

MR POPHistory

This Week In... February 15, 1968

A Delta Air Lines jet with 109 persons aboard is hijacked over Florida and pilot is forced to land the plane in Cuba. Five hours later, the jet and its occupants are allowed to return to Miami, leaving the hijacker behind in Cuba, where he was hustled off the plane by Cuban soldiers with automatic weapons.



Richard Nixon widens his commanding lead over seven other leading GOP contenders as the top choice of Republican voters for the 1968 presidential nomination. Nixon now has 51% and the next closest in Nelson Rockefeller at 25%. Ronald Reagan is third at 8%.

New draft rules - The government rules that college seniors and first-year graduate students must be put at the top of the list of those to be drafted when they finish the present school year. After this school year, deferments for graduate study will be limited to:

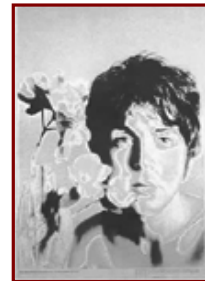
- 1) Those now in their second year or a later year of graduate study.
- 2) Those studying for the ministry

3) Those studying medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, osteopathy or optometry.

By next summer, those men who are now college seniors and first-year grad students, will automatically be vulnerable to an early draft call. This is so because local draft boards were recently ordered to continue the present policy of drafting the "oldest first" among their 1-A's. The average age of draftees now is slightly over 20.

Boeing confirms that this nation's supersonic transport prototype program will be delayed about a year to incorporate design changes that will improve the 1,800mph plane's performance.

Seen in "Head" shops - Beatles posters by Richard Avedon: Ringo in blue and sepia, Paul in pale blue & lilac, John in flame-red & yellow, George in pale green & yellow. Each over 22 inches wide and 31 inches in length. Also seen - Graffiti posters, Love posters, Fashion posters, Peace posters, Banana posters, Picasso, Endless Summer (from the movie) . Also seen - Peter Max posters, Haight & Ashbury posters, Cheshire Cat posters. Far out!



Television news - Mason Williams, co-writer of The Smothers Brothers Show, is in New York this week to promote his upcoming Warner Brothers album - "Mason Williams Phonograph Record." It is the comedy writer's first major recording effort. All the selections are written by Williams. Some say the most commercial cut is "Classical Gas."

About Tom Smothers, Williams says - "He is getting very tired of playing 'stupid' and it's getting harder for him to maintain his TV personality and function openly as his real self. Tom is intelligent and intensely involved in satire, writing and world matters. He is very interested in helping people."

As co-writer of the show with Alan Blye, Mason Williams tries to keep controversy alive on the weekly variety series - "We're just trying to wake people up a little, open a few eyes - not trying to pass off our political opinions. We're trying to show that this censorship thing is foolish. The Smothers Brothers Show has three censors while most shows only have one. Because of the quality of the show. I think that the Smothers Brothers Show is watched even by those people who don't normally watch TV."

Star Trek - which has had high prestige but relatively low ratings, gets renewed for a third season.

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Six new NBC series are booked for the new schedule -
The Ghost and Mrs. Muir based on the Rex Harrison, Gene Tierney movie. Stars Edward Mulhare and Hope Lange.

The Outsiders - Adventure series which had a tryout as a World Premiere Movie - Stars Darren McGavin

Adam 12 - spin-off from Dragnet starring Martin Milner and Kent McCord

Huck Finn - Sunday lead-in to Disney.

The Name of the Game - 90-minute series with three rotating stars - Gene Barry plays the publisher of a magazine empire, Robert Stack is the editor of a crime magazine and Anthony Franciosa is a tough reporter-photographer.

Wayne Newton's first network TV special "One More Time," will air April 8 on ABC. Newton's guests will re-create well-known moments and songs in musical history. Joining him will be Tennessee Ernie Ford, Count Basie, Frankie Laine, the Mills Brothers, Johnnie Ray, Kay Starr, Charlie Barnet, Louis Bellson, Les Brown, Louis Jordan and Paul Weston.



The BBC is canceling Britain's most widely watched - and perhaps, most disliked program, which features a loud-mouthed Cockney bigot called Aft Garnett. The BBC says "the series is exhausted" but scriptwriter Johnny Speight is charging censorship.



Richard Yarmy, younger brother of Don Adams, makes his TV debut in an episode of Get Smart - March 30. He plays a KAOS agent out to get Smart. He was formerly an engineer.

The National Association of Broadcasters asks the Supreme Court to rule that a community antenna television system (later called Cable TV), must pay copyright fees when it imports programs from outside its area. (Many CATV operators import stations from outside there area. For example, The CATV system in Suffolk County, New York receives TV stations from New

York City, Connecticut and Rhode Island - and some of these programs are duplicated on different channels.)

Thursday Night Television -

CBS - CBS Evening News With Walter Cronkite, Special-Cinderella, CBS Thursday Night Movie

NBC - Huntley-Brinkley Report, Daniel Boone, Ironside, Dragnet-1968, Dean Martin

ABC - ABC News With Bob Young, Batman, Flying Nun, Bewitched, that Girl, Peyton Place

Special-Cinderella - Repeat of the 1964 special with Ginger Rogers, Walter Pidgeon, Celeste Holm, Jo Van Fleet, Lesley Warren.

Flying Nun - A sign lettered by one of Sister Bertille's pupils nearly ends the nun's hopes for funds to establish adult classes/

Bewitched - Thanks to Endora - Darrin forgets the English language.

Dean Martin - guests - Mickey Rooney, Minnie Pearl, Keely Smith, Don Cherry, Leonard Barr.

The Tonight Show - Johnny Welcomes Bill Cosby, Tony Curtis, The Lennon Sisters.

Joey Bishop - Kay Starr, Jack Carter, George Sheering.

Merv Griffin - David Frost, Hermione Gingold, Marty Ingles guest

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At the movies -

Walt Disney's Blackbeard's Ghost - Peter Ustinov
Grand Slam - Janet Leigh, Robert Hoffman, Edward G. Robinson
Love Affair - Eva Ras, Ruzica Sokis
Doctor Dolittle - Rex Harrison
Cool Hand Luke - Paul Newman
Charlie Bubbles - Albert Finney, Colin Blakely, Billie Whitlaw, Liza Minnelli
Around The World In 80 Days - David Niven, Cantinflas, Robert Newton, Shirley MacLaine
Poor Cow - Terence Stamp
The Sand Pebbles - Steve McQueen
Camelot - Richard Harris, Vanessa Redgrave
Bonnie and Clyde - Warren Beatty, Faye Dunaway
Sweet November - Sandy Dennis, Anthony Newley, Theodore Bikel
Re-release - Gone With The Wind
The Two of Us - Michel Simon, Roger Carel, Paul Preboist
Valley of the Dolls - Barbara Parkins, Patty Duke, Sharon Tate
Sebastian - Dirk Bogarde, Susannah York, Lilli Palmer, Sir John Gielgud, Janet Munro, Ronald Fraser
Firecreek - James Stewart, Henry Fonda, Gary Lockwood, Dean Jagger, Ed Begley, Inger Stevens
The Graduate - Anne Bancroft, Dustin Hoffman, Katherine Ross
Wait Until Dark - Audrey Hepburn, Alan Arkin, Richard Crenna
The Fox - Sandy Dennis, Keir Dullea, Anne Heywood
In Cold Blood
China Is Near - Clauco Mauri, Elda Tattoli
Live For Life

WKYC-TV in Cleveland debuts a half-hour live daily variety program hosted by Mark Russell (yes that Mark Russell). Format of the show will include interviews with record artists and the lineup for the first two weeks included Al Hirt, Bill Cosby and Marilyn Maye.

More music television - Tito Puente, bows a Latin music show on WNJU-TV (channel 47), the Newark UHF station that beams atop the Empire State Building. Catch it Sunday nights.

Top-40WKYC Radio in Cleveland, launches its "Power Radio" sound. Twenty-six billboards will go up with the words "Push the power button." There'll be "power plays" - a triple play of records with at least one oldie (past powers) sandwiched in. New records will be "potential powers." The station is a 50,000 watt powerhouse at 1100 on the AM dial. Competitor WIXY 1260 is 5,000 watts. The new WKYC Power Radio lineup -

Charlie & Harrigan
Bob Cole
Bob (Boomer) Brenson
Chuck Dunaway (From KILT, Houston)
Dave Diamond (from KFWB, Hollywood)
Les Sims
Pete Jerome

Famed Boston nightspot - Blinstrub's Village "where stars are born" is raised by a fire. No one was in the South Boston landmark.

More Stereo - Electra Records says it will release nearly all singles in the future in stereo. The first

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one to be released is "Alone Again Or" by Love. This is interesting and lets see if other record labels begin to release 45rpm singles in stereo.

Music news - Bill Medley leaves the Righteous Brothers to pursue a solo career with Jimmy Walker, formerly of the knickerbockers, replacing him. Bobby Hatfield remains as the other half of the duo formed six years ago.

More music - Jim Morrison, leader of the Doors, is getting a lot of attention. Teen magazines gush over him with a warmth of praise not seen since Elvis Presley. The Village Voice calls him the first major male sex symbol since James Dean died. Andy Warhol loves Morrison - "Jim Morrison is my favorite singer. Another super-star." Morrison's suggestive Freud-filled lyrics have rocked "Light My Fire" and his two albums into best-selling status. Morrison recently said - "I'm interested in anything about revolt, disorder, chaos, especially activity that has no meaning. It seems to me to be the road to freedom."



At least for now, Bob Dylan has decided not to publish "Tarantula," a collection of his writings but Xeroxed copies are finding their way around Toronto. Robert Fulford, a columnist for the Toronto Daily Star writes - "When he decided not to published it - if I fact he has made that final decision - Dylan was probably acting wisely. 'Tarantula' is a collection of prose-poetry pieces, loosely written and loosely connected. Fulford points out that Macmillan of New York had scheduled the book for publication and even put out Dylan buttons and Dylan shopping bags as promotion for the book.

Here is an excerpt from "Tarantula;"

"I don't care what bob hope says - he ain't going with you nowhere
also, john wayne mightve kicked cancer, but you oughta see his foot
Forget about those hollywood people telling you what to do - they're all gonna get killed by the
indians - see you in your dreams lovingly, plastic man."

Glen Campbell is quitting as musical sideman, to be solo performer. He has been signed to host the summer replacement show for the Smothers Brothers. For the past six years, Campbell's guitar and banjo expertise have kept him within the tight sideman clique which works the majority of the pop music dates. He estimates averaging 500 recording sessions for other people and his income has reached \$3000 a week. All that's going to change with the new solo Glen Campbell. His "By The Time I Get To Phoenix" is getting played everywhere. Last summer, he had a minor hit with "Try A Little Kindness."

Country - The Wilburn Brothers, after appearing as a team for 28 years, disband as a traveling unit. They'll continue to record together.

Radio news - In Boston, Dick Summer's Subway show on WBZ, plays a ton of rock album cuts - and some by local bands that appear on national labels. One in particular, a group called Orpheus and a song called "I Can't Find The Time To Tell You." Groups like the Beacon Street Union and Ultimate Spinach can also be heard on the show. Tune in Sunday nights on WBZ (1030) on your AM dial.

Far out ... Progressive rock is rolling in Los Angeles - KPPC-FM (106.7) is moving its studios out of the basement of the Pasadena Presbyterian Church and wants to move to new quarters on Fair Oaks Ave. in Pasadena, California. The new quarters says station Program Director Tom Donahue, will be a "trippy, groovy place." The new location will be the third floor of a Masonic temple which currently houses several "head" shops. A light show will run in an auditorium adjacent to the broadcast studio. The public will be allowed to hang-out at the station, as it does at Tom Donahue's San Francisco station - KMPX. KPPC-FM has been progressive rock for about

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8 weeks.

B. Mitchel Reed, formerly of KFWB, is the new 4-9pm voice on KPPC-FM. Tom Donahue works the 9-midnight shift. He'll still continue his 8-midnight show on KMPX, via tape. Donahue claims he had the Cream's newest LP (Disraeli Gears) six weeks before its American release; a Jimi Hendrix tape was being spun weeks before his new album was released (Axis: Bold As Love). Both stations, say Donahue, are designed to expose the new lengthy forms of rock music and have become a repository for rock groups which have become today's experimenters.

More progressive rock - WABX-FM in Detroit switches to the format. Among the records played by the station besides Dylan and the Beatles are Jimi Hendrix, Cream, the Tiffany Shade, Jefferson Airplane, Ten Years After, Bruno Waterproof Candle. WABX-FM is following sister station KSHE-FM, St. Louis - into the progressive rock format.



Beatles news - A gaggle of pop stars including George Harrison, John Lennon and their wives, meet the self-styled Maharishi Mahesh Yogi above the Ganges River in Rishikesh, India. The place is a seedy adult camp in the Himalayan foothills, about 140 miles north of New Delhi. All through the retreat, guards sit at locked gates and enough barbed wire has been erected for a small prison camp. Harrison and Lennon, with their wives and George's sister-in-law, are receiving an intensive dose of the yogi. "For some time they just want to be with me" says the Maharishi - "And I will be with them everywhere." George and John are

three weeks behind in the yogi's current course of Meditation Guidance and he is pushing them through an accelerated track of "gross experience, subtle experience and final emergence to the other side."

More Beatles news - A nationwide "Bring the Beatles Back" campaign is launched by deejay Earl Trout III of KDWB (630 on your AM dial), Minneapolis and it's snowballing. Trout began the campaign on his show several months ago. So far he has 25,000 letters, cards and petition signatures. He has been talking on the air via phone with other deejays around the country. Trout hopes to take all of the cards to London to present them in person to the Beatles. Deejays and stations involved in the campaign include Johnny Holliday - KYA, San Francisco; Jim Wood-KRLA, Pasadena (Calif); George Michaels - WFIL, Philadelphia; Ron Robbins, WMEX, Boston; Steve Lundy - KILT, Houston; Kris (Eric) Stevens - KRIZ, Phoenix and many others.

Favorite albums -

Magical Mystery Tour - Beatles
John Wesley Harding - Bob Dylan
Ninth - Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass
Their Satanic Majesties Request - Rolling Stones
Golden Hits - Turtles
Pisces, Aquarius, Capricorn & Jones Ltd. - Monkees
Blooming Hits - Paul Mauriat & His Orchestra
Camelot - soundtrack
Disraeli Gears - Cream
Farewell to the First Golden Era - Mamas and Papas
Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band - Beatles
Dr. Zhivago - Soundtrack
Are You Experienced - Jimi Hendrix Experience
Golden Hits, part 1 - Dionne Warwick
... And Live! - The Lettermen
A Gift From a Flower To A Garden - Donovan
Axis: Bold As Love - Jimi Hendrix Experience

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When The Snow is on the Roses - Ed Ames
History Of Otis Redding
A Day In The Life - Wes Montgomery
The Last Waltz - Engelbert Humperdinck

Favorite Rhythm and Blues -
I Wish It Would Rain - Temptations
We're A Winner - Impressions
Born Free - Hesitations
(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay - Otis Redding
You - Marvin Gaye
I Thank You - Sam and Dave
La La Means I Love You - Delfonics
My Baby Must Be A Magician - Marvelettes
Men Are Gettin' Scarce - Joe Tex
The Was A Time - James Brown & His Famous Flames
There Is - The Dells
The End of Our Road - Gladys Knight & The Pips

Country Favorites -
Skip a Rope Henson Cargill
Rosanna's Going Wild - Johnny Cash
Sing Me Back Home - Merle Haggard
Promises, Promises - Lynn Anderson
Here Comes Heaven - Eddy Arnold
Take Me To Your World - Tammy Wynette
The Last Thing On My Mind - Porter Wagoner
Just For you - Ferlin Husky
The Day The World Stood Still - Charley Pride
World of our Own - Sonny James