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Across

- 1 Absolute dominion exercised with oppressive cruelty
- 6 Archaic form of yes (often nautical) (also Scottish)
- 7 Inscrutable Bond villain with no hands (due to earlier altercation with Tongs over theft of a million dollars in gold) (played by Joseph Wiseman in 1962 movie)
- 8 Iconic institution associated with wartime speeches of George VI, seminal Radiophonic Workshop *Doctor Who* theme and the Goons
- 11 1953 Cinemascope Biblical epic directed by Henry Koster with Richard Burton as riven Roman tribune assigned to Crucifixion, Victor Mature as defiant Greek slave and Michael Rennie radiant as Saint Peter (3, 4)
- 14 Self-removal of a judge, prosecutor or juror from a legal proceeding due to conflict of interest or lack of impartiality
- 15 "Beam me up, Scotty. There's no here" Amusing T-shirt (initials)
- 16 Popular fried chicken franchise (from Korean for "Yes! Yes!" expressing willingness of Koreans to put the best effort in any kind of situation with a positive mind)
- 17 Tragic rural family from Kansas at centre of harrowing 1966 masterpiece *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote

Down

- 1 Sex associated with Sting
- 2 Celebrated Soviet-era poet (город да город нет etc.) (initials)
- 3 Narrow, boat-shaped, stringed instrument of Medieval era (and early Renaissance) as depicted by Gerard David in *Virgin among the Virgins* (1509) being played by an angel
- 4 Poetically named category of political prisoner in penal system of Nazi Germany defined as an enemy of the state and slated to vanish without trace into the "night and fog" in cynical allusion to Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (1, 1)
- 5 One who practices singing style employing rapid alternation between normal voice and falsetto associated with Gene Autry and Walmart kid
- 9 The worst part or chief impact of an action
- 10 A subset of a mathematical group consisting of all the products obtained by multiplying the fixed elements of the group by each of the elements of a given subgroup, on either the right or left (obviously)
- 12 US musician/poet/lead singer of *The Voidoids* known for seminal album *Blank Generation* (in 70s)
- 13 Source of great distress or annoyance in life