

Morning Musket

USS ORISKANY CVA 34

THE MORNING MUSKET

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TOKYO - THE MOST POLLUTED CITY

(Newsweek)--When photos of the earth taken by the Apollo 9 astronauts appeared in Tokyo newspapers this summer, the headlines announced that the shroud of smog cloaking Japan's capital was denser than the pall over Los Angeles. But the news was no surprise to Tokyo's 11 million residents, who need no evidence from space to convince them they are living in the world's most polluted air.

Environmental analysts measure air pollution in terms of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons. With 75,000 factory chimneys belching and 1.5 million cars adding their exhaust, Tokyo often registers higher pollution levels than her more publicized smog sisters (some 34 tons of soot fall monthly per square mile, for example, vs. 17 tons in New York.)

Tokyo traffic policemen must regularly return to headquarters for oxygen inhalation. For the man in the street, oxygen-vending machines in coffee shops and arcades dispense a whiff for 25-cents.

On smog-alert days, schools ask their students to wear gauze masks while attending class. Even so, one school reported that 20 per cent of its students suffer from eye, nose and throat ailments.

Visibility along the heavily-traveled sea route between Tokyo Bay and Uraga fell to zero more than 50 days last year; 147 ships collided or struck rocks.

A major cause of the problem has been Japan's phenomenal post-war industrialization, the switch from coal to oil and the priorities given to manufacturing expansion.

The mystique of the belching smokestack dies hard, and the powerful trade ministry still makes no bones about its resistance to slowing production merely to reduce pollution. And even the politicians admit privately that the reform talk is mostly just that. "The situation," predicts one official, "is going to get worse before it gets better."

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A GAGMAN'S REVENGE

(Newsweek)--In two seasons as NBC's top-rated comedy show, Rowan and Martin's boisterous "Laugh-In" has been criticized by a number of viewers who find some of the show's material tasteless and occasionally, downright gamy. Last week the critics received an unexpected quarter. Paul Keyes, "Laugh-In's" chief writer, co-producer and loudest laughter, denounced the program as "slanted, vulgar and dirty," and forthwith announced the establishment of an independent production company of his own.

Keyes' blast was delivered to a Hollywood columnist, and afterward he refused to discuss the matter further. But it was an open secret among "Laugh-In" staffers that what had angered conservative Republican Keyes the most was not the show's general raciness and occasional four-letter words, but rather that it was directing far too many pointed shafts in the direction of Richard M. Nixon. (cont on page 2)

REVENGE --cont

Gagman Keyes, who served as one of the President's top TV campaign advisers, found himself increasingly distressed with the anti-Nixon barbs, and also with a growing spate of gibes aimed at the Administration in general and the Pentagon in particular. Some "Laugh-In" staffers professed to know that Keyes had also been subjected to direct pressure from the White House to get the anti-Nixon material stopped.

Whatever the truth of this, Keyes defection hurts the show, which will lose some of its stars next season.

"Laugh-In" regular Arte Johnson found Keye's outburst puzzling. "I was in total shock," he said. "I couldn't understand what happened."

But one former "Laugh-In" writer wasn't surprised at all. "We had a very hard time getting Nixon jokes into the show," he said. "That was the friction. Eventually it got so hot that the pressure became too much for him. Finally, Paul felt he couldn't be true to himself."

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PRO FOOTBALL RESULTS

National League

Baltimore 14, Green Bay 6
 Dallas 33, New Orleans 17
 Philadelphia 28, Washington 28
 Minnesota 51, Cleveland 3
 Chicago 38, Pittsburgh 7
 Detroit, 27, Atlanta 21
 Los Angeles 41, San Francisco 30
 St. Louis 42, New York 17

American League

Miami 17, Boston 16
 New York 16, Buffalo 6
 Houston 31, Cincinnati 31
 Kansas City 27, San Diego 3
 Oakland 41, Denver 10

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SATO'S OPTIMISM ABOUT OKINAWA

(Newsweek)--Japanese Prime Minister Eisauko Sato is optimistic that when he visits Washington next week he will get satisfactory agreement from President Nixon on the return of Okinawa to Japan.

If such an agreement is forthcoming, Sato plans to call for general elections Jan. 26, nine months ahead of the constitutional deadline, in order to cash in on the favorable public reaction in Japan.

.....While Japan presses for concessions on Okinawa, the U. S. is pressing for concessions in trade. The U. S. imported half again as much from Japan last year as it exported.

This has caused infighting within the administration, with the State Department endeavoring to soften Commerce Department demands for a more even exchange.

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The Hobby Shop has for sale several defective paint-by-number paintings. These paintings must be sold before our arrival in Alameda, so they are being sold at a tremendous savings on a first come, first serve basis. The sale is being conducted daily from 1000-1200 and 1400-1600.