

Manila conference may have a lasting impact

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
MANILA (AP)—The Manila summit conference produced something for everybody and probably wholly satisfied nobody.

One of the results is likely to have strong and lasting impact on this area of the globe. The United States deeply committed itself, as a Pacific Ocean power, to the future of the whole Asian area with all its problems of poverty, disease, illiteracy and hunger.

That appeared to be one of the things U.S. Pacific allies not only wanted to hear, but wanted to have set down unequivocally and irrevocably on paper.

Perhaps the Viet Nam peace drive has progressed a little bit farther toward communication with Hanoi.

The summit conferees offered to withdraw anti-Communist allied troops from South Viet Nam within six months of the time that North Viet Nam meets their conditions.

This proposal, however, fell far short of a proffered solution, a real peace formula, or a rock-bottom final offer to the Communist side. It was vague with respect to the Viet Cong and what elements of the insurgency should also withdraw to the North.

HANDS ARE FREE.
It made no mention of a Viet Cong role at a peace conference.

Brace may be a factor

CHICAGO (AP)—A New York physician said Tuesday the rigid back brace worn by President John Kennedy may have been a factor in his death.

Dr. John Lattimer, writing in the journal of the American Medical Association, said the rigidity of the brace did not permit Kennedy to "topple or crumple forward or laterally" after he was struck by the first bullet.

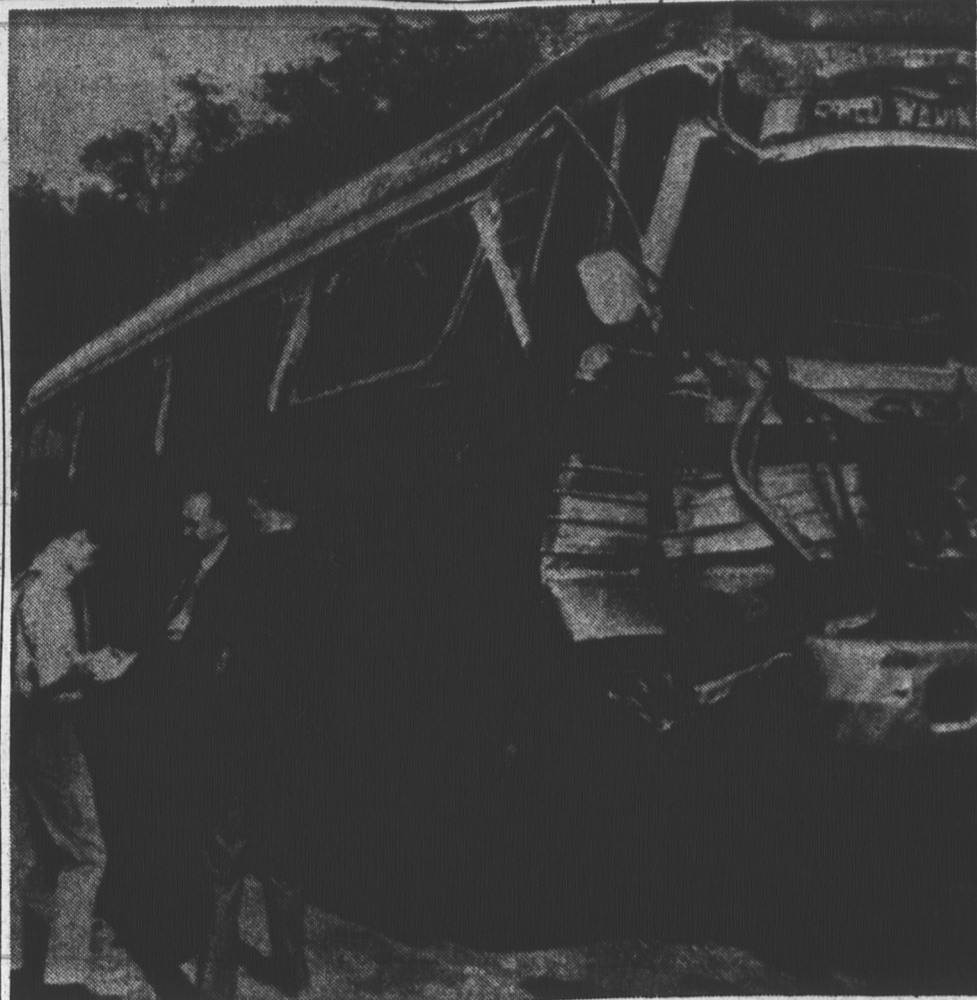
Kennedy was struck by two bullets Nov. 22, 1963, as he rode through downtown Dallas. The first bullet struck the president in the neck and the autopsy determined that would not have been fatal, Dr. Lattimer said.

The president could "only tilt stiffly and slightly to his left, toward Mrs. Kennedy, with the back of his head still exposed," Dr. Lattimer said.

"It was while he was in this position that he was struck by a second bullet from Oswald's (Lee Harvey Oswald, the alleged assassin) rifle, which entered the back of the head . . . and shattered into several fragments."

The second bullet caused the president's death, Dr. Lattimer said.

Dr. Lattimer said Kennedy wore the unusually stiff brace—a canvas corset with metal stays—because of persistent back pain and a large number of medication injections into his back.



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Thirty-six persons were injured when this bus, carrying Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians, rammed into the back of a tractor-trailer on the Pennsylvania Turnpike east of the

Allegheny Tunnel. Murray Lutz, center, Waring's personal manager, talks with newsmen following the accident yesterday. (AP Wirephoto).

Freedom legislation makes slow progress

MADRID (AP)—Legislation granting almost complete freedom of worship to non-Catholic groups in Spain is making slow progress.

The latest word is that the proposal may be only three or four months away from final passage.

The big question is how much, if at all, the new religious freedom law will eventually change the religious keystone of the Spanish constitution, which says: "The profession and practice of the Catholic religion, which is the religion of the Spanish state, will have official protection. No other ceremonies or external activities will be permitted than those of the Catholic religion."

Three years ago officials announced a law was "almost ready" to bring religious freedom to Spain's 30,000 Protestants, Jews and other religious minorities.

Two years ago members of the Franco government stated the cabinet had approved the religious liberty law.

CHANGED MINDS
Somewhere along the way, conservatives in the cabinet took a second look at the law and changed their minds. From then until a few months ago, progress seemed to be one step forward and two back.

Then Foreign Minister Fernando Maria Castiella and Justice Minister Antonio Maria de Oriol y Urquijo put on pressure, with the assistance of Chief of State Francisco Franco.

The law was refurbished and in effect approved by Franco's cabinet. Then it was shunted to the Spanish House of Bishops for approval—presumably to avert complaints from the Roman Catholic hierarchy once the bill became law.

Official sources say the bishops cannot act before their next

scheduled meeting in November. Some Spanish officials, supported by a handful of bishops who have publicly approved the measure, seek quick action by the church leaders once they met.

The government has not released details of the draft law, which has more than 40 sections. Presumably it will open the way to various non-Catholics to operate church schools and probably libraries and publications.

Commission seems ideal

BOSTON (CP-AP)—The International Control Commission appears to be the "ideal instrument" for initiating peace talks in Viet Nam, External Affairs Minister Paul Martin of Canada said Wednesday.

He said Canada, India and Poland, the commission members, have been attempting for 12 years to help bring the "achievement of stability" in Viet Nam.

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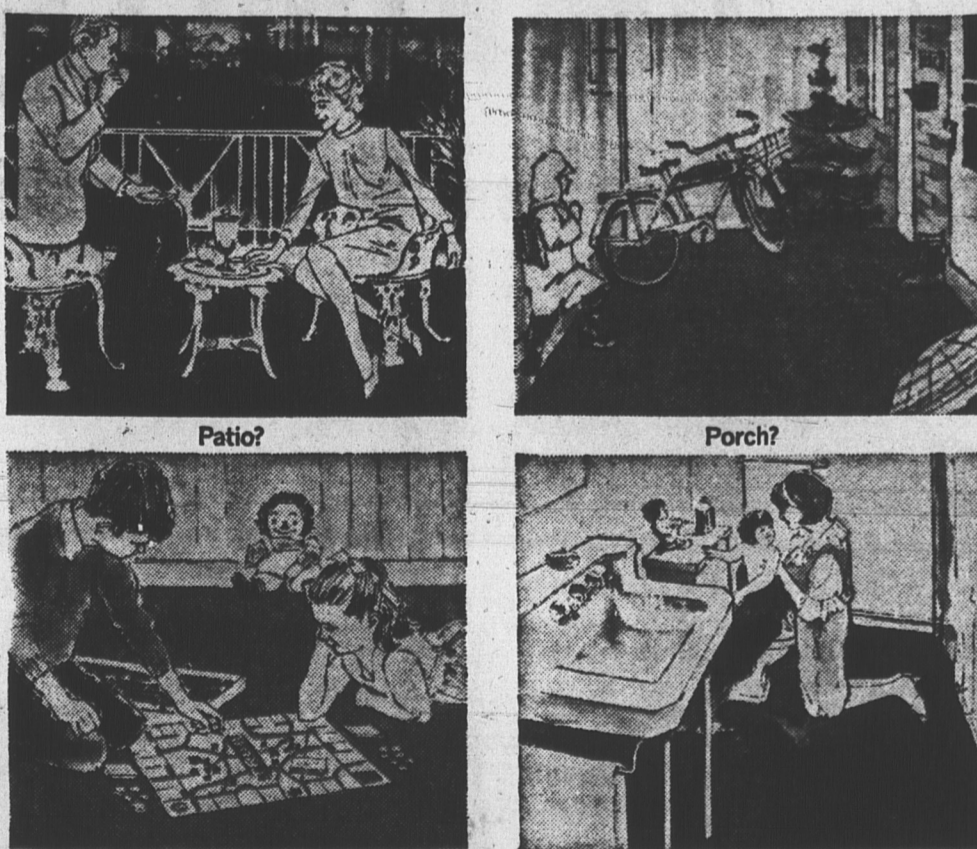
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tion," he said in a prepared speech before the World Affairs Council. "It is very difficult for the commission to impose limits on the scale of conflict."

Earlier he told a press conference a "channel of communication" has been opened between North Viet Nam and the Canadian government by a recent visit to Hanoi by a Canadian envoy.

And, he said, India and Poland have diplomatic ties with Red China which could add to the commission's usefulness in preparing for peace talks.

Martin said he will soon visit the Soviet Union, Poland and Italy. While much of his business will deal with relations between Canada and these countries, he said the Viet Nam conflict will be a topic for discussion.

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