

Tues. Dec. 22, 1970
Dallas Townsend

Good evening everybody.

Congress put on a burst of speed late this afternoon as it headed into its holiday recess. The lame duck session of the Ninety-First will resume next Monday. Before the recess began, the Senate gave final approval to a bill endorsing President Nixon's decision to provide Cambodia with additional military aid. The compromise measure went through on a vote of forty-one to twenty. It contains a strict prohibition against the use of American combat troops or military advisers on Cambodian soil.

This action ended one of the filibusters that had tied the Senate in parliamentary knots. No progress, however, was made in breaking the principal deadlock - over funds for continued development of the supersonic transport plane. A second attempt to close off debate on that subject fell sixteen votes short of the required two-thirds majority.

Welfare, Social Security and Trade Legislation will be put off until the Ninety-Second Congress, which opens in

January. That was announced at dusk by Chairman Wilbur Mills of the House Ways and Means Committee - and by Representative John Byrnes of Wisconsin, the committee's ranking Republican.

Democrat Senator McGowan of South Dakota - chief opponent of government subsidies for the food budgets of poor families - strongly objected to this requirement - and he refused to sign the compromise legislation. McGowan argued that children should not be denied food because their parents are unemployed. However, the measure went to the House for final approval.

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

In another late-afternoon move, Senate and House negotiators agreed on a bill extending the Food Stamp Program. That measure, in its compromise form, requires able-bodied recipients to take a job or face the loss of discount-price food for their families. Democrat Senator McGovern of South Dakota - chief advocate of government subsidies for the food budgets of poor families - strongly objected to this requirement - and he refused to sign the compromise legislation. McGovern argued that children should not be denied food because their parents turn down work. However, the measure went to the house for final approval.

PRISONERS

North Vietnamese officials in Paris today

released a lengthy list of American pilots captured in North Vietnam between August Fifth - Ninteen-Sixty-Four and November Fifteenth - Nineteen-Seventy. The list contains names of pilots reported to have died in captivity, as well as those still alive in prisoner of war camps.

CAMP EAGLE

At Camp Eagle in northernmost South Vietnam - a visit today from Comedian Bob Hope; his first stop - on another Christmas tour of Vietnam war bases; and the sun promptly came out - after days and days of rain.

Bob Hope and his troupe entertaining a crowd of about eighteen thousand GI's. Along the way, paying tribute to South Vietnam's Vice President Ky - who was seated in the first row. Drawing from the U.S. servicemen - an uneasy silence.

However, the rest of the show - drew thunderous cheers and applause. Especially a series of gags on marijuana - the first such that Bob Hope has ever used. It was still typical Hope though. At one point, the comedian pointing to his stomach - saying: "I don't smoke myself - I have enough trouble with this pot."

MAI LOC FOLLOW CAMP EAGLE

Camp Eagle was also paid a brief visit today - from Cardinal Cooke of New York; who later continued on - touring a number of American outposts. The Cardinal wearing U.S. Army fatigues - most of the day; donning his full vestments - only to celebrate a mass at fire support base ~~base~~; and even then - he was forced to wear a covering G.I. camouflage cloak.

Perhaps the most moving moment of all though - when the Cardinal paused at Mai Loc; there blessing a U.S. trooper in full battle gear / who was heading out on patrol. The Cardinal telling Sergeant Milton Bryant of Englewood, California: / "I assure you - of the very ~~good~~ good hearts that are at home praying for you; / and I pray that you will have a very blessed Christmas / and also a Happy New Year in the year Nineteen-Seventy-One."

That - from Cardinal Cooke.

MOSCOW

M Moscow - an announcement today cancelling a scheduled meeting this week - of Warsaw Pact powers. No reason given. Tass merely stating- this was done "by mutual agreement." No doubt, a mitigating circumstance though - the fact that Warsaw has other problems on its mind right now.

SZCZECIN FOLLOW MOSCOW

Speaking of which - a report that key shipyards have been closed for six days now - in the riot-torn Baltic seaport of Szczecin in Northern Poland. However, the Polish news agency saying "all is quiet" - for the moment, anyway. Warsaw radio adding that preparations are being made - "so that work can begin on all shifts tomorrow." Except - we are told - the telephones in Szczecin are still not working - which is said to indicate - that tensions are still running high.

PEKING FOLLOW SZCZECIN

There was a scathing denunciation of the Soviet role in Poland - from Red China. Peking asserting that the Polish uprising - was "a victory won by the Polish working class in their struggle against the revisionists;" and the ouster of Poland's Gomulka - said to indicate that the Soviet's "colonel rule in East Europe has fallen into crisis."

Peking adding that "Poland - the Czechoslovakia and certain other East European countries - is a powder keg which might go off at any time."

VATICAN

At the Vatican - Pope Paul today delivered his annual State of the Church address; an appraisal somewhat less than joyful - regardless of the Christmas season. The Pontiff asserting that the church is now menaced - by "rebellious outbreaks;" as evidenced - said he - by "the movement of corrosive criticism - which has spread in many intellectual centers of the West;" also, a growing number of defections - from the priesthood.

In line with this - the Pope calling a Synod of Bishops for next September. Purpose: To discuss the question of married priests.

JERUSALEM-CAIRO

For Israel's Golda Meir - a news conference today at Jerusalem; where the premier said that Israel has clarified the issues - relating to the possible resumption of Mideast peace talks. Mrs. Meir adding that Israel now faces "the most difficult moment" - of deciding yes or no. Most indications are that the answer will be yes.

Egypt was summoning home for consultations - its U.N. Ambassador - Dr. Mohamed Hassan El-Zayya. Cairo sources expressing confidence the peace talks will resume - specifically, on or about January Third.

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "GENERATION"

Next - Lowell Thomas; discussing tonight the youth movement - here and in Europe. Lowell...

that young people - *in fact, they are* - *more* - *growing up faster these*
days.

A century ago - we are told - the average girl
wasn't puberty around age thirteen; but now - it's about
in thirteen. The average boy's maturation is going
also spreading in maturity an estimated three to four years
sooner.

Worse still, the amount of puberty being with it -
a flood of hormones and physical and emotional upheavals -
making the teen-age years so much more of a hell than ever had
to time with. And the fact that this time of trouble starts
earlier and earlier - means that it also lasts longer and
longer. Nowadays, through high school - college - graduate
school. In some cases, a good part of ten years or more
before the "mature" stage is reached at the end of the road.

Here's one - a new look at the so-called "generation gap;" as provided by a study of thousands of teen-agers - ⁱ_A in the United States, Britain and Scandinavia; a study showing that young people - ^{in point of fact, are} ~~are, indeed,~~ growing up faster these days.

A century ago - we are told - the average girl reaching puberty around age seventeen; but now - it's closer to thirteen. The average boy - while harder to gauge - also speeding to maturity an estimated three to four years sooner.

Worse still, the advent of puberty brings with it - a flood of stresses and strains and emotional upheavals; making the teen-ager hard to manage - and often even hard to live with. And the fact that this time of trouble ^{now} starts earlier and earlier - means that it also last longer and longer. Nowadays, through high school - college - graduate school. In some cases, a grand total of ten years or more - before the "mature" youngster is "out of the nest" and off

on his own.

Small wonder, then - there's a "Generation gap."

Indeed, the experts ~~now~~ saying - it's surprising it's not a chasm.