



Defends Bombing

Associated Press Wirephoto

LBJ Pledges To Exhaust All Prospects For Peace

JOHNSON CITY, Tex. (AP)—President Johnson said Thursday that "before other hard steps are taken" in Viet Nam every prospect for peace will be exhausted.

This appears to rule out, for the present at least, the bombing of the North Viet Nam capital, Hanoi, and the port of Haiphong, some influential members of Congress have been demanding this be done forthwith.

While the search for a peaceful solution goes on, Johnson said, "we are determined to do all that is necessary" to turn back Communist aggression.

Johnson, in a speech prepared for telephone delivery to the AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco, made his most detailed answer yet to critics of his Viet Nam policy. He posed—and replied to—some of the questions most often asked by opponents of U.S. involvement. And he took indirect note, too, of demands for a swift deepening of that involvement.

He launched into his discussion of Viet Nam by saying: "Every day someone asks: 'Why are we in Viet Nam?' And every day I want to answer: Not for economic reasons; we are spending our treasure, not reproducing it.

"And not for reasons of selfish pride; the lives of our sons are too great a price for national vanity.

"Not for reasons of empire, our own sense of others' rights and the harsh judgments of history on the conquerors do not speak well of either the morality or the logic of imperial ambitions.

"To defend freedom—to permit its roots to deepen and grow without fear of external aggression—is our purpose in Viet Nam. Unchecked aggression against free and helpless people will not let us go.

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Gemini 6 Gets 'Go' For Sunday Blastoff

MANNED SPACE CENTER, Houston, Tex. (AP)—The Gemini 6 hunter spacecraft, 24 hours ahead of schedule—got a go-ahead Thursday to blast off Sunday in pursuit of the orbiting Gemini 7. The target spacecraft opened its egress hatch to full circle to await its sister ship.

When they meet—perhaps Sunday—they will fly in formation a few feet apart, a vital maneuver in U.S. efforts to reach the moon.

Gemini 6 began its 79 orbit at 1:08 p.m. EST.

Air Force Lt. Col. Frank Borman—his eyes on the stars for guidance—gave the Gemini 7 two bursts of rocket power, timed to the split-second, 20 minutes apart, during the 24th orbit.

"We've got Arcturus—and we're right on the money," Borman said.

News, Features On The Inside

The Weather

Generally Fair, Cold Today and Saturday.

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HOW THE WOUNDED VETERANS feel about Viet Nam: "I'm glad to be living but when I get better I'd like to go back to Viet Nam and help finish the job," says a sergeant at Valley Forge Army Hospital; "I think I can help the new kids." Page 3

AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY urges labor to strive harder for President Johnson's "Great Society" and demands a bigger share of the nation's wealth for American workers. Page 2

THE KREMLIN RESISTANCE appears to be part of the continuing upheaval begun with the overthrow of Nikita Khrushchev, pressuring a hard Soviet policy toward the United States. Back Page

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Rusk Rejects Aggression Charges, Blames Peking And Hanoi Aims

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Dean Rusk rejected Thursday Soviet charges of American aggression in Southeast Asia. He blamed Peking and Hanoi instead for seeking military victory on their own terms in South Viet Nam.

Rusk told a news conference: "We do know authorities in Peking have given substantial assistance to Hanoi. We think there are some Chinese personnel working on communications that have been disrupted and there have been technical assistance people there for some time."

"The confrontation problem is one which Peking has to face," he said. "We are going to meet our commitments."

Rusk showed some annoyance over accusations by Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin in an interview with the New York Times this week that the United States is whipping up a war psychosis.

The secretary of state said a distinction has to be drawn between what the leaders of the Soviet Union say and what they know.

He said the Russians know that if they would join Britain in convening a Geneva conference "the United States would be present and would be prepared to work diligently for a peaceful settlement of the situation in Southeast Asia."

He said the Soviet leaders

know also that a solemn pact guaranteeing the neutrality of Laos was agreed to by North Viet Nam and Communist China as well as by the Soviet Union and the United States.

Rusk said the Russians know that the Laos agreement was not observed by North Viet Nam for even a single day.

"They know there can be peace if the leaders in Hanoi would stop trying to take over South Viet Nam by force. They know all these things," he continued.

It does not contribute to the possibilities of peace to turn these matters around and charge us with aggression when peace could so promptly be achieved if the real aggressors were stopped."

Rusk's news conference coincided with a new attempt by Great Britain to get peace negotiations on Viet Nam started.

London proposed to the Soviet Union a 12-nation appeal to Communist North Viet Nam to quit fighting and negotiate. It called on the Russians to join in signing and circulating the measure among the nine countries which attended the 1954 peace parity on Indochina and the 15-

dian, Canadian and Polish governments, which cosponsored the Viet Nam Control Commission.

The British message accused the Hanoi regime of 1. stepping up intervention in South Viet Nam, 2. increasing the flow of men and material to aid the Viet Cong guerrillas, and 3. violating

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In Soviet Shuffle

Top Russian leaders at a session of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow Thursday are, left to right, Nikolai V. Podgorny (with folded hands), who replaced

Anastasi I. Mikoyan as president of the Soviet Union; Mikoyan, Premier Alexei N. Kosygin and Leonid I. Brezhnev, Communist Party boss.

Queen Mary Fails In Try To Aid Ship

PLYMOUTH, England (UPI)—The British liner Queen Mary made a dramatic bid on Thursday to help rescue 27 men on a sinking Greek freighter during a howling gale 400 miles west of here. But the liner resumed her voyage when it was obvious she could not help.

The Queen Mary, one day out of Southampton on her way to New York, reached the 7,000-ton Greek freighter Costantis and sighted the stricken vessel with her massive 81,000-ton bulk while other ships tried to help.

But waves 40 feet high made it impossible to take the crew from the ship.

The Queen Mary's captain radioed the Costantis: "Advise you not to try to abandon ship. Any attempt in these conditions would be sheer suicide."

The party indecipherable reply from the Costantis was: "We have no lifeboats. We may be forced into the sea."

A spokesman at the air-sea rescue coordination center here said latest reports were that the freighter was down at the

Continued on Page 28; 2nd Col.

Mikoyan Quits Soviet Presidency, Shelepin Is Given No. 2 Party Post

MOSCOW (AP)—Anastasi I. Mikoyan, who runs the Soviet Union, the informants said that job is going to Shelepin.

Shelepin, 47, former head of the Soviet secret police, has been regarded as a possible future top man in the Soviet Union. Despite indications earlier in the week of a demotion, he seemed today to have strengthened his position.

This came despite relinquishing his government role as a deputy premier and chairman

of the old committee for party various levels of government.

Kosygin said Shelepin should be relieved in order to concentrate on party work.

This same explanation was given in July 1964 when Brezhnev gave up the presidential job to Mikoyan. Three months

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Bishop Feeney Happy To Be Back Home

By WILLIAM A. LANGLEY
Staff Reporter

"I'm happy to be home," said the Most Rev. Daniel J. Feeney, D.D., bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland, minutes after he returned Thursday night from the fourth session of the Vatican Ecumenical Council in Rome.

The bishop left Rome for New York by plane at 3 a.m. Thursday, U. S. time.

He said he brought some of the documents with him, but there were so many he had to mail others from Rome.

Bishop Feeney said it may be years before some of the recently passed reforms and decrees are implemented.

The question of Friday abstinence on meat was not settled by the time the bishops left Rome, he said.

"We were hoping to hear something before we left, but we didn't," he said.

"THE AMERICAN BISHOPS were polled on the Friday abstinence question, and they were generally opposed. Relaxation of the law seemed to be mostly for European and missionary countries," he said.

He also said he has brought some documents from Rome in preparation for a press conference.

According to published reports, more than 300 hours of speeches, 500 rounds of voting, and several tons of writing went into the council sessions.

Pope Delays Lifting Friday Meat Ban

VATICAN CITY (AP)—An expected papal announcement removing the 1,000-year-old Roman Catholic Church rule against eating meat on Fridays will not be made until early 1966, Vatican sources predicted Thursday night.

Reports a week ago had said the word from Pope Paul VI was imminent and might come during the midweek ceremonies that closed the Vatican Ecumenical Council.

The sources said the Pope may have decided to wait until the special postconciliar jubilee period Jan. 1—May 29, that he has proclaimed for the world's 500 million Roman Catholics.

13 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

CHRISTMAS SEALS FIGHT AND AID RESPIRATORY DISEASES



Maine Man Shows Medal

U.S. Marine Corps Pfc. Richard J. Wright, 19, Scarborough's first casualty of the Viet Nam fighting, shows Mrs. Joan Kennedy, wife of Bay State Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, the Purple Heart medal awarded him after he was struck by Viet Cong fire in Da Nang last month. Mrs. Kennedy vis-

ited Wright in the Chelsea (Mass.) Naval Hospital Thursday. Wright is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Wright of Leonard Road, Scarborough, and a Scarborough High School graduate. Photos of other Maine casualties on Page 31.

Prayer For Today

O God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we bring to Thee the moral chaos of our world, its spiritual failure, its revulsion of heart, its insistence in believing only what it sees. We acknowledge our share in the world's sin, our part in its evil, our pride of race, our failure to take account of the needs of others. Strengthen our belief in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

—Dorothy Strain, Lubbeck, Texas, minister, First Christian Church.

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