power plants. Carrying the war-- to within a half-mile of downtown Haiphong; the North's chief funnel--for war supplies from overseas.

Later--after dark--reconnaissance planes reporting the city entirely dark. Also the town of Hon Gay-- about twenty miles to the East. With American military spokesmen saying this means a certain reduction--in Haiphong's "capacity for unloading war supplies;" in addition to having "a tremendous psychological effect--on the North Vietnamese people."

SEATO

Here at home -- a related item from that SEATO council of foreign ministers in Washington; which ended today with release of a communique -- more sternly worded than any other SEATO statement in recent years.

To begin with -- the council condemning North Vietnam -- for rejecting all possible peace bids. Further, contending there is a "world wide Communist propaganda campaign" -- to distort the true facts of the conflict. And, finally, charging Hanoi and Peking with trying to spread the war -- through increasing support of a rebel movement in Northern Thailand.

Pakistan refusing to take part because of that cutoff in U.S. military aid to them.

EAST BERLIN

Meanwhile Brezhnev in Communist East Berlin, was accusing American leaders -- of lying about their efforts to make peace in Vietnam; when, in truth, said he -- they are really escalating the war in an all-out effort to defeat the "heroic Vietnamese people, who are fighting only -- for freedom and independence."

As a result -- said Brezhnev -- Russia has promised Hanoi "direct and active political, economic and military help," with "food, fuel, raw materials, vehicles, munitions and arms of all kinds even now flowing in an unbroken stream to Vietnam."

Peking

As ordered by Chairman Mao--a massive rally today in Peking. With more than a hundred thousand Mao-ists--celebrating the swearing-in of a new pro-Mao administration in Red China's capital city.

As part of the demonstration--speaker after speaker joining in denunciation of President Liu. Speaker after speaker citing the new regime as the end of the road--for the man said to be Mao's chief rival in the current power struggle.

But when it was all over--no apparent change at all. In fact, every indication that Liu is still clinging to his post--as Red China's nominal chief of government.

Indeed, reports from Hong Kong today--saying that neither Mao nor Liu is much in command. The real force--we hear--China's vast liberation Army. According to western observers--the Army itself "is now in effective control of most of the country."

BONN

In Bonn -- West German government sources are saying President Johnson will confer with DeGaulle when the two travel to Cologne next week -- to attend the funeral of former West German Chancellor Adenauer.

The long-awaited Johnson-DeGaulle meeting -- to be part of an informal Summit Conference -- said Bonn; with the two men supposedly joining other Western leaders -- in a round table discussion of world problems.

Back in Washington though -- a somewhat different story from the White House, to the effect that President Johnson will hold bilateral talks -- only with West German Chancellor Kiesinger. Any other meetings -- will be "entirely a matter of courtesy" -- said the Washington report.

MOSCOW

Latest word on flying saucers--comes today from a Soviet scientist in Moscow. Astronomer Felix Zibel asserting flatly--that "unidentified flying objects--do exist." The proof--said he--in the fact that "they have been constantly observed by Soviet scientists--at the Central Aerological Observatory in Moscow."

What are they--and where do they come from? No one knows for sure--said Zibel. He added, however, that "these objects move with enormous speed--so far impossible for earth-made flying machines and unbearable for earth organisms;" which seems to indicate ^{to him at any rate} they are "vehicles" of some sort--"arriving from other planets for research purposes."

In support of his arguments--Zibel asserting there is a sharp increase in saucer sighting--"whenever Mars approaches the Earth,"

FOOD

Here's another story -- to make us sit up and take notice. The National Academy of Sciences -- with headquarters in Washington -- today publicizing a report nearly three-hundred pages long, filled with examples of potential dangers from eating common everyday foods.

The study noting, for example, that so-called "sunburned potatoes" -- can be extremely poisonous; that too much tomato juice -- can cause serious lip trouble; and that pickled herring taken with tranquilizers -- can cause a reaction like dynamite; that certain cheeses taken with a tranquilizer known as Parnate -- can actually kill you.

Oh yes -- a chapter on vitamins too. Ordinarily -- they're fine. But too much -- particularly of Vitamins A and D -- and you're apt to get violently ill. Children -- especially -- they say.

DUBLIN

From Dublin -- a story today telling of grim prospects for Irish Colleens; looking to improve their lot -- in business, in the professions or especially in politics.

Census figures just out -- showing that more girls than boys complete high school. Further, that girls make up more than a quarter of all Irish college graduates. Which means that Irish women -- are among the best educated in the world today.

However, the census also showing that women, by and large, are successful in business -- only in the clothing industry. Successful in the professions -- only as teachers and social workers. And successful in politics -- only when they become widows of prominent office-holders.

Why so? Because -- we'retold -- an Irishman "likes his pint in a pub -- his politics in parliament -- and his women at home." Warren Moran -- there's a good Irish name. What say you, Warren?

WASHINGTON

"The Ev and Jerry Show" in Washington--a joint attack today on President Johnson. With Senate Minority Leader Everett Dirksen and House Minority Leader Gerald Ford--both accusing the President of plagiarizing a Republican slogan.

This--they said--in the President's use of the term "creative federalism." A phrase supposedly coined by Governor Rockefeller of New York--way back in 1962. Ev and Jerry adding that ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ "creative federalism" under LBJ--is actually "cremative" federalism-- "and likely to consume us all."

In short--the two Republican leaders are "all burned up"--over the President's choice of words.