

CAIRO-TEL AVIV

Thurs. Nov. 15-73

In the Middle East - Red Cross mercy planes were shuttling back and forth today - between Cairo and Tel Aviv; returning home both Egyptian and Israeli POW's - under the terms of the U.S.-sponsored cease-fire.

Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan - meeting the first prisoners arriving at Lod Airport. "Now we are seeing the first expression of settling things" - said he; "not only in the return of prisoners - but also in food to the Egyptian Third Army and the status of the U.N. force."

Moshe Dayan adding that "finally, we have reached a coming to terms as human beings - through talking and negotiations - and not through tank and airplane fire."

TOKYO

In Tokyo - Secretary of State Henry Kissinger today completed two days of talks - with high Japanese officials. The subject of Middle East oil - Japan's economic lifeblood - said to have "occupied a very good measure of the conversations."

Dr. Kissinger - apparently making no promise. A U.S. spokesman expressing hope, however, "that as and if there is a settlement of the military and political differences on the Middle East - the questions of reduction and embargo of oil will be resolved."

Next stop - Seoul; where Dr. Kissinger will confer briefly with South Korea's Park Chung Hee - before heading home.

COMMERCE

From the U. S. Commerce Department comes today - the latest report on the U. S. balance of payments. The figures showing a whopping trade surplus of more than Two Billion - from July through September; as compared with a surplus of only Four Hundred Million - during the previous quarter.

The sudden improvement said to have been due to a ~~sharp~~ sharp increase in exports - coupled with a surprisingly large drop in imports.

ATLANTA

For Commerce Secretary Frederick Dent - a trip today to Atlanta; where he discussed the energy situation - with a group of Southern government and business leaders. Dent urging a massive public relations campaign - to get people to "cut down on their gasoline consumption" and thus avoid rationing.

But The mayors of Macon, Georgia, and Memphis, Tennessee - quickly responding with a suggestion of their own. The nation could save a substantial amount of fuel - they claimed - merely by calling a temporary halt to forced school busing.

PRESIDENT

For a man supposedly on the ropes - President Nixon continues to give a pretty good account of himself.

Indeed, the President appearing supremely confident - in an appearance today before the National Association of Realtors; in response to a one-minute standing ovation - even raising his arms in a familiar "V for victory."

In the speech that followed - the President underscoring his achievements in the past year - both foreign and domestic; citing, in particular, his success in improving relations with Russia and Red China - in helping to resolve the Mideast conflict - in meeting the energy crisis.

And then at last - he turned to Watergate. The President saying: "Mistakes were made - mistakes I would not have approved of - mistakes I would not have tolerated." But "as far as the President of the United States is concerned" - said the President - "he has not violated his trust - and he is not going to violate it."

The President adding: "I was elected to do a job -

PRESIDENT - 2

I'm not going to walk away until I get that job done."

Further setting as his ultimate goals - world peace, full employment and prosperity at home, and "a safe beautiful country."

When he had finished - a ten-minute standing ovation.

An acceptance that would seem to bode well - for the three speeches he plans to make in the next few days around the country.

QUESTIONS FOLLOW PRESIDENT

And the latest: The President agreeing to submit to an hour of questioning--by newspaper editors from all over the country. This at a meeting of AP managing editors--Saturday night at convention headquarters in *one of these handsome hotels at Orlando's* ~~WPC~~ Disney World. The White House saying it is expected ~~that~~ most of the questioning--will deal with the Watergate case.

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ENERGY

On the energy front - President Nixon announced today that he will sign ~~that~~ bill - authorizing the construction of an Alaskan oil pipeline. This in spite of what he considers an objectionable rider ~~giving~~ giving broader powers to the Federal Trade Commission. The actual signing ceremony - set for Ten-Thirty tomorrow morning, Eastern-time.

HOUSE

The House Judiciary Committee opened hearings today - on the nomination of Gerald Ford as Vice President. Same as in the Senate - Ford himself serving as lead-off witness; saying at the outset - he is "very much" his own man; that he would certainly speak up - if he ever disagreed with the President.

But that said, Ford ~~going~~^{went} on to note that he had been asked over and over: "Do I support the President on this - do I support the President on that?" "Of course, I support the President" - he continued. Adding: "He is my friend of a quarter-century - his political philosophy is very close to my own - he is head of my party and constitutional Chief Executive of the nation."


CAPITOL HILL

Capitol Hill again - the House today approved overwhelmingly - a bill authorizing an eleven per cent increase in Social Security benefits. A similar bill - already approved by the Senate; which means that final Congressional ^{action} - is expected this year.

CAPE CANAVERAL

At Cape Canaveral - the countdown continues; with the blast-off for America's Skylab-Three mission - still set for Nine-Oh-Two tomorrow morning, Eastern-time.

Meantime, astronauts Jerry Carr, Ed Gibson and Bill Pogue ^{were} _λ completing their final physicals. Also, getting in some aerial acrobatics in T-Thirty-Eights - to better prepare themselves for the stresses of space flight.

Mission Commander Carr saying: "We don't have any last minute concern at all  about the bird; we're told it's in good shape - and all the structural problems have been solved!"

HOSPITAL

Edward M. Kennedy Junior - the twelve-year-old son of Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts - is confined to a hospital tonight in Washington. The nature of his illness - not disclosed; but the Senator and Mrs. Kennedy - are ~~both~~ at his bedside.

BARBADOS

**For Britain's Princess Anne and her new husband,
Captain Mark Phillips - the start of a Caribbean honeymoon.
The couple flying today - to Barbados; there to board the
Royal Yacht Britannia - for a nineteen-day cruise. And it
may be that Captain Phillips - will wear the pants in the
family, as he claims; but the yacht, at least - is under Anne's
command.**

NEW YORK

Famed A-and-P heir Huntington Hartford - has been involved in many colorful projects ~~down through~~ ^{over} the years.

His latest - an attempt at handwriting analysis; as set forth in a book called, "You Are What You Write" - complete with

Examples.

Huntington Hartford ^{also} notes, ~~for~~ ^{interest,} ~~promptly~~ that Joan (By-er's) Baez's handwriting - would seem to indicate that she is

"stubborn, opinionated, secretive;" whereas Zsa Zsa Gabor's - is said to represent "a supreme example of ^{the practical and} the worldly."

7. ~~and the practical~~ "Would you have guessed it, Bill?"

For what it's worth, Huntington Hartford ~~also~~ notes

6/2 that practically all of our Presidents - have written the letter

"g" as if it were a figure eight. The two most notable

exceptions - Harry Truman and Richard Nixon. The author

adding that President Truman's handwriting - was by far the

most "aggressive;" while President Nixon's - clearly the most

"perfectly balanced."

PARIS

More than a million small retailers were closed today in France - in protest against government-ordered price controls. The businesses taking part - including practically all restaurants, wine shops, boutiques, grocery stores, you name it; even the glittering sex shops - on the Place Pigalle.

To the average Frenchman - little more than an inconvenience. But for tourists and travelers - ~~a real~~ ^{something else.}

~~Handwritten note:~~ **S-U-T-MAN**