

State, National and International News

Battle Rages At Air Base

Saigon Police Alerted for Coup

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (AP) — Mock bombing runs over Saigon by air force sky-raidiers stirred rumors of a coup today and bolstered reports of possible anti-American demonstrations during the weekend.

Saigon police had gone on full alert after receiving reports that some neutralist groups would stage demonstrations. None had developed by evening.

Some officials felt air force pilots may have spotted a force of Marines detailed to a down-

town park in case of a demonstration and sounded a coup alarm.

Rumors Discounted

One high ranking source said, "I think we'll all be able to sleep in peace tonight. But it seems there might be some young army colonels and other officers around who might be kicking up their heels. They've been making unhappy noises about the generals not yet being back with the troops."

Vietnamese military brass

have been concentrated in the capital since the ouster of Lt. Gen. Nguyen Khanh Feb. 21.

Patrol Ambushed

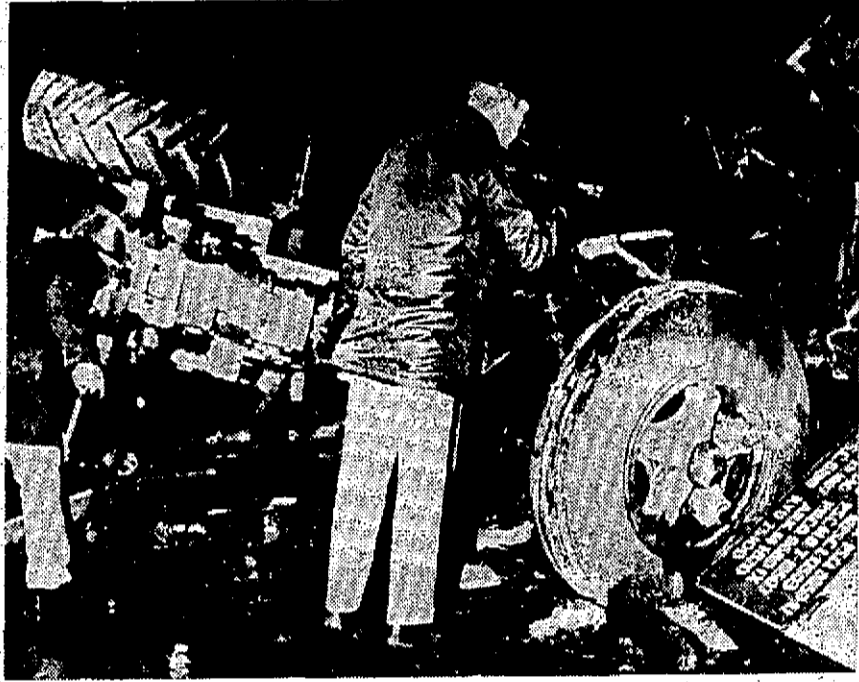
The quickened pace of battle in the area around Da Nang Air Base about 308 miles north of here showed no let up, as the Viet Cong ambushed a government armored patrol Friday night and killed the commander of the Vietnamese army's first regiment.

Lt. Col. Ho Duc Hanh's body and the bodies of five others

were found today burned inside a destroyed armored personnel carrier.

In the Quang Nam-Quang Tin border area, eight F4U jet fighter-bombers struck in support of a ground operation Friday. Unconfirmed accounts said 30 Viet Cong were killed.

A U.S. Army officer was wounded today while accompanying a Vietnamese army unit on an operation about 70 miles southwest of Saigon. The officer suffered fragment wounds in the right arm and leg from a grenade trap. His condition was not believed serious.



Clearing Wreckage on I-80

Highway patrolmen and volunteers worked Friday night to clear wreckage of trucks from Interstate 80, two miles west of West Branch. Robert Larson, 37, of Waterloo, was killed in the accident about 11 p.m. Friday. (AP Photofax)

Crash by 3 Trucks Kills Iowan

WEST BRANCH (AP)—Robert Donald Larsen, 37, of Waterloo, was killed Friday night in a traffic accident involving three semi-trailer truck rigs on Interstate 80 about one-half mile west of the West Branch interchange.

The Highway Patrol said a truck driven by Harlan George Sleeper, 31, of Independence, struck a truck driven by Leroy Bentline, 33, of Osage, as Sleeper tried to pass Bentline.

A truck driven by Larsen then rammed into the rear of Sleeper's truck.

Bentline suffered a broken leg. Sleeper escaped injury.

Fight West Iowa Floods

MISSOURI VALLEY (AP)—A crew of nearly 100 men and nearly half-a-dozen trucks began a race Saturday against time and temperature to save this western Iowa town from possible new flooding.

Army Engineers announced late Friday, after an appeal from local authorities, that they would undertake to prevent new flooding from the Boyer River.

More men and machines will be brought into the fight over the weekend, engineers said. A combination of water and soft ground is making it difficult to reach privately owned levees which, engineers say, gave way under pressure of high water.

Strike Shuts Plant

FORT DODGE (AP) — Local 1135 of United Packinghouse Workers of America went on strike at the Iowa Beef Packers, Inc., plant here Saturday, virtually shutting down the plant.

White "March" Arranged

SELMA, Ala. (AP) — Members of a group called the "Concerned White Citizens of Alabama" converged on Selma today for a march protesting what they described as intimidation of Negro voter applicants.

The group planned an afternoon procession to the Dallas County courthouse. The leader is the Rev. Joseph Ellwanger, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran church of Birmingham and a former resident of Selma.

Rev. Ellwanger said it was a spontaneous movement with members coming mainly from Birmingham, Huntsville, Tus-

U. S. Space Flight Advanced

HOUSTON, Tex. — (AP) — The United States will make its first attempt to orbit two astronauts in a single space vehicle later this month, according to a Manned Spacecraft Center official.

The announcement was made Friday in Washington by Dr. George Mueller, assistant director for manned space flight. Prior statements had set the initial two-man voyage for April.

Snow Falls in Dixie

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Storms ended in the snow-battered sections of the Midwest today but there was a touch of wintry weather in parts of the eastern third of the nation, including the Southland.

Light snow fell in parts of Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama, with flurries reported at the northern Florida border. Cold air spread into the region with temperatures near or below freezing in many areas.

The prolonged storm in the Midwest moved eastward and southward and dumped the heaviest snow in western Pennsylvania and in mountain sections of New England. Amounts ranged up to 15 inches in the Johnstown, Pa., area, and 6 inches at Pittsburgh.

Dock Strike Is Ending

GALVESTON, Tex. — (AP) — Some 7,000 West Gulf Coast dock workers were expected to start going back to their jobs today to end the second-largest strike in the history of the International Longshoremen's Association.

Ralph A. Massey, ILA district president, said work on the docks likely would resume after an expected ratification vote this morning by the union membership.

The Weather

Variable cloudiness through Sunday. Northerly winds diminishing and a little colder tonight; lows 20-25; highs Sunday 35-40, High Friday 35; low during night 25; at 11 a.m. today 35. Precipitation Friday .18 of an inch.

Fire at Dubuque Fatal to 2

DUBUQUE (AP)—Two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Martin of Dubuque died Saturday in a fire in the Martins' two-story frame home.

Firemen said the children, Lynn, 4, and Sherry Lee, 8, were asleep on the second floor when the fire broke out about 3:30 a.m.

With no telephone in the house, Mrs. Martin ran to a neighbor to call firemen.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin were hospitalized for shock.

Firemen said the blaze apparently started in the kitchen. Its cause was not immediately known.

Lawmakers Still Face Major Tasks

DES MOINES (AP) — Iowa's 61st General Assembly returns from a week-long recess Monday with most of its major legislative chores still before it.

Before the recess the lawmakers repealed the death penalty, ended mandatory legislative secrecy and gave first approval to a proposed constitutional amendment calling for annual sessions of the General Assembly.

But those are only three of many major issues facing the legislature.

There has been no floor debate on reapportionment or general finances, expected to be two of the major time-killers in this session as they were two years ago.

Still pending and ready to set off a major fuss are proposals to change or repeal the right-to-work law, which prohibits labor contracts requiring union membership as a condition of getting or holding a job.

Former Boone Official Killed

GREENSBURG, Kan. (AP)—A former police chief of Boone, Iowa, was killed Friday when trapped in the cab of a tractor-trailer unit which went out of control during a high wind.

The victim in the accident on U.S. 154 about nine miles west of here was Edward L. Peterson, 56, of Boone.

Authorities said the wind was blowing more than 50 miles an hour.

Estes Enters Federal Prison

LEAVENWORTH, Kan. (AP) — The barred doors of the federal penitentiary shut behind Billie Sol Estes Friday and he became just another number among the 2,250 inmates there.

Estes spent two years fighting his conviction for mail fraud and conspiracy in a deal that involved about \$24 million worth of mortgages on fertilizer tanks that did not exist. He was sentenced to 15 years.

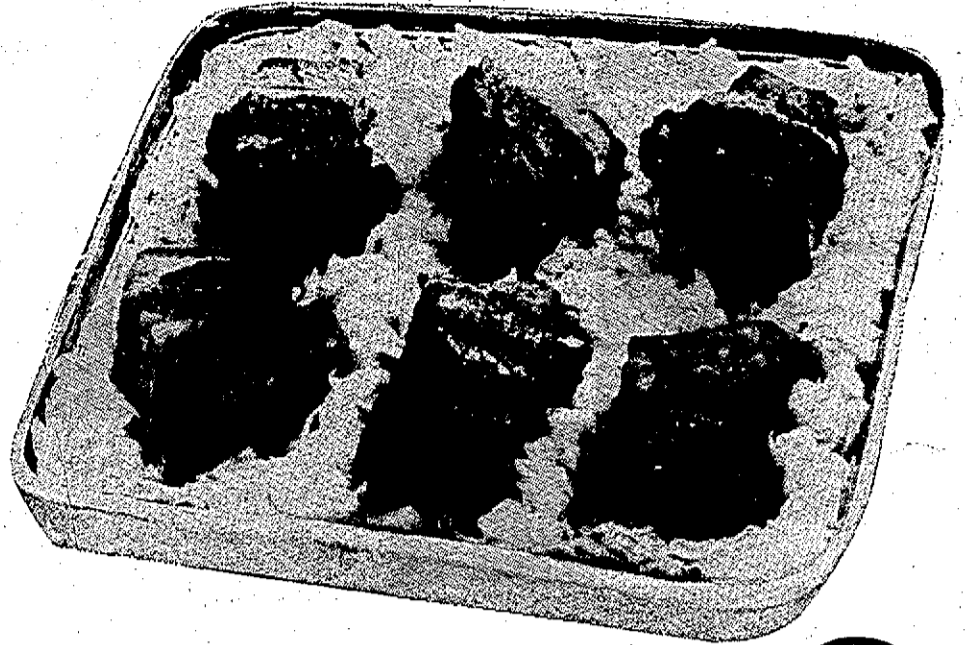


Wilson Welcomed at Berlin

British Prime Minister Harold Wilson, left, was welcomed by West Berlin's Mayor Willy Brandt at Gatow airport in Berlin this morning on his arrival for a one-day visit. It was the first time in 16 years that the head of the British government had visited the divided city. (AP Photofax).

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