

# Assignment TV

By **TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY**

Several years ago when Otto Preminger was directing inexperienced Jean Seberg on her first day before the cameras as Joan of Arc, he gave her this advice:

"Simply find your spotlight, my dear, and open up to it like a beautiful flower."

This crossed my mind as I watched President Johnson in his informal press conference with network White House correspondents recently. He not only looked better than ever before but, in my opinion, it's the first time he ever DID look good on television.

He performed so well that soon they'll be giving him a show of his own—in addition to the one in Southeast Asia, that is.

NO ONE is more vital to TV than the lighting director, who, with a twist of the wrist, can age a performer faster than an Avedon close-up. But with a little devotion and a willing subject he can turn a Scrooge into a Tiny Tim.

That night the lighting was an act of pure devotion on the part of Bob Asman of NBC (who must be either a Texan or a Democrat or both) and who directed skillfully for the telecast which was shared by all three networks. Backlighting made the President's hair shine like silver and the absence of the harsh lights used on previous occasions by CBS and ABC complemented an excellent job of make-up.

The President—an old hand at platform theatrics—found his light and opened up to it like a beautiful flower. Not in quite the same manner as Miss Seberg and with slightly less fervor than the Maid of Orleans but, nonetheless, with enthusiasm and confidence.

A LOW-ARMED rocking chair is hardly the best place to sink a celebrity and at times it looked as if Johnson might lean right out of camera range. At this point I would have liked to eavesdrop on the director-cameraman comments as they struggled to keep the President of the United States upright on the home screen.

His informality and his easy

replies—and dodges—were a masterful display of the professional politician at work. Insiders have often said that Johnson feared spontaneous exchange with reporters in front of the TV cameras following Kennedy, who not only was skilled at it but obviously relished the experience. As a consequence, LBJ's TV image has been that of a tiresome old man with a Texas twang reading endlessly from prepared speeches which neither stimulated nor informed.

Tuesday's encounter was a different matter entirely. We saw a more human being facing 60 minutes worth of well-worded questions from informed TV reporters. We are apt to forget that this is a privilege that is granted to no other citizens by the leader of any major nation in the world today. It is the best example of democracy in action that the United States is currently displaying in public.

TELEVISION could become the best friend of the century's most beleaguered President if he can use it effectively and honestly. The recent encounter showed that he can.

But LBJ is not about to allow the medium to use HIM. This was revealed in a delicate exchange between the President and CBS's Dan Rather, which lasted precisely five seconds but sparkled with insight into the Johnson personality.

Rather had asked a question regarding LBJ's attitude toward the President of France and in answering Johnson sidestepped slightly. Sensing this, reporter Rather started to use it to his advantage by pressing a second question in a subtly superior tone:

"But to get precisely to the point regarding de Gaulle..." "I GOT precisely to the point," interrupted Johnson, thereby swiftly and firmly retrieving the reins of the conversation which had momentarily fallen into another's grasp.

God help us if he ever starts reading the script to "Joan of Arc."

## Births

**SOUTH BAY HOSPITAL**  
**PHILLIPS**—Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, 2045 Madison St., a boy, Adam Garfield, Nov. 12.  
**MEYERS**—Mr. and Mrs. Edward, 2250 Meyler St., a boy, Kurt Edward, Nov. 14.  
**GEARY**—Mr. and Mrs. David, 2438 W. 225th St., a boy, Darrin Lane, Nov. 14.  
**REGANNO**—Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth, 2110 Ely Ave., a boy, Kenneth Joe, Nov. 15.  
**WICKHAM**—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jr., 20711 Annetta, a boy, Gregory Alan, Nov. 17.  
**WHEELER**—Mr. and Mrs. Phillip, 4322 W. Carson, a boy, Douglas Robert, Nov. 29.  
**MUSOLFF**—Mr. and Mrs. James, 1907 26th St., a boy, James Robert, Dec. 1.  
**OTTING**—Mr. and Mrs. Gerald, 4914 Paseo Del Pavo, a boy, Mark Richard, Dec. 2.  
**BATTY**—Mr. and Mrs. Roger, 2268 Ocean Ave., a boy, Michael Roger, Dec. 5.  
**ZEASON**—Mr. and Mrs. August, 19915 Grevillea, a girl, Andrea Christine, Dec. 9.  
**JOHNSON**—Mr. and Mrs. Lester, 23107 Adolph Ave., a boy, David Carl, Dec. 11.  
**DAVIES**—Mr. and Mrs. Hal, 16922 Spinning Ave., a boy, Scott Dale, Dec. 11.  
**McVEY**—Mr. and Mrs. Larry, 1117 Lauder St., a girl, Jeanette Lynn, Dec. 12.  
**TEPAS**—Mr. and Mrs. John, 8313 Antonio, a boy, Timothy Karl, Dec. 17.  
**TURNER**—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, 21406 Mildred Ave., a boy, Michael Joseph, Dec. 17.

**TORRANCE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**  
**BURNS**—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, 2805 Oak St., a boy, Michael John, Oct. 28.  
**WILHELM**—Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas Jr., 811 Portola, a boy, William Thomas the Third, Oct. 29.  
**ANDERSON**—Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Wilmington, a boy, Jeffrey George, Nov. 1.  
**OGATA**—Mr. and Mrs. Paul, 563 E. Deaford, a girl, Lynn Naomi, Nov. 1.  
**MORPLIS**—Mr. and Mrs. J. Randy Jr., Lawndale, a girl, Yvette Leanne, Nov. 3.  
**SCHMIDT**—Mr. and Mrs. Edward, Manhattan Beach, a girl, Joy Lynn, Nov. 4.  
**MCCOY**—Mr. and Mrs. Carl, 5507 Rockview Dr., a boy, Sean Ray, Nov. 4.  
**BARNHART**—Mr. and Mrs. Michael, 1359 1/2 W. 225th St., a boy, Robert James, Nov. 6.  
**COWMAN**—Mr. and Mrs. Dick, 22605 Elm Ave., a girl, Kristen Ann, Nov. 6.  
**NEWMAN**—Mr. and Mrs. Gerald, 679 Portola Ave., a boy, Wayne Edward, Nov. 6.

**AQUILAR**—Mr. and Mrs. Tony, 2061 Del Amo Blvd., a boy, Robert Anthony, Nov. 6.  
**KOPEP**—Mr. and Mrs. Billy, 2167 W. 250th St., Lomita, a boy, Brian Edward, Nov. 7.  
**MACEY**—Mr. and Mrs. John, 1715 251st St., a girl, Michelle Nov. 8.  
**BOBEY**—Mr. and Mrs. William, 607 S. Broadway, a boy, Christopher Joe, Nov. 12.  
**DRYE**—Mr. and Mrs. Frederick, Hawthorne, a boy, Timothy James, Nov. 12.  
**SOLE**—Mr. and Mrs. Frank, 1312 W. 223rd St., a girl, Deena Marie, Nov. 12.  
**SAGON**—Mr. and Mrs. Edwin, 20943 Brighton Ave., a boy, Charles Scott, Nov. 16.  
**COOK**—Mr. and Mrs. Tommy, 3219 Danaha St., a boy, Jeffrey Craig, Nov. 20.  
**STROLEE**—Mr. and Mrs. Daniel, 5601 Sunnyview St., a boy, John David, Nov. 21.  
**CLIFTON**—Mr. and Mrs. Wendell, Lawndale, a girl, Christine Dawn, Dec. 2.  
**HUGHES**—Mr. and Mrs. Bobby, 3104 Vall Ave., Redondo Beach, a girl, DeArlene, Nov. 24.  
**CREWSE**—Mr. and Mrs. Chester, Huntington Beach, a girl, Cheryl Marie, Nov. 24.  
**HAGG**—Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Bellflower, a girl, Lynette Dale, Nov. 25.  
**MITCHELL**—Mr. and Mrs. Don, 23028 Berendo Ave., a boy, Mark, Nov. 25.  
**LILLIS**—Mr. and Mrs. Robert, 1307 Greenwood Ave., a boy, Kent Dwayne, Nov. 26.  
**CARBAUGH**—Mr. and Mrs. Frank, 25209 Andrea, Lomita, a girl, Suzanne Marie, Nov. 27.  
**BRUBAKER**—Mr. and Mrs. Jon, 3127 W. 150th St., a girl, Corrine, Nov. 30.  
**RETO**—Mr. and Mrs. John Jr., 1809 Border Ave., a girl, Karen Pauline, Dec. 2.  
**BOLIVAR**—Mr. and Mrs. Luis, Wilmington, a girl, Jammie Ann, Dec. 2.  
**LAIT**—Mr. and Mrs. Ray, 905 Feiber Ave., a boy, Jack Martin, Dec. 2.  
**MINI**—Mr. and Mrs. Katsuki, 22515 Halldale Ave., a girl, Sheri Lynn, Dec. 4.  
**DETHLOFF**—Mr. and Mrs. Gerald, 1231 S. Gertrude Ave., Redondo Beach, a boy, Paul Joseph, Dec. 5.  
**ECKROTH**—Mr. and Mrs. Richard, 137114 S. Budlong Ave., Gardena, a boy, Phillip Martin, Dec. 5.  
**MOON**—Mr. and Mrs. Darrel, Long Beach, a boy, Christian Sanny, Dec. 5.  
**MALER**—Mr. and Mrs. Bernard, 605 Pine Drive, a boy, Michael, Dec. 6.

# Temcor's Geodesic Dome Tops New Reno Theater

Reno's new \$2.5 million Pioneer Theater Auditorium, topped by a gold anodized aluminum geodesic dome erected by Temcor of Torrance, will be dedicated Jan. 7.

The State Building, a Reno landmark for nearly 40 years, was demolished to make way for the new auditorium. Ground breaking ceremonies were held in June, 1966. The three-level building was financed by a \$2.5 million revenue bond issue to be repaid by funds from Washoe County's 5 per cent room tax imposed on motels, hotels, guest ranches, and guest homes.

The main auditorium will seat 1,428; with 513 in the balcony and 915 on the main floor.

The auditorium is equipped for presentation of legitimate theater, concerts, musicals, plays, and movies. Backstage provisions include the latest in sound, lighting, and staging equipment. Meeting rooms were designed for either large or small groups.

Decorated in tones of gold, royal blue, orange, magenta, and black, the auditorium contains two large exhibit halls, six meeting rooms, a bar, two snack bars, dressing rooms, and storage areas.

## Arts and Crafts Classes Listed

Lomita Recreation Center's winter arts and crafts program will be conducted Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Center, 24428 Eshelman Ave.

The classes are free of charge and each class has a different project. The children work with many materials, which encourages them to use their imaginations.

Projects change with the different holiday themes. All children ages 7-13 may attend the classes during the winter.

## Registration Slated For Tennis Lessons

Lomita Recreation Center, 24428 Eshelman Ave., has announced the formation of the new winter tennis classes.

Classes for women will be held as follows: Women's beginning, Tuesday or Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m.; women's intermediate, Tuesday or Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The women's beginning classes are open to any women who have either never played tennis previously or wish to renew their skills. Emphasis is placed on strategy as well as skill.

The women's intermediate classes are for women who have recently taken tennis lessons or feel their play is sufficient to compete with other women. Instructor's approval is necessary to enter the intermediate class.

The women's class began Tuesday, Jan. 2, and another the first day there was no play, just registration.

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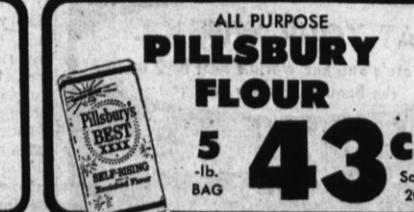
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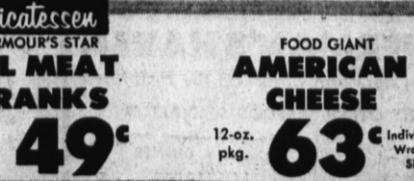
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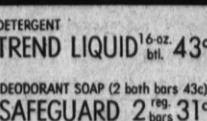
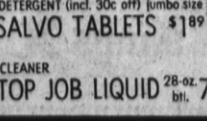
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