

PARIS

Thurs, June 20-68,

From Paris - a report ~~today~~ of possible  
dissension in the Communist camp; With a number of  
top North Vietnamese leaders - said to be sharply  
critical of recent Viet Cong rocket attacks on Saigon.

Main reason - we are told - a backlash of  
world opinion, led by U N Secretary General U Thant -  
who denounced the shelling as sheer "barbarism". This  
supposedly giving the U S - a decided edge in <sup>the</sup> peace  
talks thus far. The moreso in that U Thant - had  
previously avoided any open criticism of the Viet Cong  
or the North Vietnamese.

End result - according to Paris sources -  
a stern warning from Hanoi; telling the Viet Cong to  
cut it out - or face a drastic cutback in rocket  
deliveries from the North.

WASHINGTON FOLLOW PARIS

Here at home - another ray of hope today - from Defense Secretary Clark Clifford; who said ~~that~~ "there are bits of movement now" in Paris - "no matter how slight." Adding his firm conviction that "both sides" - are trying to work out a dignified and honorable ~~st~~ settlement of the war; that "we will begin to get some progress" -- as soon as "we get to the stage of private talks."

Next question: What about that partial U S bombing halt? How long can it last - in the face of enemy escalation? Answer - ~~said~~ said Clark Clifford: As long as necessary - as long as there is still "some hope" in Paris.

SEOUL

The Pueblo affair - back in the headlines today' with a Seoul newspaper saying the United States has proposed to North Korea - a transfer of the crew of the spy ship to a neutral nation; pending an impartial investigation - to determine whether the Pueblo did, indeed, violate North Korean waters, in which case - an American ~~px~~ apology supposedly in the offing.

Reaction from Washington - a flat denial, with a State Department <sup>spokesman</sup> saying the U S has made "certain proposals" to North Korea - but definitely not those reported in Seoul.

HUMPHREY

For the first time since the assassination of Robert Kennedy - ~~Now~~ Hubert Humphrey returned to the political ~~arena~~ wars today. In Washington - the Vice President carving a new niche for himself on domestic affairs. In contrast to President Johnson - strongly endorsing the recommendations of the President's National Commission on civil disorders. <sup>But</sup> ~~Going~~ further than the President, ~~now~~ in calling for registration of all firearms throughout the country.

Turning overseas though - Hubert Humphrey refused to back away from administration foreign policy -- especially that in Vietnam. The Vice President saying he was for peace above all - but adding, <sup>and</sup> "I do not think peace comes to the timid - or the weak - or the cowardly."

WALTER REED

At Walter Reed ~~Army~~ Hospital in Washington -  
former President Eisenhower, ~~continues to suffer some~~ ~~heart~~  
~~heart "irregularities."~~ However, ~~doctors~~ <sup>were</sup> reporting  
today ~~that~~ <sup>how</sup> these "irregularities" - have ~~decreased in~~  
~~frequency over the past twenty four hours,~~ ~~with~~ the  
~~General suffering no new chest pains - and~~  
~~showing no signs of heart failure.~~

~~In short - said the doctors - he~~ is making  
progress -- and ~~he~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~"continues to be"~~ "in good spirits."

LONDON

In London - Britain's House of Lords had its say earlier this week; using its last vestige of power -- to delay the imposing of sanctions against Rhodesia. Now - it's the Labor Government's turn. Prime Minister Harold Wilson announcing plans today - to introduce drastic legislation in the House of Commons. Legislation that would further reduce the power of the House of Lords - to practically nothing; while doing away with membership - based solely on heredity.

This necessary - said Wilson - because the minority conservatives in Commons had given their blessing to the Lord's action. <sup>This</sup> Resulting - said he - in "a denial of democracy and a total frustration of the spirit of our Constitution."

VATICAN

*From the Vatican in Rome - a report today that Pope Paul has finally made up his mind on the question of birth control - only to have it changed again.*

*According to Vatican sources -- the Pope deciding weeks ago - against ~~to~~ any fundamental change in Church policy. Going so far as to ~~re~~prepare a forty-page document - explaining fully his reasons.*

*Whereupon he was flooded - we are told - with objections from top church leaders who fully support birth control.*

*As of this moment then - no change in official church policy. A Vatican official comparing the issue - to "a stick floating on the sea." "Every time it gets near the shore - a wave comes along and washes it back" - said he.*

NEW YORK

First - it was skimpy bathing suits. Next - short, short skirts. More recently - see-through fashions. And soon to come - says anthropologist Margaret Mead - a time when men, women and children can cavort freely in no clothes at all.

This - in an article in the current Redbook Magazine, ~~With~~ Dr. Mead predicting that nudity on the beach - may be the first big breakthrough. Leading eventually to acceptance of nudity -- in "a limited range of social situations;" where "children can run free and adults can enjoy unexciting relaxation - without wearing clothes."

Dr. Mead basing her prediction - on, quote, the growing "transparency of everyday life," ~~Which~~ has now reached the point - said she - where "things that once were hidden <sup>Stew</sup> - are not merely revealed but publicly flaunted."



Among U N circles - Britain's Lord Caradon has developed a reputation -- as something of a "doggerel diplomat." A reputation enhanced today by a tribute in verse to the work of Soviet U N Ambassador V. V. Kuznetsov, on successful completion of U N debate - on the treaty to ban the spread of nuclear weapons. As Lord Caradon put it:

When prospects are dark and hopes are dim,  
We know that we must send for him.  
When storms and tempests fill the sky,  
"Bring on Kuznetsov" is the cry.  
He comes like a dove from the Communist ark;  
And light appears where all was dark.  
His coming quickly turns the tide;  
The propaganda floods subside.  
And now that he has changed the weather,  
Lion and lamb can vote together.