

Thurs. Jan. 7, 1971

PENTAGON

From the Pentagon - a clarification - also, an amplification - of the announcement today from far touring Defense Secretary Laird. A Pentagon spokesman saying that U.S. troops after May One - will cease to play a major combat role in Vietnam. But, he added that more than one hundred thousand combat troops will remain in the battle zone - at least for the time being; to serve in a security role. These to constitute anywhere from forty to fifty percent of the number of U.S. troops still remaining in Vietnam.

PARIS

Meanwhile, another weekly session in Paris - the Vietnam peace talks today entering their third year. Allied and Communist negotiators - reaching a rare agreement on one point. Both sides agreeing that the first two years of talks - had achieved absolutely no progress.

MIDDLE EAST

In the Middle East - Israel today accused Egypt of another cease-fire violation; charging Cairo with sending four Russian Mig jets - on a reconnaissance mission across the Suez Canal. An Israeli military source also warns of a possible Egyptian attempt - to cross the Canal later this year; - do it he adds, with Soviet help.

At the same time - UN special peace envoy Gunnar Jarring - was getting ready to take off for Jerusalem, there to confer with Israel's Golda Meir - also, chief Israeli peace negotiator Abba Eban. This to be Jarring's first visit to the Middle East in twenty months.

CAIRO

In Cairo at a special news conference today, the government of Egypt - announced plans for official inauguration of the Aswan High Dam, next Friday; and event that will bring together - top Egyptian and Soviet leaders, the latter -
As you know - having financed it.

Dam authority Chairman Helmi El - says the Aswan is well protected against the possibility of future Israeli attack. According to Helmi El Egypt -
presumably, with Russia's help - has taken - "great defensive measures against deep air raids" over the High Dam.

MCGOVERN

Here at home ~~again~~ on the political front - a possible harbinger of campaign seventy-two. Senator McGovern of South Dakota - announcing today his resignation as chairman of a ~~Democratic~~ Democratic Party Reform Commission. The Senator explaining that his assigned task - that of writing guide lines for the ~~select~~ selection of delegates to future conventions - was largely completed - which means - said he - the Nineteen Seventy-Two Democratic National Convention - will be "the least boss ridden" ever. ~~And now he~~ *So, he said*
it was ~~added~~ ~~it's~~ ~~is~~ time to step aside.

Next question: Does this mean ~~that~~ the Senator himself - intends to ~~be~~ announce soon for the Democratic presidential nomination; to which McGovern replied: That's "a fairly accurate" assumption.

MONEY

Elsewhere in Washington - the federal reserve board today lowered its discount rate - for the third time in less than two months. The new figure set at five-and-a-quarter percent - as compared with the previous five-and-a-half. ^{This} Another step - in the direction of easier money; which could lead to lower interest rates - on loans ^{generally.} ~~throughout the economy.~~

SANTIAGO

*From the new Marxist government of Chile -
an order today establishing a nationwide network of
so-called "peoples tribunals." These to be composed
of three persons each; - ~~we are told~~ each with the
power to ~~to~~ judge persons - accused of crimes such
as public drunkenness, wife beating, disturbing the
peace or any other form of, quote, "anti-social"
behavior. Each will also have the power to set
punishment - ranging from a public admonition, to a
sentence at forced labor. All of which is said to be
reminiscent of the "peoples tribunals" - established in
Red China shortly after the advent of Chairman Mao;
~~to also~~ ^{and} the "peoples tribunals" - which flourished
briefly in Castro's Cuba.*

HOLLAND

A giant device called an "iron monster" - unveiled today at Holland, Michigan. First of its kind here in the U S - the "iron monster" capable of devouring an entire junked car; which it then crushes, grinds, tears, and disintegrates - spitting it out two minutes ~~in~~ later in the form of corn flake sized metal crumbs. These to be reused - in the making of steel.

Assuming all goes well, the iron monster ~~is~~ ^{likely} ~~now expected~~ to consume each year - an estimated ten thousand junked cars currently blighting the Michigan countryside ^{alone.} It will still take ten years - at least - to clean up the landscape - say State officials. But ~~its~~ ^{a real} ~~beginning~~ ^{— so they say.} ~~The "iron monster" - right on,~~ ~~brother.~~

WASHINGTON

From the National Bureau of Standards in Washington
- a report today that American women are getting bigger
and bigger - here, there, and practically everywhere. This
according to a recent survey of womens body measurements
- for the purpose of updating the sizes of womens apparel.

The study showing that a figure designated size
twelve, for example is now thirty-five, twenty six, thirty-
seven. In the usual places, in other words, an inch more
for each measurement - an inch more than a dozen years ago.
For what it's worth, the study notes that a woman's average
sitting spread - has also increased; from thirty-three-and-
a-half - to a full thirty-five inches.

As for changes in mens sizes - the men of the
national bureau of standards admit they haven't as yet
attempted to set any new masculine standards. Main reason
says a spokesman: "They don't even have any old ones."

CINCINNATI

Cincinnati - the story of a burglar who broke into a local church; smashing open a pay-telephone, and a vending machine -- stealing the coins there-in. A case that generally falls under the heading - of "the meanest thief in the world" except that this fellow - well, he can't be all bad.

The Reverend James Martin - who discovered the crime, reporting that he also found a note on his desk a note from the burglar ^{Warren-} which said: "Sorry, I need money - pray for me."

PHILADELPHIA

At Philadelphia - the Governor's committee of one hundred thousand Pennsylvanians - announcing ^{as} ~~ing~~ its annual award for "excellence." Winners including eight men and two women - among them: Chairman Thomas Gates, - former ~~secy~~ ^{secy} of the Navy - of the Morgan Guaranty Trust - Manager Danny Murtaugh of the Pittsburgh Pirates, the late novelist John O'Hara; also, Governor ^{Ray} Shafer of Pennsylvania - who perhaps best defined the quality of excellence.

Governor Shafer observing that "excellence is the utilization of one's talents - at the highest level;" which means - he continued - "you can have excellent bus-boys, excellent waiters, excellent drivers" and so on and so on. And he added, in short, we can all be excellent and proud of it - "each person in his own way."