

U.S. Links Virtue, Naivety In Vietnam Peace Talks

The negotiations in Paris will resume today, drone on a few hours, and adjourn no nearer a solution than a week ago.

Meanwhile, "high United States officials" report optimism on the conference by finding a certain amount of common ground. From conference progress, it appears that the common ground is that the U.S. wants out of the war and the Communists offer support.

The problem is that we seem to link naivety to virtue when entering negotiations. We seem to work under the assumption that any proposal that is reasonable to the other side.

SOUTH VIETNAM Vice-President Nguyen Cao Ky says his government is prepared to make concessions provided a military solution is reached before the political question arises. The Hanoi and National Liberation Front delegates say they want to discuss everything simultaneously, preferably politics.

Sources close to President Nixon report that he may go to

Paris as early as March 1 to study the peace talk situation. (For all the influence this move is likely to have on the North Vietnamese, the President might as well wait until April when the weather is better.)

Henry Cabot Lodge, in a proposal to the conference, said it would sure be nice if the Demilitarized Zone was re-established. (It sure would, Henry, but the chances are somewhat less than nought.)

THE LODGE proposal would be almost funny in a less tragic situation. As it stands, there is no point in the North tying itself to an agreement to respect the DMZ as long as there is no threat that the U.S. or South Vietnam will cross it.

In fact, despite glowing reports of their annihilation on the battle field, there is no point in the North tying itself to any agreement short of a partial turnover of the South government to the NLF. And with no direct pressure, even partial control may not be enough to satisfy them.

For, anytime things get too hot for them in the South, they can fade quietly across the border for unharassed resupply and reorganization. The agreement to peace talks was a small price to pay for removing the only bargaining power the Americans had, bombing of the North.

BUT, IN ANY event, the U.S. will be out of combat within two years. Whether it requires pressure to get the South to accept a coalition government or whether the fighting is left to the South Vietnamese, the American public has lost interest in fighting this war.

Until that time, the Paris talks will drag on with meaningless proposals met by meaningless counter-proposals. And a diameter of the earth away, the war will continue.

There is no reason it shouldn't. The only thing to clearly emerge from the Paris talks is that we took to them no more understanding of the situation than we took to Kaesong almost 18 years ago.



"What line are we in?—Pass it on!"

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At The Movies by Mike Plake

"The Stalking Moon" stars aging, master stalker Gregory Peck, who gained his fame in the Gray Flannel Suit, by means of the Battle of Pork Chop Hill.

This is the nitty-gritty, dirty, realistic-set western in its sandiest. In fact, there is so much sand in the sand scene it looks like the cameramen achieve a miracle once retiring cavalry scout Peck makes it to the New Mexico valleys and into the land of rocks instead of sand.

Eva Marie Saint plays a weathered, captured, converted white squaw, released after ten years of living with the Indians. Her small Indian son is the residue from her cohabitation with a renegade-killer Apache warrior.

THIS LADY is a fantastic actress. She was beautiful in "Grand Prix," she's beautiful, a second time, here. Her ability shows through her false eyelashes and heavy eye make-up.

Peck is the Mover. He Moves in his usual way, not by traditional means, such as dialogue or script, but by other ways, twitching his eyes back and forth, now looking slightly indecisive, now determined, then like a boy caught pulling on his first fag behind the barn.

Some critics call it technique, or communication-by-expression. I call it eyebrow twitching.

SEE, HE'S a retiring eyebrow, er, cavalry scout. He takes the woman and boy with him, to his New Mexican ranch. Some of the joy is in the taking, for the Paluka-Mulligan production com-

pany spent a lot of time and sand to get in the scenery. And when they get to the green hills (?) of New Mexico, it seems like it's all worth it.

Except when they find out that all the while they have been moving toward his ranch, the boy's daddy, apparently a strong silent type, has killed everybody they have passed, including a horse, and is sniffing the trail to the scout's ranch.

Herein lies the chilling part: Everybody knows whodunit—it's the boy's dad—the renegade Apache. But nobody can seem to catch him. Everybody that catches a glimpse of him is only that far away from death.

IT'S ALMOST at the "Wait Until Dark" height of suspense, western-style. It would spoil it all to reveal any more here.

There's a newcomer in this film—Donald Forster, who plays the half-breed sidekick of the scout. He does it well, in the McQueen, Coburn, Newman class, without the experience.

If you're one who waits in anguish for classy soundtracks, I can recommend two: "The Stalking Moon" and—yes, you guessed it, Daddy—"Candy."

Altogether, I would call this a good flick. Whoever said they don't make good westerns anymore, should unglue themselves from the boob tube.

Bulletin Board

TONIGHT
Galveston Hometown Club will meet at 8:15 p.m. in front of the Memorial Student Center. Picture for Aggeland will be taken. Wear Class 'A' winter or coat and tie.

Chemistry Wives Club will have a "Tupperware Party" at 7 p.m. in the second floor party room of the Casa Del Sol, Stasney Street. Please bring guests and outside orders. All Chemistry faculty and student wives are invited.

Houston Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in room 321 of the Physics Building.
Rio Grande Valley Hometown Club will meet at 8:15 p.m. in front of the Memorial Student Center. Picture will be made for Aggeland. Wear coats and ties, Class "A" or midnight.

SATURDAY
American Veterinary Medical Association Student Auxiliary will hold a Valentine's Dance from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. at the new K. C. Hall, featuring The Barons. Dress will be semiformal. For further information contact Mrs. Sue Wright at 846-5032 or Mrs. Sue Clayton at 846-7391.

MONDAY
Student Engineers' Council will meet at 7 a.m. in the MSC Cafeteria. This is an important business meeting.

Aggie Wives Council will hold its regular monthly business meeting in the Texas Room, North entrance to Bryan Building & Loan, at 7:30 p.m. Representatives and their club presidents are urged to attend.

THE BATTALION

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the student writers only. The Battalion is a non-tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a university and community newspaper.

LETTERS POLICY
Letters to the editor should be typed, double-spaced, and must be no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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THE BEST FOR LESS

PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz

WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING?
I'M LOWERING THE PITCHER'S MOUND... ACCORDING TO THE NEW BASEBALL RULES, THE PITCHER'S MOUND MUST BE LOWERED THIS YEAR...
IT SEEMS THAT WE PITCHERS DOMINATED THE GAME TOO MUCH LAST YEAR...
HAHAHA I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT