

## LAUNCHING DUE THIS AFTERNOON

# Gemini 7 Astronauts Ready On Eve Of Greatest Flight

By HOWARD BENEDICT  
CAPE KENNEDY, Fla. (AP) Gemini 7 astronauts Frank Borman and James A. Lovell Jr. relaxed Friday on the eve of one of man's greatest space adventures—a two-week endurance flight during which two manned vehicles may fly within inches while orbiting at 17,500 miles an hour.

Success of the marathon mission and the planned rendezvous with Gemini 6, which will be launched later, would topple all man-in-space records and considerably enhance U.S. confidence that it can land astronauts on the moon in this decade.

Most space agency officials feel there is slightly better than a 50-50 chance that the Gemini 7 and 6 rendezvous can be accomplished in mid-December.

The smoothest pre-launch preparations in the history of the U.S. man-in-space program coasted without a hitch toward the scheduled 2:30 p.m. EST (3:30 p.m. AST) launching of Gemini 7.

The weather outlook, which had caused concern Thursday, brightened.

The forecast was for cloudy but satisfactory launching conditions at Cape Kennedy this afternoon.

**SYSTEMS CHECKED**

All systems in the four-ton spacecraft and the Titan II rocket received thorough checks Friday and were pronounced in excellent shape. Fuel was loaded in the power-producing fuel cells. The Titan II will be fueled Friday.

U.S. Air Force Lt.-Col. Borman and navy Cmdr. Lovell attended a two-hour mission review and then retired to their "ready room" quarters at the Cape to rest and study the complex flight plan that calls for them to circle the globe 206 times in 329 hours 30 minutes—6½ hours shy of 14 days.

The Gemini 7 astronauts, navy Capt. Walter M. Schirra Jr. and air force Maj. Thomas P. Stafford, meanwhile, practiced rendezvous manoeuvres in a spacecraft simulator.

Lovell and Borman were reported anxious to get started.

Borman had dinner Thursday night with his wife, Susan, and two teenage sons, who flew here from their Houston, Tex., home for the launching.

Mrs. Lovell is expecting a baby—which could arrive while her husband is circling the globe—and remained in Houston.

The flight will be the most extensive test yet of man's ability to withstand physically and mentally long exposure to the space environment. Medical experiments have been given No. 1 priority.

**TEST NEW SUITS**

Borman and Lovell will wear new light weight space suits which they hope to remove for at least parts of the flight for comfort. Lovell will try removing his suit sometime during the first day. At least one will be suited at all times during the flight.

Schirra and Stafford are to take off from the same launch pad Dec. 13—nine days after Gemini 7 is airborne—to begin the historic pursuit.

"We've got a good chance of doing it," said Flight Director Chris Kraft. "There are three factors involved: How well the spacecraft 7 operates, how well we do with the checkout of Gemini 6 spacecraft and launch vehicle, and the weather.

Gemini 6 is to chase Gemini 7 across the skies on an orbiting 103,000-mile course, hopefully catching it within six hours after Schirra and Stafford blaze away from Cape Kennedy. Initial rendezvous is planned 185 miles above the Pacific Ocean.

The two spacecrafts initially will approach each other nose to nose. Although both will be going about 17,500 miles an hour, the relative difference in their velocity will be less than half a foot a second.

**SHIPS MAY TOUCH**

"They'll attempt to manoeuvre to within a few inches, but we'll be satisfied with a few feet," said Kraft. "My personal feeling is that it would not be dangerous to touch. It will be up to the pilots. But for safety sake and because there is no technological reason, they probably won't touch."

The two space chariots then will fly side by side, one behind the other and practise backing away and coming close together again for a period of about six hours.

If everything goes as planned, Schirra and Stafford will return to earth after one day. Otherwise, they'll stay up for two days.

Perfection of the rendezvous mission is a must for manned lunar landing flights.

**Ferry Contract Goes To Sorel**

**CAPITAL BUREAU OF THE GUARDIAN**  
OTTAWA — In an unusual move here Friday, the department of transport announced that two major shipbuilding contracts have been interchanged between two of Canada's major shipbuilding firms.

One of the vessels involved is the new ferry for the Prince Edward Island to New Brunswick service. Contract for this was awarded to Canadian Vickers Limited of Montreal in the amount of \$13,191,237. The other vessel is an icebreaking buoy tender which was to have been built for the Canadian Coast Guard by Marine Industries Limited of Sorel, Quebec. This contract was valued at \$10,250,000.

**URGENT NEED**

Reason for switching the contracts was given as the possibility that because of existing contracts for new ships, the urgent

# American Saigon Billet Attacked By Viet Cong

SAIGON (AP)—With machine guns, grenades and an explosives-laden produce truck, Viet Cong terrorists attacked and blew up a U.S. enlisted men's billet in downtown Saigon just before dawn today.

First official reports said one American serviceman was killed and 52 were wounded.

Estimates of the number of Vietnamese killed or wounded ranged from 50 to 100.

Navy Capt. Archie Kuntze, commander of the headquarters support command in Saigon, gave the first report on casualties from the scene of the explosion-ripped Metropole Hotel, which housed transient enlisted men moving through Saigon.

He gave this account of the assault:

Shortly after 5 a.m. a hand grenade was thrown at the international enlisted men's quarters, which is near the Metropole.

The grenade did not go off, but about 10 minutes later a truck filled with farm produce pulled up in the front of the Metropole.

Five or six men jumped out and fired machine-guns at a U.S. military policeman on guard at the billet.

The military policeman returned the fire with his shotgun and revolver. He was hit in the shoulder but continued to fire at the running men until he was out of ammunition.

Earlier reports had said the MP on guard duty was killed, but this proved to be erroneous.

As the terrorists ran to a nearby intersection, the produce truck exploded with a thunderous roar, knocking out electric power over a wide area and ripping through the billet.

Kuntze said the truck must have been carrying about 250 pounds of plastic explosive, and did not arouse suspicion because the area is near a busy market section which was beginning its day's activity.

Across the street from the billet is an area where civilian buses park while loading passengers for trips into the countryside. It is believed casualties among Vietnamese civilians were heavy there.

The first two floors of the Metropole are used as a medical dispensary and no one was quartered there.

Two Vietnamese police and a clerk were on duty with the U.S. military policeman.

**KILLED IN SLEEP**

The first American reported killed was believed to have been sleeping in a fourth-floor room.

U.S. and Vietnamese troops and police raced to the scene and blocked off a wide area. Minutes after the big explosion a Claymore type mine aimed in the direction of the Metropole was found nearby, but it was deactivated.

In recent terrorist incidents the Viet Cong have employed such tactics, setting off an explosion and then timing a second for a few minutes later to catch crowds that swarm to such scenes.

The attacks came as U.S. officials expressed belief that a recent lull in hostilities was only a prelude to a Yuletide offensive by the Viet Cong.

They recalled the attack last Christmas Eve on a U.S. officers quarters building — the Brinks Hotel — in downtown Saigon that injured more than 100 persons.

Today's explosions were at first believed to have been in a tailor shop next to the Metropole enlisted men's quarters opposite the U.S. navy's Saigon hospital.

The front of the billet was blown in with explosives after a firefight on the street between Viet Cong and guards.

**WOMAN BEHEADED**

A spokesman for the Vietnamese Saigon hospital reported at 7:30 a.m. that six dead Vietnamese, including two women, one of whom had been beheaded, were taken to the hospital.

In addition, 17 seriously wounded Vietnamese had been counted, and 15 lightly wounded. Nine children were among the wounded at that hospital.



**DASH TO BEAT ICE**

Ocean-going ships racing for the Atlantic before winter freeze-over strands them were stretched from Lake Erie to Montreal and beyond late Friday. Nine ships were working their way through the Welland Canal between Lakes Erie and Ontario. Another nine were in Lake Ontario bound for the Seaway lock system. From there, 60 ships were in various stages of progress through the Seaway or in the St. Lawrence below Montreal. The passage from Port Colborne, at the Lake Erie entrance to the Welland Canal, to Montreal takes an average of 3½ days. In Lake Ontario, waiting for officials to open canal traffic to up-bound vessels, are 36 lake ships bound for Lake Erie.

(CP Wirephoto)

# Boosting French Language Urged, Opposed In Briefs

By JOHN LEBLANC  
TORONTO (CP)—Appeals for and against the spread of French throughout Canada were heard by the royal commission on bilingualism and multiculturalism Friday as it closed out its final Toronto public hearings.

Several groups suggested measures for further the idea of Canada as a two-language country. One called for a halt to the impetus for bilingualism.

Miscellaneous steps for boosting bilingualism were proposed by the Canadian Federation of University Women, the Society of Friends (Quakers) and school and library groups from Sudbury and London, Ont.

The 30,000-member Canadian League for Ukraine's Liberation said stress on equal English-French partnership in the commission's terms of references downgraded other races and harmed Canadian unity. Bilingualism should be dropped in favor of "multiculturalism."

**TRAVELS WEST**

At the end of the four-day sittings here—the second Toronto series since it began work two years ago—the commission

adjourned to resume in western Canada Monday. Co-chairman Davidson Duntun, who presided over the sessions here, will preside over one panel at Regina. The other co-chairman, Andre Laurendeau, will head a group sitting in Winnipeg.

The university women, with 11,000 members, sought Friday the establishment of a permanent federal agency to implement recommendations of the commission, regional conferences on bilingualism and government grants for the exchange of artists between Quebec and the rest of Canada.

Mrs. M. J. Sabia of Toronto, national president of the University women, also suggested during questioning by the commission that federal funds be provided for the universities to have a continuing program for training teachers in conversational French.

Mrs. Margaret MacLellan of Ottawa, immediate past president and a former government employee, expressed some fear about over-stressing bilingualism in the civil service, though she said it should be used in

"goodly measure" and should be mandatory for some top jobs.

A group of French teachers from secondary schools in the London district recommended a federal agency to promote bilingualism, federal aid for teacher and student exchanges with Quebec and the extension of CBC French networks to southwestern Ontario.

**Zambia President Suggests May Call For Soviet Troops**

LUSAKA (AP)—Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda suggested Friday that he might call for Soviet troops if Britain refuses to invade neighboring white-ruled Rhodesia. The British flew war planes into Zambia during the day for defence but Kaunda said that is not enough.

"If the United Kingdom refused to send ground troops," he said, "we could ask the United States."

He contended, however, that the U.S. is likely to follow Britain's lead, and added: "What is left for us to do but to go to the Soviet government?" He said this is "just a line of thought."

If the Soviet Union is drawn into the campaign, he added, "this would not only be a racial war, but an ideological one."

# Cruise Stop Is Planned At Alberton

CHATHAM, N.S. (CP)—Dudley Fletcher and George Moore and the families of the two men left here Friday aboard their 93-foot schooner the Golden Glow on route to Alberton, P.E.I., the first stop on a cruise to the Caribbean.

The schooner will have her hull scraped and painted at Alberton before leaving before Christmas for the Caribbean.

The trip is being made by the two ex-RCMP personnel and their wives, Fletcher's young son, Scott, and the Moore's two children, Lynn and Craig. Mrs. Moore's brother Art Champagne also is aboard.

# Meat Ruling Is Expected

VATICAN CITY (AP)—A papal announcement ending the Roman Catholic rule against meat on Fridays is expected shortly, informed sources said Friday night.

Pope Paul might give the word as soon as next week, they added, during the ceremonies Tuesday and Wednesday closing the history of the Vatican Ecumenical Council.

The informants explained that the decision most likely would be in the form of removing the Friday abstinence from Catholicism's area of discipline—meaning that it would no longer be regarded as sinful for Catholics to eat meat on Fridays.

The pontiff, it was reported, will encourage Catholics to observe the Friday abstinence just the same, as a sign of penance for sins and gratitude for Christ's Good Friday sacrifice.

# Dr. Bonnell Announces Will Seek Leadership

By NEIL MATHESON  
Dr. Lorne Bonnell, MLA told The Guardian Friday afternoon he's definitely going to contest the convention to name a provincial Liberal leader here on Dec. 11. The Murray River member had said two days earlier he was undecided, as he faced the task of covering a large medical practice without his brother who is spending approximately one year in St. John's, Newfoundland on a surgery course.

"I have now been able to find assistance to free me for organizational work in the party, and for legislative duties," said Dr. Bonnell, who is 42.

The main reason he has decided to contest the convention despite the problems referred to "is the many telephone calls and the personal contacts" he has received urging him to offer as leader, since the story in the newspaper appeared on Thursday, he explained.

**LONG EXPERIENCE**

Dr. Bonnell emphasized the experience he has gathered from "14 consecutive years of legislative experience, four years of health in the Matheson administration, and since that with six years in opposition."

"Continuing, he pointed to the experience of running four general election campaigns; having been involved in the provincial organizational work of the party, as well as having to organize my own district" and suggested this experience "should be of (Continued on page 3 Col. 8)

# Produce Truck Used In Raid

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# Kiddies' Food Cargo Is Last In Race To Sea

TORONTO (CP)—A gamble with \$127,000 at stake—food for thousands of European children—is under way in a race to the sea of the 9,400-ton American Export Lines' vessel, SS Expedito.

In a story from aboard the ship by reporter Robert Reguly, "The Star tells of the troubles the ship, the last ocean-going vessel to leave port, encountered in the annual race to salt water before freeze-up.

"For the owners it's a game with \$127,000 at stake—the cost of wintering the vessel and crew in the Great Lakes if she doesn't clear the St. Lawrence Seaway before ice closes, the lock," the dispatch says.

The Canadian Seaway Authority said at 1 p.m. Friday she was in lock 4 of the Welland Canal and it might take another five hours before she reached Lake Ontario.

"But for thousands of hungry children in Spain, Italy and Turkey it's a gamble for 2,600 tons of powdered milk and 23 tons of flour shipped by CARE and Catholic welfare agencies."

**CAPTAIN'S FIRST COMMAND**

The story relates how the ship's skipper, Greek-American Constantinos Rozos, "felt blue inside and outside last Saturday as the ship—his first command—lay in harbor" at Duluth, Minn.

First a blizzard, followed by freezing rain, coated the ship

with crusted snow and ice, reducing loading to a trickle.

"And he was 1,300 miles from freedom with 6½ days to go before the seaway closed officially.

"An appeal for help—Those children need the milk—was broadcast over radio and TV and 150 men showed up to help longshoremen. They worked 15 hours straight at \$4.50 an hour to load the last 2,500 tons."

But when she dropped anchor off Port Colborne, Ont., Tuesday, the Expedito was 23rd in line at the entrance to the Welland Canal, with fuel, wages and food for her 44-man crew eating up \$3,700 a day.

High winds and a grounded freighter kept her there until midnight Thursday night when she at last entered the canal on her race to the sea.

**MOON LANDING DUE MONDAY**

MOSCOW (AP)—The Soviet Union launched Friday its fourth attempt this year to land an instrument package softly on the moon and take a major stride ahead of the United States in the race to put a man there.

If all goes well, the first soft lunar landing in history should take place around midnight Moscow time (5 p.m. AST) Monday night, when American astronauts are scheduled to be orbiting the earth in the Gemini 7 capsule.

# Air Service Investigated

OTTAWA (CP)—The RCMP is conducting an investigation into the airline operations of Air St. Pierre between Sydney, N.S. and the French island of St. Pierre-Miquelon in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, it was disclosed Friday.

The federal air transport board requested the investigation after learning that the airline is conducting operations without a Canadian licence.



**ISLANDERS LEAVE FOR CAMP GAGETOWN**

A party of 30 from the Prince Edward Island Regiment left Charlottetown last evening for Camp Gagetown, N.B., where they will take part in a weekend training exercise. Shown prior to their departure are (from the left) Sergeant J. A. Sullivan, Montague; Corporal Michael MacKinnon, city; Corporal David MacAulay, city (in the door); Sergeant Charles Russell, city; and Corporal Charles MacAulay, city. The Island group, commanded by Capt. J. J. Sark, will make up roughly one quarter of a force of militia-men from the Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario that will take part in the armored corps tactics on the weekend. (See story on page 2.)

# Klansmen Given 10-Year Term

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—Three Ku Klux Klansmen were convicted Friday by a white jury of criminal conspiracy and sentenced by a federal judge to 10 years imprisonment in the slaying of a white civil rights worker from Detroit.

"In my opinion," District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. told the jury, "that was the only verdict you could reach in this case and reach a fair and proper verdict."

A short time later, Johnson imposed the 10-year sentences—the maximum prison terms—upon the three defendants, Col. Le Leroy Wilkins Jr., 22, of Fairfield, Ala., and Eugene Thomas, 42, and William Orville Eaton, 41, both of Bessemer, Ala.

Wilkins, a stocky and crew-cut former mechanic, had been acquitted earlier by a state

court jury of murder in the March 25 slaying of Viola Gregg Liuzzo, wife of a Detroit union official.

The three klansmen were convicted under an 1877 statute of conspiring to violate the civil rights of Mrs. Liuzzo and other participants in a Selma-to-Montgomery march that was the climax of a violence-marked Negro voting rights drive.

When the judge asked the men if they had anything to say before sentence was imposed, Wilkins and Eaton each replied: "I'm innocent of the charge."

Thomas had nothing to say.

Their lawyer said the verdicts will be appealed.

Bail of \$10,000 each was set pending the appeals, and the klansmen were led away by a federal marshal. They will be eligible for parole after serving one-third of the 10 years.

# Indian Blames Britain For Food Shortages

WELLINGTON, N.Z. (Reuters)—A leading Indian agriculturalist today blamed Britain for causing destruction to his country's agriculture during their 200 years of rule.

"We are struggling to get over the destruction... caused by the British in the 200 years of rule," R. V. Swaminathan told the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association conference here.

Swaminathan, first elected to Parliament in 1946, told delegates that India was unable to get over some of the agricultural problems left by the British.

(In New Delhi Thursday, food rationing was announced as India moved to meet the threat

of famine, caused by the worst drought of the century.)

J. Angus MacLean, Progressive Conservative member of Parliament for the Prince Edward Island constituency of Queens, warned that the population crisis is not far off.

The world, he said, has sufficient foodstuffs containing energy-giving carbohydrates, but insufficient foodstuffs containing body-building proteins.

He predicted the world would have to turn to the oceans for the protein-bearing foodstuffs. Ninety per cent of all sea foodstuffs are so far being extracted from the oceans of the northern hemisphere, MacLean said, but the oceans of the southern hemisphere are hardly exploited.

**ONLY 18 SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS**