

Unbiased News Fits Your Bias



Arthur Hoppe

THE Nixon Administration's decision in the fall of 1972 to crack down on television stations for broadcasting what it considered "biased news" had a major impact on the industry.

This, coupled with the increasing number of newsmen jailed by the government, led inevitably to The Last Broadcast of Eric Kronkellor two years later.

A transcript of that broadcast is printed here as a grim warning to other effete intellectuals who might be tempted in the future to purvey "elitist gossip" and "ideological plugola" instead of honest, unbiased news.

★ ★ ★

GOOD EVENING, this is Eric Kronkellor, bringing you the honest unbiased news.

The big honest unbiased news is that our glorious leader, President Richard M. Nixon, swam nine miles down the Potomac today while signing legislation which will end crime, poverty and urban sprawl.

A throng of decent Americans, conservatively estimated at 24.2 million, lined the banks to cheer their beloved President as the handsome, virile leader set a new world's record for handsome, virile leaders.

We plan to bring you every minute of the President's historic four-hour battle with the elements just as soon as The White House finishes unediting our film.

In the other honest unbiased news tonight, the Washington Post was arrested.

The Post was rightly accused of felonious elitist gossiping by hinting that the Secretary of the Treasury had absconded to Brazil with what was left of the gold in Fort Knox.

"We don't comment on unsubstantiated reports, sworn affidavits or all-points bulletins," said Presidential Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler with incredible dignity. At the same time, Mr. Ziegler took the opportunity to announce the appointment of Tony Boyle, former United Mine Workers

chief and noted philanthropist, as our new Secretary of the Treasury.

Meanwhile, in Vietnam our heroic B-52 bombers were forced to continue devastating the remnants of Hanoi and Haiphong under our humanitarian Bombs for Peace Program.

This became necessary when Hanoi treacherously reneged on the unconditional surrender agreement. "If we surrender unconditionally," Le Duc Tho asked Dr. Kissinger, "then will you stop bombing us?"

Dr. Kissinger immediately broke off the peace talks. "If we have to promise to stop bombing them," as he so correctly said, "what kind of an unconditional surrender is that?"

And now for a look at the warm human-interest side of the honest unbiased news. When it comes to warm human interest I guess there's no one more warmly, humanly interesting than our beloved First Lady.

The beautiful Mrs. Nixon, 38, journeyed today to Appalachia Corners to present a bouquet of American Beauty roses to a group of starving pea-pickers who could, of course, find work if they wanted to.

In a graceful speech, Mrs. Nixon said the roses were "a symbol that your President cares for you." It was with tears of gratitude coursing down their cheeks that the starving pea-pickers ate them.

★ ★ ★

WELL, that about wraps up the honest unbiased news. We'll now bring you four solid hours from The Collected Addresses of our beloved Vice President, Mr. Agnew. That should be good news for insomniacs, ha, ha.

I'm sure Mr. Agnew, who has a wonderful sense of humor, won't mind that little jest and . . . Oh? All right, I'll go quietly.

Well, this is Eric Kronkellor from somewhere in custody.