

NEW YORK

Thurs, Dec. 5-68.

Briefing in New York. Chief U. S. Chief

Negotiator Averell Harriman was with President-elect Nixon today with a progress report on the Paris peace talks. Later for the rest of us he was saying he foresees no sudden break-through -- regardless of what new faces there may be in Paris or Washington.

"When ~~we~~ you deal with the Communists" said Harriman - "you find they don't see very much difference between the Republican and Democrat Parties; as far as they are concerned, to them we are all Americans."

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Meanwhile in Paris our people and the North Vietnamese were discussing a plan of procedure for an expanded peace parley, with a spokesman for Hanoi saying there will be no ~~pxngs~~ progress until the Viet Cong are recognized as a "fully equal partner" for the parley.

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While this was going on, in far off Vietnam the Viet Cong were again playing the role of "peace seekers" by announcing plans to observe a cease fire of seventy-two hours both over Christmas and New Years - instead of the Allied proposal for a twenty-four hour cease fire at Christmas only.

An American spokesman's comment on this was: that the enemy traditionally ignores his own cease fire - the same as he does ours. To the Viet Cong it doesn't mean what it does to us.

DONG TAM

It's been said - and it's probably true - that some people are just born lucky. ~~For one how about~~ ~~By example, feared~~

^{Veteran} pilot Dick Merrill - ^{who is} still flying in his seventies - and ^{Dick has} ~~never~~ never had an accident nor even a close call. So Dick Merrill says. Anyhow he's still with us. Another case in point - that of army medic

Ben Cherry of Norfolk, Virginia - as told today from Dong Tam in Vietnam. Ben Cherry lying ~~asked~~ asleep not long ago - when a Viet Cong terrorist tossed a ten pound dynamite charge at his feet, ^{and} it failed to explode. More recently, Ben Cherry taking cover in a foxhole - when an enemy rocket dropped in beside him. Again - it didn't go off.

Says Ben Cherry: "I'm beginning to get the feeling - someone is watching over me."

CAPE KENNEDY

At Cape Kennedy - another space first today.

The U.S. Space Agency - serving as contractor for

ten European nations; ~~Launching~~ into earth orbit -

a new twelve million dollar interplanetary research

satellite. First reports indicating a perfect flight -

$\frac{a-}{\lambda}$ okay all the way as the Space Boys say.

ROME

The city of Rome and nearby suburb - all but paralyzed today: in the worst work stoppage in Italy - since World War Two. More than a million students and trade unionists - joining in a massive general strike, against government educational and wage policies.

Along the way, an estimated fifty thousand - mostly students - roaring through the streets of downtown Rome. Chanting "Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh"- also, "death to the Bourgeoisie" ^{and} smashing windows - wrecking cars - hurling rocks and bottles at outnumbered police who were ~~finally~~ forced to take cover. Observers fear^{ed} ~~ing~~ widespread bloodshed - but the mob ^{seemed to feel it had} ~~had already~~ proved its point ^{with the} Student leaders persuading their fellows to call it quits ~~apparently just in time~~ before it got completely out of hand.

PARIS

Another protest strike today - in suburban Paris. More than a hundred thousand workers - staging a five hour walkout at a state owned auto plant.

Demonstrating their opposition - to President DeGaulle's save the franc austerity program.

At the same time though - the French Finance Ministry was presenting strong evidence - that something had to be done. Reporting a loss of more than a quarter billion dollars last month alone, in French golden currency reserve.

SIHANOUKVILLE

Here's ~~one~~ something of a contradiction in terms.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia - telling of plans for construction of a picturesque free port at Sihanoukville. A trading outpost that will become - hopefully - "a little Hong Kong" - said he. Adding that he ^{intends} ~~hopes~~ to accomplish the project - with ^{also} and without American money.

The Prince explaining he wants no American aid - This

^{to be a} part of his campaign to keep Cambodia free of foreign influence. Ah, but American tourists - something else again - said he. Reporting the start of construction on modern resort hotels - at Phnom Penh; also, Siem Reap - ^{where there is one of the world's worst hotels,} ~~Recent hotels designed~~ near the ruins of Angkor Wat. ^{The Prince says the new ones will be designed} specifically with American tourists in mind. Prince

Sihanouk observing that "their dollars - do not smell of policy."

In recent years we ^{we been} ~~have been~~ hearing from time to time about experiments conducted in Alaska by John Teal who has been taming the Arctic musk ox. The idea being to provide a new industry for the Eskimo. So far they seem to have met with great success.

Now comes another, almost equally exciting.

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The University of Alaska, along with the government of the United States, brought in some yaks from the Himalayas, two cows and one bull -- three yaks; later four more, making seven yaks. Since then they have been breeding them with Galloway cattle. The idea being to produce ~~even~~ better beef and rich^{er} milk.

From the University of Alaska I learned today that some of the yaks were pushed into the Tanana River ^{which they} ~~where they somewhat~~ reluctantly swam across; and now they are living ⁱⁿ wild, in a vast country. Will they be able to protect themselves from wolves and hunters -- ^{Poachers?} ~~vultures?~~

As for

The crossbreed, the Galowak, ^{Warren}~~perhaps~~ one of these

days you'll be eating galowakburgers instead of

hamburgers, ~~Warren~~

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UNITED NATIONS

From the United Nations in New York comes a report ~~today~~ calling the world body the quietest place in town.

~~With many a~~ ^{No immediate} crisis in sight - for the first time in years.

The problems of Vietnam, Biafra, the Middle East - even the

"China question" - seemingly destined for solution, ^{somewhere else} if at

all. ~~someplace else.~~

~~In the absence of solid~~ ^{No} news, ^{so} then - U. N. reporters

falling back on their imaginations; ^{with} ~~which accounts for~~ the

following story - they are telling, ^{about} ~~these days.~~ ~~It seems~~

~~there was~~ a meeting between the Ambassador from Poland -

(Tomorrowitz)

Bodhan Tomorrowicz - and the Ambassador from Hungary -

(Zaturday)

Karoly Csatorday. Time of the parley - a Friday afternoon.

With Tomorrowicz and Csatorday supposedly

(tomorrow-its-
coming to an agreement called - "The Tomorrowicz -

-Zaturday)

Csatorday Agreement." And so long until tomorrowitz.