

INDOCHINA

Wed. Apr. 12-72.

~~In the fighting~~ in Indochina - ~~a continuing series~~

more
of enemy attacks; ~~today~~ achieving little - often at great cost.

Meanwhile, U.S. B-Fifty-Twos were blasting enemy positions - within ^a~~one~~ mile of the beleaguered city of An Loc; the closest they've come to any big city - since Hue, during the Nineteen-Sixty-Eight offensive.

South Vietnam's President Thieu ^{took} ~~also taking~~ to the field today, traveling by helicopter - to South Vietnam's besieged Lai Khe base camp. There - conferring with his generals; ~~Telling~~ them to break that siege - and do it "quickly."

PENTAGON-STATE

~~Here on our own shores~~ - The Pentagon ^{says} ~~was~~
~~claiming today~~ that Saigon troops [^] have now taken the
initiative. ~~A spokesman~~ adding, however ~~that~~ this does not
mean the battle has been won. ~~Not yet - anyway.~~

^{While} ~~at~~ at the State Department - the U.S. ^{was} quickly
rejecting France's call for a resumption of ^{the} peace talks.

A spokesman ~~has~~ calling the French appeal - clearly
"one-sided." Adding: "It appears to pick up - roughly
the statements" made earlier by the North Vietnamese and
the Viet Cong.

WASHINGTON

~~Turning to the domestic front~~ The start of two days of hearings on soaring food prices. One ~~of the~~ ~~first~~ witnesses - hog farmer Frank Buryanek of Hawarden, Iowa; who told the President's Price Commission - current meat prices are really a bargain; and more than that - said he - the only means of insuring the survival of the family farm.

Buryanek also said his income ~~was~~ ^{is} so low - he has been told he ~~was~~ ^{is} eligible to receive food stamps. But he added: "Gentlemen, we don't want food stamps - all we want is a fighting chance; we're proud Americans - we're tough - we'll make it." Whereupon - a burst of applause.

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PRICES FOLLOW WASHINGTON

Same city - a special labor conference - same subject; with the main speaker - the head of the AFL-CIO's price monitoring program. Leo Perlis urging union members to picket stores - also, landlords who raise prices in violation of the President's economic controls. "As long as we have a program that is neither fair nor firm" - said he - "let the voice of the people be heard in the streets."

SAN ANTONIO

Pale and drawn - but back on his feet - Lyndon

Baines Johnson returned home today to the Texas he loves --

home on the Pedernales.

~~so much~~ **The former President arriving at San Antonio -**

after a fifteen hundred-mile flight from Charlottesville,

Virginia; then entering a local hospital - where he brushed

aside a proffered wheelchair. All the way ^{with} a portable

electro-cardiogram [^] strapped to his chest. In view of his

recent heart attack ^{quite} - a remarkable journey.

Doctors later reporting - the former President's

condition is "quite good." Adding that he came home to

Texas - to recover "in peace and quiet."

WARM SPRINGS-MOSCOW

This next - a tale of two cities. The first - Warm Springs, Georgia; where a ceremony was held today - commemorating the Twenty-Seventh Anniversary of the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. And the second - Moscow; where a similar ceremony was taking place - the first of its kind ever held in Russia.

Those attending the Moscow tribute - including some five hundred eminent Russian scholars. ^{This} part of an attempt - we are told - to create "a benign atmosphere for the forthcoming visit of President Nixon."

24 yrs. ago I was doing a bid cast about the passing of FDR - from a portable mobile radio unit with the 9th Army - in Central Europe.

WHITE HOUSE

The White House again - President Nixon today appointed to the Federal Communications Commission - its first black member ever. Benjamin L. Hooks of Memphis - a prominent attorney - a former Judge - a Baptist minister - a board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference - a life member of the N. Double-A.C.P. - and a political independent. ^{Would this make him} ~~In short~~ - "a man for all seasons?"

DETROIT

As promised, China's finest arrived today in Detroit. The party from Peking - including China's greatest table tennis players - plus newsmen, interpreters and so on. The group receiving a warm welcome - from President Gramah Steenhoven of the U. S. Table Tennis Association. "You do us great honor" - said he. Adding; ~~that~~ "all of us - are looking forward to friendly matches and exhibitions."

The Chinese - ~~now expected~~^{are} to spend three days in Detroit; ~~after which~~^{they} - an eight-city tour, ^{including} Ann Arbor, Michigan; - Williamsburg, Virginia; - Washington ^{D.C.;} New York; - Memphis; - Huntsville, Alabama; - Los Angeles; - and, finally, San Francisco.

ZANZIBAR

The new President of Zanzibar - fifty-two-year-old
Aboud Jumbe, ~~who was~~ sworn in today to succeed his late
mentor, Sheikh Abeid Karume, ^{who was assassinated}
~~The letter - as you know~~ -
~~shot to death~~ last week while playing cards.

Incidentally, the Sheikh leaving behind - it now
develops - a cash estate of Sixty-Five Million; all of it -
stashed away in a personal account in a Russian bank in
London; ^{But they say it's} ~~except that it happens to be~~ - Zanzibar's entire
foreign cash reserve.

IRKUTSK

From the city of Irkutsk in Soviet Siberia -

population, more than half-a-million - the story of a novel

attempt to curb air pollution. Mayor ~~N.F.~~ ^{Nicholas Feodor} Salatsky of

Irkutsk - announcing plans to eliminate all coal-burning ^{pollution - by eliminating}

fireplaces; to do this - by means of a new thermal power

plant; ^{to} ~~estimated~~ cost - more than a Hundred Million;

capable of heating ^{all} the homes of Irkutsk - ~~against~~ ^{where for month}

the thermometer hits ^{— even 60} temperatures that often ~~hit~~ ^{are} thirty, forty, fifty below.

I was in Irkutsk recently, and it's a clean 'city' aside from the smog and the people seem far happier ^{than in} Mayor Salatsky also boasts that Irkutsk - is the

first and, as yet, only city in Siberia with its own sewage

treatment plants. "Our Angara River" - says ^{Salatsky} ~~the~~ Mayor,

"has water as clear as a woman's tears." I wonder what the Siberian Mayors of Irkutsk, Tomsk,

~~Just like the Hudson, Warren~~
Omsk and Bratsk would say about our Hudson, Warren?

on the Alaska Airlines
First Flight to Siberia,

Siberia than
in Moscow. Probably
because they are
4000 miles away
from Moscow & the
Kremlin.

LOS ANGELES

At Los Angeles - two of the world's most famous
— 2 friends of mine —
adventurers - ~~have~~ finally met for the first time.

Mountaineer Tenzing Norgay - who conquered Mount
Everest; and Navigator Thor Heyerdahl - who conquered
the Pacific and then the Atlantic. In a brief pause en route
to new projects - discovering they have ~~not~~ in common.

Each has ~~Both~~ - ~~having~~ five children. Each is ~~Both~~ - going on

fifty-seven. Both - agreeing their taste for adventure
has never been greater. Ah, mad, impetuous youth!