

Fri. Dec. 2-66.

PARIS

In Paris -- a sharp setback today -- for DeGaulle's grand plan of a unified Europe. This at the hands of visiting Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin -- who is proving a most un-gracious guest.

According to international etiquette -- a foreign dignitary never attacks an ally of his host country. But Kosygin ignoring the rules of etiquette -- in a surprise speech at the Paris City Hall, utilizing the public forum -- for a bitter attack on West Germany.

Kosygin asserting that the forces of Fascism -- are reappearing in West Germany; "as unembarrassed and as arrogant as always" -- said he. Adding that Germany's neighbors -- who failed to halt the rise of Adolf Hitler -- must not make the same mistake again. Russia, for one, will not -- said he.

The French -- ~~said to be~~ deeply embarrassed by the incident. Informed sources saying, however, that DeGaulle himself triggered the attack in talks this morning -- when he reportedly made a strong pitch for German reunification. Russia, of course, bitterly opposed.

UNITED NATIONS

Months of uncertainty -- ended today at the United Nations. With U Thant -- who had long threatened to resign -- finally accepting a second full term as Secretary General of the world body.

U- Thant's decision -- predicted ^{U-} on a new mandate from the U.N. Security Council. In the words of U.S. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg -- a "strong statement" reinforcing ^{U-} Thant's authority as chief executive at the U.N.

As for ^{U-} Thant himself -- the Secretary-General expressing his hope that the new ^{mandate} ~~authority~~ -- "Will serve to strengthen ^{U-} the U.N. -- and thus "promote the cause of world peace and progress."

Even so -- it's understood that ^{U-} Thant would be free to resign -- at any time in the future; if he felt he ~~was~~ ^{were} not receiving the cooperation -- which he has just been promised.

VIET NAM

Less than three-months in Viet Nam -- and the mighty U.S. Eleventh Armored Cavalry is fast becoming a legend among the Viet Cong. The American tank corps adding to its aura of invincibility -- with another big victory today about ~~Forty~~ miles North of Saigon.

The Eleventh Cavalry -- which specializes in clearing ~~the~~ highways of Communist marauders -- doing just that on vital Highway One; when it ran smack ~~into~~ into a big guerilla ambush.

The Viet Cong opening up -- with Seventy-Five millimeter recoilless rifles, with mortars, with machine guns and small arms -- to no avail. The shells -- merely bouncing harmlessly off the American armor.

The Americans^s tank men -- for their part -- quick to the counter-attack. Running down the ~~the~~ enemy -- and turning the ambush into a complete Communist rout.

A later body count -- disclosing ~~Eighty~~ Eighty-One enemy dead. American losses -- not-a-one. A few wounded -- and that's all.

VIET NAM--2

Meanwhile, in the air -- one of the biggest American raids to date on the Communist North. And one of the closest -- to the Red capital of Hanoi. Wave after wave of American jets -- hitting to within ~~Five~~ miles of the city. Blasting a number of oil storage areas -- as well as a big military vehicles depot.

MUTUAL FUNDS

The operation of mutual stock funds -- under ^{sharp} fire today ~~by~~

~~from~~ the Securities and Exchange Commission.

In a special report to Congress -- the SEC urging that mutual fund sales-charges be limited to ~~five~~ five per cent of the amount invested; instead of the present "typical" charge -- of more than ~~nine~~ nine per cent.

The SEC also asking a prohibition -- on so-called "front end load" mutual fund plans; ~~those~~ Those in which first-year charges may cost the buyer -- ~~as much as~~ ⁹ Fifty per cent of his total investment.

HELSINKI

A new kind of protest by irate drivers -- put through a test-run -- or rather test-stop -- ~~today~~ in Helsinki. At the urging of the Finnish version of the AAA -- virtually every private motorist in Helsinki halting his car in traffic -- at precisely Two o'clock.

For the next two minutes -- designated length of the auto stoppage -- buses and trucks stranded in traffic; the sound of horns on stalled vehicles -- resounding throughout the city. To the delight of pedestrians -- who could walk where they pleased for the first time in ages.

Purpose of the stall-in -- to protest a planned Twelve per cent hike in the cost of government-regulated auto insurance. The demonstration timed to coincide -- with the opening of Parliamentary debate on the matter.

Well, it might be a great idea for Helsinki -- but ~~but~~ let's hope they never try it here in New York. A two-minute stall-in -- with traffic pouring in from every direction -- and it might take Two days to get things rolling again.

STOCKHOLM FOLLOW HELSINKI

Speaking of traffic -- another new idea today from Stockholm -- in neighboring Sweden. Perhaps the most radical plan yet devised -- for solving the traffic problems of a modern-day metropolis.

The idea -- simply to abolish fares on street cars, buses and subway trains. On the theory that if mass public transportation is available for free -- people will certainly take advantage of it -- leaving their cars at home.

What about the cost? Swedish officials admitting the free service -- is sure to run more. Predicting, however, that lost revenue would be ^(partially) ~~partly~~ made-up -- by doing away with the jobs of conductors, ticket-sellers, accountants and so on. In the process -- speeding up service.

Be that as it may -- the Swedish auto industry up in arms. Charging that higher taxes to meet the increased cost of mass transportation -- would ^{mean} ~~result in~~ double taxation for those who still prefer to drive.

The outcome? We'll have to wait and see.

DRAFT

~~second time in a week~~
For the ~~third consecutive month~~ -- another sharp cutback today in selective service. The Pentagon setting a draft quota of less than Eleven Thousand men -- for the month of February.

This the lowest monthly quota -- since March of Nineteen-Sixty-Five. Continuing the decline from a peak quota of nearly Fifty Thousand men -- as recently as October.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The nation's unemployment rate -- down to Three-point-Seven per cent in November -- according to an announcement today from the ~~U.S.~~⁹ U.S. Labor Department. Matching its lowest level -- over the past Thirteen years. Thanks largely to a sharp increase in employment -- among teen-agers and adult women.

Government officials noting, however, that many of the new jobs were temporary in nature -- such as election work. With unemployment among Negroes -- still more than twice that among whites.

FORT COLLINS

~~As of today~~ Fort Collins, ~~in Northern~~ Colorado is the new "time capital" of the world. A special transmitter at Fort Collins -- ~~now~~ sending out time signals by short-wave radio; to be used by scientists, ships captains and radio operators -- all over the globe.

The time center shifted from its old base -- at Greenbelt, Maryland -- by order of the National Bureau of Standards -- which marks official U.S. time. Reason for the switch: to place the station closer to the Bureau's new atomic clock center -- in nearby Boulder, Colorado.

BOSTON

Friday, December the Second -- the first Friday on which
American Catholics ^{are} ~~were~~ permitted to eat meat. Resulting in a
number of strange ironies today -- around the country.

In the Boston area, for example -- the chef at Boston ^{College} ~~Univ.~~, a
Catholic institution, serving meat at a Friday lunch -- for the
first time since the school was founded. By contrast -- fish on
Friday still a staple at nearby Harvard -- a private,
non-sectarian school.

When asked for an explanation -- Harvard's chief disticker
responding -- "why not?" "Friday is as good a day as any
for fish" -- said he. Which is exactly what the fishing
industry has been saying -- right along.

WEATHER

On the weather front -- it's cold and ^{reported} getting colder tonight -- all the way from the Rockies to the Eastern Seaboard. With generous helpings of snow -- along the way.

The temperature hitting Twenty-Three below -- at Glendive, Montana. Snowfall ranging from eight inches in Cleveland -- to Thirty-Four inches in Mayville, Upstate New York; where total accumulation -- now stands at four feet. Wonder what they'll do when winter comes?

What's more, cold wave warnings posted tonight -- for much of New England. Amid reports of a new storm just getting started -- along the eastern slopes of the Rockies.

ROCKFORD

Sometimes -- a fellow just can't win. Take the case of Lee Hazen -- a native Californian who recently moved to Rockford, Illinois.

Hazen thoroughly aggravated by the brownish, "worn-out" color his new lawn was taking on -- with the approach of winter in Illinois. So he decided to do something about it -- spraying his ~~lawn~~^{GRASS} this week with a special mixture of paint and water -- to give it a fresh, green look.

Only thing -- when Haven woke up the next morning -- his fresh sprayed lawn still looked the same as everybody else's; glistening white -- from the first major snowfall of the season.

BANKS OF THE WABASH

This next from Lafayette, Indiana -- on the banks of the Wabash; from Purdue University -- a tough engineering school -- where the boys outnumber the girls -- three-to-one.

A coed's heaven -- you might think. But then -- you might be wrong. For Purdue recently decided to offer a girl's course in judo -- and now finds itself flooded with applicants. So many coeds wanting to learn judo -- that the school ~~was~~ ^{has} already been forced to add two extra classes.

Why the rush? According to a Purdue official -- it's apparently a matter of self-preservation. The evidence indicating -- said he -- "that more than calculus -- is being pursued along the banks of the Wabash," ^{Warren.} and s-l-u-mo.