

THE PERISCOPE

weeks three Red Chinese ships have unloaded more than 17 tons of arms and ammunition at the Cambodian port of Sihanoukville for transfer to Vietnam.

Commissars and Poets

Is rebellious Soviet poet Andrei Voznesensky in any kind of political danger because of his fierce attacks on Moscow's bureaucrats and censors? He isn't, according to knowledgeable Soviet literary sources. They claim that if the Kremlin were to discipline Voznesensky openly or to throw him out of the writers' union, it would simply invite unpleasant publicity in the West. It seems likely, however, that the young poet's trips abroad will be sharply curtailed.

INSIDE STORY

Another TV Strike in the Air

The TV networks, which survived a thirteen-day strike last spring on the strength of their rerun libraries, face another walkout by the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. The emergency agreement ending last April's strike was strictly oral. Since then, union and network officials haven't been able to translate the spoken words into a written contract. AFTRA, accusing the networks of renegeing on promises, warns it may well strike again.

Squabble Over Jack Ruby's Gun

Lawyers and members of the Jack Ruby family can't agree on what to do with the pistol used to kill Lee Harvey Oswald. The court-appointed executor of Ruby's will wants to sell it, but some of Ruby's relatives oppose the idea. One of his sisters, Mrs. Eva Grant, says an offer of \$70,000 was declined because Ruby wanted the weapon given to the Smithsonian Institution.

Help for LBJ From the GOP

LBJ's \$2.1 billion antipoverty bill is stuck in Congress, but he hopes to unglue it with help from Gov. Nelson Rockefeller and New York Mayor John Lindsay. The two Republicans dropped by separately at the White House for private chats. LBJ reminded both that GOP congressmen from New York were voting almost solidly against him on poverty issues. Rockefeller has already written to New York congressmen urging support for the bill. Lindsay promised help, too.

The FHA and Slum Housing

The Federal Housing Administration will soon begin to channel some of the money it has traditionally spent in suburbia into low-cost housing

in the urban slums. The departure involves a new type of house developed by a Mississippi trailer manufacturer under an FHA grant. The house is built in units on an assembly line, then put together on the building site. A standard two-story, two-bedroom model will sell for about \$8,000. The FHA is expected to insure 100% of the mortgage.

The Elusive Viet Cong

Here's one reason the war in Vietnam drags on and on: the Viet Cong have been hurt surprisingly little by those much-heralded search-and-destroy operations. A Pentagon analysis of combat operations in South Vietnam for the six months ending last Feb. 1 showed that each U.S. battalion (800 men) engaged in search-and-destroy missions killed an average of less than two Viet Cong guerrillas a day and captured but one enemy rifle every two days.

Paddy-Wagon Picture Parade

The New Haven police department has compiled a unique rogues' gallery. Authorities wanted photos of the 500 persons arrested during last week's racial disorders, but they feared that tensions might rise even higher if that many prisoners were forced to pose for the traditional police mug shots. The problem was resolved by equipping paddy wagons with Polaroid cameras. As each prisoner was hustled into the wagon, a New Haven cop would throw his arm around him and say something like: "Let's have our picture taken together."

OVERSEAS PIPELINE

Problem for an Israeli Censor

A book on the 1960 kidnap-capture of Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann is getting a careful review by Israeli censors. Reason: the author is Isser Harel, former chief of Israel's secret service and now a leading critic of Premier Levi Eshkol. Harel directed the hunt and final kidnap of Eichmann from Argentina. His secret-service successors want to make sure that he doesn't give away any trade secrets.

Bonn-Moscow: Improved Relations

Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger is exploring ways to improve West German relations with Moscow. As a first step, chairman Ernst Majonica of the Christian Democrats' foreign-affairs committee will travel to Moscow for a ten-day personal visit later this month. Next possibility: an official visit to the Kremlin by Foreign Minister Willy Brandt.