

# THE PERISCOPE

## AHEAD OF THE NEWS

### What the Hanoi-Watchers See

Both Rumanian and French diplomats have told Washington that Hanoi's President Ho Chi Minh has just visited Peking. With North Vietnam's pro-Peking party chief Le Duan in Moscow, and the pro-Soviet Ho Chi Minh in China, the conviction is growing that Hanoi is working to establish a position independent of both Communist powers. Hanoi-watchers (both American and Rumanian) also think the reassessment that began among North Vietnam's leaders early this year on how best "to ensure victory in the anti-U.S. struggle" is nearing a climax. This long debate, they think, is one of the reasons the Viet Cong have delayed the annual "monsoon offensive." Though based more on atmospheric than hard fact, the Washington conclusion is that some sort of overture from North Vietnam will come within a month or two. Hanoi might well have acted before now, the experts believe, had it not been for the current political turmoil in South Vietnam.

## PERSONAL FILE

### Howard Hughes Calls

The moon landing wasn't the only history recorded at the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena last week. Howard Hughes, whose company built the Surveyor, phoned to see how things were going, just minutes before the spacecraft touched down. It was the first time in anyone's memory that the mysterious millionaire had ever displayed personal public interest in his company's space program.

### Four-Star Correspondent

Vietnam's press corps will soon have a new, extra-special addition—Moshe Dayan, the one-eyed ex-Chief of Staff of the Israeli Army. Dayan (now a member of Israel's Parliament) will represent Ma'Ariv, a Tel Aviv newspaper. In Vietnam, he will be allowed to wear his Israeli uniform, move about freely and give and take advice in actual operations. He considers Vietnam similar to his own successful fights against the Arabs and wants to learn the latest tactics and developments in guerrilla war.

### A Legendary Frenchman Steps Down

French Minister of Culture André Malraux has asked President de Gaulle to accept his resignation. Malraux, a legend in revolutionary and intellectual circles and long one of de Gaulle's closest associates, is undergoing treatment for a

nervous condition. Friends say Malraux, 65, has suffered periods of depression since his two sons were killed in a road accident four years ago.

### Next for Nader

Ralph Nader, whose book "Unsafe at Any Speed" set off the current furor over auto safety, has zeroed in on a fresh target. He is now busy investigating the safety of natural-gas pipelines. His plan: a lengthy article (but not a book) on that multibillion-a-year industry.

## INSIDE STORY

### The Moving Finger Writes

Overlooking no bets, the CIA has had graphology experts studying handwriting of Vietnamese leaders as one means of determining their personalities. The latest so analyzed was Buddhist leader Thich Tri Quang's. The experts' conclusion: "Unstable and not to be trusted."

### Mayor High's Helpers

Here is one reason why Miami's Mayor Robert King High kept denying he was a "Kennedy man" in his successful campaign for Florida's Democratic gubernatorial nomination. Several former RFK aides did help High, but he had another ally. Hubert Humphrey, who as Vice President must remain officially aloof from primaries, did privately encourage some of his major financial backers to help High's campaign.

### Peking Loses a Friend

Red China now is taking oblique abuse from one of its staunchest Asian allies, North Korea. Bidding farewell to a Cuban technical group, the Pyongyang Reds gave a rousing endorsement to Fidel Castro—who has recently been blasting Peking almost as much as he has the U.S.

### The Watch on the Mails

Postmaster General Larry F. O'Brien has agreed to stop special postal surveillance of magazines aimed at homosexuals. The Post Office, it seems, had put "mail covers" on these books and, on request, was passing subscribers' names to employers in government and private industry. Capitol Hill investigators, probing into government invasions of privacy, uncovered the practice, and got O'Brien to stop it.