

Wed. Jan. 6, 1971

PARIS

From U.S. Defense Secretary Laird - in Paris enroute to Vietnam - an expression of growing optimism today. Laird contending that the Nixon administration has made "substantial progress" in disengaging the U.S. from the Vietnamese conflict; this to the point - said he - where American forces - will wind up their combat missions, hopefully, by mid-summer.

This - a credit to the success of the U.S. Vietnamization program, said he. - Adding that South Vietnamese armed forces, henceforth, will assume the major burden of the fighting; leaving American troops - with security missions only.

SAIGON FOLLOW PARIS

Meanwhile, the U.S. command in Saigon was admitting for the first time that there is a growing narcotics problem in Vietnam; as shown by the arrest of more than eleven thousand G I's last year; for alleged drug offenses. And this a figure that probably represents less than one-fifth - the total number of habitant drug users now serving in Vietnam.

The U.S. command has ordered a massive crack-down on drug abuse; this and a campaign to destroy Vietnamese marijuana fields. At the same time offering a general amnesty - for any and all who volunteer for treatment and rehabilitation.

SERGEANT

From London comes a story of a Briton by the name of John Dane who has just returned from volunteer service with the U.S. Army in Vietnam. Ex-sergeant Dane - who is also an ex-divinity teacher and an ex-missionary - saying he now considers himself a free-land mercenary soldier. He went on to explain that politically - "he's a liberal." But he adds: "I'm practical - and if freedom means knocking off people - that's what I do." So says the ex-missionary.

DOLE

Here at home - the White House made it all but official today; letting it be known that Senator Dole of Kansas - is President Nixon's first choice to be the new Republican National Chairman; a selection expected to be confirmed next week at the next meeting of the Republican National Committee.

Senator Dole - also a Freshman in the Upper House - one of the administration's chief supporters on Capitol Hill - also, one of its chief defenders. You may recall - the Senator recently taking his colleagues to task. Castigating - as he put it - "those who think they are president - those who ~~the~~ think they should be President - those who hope to become President - and those who would settle for Vice President."

^{With Sen.}
~~Senator Dole~~ Dole insisting that he himself - doesn't "fit into any of these categories." At least - he added - ~~said to~~ "at least, at the present time."
^

THE UNITED NATIONS

For U N special peace envoy Gunnar Jarring ^(Yarring)

- a series of continuing talks today with Arab and Israeli diplomats - also, British and Russians officials an attempt to find some common ground - to serve as a starting point, at least, in the search for a break in the present mid-east impasse. ~~And now this:-~~ ~~report that~~ Jarring will leave tomorrow for Jerusalem there to confer face to face with Israel's Abba Eban.

SAFETY

Washington again - the U.S. Transportation Department today proposed a new safety standard aimed at making car roofs substantially stronger. This in an effort to cut the toll from roll over accidents - which now cause about fourteen hundred deaths a year. The new regulation - proposed to take effect January One, Nineteen-Seventy Three. As presently written it will require that an auto roof shall be able to withstand force - at least one and a half times the total weight of a car; which means - in the average vehicle - about five thousand pounds.

WASHINGTON

For Bobby Baker - the former Secretary of the U S Senate and a one-time protege of Lyndon Johnson - the end ~~number~~ of the line today with a federal judge in Washington - signing a final commitment order.

This specifying that Bobby Baker must report to prison next Thursday - to begin serving a three year sentence for theft, fraud and income tax evasion.

This
~~Today's action~~ by the same judge who presided at Baker's trial three years ago. *And -* following in the wake of a recent decision from the U S Supreme Court - which refused to hear the defendant's ~~appeal~~ appeal. *In* effect - thereby closing off his last hope.

LAHORE

The British Consulate at Lahore, Pakistan -
under attack today from a mob of at least a thousand
college students; who managed to set the building
afire, also, a number of nearby vehicles - before they
were finally driven off by police.

The ~~moslem~~ students - ^{all} ~~said to be~~ moslems, ^{were} ~~all~~
protesting the publication of a ~~British~~ British book -
containing remarks they considered derogatory to the
~~great~~ prophet Mohammed. The book entitled - "Turkish
art of love," by ~~H. Binhas~~ Hbinhas Bin Naham -- a Turk, but a
naturalized British subject.

SALISBURY

Over in Salisbury, Rhodesia, college student Fred Withers - placed an ad in the local newspaper - reading: "Long haired bachelor-of-commerce student - seeks employment - anything.

He got - nothing. For Young Withers - he of the shoulder length locks - nary a nibble. So, he made the ultimate sacrifice. Announcing plans to get a hair cut - and try, try again.

And so Warren, would you call this a , case of hair today - gone tomorrow.

LONDON

PENTAGON

British Actress Pat Phoenix - says "some women

strive too hard to look beautiful." According to Miss Phoenix

"It's much better to look as if you could be made love to;

rather than look as if you couldn't ~~because~~ ^{because} it might spoil your

face."

That - from Pat Phoenix - a British Phoenix who

obviously has risen again to new heights.