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Wed. Feb. 12 - '69.

PARIS

Optimism in Paris. On the eve of a fourth session of expanded peace talks French Foreign Secretary Michel Debre sniffing the ~~the~~ sweet smell of success, Asserting today that both allied and Communist negotiators - have finally entered a stage of true bargaining.

The secret now to successful completion of the job - said DeBre - complete ~~secret~~ secrecy on both sides. The Frenchman adding that "one should not worry too much over the slow progress of negotiations - considering the great scope of past fighting. "

As for present fighting <sup>there was</sup> a giant search and destroy mission - today - in Vietnam's vast A-Shau Valley. Some five thousand allied troops - attempting <sup>to hold off</sup> ~~the~~ ~~impossible~~, any threatened TET offensive.

## GOLAN HEIGHTS

In the tense <sup>Near</sup> Middle East a jet ~~dog~~ dog fight today over the Israeli occupied Golan Heights. With a French built ~~jet~~ Israeli Mirage - challenging a Syrian Mig twenty-one. This marking the first aerial dual between Syrian and Israeli planes - since that six day war of sixty-seven.

The ~~how~~ how and why of it all - still in doubt.

As to the outcome though - no questions. Both sides agreeing - the Israeli won. With the Syrian pilot - parachuting to safety.

## UNITED NATIONS FOLLOW GOLAN HEIGHTS

*At the same time - word of a "serious" situation along the Suez Canal cease fire line. This according to a report filed today - with the United Nations headquarters in New York. A report from General Odd Bull - the U N's chief truce observer in the Near East; warning that continuous skirmishes between Israeli and Egyptian forces - threaten to lead once more to full-scale combat.*

## STORM

*New York again. The big clean-up continues.*

*Though not as fast as many would like.*

*One of the latest voices raised in protest - that of U N Under Secretary Ralph Bunche; who fired off a telegram to the Mayor - complaining that he had been snowbound at his Queens home since Sunday. "This is a shameful performance" said Ralph Bunche. Adding: "I might as well be living in the Alps." But we are told this is the record storm of the century - and how do you cope with anything like that?*

## TOKYO

About a dozen U S lawmakers - currently attending a parliamentary exchange conference in Tokyo; from whence we hear today that Senator Scott of Pennsylvania - has earned a reputation as quite a whit. The proof, we are told - in a sample of Scott humor - ~~is~~ reported as follows: "There was this friend of mine" - so the story goes - "there was this friend of mine - who took a hypodermic needle to the circus. And every ~~time~~ time a bear would pass he'd give it a shot. When someone asked him why - he replied: Don't you know, there is safety - in num-bears?"

Great Scot, would you say? ~~Warren?~~ Or, is it just as "groaner.?"

NEW YORK

Here's one - specially appropos of Lincoln's birthday - if not the reason. Lincoln scholar Goddard Lieberon recalling today - that "Dixie" was one of Abraham<sup>n</sup> Lincoln's favorite songs. Lieberon further reporting that composer Dan Emmett - who wrote the tune - was actually a northern ~~minstrel~~ minstrel - a man who later became "deeply annoyed" we are told when "Dixie" became the anthem of the Confederate States. ~~But~~ Be that as it may - Lincoln never lost his liking for the piece. Indeed, he surprised some and probably shocked others - ~~and~~ says Lieberon - by asking a Washington band to play "Dixie" shortly ~~after~~ after the end of the war. Honest Abe said to have told northerners and southerners alike - "it's our tune now ."

## VATICAN

*At the Vatican in Rome - Pope Paul attempts to plug up a theological loop-hole. The Pontiff today reaffirming church ~~the~~ policy to the effect that man cannot go against his conscience. Adding, however, that Catholics must seek to bend their consciences = to conform to church ~~teaching~~ teaching. The conscience needs to be instructed - said he, lest it be "guiltily erroneous."*

*Though the Pope didn't say so - this is an apparent attempt to firm-up his ban on birth control. As such - over-riding the stand of a number of church bishops. Those who had held previously that married Catholics could practice artificial birth control - as long as they decided to do so "in good conscience."*

CHICAGO

Chicago - Dr. Philip White of the American Medical Association chief ~~speaker~~ speaker at a symposium on nutrition and food technology. Reporting that the average American - by age seventy- has probably consumed about twenty four hundred chickens - some three hundred pigs, more than two hundred lambs - about a hundred and fifty head of cattle - also, some fifty acres of fruits, and vegetables -- plus another twenty six acres of grain - not to mention some seven thousand gallons of water.

Put it all together - and its enough to turn your stomach - says Dr. White. Adding, what's more, ~~it~~ it probably has -- many ~~times~~ times.



BUDAPEST

*This next - perhaps best described as an exercise in futility. The government of Hungary announcing plans today - to open an official marriage bureau in the city of Budapest. Purpose: To try and find suitable mates - for the Hungarian capital's two hundred and fifty thousand single women which would seem to be - an almost impossible task since the city has only about - seventy thousand eligible bachelors - or about four Zsa Zsa's for every Zoltan, and four into one - Warren - it just doesn't go - not even in Hungary.*

WASHINGTON

At a meeting of the World Meteorological organization - in session today at Washington, Dr. Oliver Ashford of the Global Atmospheric ~~Research~~ Research program <sup>was</sup> discussing the need for expanded world-wide weather ~~is~~ observation. <sup>He says</sup> ~~Asserting~~ that even with the present limited network - the world gets back about twenty billion in weather services -- for every billion invested.

So why then are weather forecasts - ~~so~~ so often worth about two cents? Ah, that <sup>we are not told,</sup> ~~they didn't say.~~