

THURSDAY, MAY 3

Cyrus Vance Breakfast

Low centered pot belly. Sit with slouch, low tie looping over paunch.

Warren Christopher. Slight. Wiry. Precise. Short. Handed Vance two sentence hand-written note during discussion -- surmise about tricky political waters stemming from Murphphy's sensitivities.

Murphy: when asked how can be legislatively helpful in passing bill, reponded that Hodding Carter's ~~popin~~ "popping off" about bill be halted. Referred to ~~Star~~ STAR editorial ~~xxxxxxx~~ as a State Department leak (implied)...saying "I don't know if Sol Linowitz is still writing their editorials or not but..."

Vance: ruddy, eyes in slits. Looked like they were stinging from lack of sleep. But voice full of ~~xxxxx~~ emphasis and maybe one degree more ~~in~~ boisterous than I'd have thought.

Before going in to breakfast, I asked him about the morning POST's ~~xxxxx~~ story about China retrenchment on modernization program.

~~M~~ Led to good 5-minute conversation with these points brought ~~me~~ up!

o Felt retrenchment was realistic. Previous ~~is~~ grand designs were overreaching and would lead to failure.

o When I said that would have significant political fallout, he quickly made this point about the man I had in mind, Teng Chow ping: His influence has ~~in~~ apparently been circumscribed by lastest "expanded ~~Polit~~ Politiburo meeting" than produced retrenchment policy. Said overambitiousness of his industrial modernization ideas one reason, given limited money. Others: ~~people~~ important people questioning what China gained from "punishing" Vietnam -- loss of some 20,000 men, Vietnam still in Cambodia and ~~Viet~~ negotiating ~~for~~ toughly on terroritorial disputes.

Over melon before discussion began, a question about British elections. Vance ~~xxx~~ had already read a cable from Ambassador Kingman Brewster predicting narrow Tory win. "But ~~xxxxxxx~~ given the way old Callahan ~~xxxxx~~ can campaign, you can't count him out."

~~Shook hands xxxxxxxx~~ Suggested to aide that Legion, in town, be given equal treatment in lobbying campaign...to get public support.

Shook hands with Vance when leaving. Got central casting, ~~my~~ good-old-chap farewell: # Heels together. Pump of hand. ~~S~~ Cheery smile. "Bye, Bye. So ~~good~~ good of you to come."