

PARIS

Thurs. Jan. 29 - '70

On the peace front - Paris - another bleak
Thursday. When they were ^{not}~~not~~ trading accusations -
allied and Communist negotiators ^{were} taking turns making
proposals - which were then quickly rejected by the other
side.

Be that as it may - there was perhaps one
ray of hope; in the announcement that "Le Duc Tho"
Senior member of the North Vietnamese peace delegation
- is returning to Paris tomorrow. Le Duc Tho said
to bear new instructions from Hanoi supposedly aimed
at getting the peace talks rolling again; though how -
nobody seems to know.

PENTAGON

~~Here at home~~ ^{at} the Pentagon - Defense

Secretary ~~Melvin~~ Laird today dismissed the possibility of an all-volunteer army -- at least, in the foreseeable future. Laird asserting that such a change-over would lead to a drop of about one million - from our present three million men-at-arms. The Secretary going on to say: "I don't believe we can carry out our present obligations at that level;" unless, said he - "unless we are willing to ~~spend~~ spend a lot of money - to maintain ~~the~~ an up to date reserve and national guard." And he added that "we have at present - no such assurance!"

VIETNAM

War news from Vietnam tells ~~today~~ of a U S jet strike - against an enemy surface to air missile site in the Communist North. American fighter ~~bomb~~ bombers roaring to the attack in retaliation for the earlier downing of an unarmed reconnaissance plane. In the exchange that followed - enemy gunners also downing an F 105 Thunder Chief. Later on - the U S losing still another, ~~aircraft~~, a giant rescue helicopter shot down by a North Vietnamese Mig 21 -- while searching for possible ~~survivors~~ survivors.

As for damage to the missile site - no report as yet. However, the U S command ^{— also the White House - is} stressing [^] this was not a breach of the U S bombing moratorium over North Vietnam; rather a justified response - to an unprovoked attack.

HAIFA

The Air war in the Middle East ~~was~~ marked today by an apparent attempt to impress the Israelis - that they, too, are vulnerable to enemy attack. A single Syrian jet - buzzing the Israeli port city of Haifa. Dropping no bombs - but setting off a sonic boom that sound^ed like one. This the first time since Nineteen Sixty-Seven -- that an Arab plane has penetrated Israeli air space and flown over one of its cities. In response to which - a flight of Israeli jets later buzzed the ~~Sov~~ Syrian capital -- Damascus.

By the way, ^{there's} a report ~~today~~ that Egypt's Colonel Nasser is attempting to prepare his own people for the possibility of further Israeli air raids. These preparations said to include a TV showing - of the current film "Battle of Britain." Stiff upper lip and all that - don't you know.

WHITE HOUSE

As predicted earlier - President Nixon today named Interior Under Secretary Russell Train - as the first chairman of his new Council on Environmental Quality. The President also naming as fellow Council members - Pulitzer Prize Winner Reporter Robert Cahn of the Christian Science Monitor - and Dr. Gordon McDonald of the University of California. In so doing, the President asserted that the drift against pollution - could turn out to be his "major domestic priority in the Nineteen Seventies". Adding that the ~~Envi~~ Environmental Council would perform a function - similar to that of the President's Council of Economic Advisers. Mr. Nixon observing: "The forces which shape the environment - are just as ~~said~~ subtle and difficult to master as those which shape the economy."

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Britain's Prime Minister Harold Wilson

back home in London today after his brief visit to

Washington, ^{*was*} ~~*the P.M.*~~ *telling Parliament he had received*

assurances from President Nixon - there would be no

U S troop withdrawals from Europe before mid-Nineteen

Seventy One. He also said he found "favorable" signs

in the U S economy. At the same time, dismissing

as sheer poppy cock - a rumor that the U S will soon

recognize the white ruled government of rebel Rhodesia.

VATICAN

At the Vatican in Rome - for the second time in ~~as~~ as many days - Pope Paul spoke out ~~Friday~~ on the need for obedience to Church authority. Underscoring his remarks with an observation that - condemnations and excommunication are still possible in extreme cases. Indeed, the Pontiff said studies are now under way - to perfect the practical use of such powers and adapt ~~these~~ *these* ~~to~~ to current requirements.

CAPE KENNEDY

At Cape Kennedy - a small army of ~~men~~ technicians and engineers - began to crank up today for America's next moon ~~shot~~ shot. Carrying out a mock launch of the Apollo Thirteen space craft - which is scheduled for the real thing April eleventh. While this was going on - the Apollo thirteen astronauts themselves ^{new} rehearsing mock lunar landings nearby.

HOUSTON FOLLOW CAPE KENNEDY

A related item - from the U S Manned

Space Center at Houston; where space officials have

tentatively

~~announced~~ [^] *approved a plan - to ship a piece of Moon*

rock to Czechoslovakia. If approved in Washington -

this to mark the first time that a lunar sample ~~is~~

ever ~~been~~ studied behind the Iron Curtain.

MIT

50 1/2
A recent study of the sense of smell -
reported today from the Massachusetts Institute of
Technology. M I T researchers cutting off the olfactory
systems - or smelling equipment - of a number of male
hamsters; with result -- well, surprising, to say the
least.

Where once these pept hamsters would have
leaped at the chance of courting every passing female
hamster - now, they couldn't care less. Where once
they would have attacked instantly any male intruder -
same thing -- who cares? The male hamster deprived
of his sense of smell - becoming, in a sense - an
animal hermit; eating, sleeping, grooming himself -
and that's about it.

I wonder! Wonder?
The moral to all this, - ~~beats me - unless:~~

51 1/4
~~Smell - and the whole world smells with you, frown~~
~~and you frown alone.~~

WASHINGTON

A so-called "car of the future" - was put to the ultimate test today in Washington. Transportation Secretary John Volpe taking it out in the capital's morning rush hour traffic. Later reporting that its automatic, radar controlled braking system - seemed to work perfectly; keeping the test car at all times - at least a car's length away from any other vehicle.

Only trouble - said Volpe - the automatic ~~braking~~ braking system could lead to a sense of false confidence. But used properly - he went on - this device "could potentially save a great many lives."