

TWO DOVES RIDE AGAIN

Alphabetically, the first of the doves we're discussing is Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.)—known to the late Sen. Joe McCarthy, be it remembered forever and a day, as Sen. Halfbright, and to ex-President Harry Truman as "that over-educated S. O. B."



President Johnson

The gentleman from Arkansas is still in a tizzy, a swivet or a snit (all bona fide Southern slang terms) over the Viet War, into which he professes to think the United States began to be involved because of foreign aid extended by it to South Viet Nam.

From now on, says Fulbright, he wants U. S. foreign aid handled by "impersonal agencies," so that it won't be likely to get us into more Viet-style troubles.

The catch in that is that "impersonal agencies"—presumably connected with the United Nations—would, 99 chances to 1, tend to conceal ever more zealously the source of the food, clothing, technical help, military hardware, etc., etc. Before long, the masses of people in the aided nations would have the impression that the help was coming from the UN, not from the U. S. A.

Gratitude at best is a scarce quality in this world. For the United States to kiss good-bye all hope of gratitude for its billions' worth of aid, as urged by Fulbright, would, we feel, be idiotic—not to mention its being dangerous.

The second of the doves now loudly cooing is—

SEN. MIKE MANSFIELD (D-MONT.)

—who, like Fulbright, has long been moaning into his beer about our participation in the Viet War.

It is Sen. Mansfield's thought, voiced Monday in a carefully sweated-over statement in the Senate, that Japan or Burma should take the lead in dragging to a peace conference in Asia the U. S. A., Red China, Red North Viet Nam, and "essential" elements in South Viet Nam.

This echoes the recent call by Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) for inclusion in the peace conference, and in any South Viet Nam government to follow that conference, of the Viet Cong Reds of the south—who for years have been torturing and murdering innocent villagers and killing any American warriors they could line up in their gunsights.

Let's Hear From The President

We think it is high time, as NEWS Washington bureau chief Ted Lewis said yesterday in "Capitol Stuff," for President Lyndon B. Johnson—far from treating Mansfield's notion politely—to go on TV and radio in a plain-English talk on why we are fighting in Viet Nam and should step up our efforts with a view to eventual victory.

If the Chief Executive feels like keying his speech to the proposition that the only good Communist is a dead Communist, we think that will be fine—because we think that happens to be the literal truth.

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