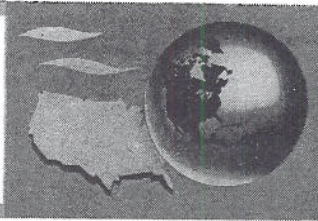


As Others See Us



withdraw . . . but it is only likely to have that effect if it is coupled with a decision to stop the bombing of North Vietnam and with an indication that the United States would be prepared to accept something less than the virtual surrender of the Communists in the South.

—*The Observer.*

LONDON:

Manila and Beyond

THE JOHNSON DOCTRINE for Asia is starting to pay off. It has not yet passed its decisive test, which is the test of the battlefield: The North Vietnamese and the Vietcong can be expected to make another attempt this winter to demonstrate that they are willing to go on fighting in South Vietnam longer than the Americans and their allies are. . . . But Mr. Johnson's policy is paying off in another way, and in the end this will determine the result on the battlefield. . . .

What is happening in and around Southeast Asia in 1966 is exactly what happened in and around Southeast Europe in 1947. . . . President Truman . . . gave the non-Communist forces in the region a center of power to rally around. And he started a fierce argument in the Communist camp. . . . A similar process is now visible in Asia's crisis. On the non-Communist side Mr. Johnson is building up a Pacific consensus. On the Communist side the gap between China and Russia is getting wider by the minute. . . .

The most important thing about the communiqué issued at the end of the Manila conference . . . was not the terms it offered for a timed withdrawal of allied troops from South Vietnam. These will become important later on, if and when the North Vietnamese revise their calculations about their chances of vic-

tory. That has not happened yet. What is important now is Mr. Johnson's success in collecting the makings of a non-Communist consensus in the Pacific. . . .

Five years ago a stable Southeast Asia looked like a pipe dream. Now there may be a chance of bringing peace to that shattered region. . . .

—*The Economist.*

Contradictions in Vietnam?

THE LONG COMMUNIQUE issued . . . after the Manila conference between President Johnson and his Asian allies underlines the basic contradiction in present American policy in Vietnam.

President Johnson wants a negotiated peace leading to an early withdrawal of American forces . . . but the kind of settlement he envisages can only be obtained, if at all, by an outright military victory . . . and can only be maintained by a long-term commitment of American troops. The President clearly has in mind the creation of a South Vietnamese state free of Communist activity, on the lines of South Korea. . . .

At the same time he has pledged that American forces will be withdrawn from South Vietnam not later than six months after "the other side withdraws its forces to the North, ceases infiltration, and the level of violence thus subsides." This pledge may be intended to convince Hanoi and the Communist powers that the United States genuinely means to

MANCHESTER:

Needed: A New Warren Report

THE AWFUL BLEND of outrage and patriotism that shook the country in the months after the assassination [of President Kennedy] has dissipated. . . . The fear that the institutions of American government would topple before the truth is no longer lively. . . . It should be possible now to see the thing steadily and see much more of the whole.

Probably there was not (as the new President Johnson was the first to fear) a Cuban or right-wing plot against the American executive branch. . . . Perhaps there was no conspiracy at all. . . . Perhaps Oswald's incredible marksmanship can be made credible. Perhaps some seer can be found to explain the inexplicable Tippit episode. . . . Perhaps it was merely a gruesome coincidence that the only two reporters who went to Ruby's flat just after he shot Oswald were murdered, one in Dallas, one by a police officer in California. Perhaps there was no other assassin.

The Warren Commission fulfilled its second aim: to dispel a welter of alarming rumors and protect the republic. It signally failed in its first aim: "to ascertain, evaluate, and report on" the truth deducible from the facts. Sooner or later, it will have to be done. . . .

—*Alistair Cooke in the Manchester Guardian Weekly.*

EDINBURGH:

Black Power and the Backlash

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING may be proved right in his prophecy that the Senate's rejection of the latest civil rights bill will help those Negroes who believe in violence and Black Power. The so-called white backlash, after many false alarms, has now become important in American politics. If Dr. King's forecast is correct, and Negro militancy and violence do increase, then there is likely to be a further hardening of white resistance to the idea of having Negro neighbors. The concentration of the Negro population in tumbledown ghetto areas is, of course, one of the primary causes of the frustration and feeling of inferiority which give rise to the racial riots in the Northern cities. Sooner or later a way must be found to escape from the present vicious circle.

—*The Scotsman.*



As Budapest's Ludas Matyi sees Vietnam.

The Fortune Teller: "You know what the stars say? Quit!"