

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell -- barred today from taking his place in Congress. The House voting by a margin of nearly three-to-one -- to deprive Powell of his seat for at least five weeks, pending an investigation by a special subcommittee -- to determine his fitness to serve.

Today's action following by less than a day -- the ouster of Powell as chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee. Making him only the third man in this century -- to lose his seat in Congress, even temporarily.

## VIET NAM

~~Halfway round the world~~ -- <sup>Another</sup> American one-two today in Viet Nam. Big B-Fifty-Twos from Guam blasting away at that so-called "Iron Triangle" -- the Viet Cong jungle stronghold just northwest of Saigon. Followed by swarms of U.S. and South Vietnamese troops -- an estimated ~~Thirty~~<sup>Thirty</sup> Thousand in all in the biggest ground operation of the war to date.

The massive assault -- a bid to knock out once and for all -- the Communist's traditional base of operations in the Capital area. And it's off to a good start. Enemy losses in the first day of fighting -- a Hundred and Fifteen dead -- Twenty-Eight captured. American losses so far -- called "light."

The Red Capital

PENTAGON

At the same time -- a pair of related items today from the Pentagon.

The first -- based on reports from Saigon, Telling of record shipments of Communist war supplies to South Viet Nam -- during that two-day Christmas truce in the fighting. Apparent proof of the U.S. military contention -- that such a truce benefits only the Viet Cong.

The second -- telling of repercussions here at home -- over alleged civilian casualties in recent U.S. bombing attacks near Hanoi. As a result -- we're told -- American planes have been temporarily barred from attacking targets -- anywhere <sup>in</sup> near the Red Capital.



UNITED NATIONS

Meanwhile, at the United Nations -- a startling three-point declaration today from U.N. Secretary General U Thant; on his personal attitude -- toward the war in Viet Nam.

Thant asserting: One -- that he does not believe <sup>the</sup> Viet Cong movement -- "is a stooge of Hanoi." Two -- that he does not subscribe to the so-called "domino theory;" "that if South Viet Nam falls -- then Country X, then Country Y, then Country Z" will also fall. And three -- that he does not consider South Viet Nam "strategically vital -- to Western interests and Western security." All this -- in direct contradiction to stated U.S. beliefs.

Thant was then asked whether he felt the United States had rejected -- his recent three-point plan for peace in Viet Nam.

This -- he refused to answer; conceding, however, that North Viet

Nam had rejected <sup>The plan -- ON AT LEAST</sup> one point: ~~his~~ call for mutual de-escalation of military activities -- as a first step toward peace talks. No

dice <sup>or that</sup> ~~he~~ said Hanoi.

## PEKING

In Peking -- a dramatic move today by Red Chinese Premier Chou En-Lai; to put an end to the riot<sup>ing and</sup> power struggle -- that threatens to paralyze Communist China.

Chou addressing the masses -- through a series of public posters. Saying that Foreign Minister Chen Yi and four other vice premiers -- had clearly strayed from the policies of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung. But they have admitted their past faults -- said Chou; and now they deserve a second chance -- under Mao's guidance.

This the first time Chou has spoken out -- on China's grave internal crisis. Placing him solidly in the camp of Chairman Mao and Defense Minister Lin Piao -- in direct opposition to President Liu Shao-Chi.

Even so -- renewed rioting today at the very gates of the ~~Forbidden~~<sup>of Heaven</sup> Palace in Peking -- also in Canton. With Shanghai ~~also~~<sup>also</sup> ~~still~~<sup>still</sup> virtually crippled by a general strike. Travelers from the mainland reporting the sight of many bodies -- "lying on the streets" -- covered with blood.

AUSTIN

Governor Connally of Texas -- latest to take exception to William Manchester's book -- "The Death of a President." Calling a special news conference today at Austin -- to brand the work "an astonishing propaganda instrument."

Connally asserting that the book -- "cannot qualify as factual history." Because -- said he -- "it actually is a recitation of recollections and observations -- collected and reflected through the prisms of prejudice." Filled, what's more, <sup>said he,</sup> with "editorial comment -- based on unfounded rumor, distortion and inconsistency."

The governor -- who was riding in the same car with ~~Sen~~ President Kennedy ~~when he was assassinated~~ -- adding that he will eventually write his own version of the entire affair. But it won't be published -- <sup>he added</sup> ~~until~~ -- until Nineteen-~~Sixty~~ <sup>Seventy-Three</sup>; by which time there will have been three Presidential elections -- since the death of President Kennedy.



CAIRO:

From Cairo -- a progress report today on construction of Egypt's giant Aswan Dam; telling of near-completion at last -- of the seven-year-old billion-dollar Soviet-backed project.

According to government officials -- the Aswan Dam now fully Eighty per cent complete; with special crews working at night -- in an effort to finish the job; in hopes that first electricity from the dam will be lighting lights in Cairo -- Six Hundred miles away -- before the end of the year.

When the dam is completely finished -- perhaps as early as Ninety-Sixty-Nine -- it will add a million new acres of arable land along the banks of the Nile. With resulting Lake Nasser spilling over into the neighboring Sudan -- <sup>they say</sup> permitting that country to triple her farm land. Hopefully enabling both to become self-sufficient -- as far as food is concerned -- for the first time in modern history.

CONISTON

A final note today from Coniston, England -- on the death of British speed ace Donald Malcolm Campbell; killed last week in a futile attempt to achieve his life's ambition -- a world water speed record of Three Hundred Miles an hour.

The accident, of course, nullifying Campbell's speed mark. As a result of a study of films experts reporting today that his craft hit a top speed -- of Three Hundred and Fifty miles an hour just before the crash; at which speed his craft no longer was a boat. It was an airplane.



HONOLULU

Charge and counter-charge reverberated across the Pacific today -- in a show business feud that is fast-achieving international proportions. The contestants -- a couple of world-famous personalities; American <sup>(By-ez)</sup> protest-singer Joan Baez-- and cartoonist Al Capp, creator of "Li'l Abner."

In Honolulu -- where she is currently on tour -- Miss Baez promising to go to court, if necessary; to prevent the further use of a character named "Joanie Phoeanie" -- in the "Li'l Abner" comic strip. Miss Baez calling the antics of "Joanie Phoeanie" -- "vulgar and stupid -- a jab at the whole protest movement."

In Boston -- cartoonist Capp admitting himself that he considers "Joanie Phoeanie" to be -- "a repulsive, egomaniacal, un-American, non-taxpaying horror" -- as he put it. Capp adding <sup>Warren.</sup> ~~however,~~ that he sees "no resemblance to Miss Baez," "But if Miss Baez wants to prove it" -- <sup>said</sup> ~~xxxx~~ he-- "let her."

FRANKFORT

At Frankfort, Kentucky -- a final ruling today from  
State Selective Service; rejecting an appeal from world  
heavyweight boxing champion Cassius Clay -- for  
reclassification as a conscientious objector.

The board's unanimous verdict leaving Clay in One-A  
-- a prime candidate for the draft. However, Clay still  
intends to put on contest to an out-and-out deferment --  
as a minister in the Black Muslim faith.