

Bill Bradley Returns Home --- For Midterms

By LANDON Y. JONES

Bill Bradley pulled some rumpled clothes and books out of a handbag, scratched his head, and tried to answer a question that will follow him the rest of his life: What was it like at the Tokyo Olympics?

"A tremendously eye-opening experience," Bradley said. "For the first time in my life I felt isolated as an American. I learned a heck of a lot about people—what they think, what they value and what they hope for."

The Princeton All-American arrived in his Dodge-Osborne room late Tuesday, exactly 40 hours after boarding a plane in Hong Kong. Right now, the problems of history mid-terms and room-cleaning have replaced his concern about seven-foot Russian centers. "I can't really capture my feeling for the whole trip in words," Bradley stated. "It was an immense challenge—mentally, emotionally, psychologically and physically."

He observed that one of the most rewarding aspects of the trip was the great feeling of comradeship among the athletes. "There was no tension at all—just a feeling that all of us were competing as individuals and would be judged by our character," the senior said. He added that at times, when the showdown between the Russian and American teams approached, the pressure heightened

and that "it was hard not to think of the stakes involved."

Bradley said that he struck up a friendship with a Russian guard named Uris Kalninish. The communication problem was overcome by a mutual Australian friend who acted as translator. Pointing out that mixing between the teams was high, Bradley mentioned that Ron Lando, an Italian who won the bronze medal in the high jump, often worked out with the American basketball squad.

"The team spirit in the American village was very high," Bradley said. "There was great fellowship among all the Olympians." During the course of the trip, Bradley roomed with Joe Caldwell, Jim "Bad News" Barnes, Walt Hazzard, Lucious Jackson, Mel Counts and Jerry Shipp.

Jingling some Japanese coins in his hand, Bradley smiled as he recalled one of the amusing episodes of the trip: "We were all sitting around a dinner table after the Russian game—three Russians, two Austrians and me. When I asked a Russian if he thought their coach would be fired, he smiled ironically and said, 'Look, if Khrushchev didn't know he was canned, how do you expect our coach to know when he is finished?'"

Bradley said that the high point of the entire trip

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Rumpled Clothes and Lots of Books
Settling Down for Midterms, Practice