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Notes on People

Abrams to

The Pentagon disclosed yesterday that **Gen. Creighton W. Abrams**, the Army Chief of Staff, has lung cancer. "Further tests will be performed to determine the extent of the malignancy," a spokesman said. "Medical authorities will then determine the appropriate treatment." The 59-year-old general was admitted to Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington last week, after he cut short a two-week tour of American bases in Europe. When it was first disclosed this week that he had been hospitalized, the official announcement said General Abrams was suffering from a mild case of pneumonia." His aides said the general was a cigar smoker, but that his tobacco use has been moderate.

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When officials at Holy Cross College, in Worcester, Mass., set about the task of choosing a commencement speaker, they decided that dullness was not necessarily a qualification, and so they chose **Art Buchwald**. To be sure, the humorist gave some lofty, albeit tongue-in-cheek advice to yesterday's graduates ("We've given you a perfect world, now don't louse it up"), but mostly he kept his audience in stitches with political jokes. "As a humor columnist, I need **President Nixon** more than he needs me," he said. "I worship the quicksand he walks on." About the White House press secretary, Mr. Buchwald said "**Ronald Zeigler** has done for credibility what the Boston Strangler did for door-to-door salesmen." And, he said, thanks to **Rose Mary Woods**, Mr. Nixon's secretary, "if you want to be a secretary in Washington, you have to erase 120 words a minute."

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