

Wed. Dec. 31-75,  
Los Angeles

WHITE HOUSE

~~On the last day of the year -- from President Ford --~~  
appraised <sup>ing the past</sup> ~~today of the~~ year just past -- and <sup>ing</sup> ~~a~~ look ahead. ~~The~~  
~~President~~ saying his biggest disappointment -- was ~~the fact~~ that  
he couldn't "just turn a switch" and cure the nation's economic  
ills. Also <sup>that</sup> ~~saying~~ detente with the Soviet Union "has not worked  
as it should have" in Angola -- but, has helped in the Middle East.  
<sup>He says</sup> ~~Further saying, in the long run --~~ some of his unpopular decisions  
<sup>in time</sup> will be recognized as "right."

As to the future -- ~~the President saying~~ he is confident he'll  
will beat Ronald Reagan -- in the ~~Presidential~~ primaries; ~~next year.~~  
<sup>and</sup> ~~adding~~ that Hubert Humphrey -- will probably be the Democratic  
nominee; ~~but~~ "regardless of the nominee" -- said he -- "I have ~~a~~  
<sup>what</sup> ~~record~~ I think <sup>is</sup> ~~it's~~ an impressive record, -- <sup>will</sup> ~~I'm going to~~ run on  
it and win on it."

<sup>Oh yes - and</sup>  
~~Along the way, the President also saying~~ he resents ~~a bit~~  
attempts by some to portray him as clumsy, bumbling, inadequate.  
"Some of the things you read and see" -- said he -- "kind of hurt  
your pride ~~a little~~, -- because you know they're not true." <sup>Then</sup> He added,  
~~however~~, in politics -- "you have to have a sense of humor -- and a  
thick skin."

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# WAGES

More than four million U.S. workers -- will be getting an automatic pay increase, starting tomorrow, <sup>when</sup> The U.S. minimum wage -- ~~is to go~~ <sup>goes</sup> up ten cents, to two-thirty an hour.

GAS

From the Federal Power Commission ~~an~~ <sup>went out</sup> an order today authorizing an immediate nationwide increase in natural gas prices -- to be followed by another hike in July. The two increases -- to cost consumers an extra three hundred and sixty million or so in seventy-six; <sup>This is</sup> ~~but~~ necessary -- says the FPC -- "to minimize adverse impact of gas shortages on the economy."



# RABIN

~~The White House again -- an announcement that Israeli Premier~~  
Rabin is coming to the U.S. <sup>on</sup> January twenty-seventh ~~-- and planning~~  
~~to stay about a week. Rabin to meet with the President in Washington.~~  
~~-- for "in-depth" discussions on the Middle East.~~ <sup>with Pres. Ford -- another</sup> ~~He~~ will also visit  
~~-- we are told --~~ a number of other U.S. cities.



# BEIRUT

A new cease-fire went into effect today in Beirut, -- ~~and so far~~  
~~it seems to be working,~~ <sup>with</sup> Moslem and Christian gunmen pulling back  
~~from rival positions --~~ in most parts of the city. Police and army  
troops then moving in -- with orders to shoot on sight anyone  
suspected of violating the truce. They are,

~~The Lebanese government also ordering a city-wide curfew as~~  
~~of eight tonight, at the same time, sealing off the center of the~~  
~~city, where some of the heaviest fighting has taken place.~~

attempting to insure a peaceful New Year <sup>for</sup> -- one day at <sup>any rate,</sup> ~~a time.~~

TEHRAN

Ten members of a secret Islamic Marxist organization -- were sentenced to death today at Tehran, <sup>by an</sup> ~~Iranian~~ ~~This by order of an~~ Iranian military tribunal -- which also sentenced an eleventh defendant to fifteen years in solitary ~~confinement~~. The Marxists <sup>had</sup> ~~admitted~~ <sup>ed</sup> to eight terrorist murders -- including the slaying of three U.S. military officers.

PARIS

The government of France today announced plans to ~~relate~~ relinquish its last stronghold -- on the African continent. The French territory of Afars and Issas, <sup>long known as</sup> ~~formerly~~ French Somaliland; -- to be granted its independence as soon as practicable.

France indicating, however, -- it may continue to keep its troops there for a time. Afars and Issas <sup>is</sup> -- strategically located at the entrance to the Red Sea; between Ethiopia and Somalia, both of which have indicated, if given the opportunity -- they <sup>could</sup> ~~would~~ swiftly gobble it up.



## JOHANNESBURG

From Premier Vorster of South Africa -- a new year's message dealing mainly with the civil war in nearby Angola. Vorster saying "Many more thousands will probably be killed" in Angola -- unless the "free world" unites to block ~~any~~ further Russian intervention. Also saying if the Russians succeed in taking over Angola -- no nation in Southern Africa will be safe from Soviet enslavement.

VATICAN

At the Vatican, ~~in Rome~~ -- Pope Paul ~~was~~ condemning ~~++~~ what he  
called<sup>S</sup> the evils of the present day, ~~These he listed~~<sup>S</sup> ~~as chiefly~~  
"an epidemic" of kidnappings, -- legalized abortion, -- and arms  
sales that help to foment civil war. The Pope saying: "Life is  
threatened ~~and~~<sup>and</sup> ~~adding~~" "If we want to defend it and insure its well-  
being -- we must be vigilant, ~~from the outset~~"<sup>more</sup>

Mamie Eisen -  
~~WALTER REED~~

Former First Lady Mamie Eisenhower was rushed today to Walter  
Reed Army Hospital, <sup>where she</sup> ~~-- suffering from an undisclosed ailment.~~ A  
~~spokesman later saying Mrs. Eisenhower "was awake and conversant~~  
~~upon her arrival"~~ -- is now "resting comfortably," -- <sup>At age</sup> ~~"and is being~~  
~~medically evaluated."~~ ~~The widow of President Eisenhower~~ ~~age~~  
~~seventy-nine~~ -- <sup>she is said to have been</sup> ~~and reportedly~~ in poor health for some time.



## BEAR

I've been spending the Christmas Holiday with Lowell Jr. and family in Alaska, and I seldom come North without hearing a new bear story. After all Alaska is the home of those huge bears, the giant Kodiak, the Grizzly, and the King of the Arctic, the Polar Bear.

TP Alex Brogle of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game was in an area known as Humpy Creek. He had his dog Rex on a leash. Salmon were spawning and there were many bear in the vicinity. Brogle heard a crashing in the brush, and turned to face a bear, charging, only forty or fifty feet away.

His dog, in spite of the leash flew at the bear which reared on its hind legs, the dog landing on the bear's chest. Brogle jumped across the stream, fired a shot into the air. Whereupon the bear dropped the dog and disappeared with her two cubs. The dog was dead - - a broken neck. But

Rex had saved his master's life. <sup>- in Alaska -</sup> I had a friend, Rod Darnel, who was badly

mauled and nearly killed under similar circumstances.

*And now this M -*

Wayne Poulsen, who is arranging the National ~~Ski~~ Ski Jumping Tournament to be held out at Squaw Valley, California during the second week of January, a veteran hunter in Alaska, <sup>Alex</sup> told me about Brogle and his dog Rex

## LERNER FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

Veteran newsman Max Lerner ~~was also discussing the same~~  
~~subject~~ in a column today entitled "Ordeal by Ridicule,"  
~~Newsman Lerner~~ <sup>51</sup> saying: "I am scarcely a Ford supporter, but I  
have had my fill of cheap shots hurled at the President -- by TV  
entertainers, professional and amateur comics, and amateur  
politicians."

~~Max Lerner adding: "This is a plea to go easy on Gerald Ford~~  
~~who~~ seems to have a thick political skin and is an old pro;" but  
the time has come ~~he continued~~ "to distinguish between hard-  
slugging on policy decisions -- and unfair attacks of a personal  
character."

5 1/2 And now for CBS news —