

NEW DELHI

Thurs. Dec. 16-71

*As you may have heard -*

^ Surrender in East Pakistan. So announced today by Madam Indira Gandhi -- in a triumphal speech to the cheering Indian Parliament. "Dacca is now the free capitol of a free country," -- said the <sup>little</sup> lady premier. Adding: "We have hailed the new nation at this historic moment! -- we hail the people of Bangla Desh!"

Madam Gandhi then calling for a cease fire on all fronts -- as of tomorrow night. "Now that Bangla Desh is free" -- said she -- "it is pointless in our view to continue the present conflict." "It is our earnest hope" -- she went on -- "that there will be a corresponding immediate response from the government of Pakistan."

KARACHI - FOLLOW NEW DELHI

Madam Gandhi was scarcely done, however -- when Yahya Kahn addressed his own nation by radio from Karachi. The Pakistani president -- pledging to fight on to total victory. Said he: "if we fall back from one front -- this does not mean that we have lost the war. We shall eventually conquer."

And now the latest: "A major tank battle tonight -- along the Pakistani border with Indian Kashmir; ~~with~~ heavy losses -- apparently on both sides.

## KEY BISCAVNE

Here on our own shores -- at Key Biscayne -- the Florida White House today welcomed India's call for a total cease fire. Press secretary Ron Ziegler calling this -- "An encouraging turn." But the U.S. position remains unchanged said he; if there is a cease fire -- then opposing forces should not remain in foreign territory; meaning chiefly -- East Pakistan.

Next question: Has the President received yet -- a much-publicized letter from Madam Gandhi; a letter reportedly saying the super powers could have prevented hostility -- had they ~~paid~~ more attention to conditions in East Pakistan. Where upon Ziegler ~~replied~~ <sup>ied</sup> -- "Yes," the President had received it. But adding hotly the war would never have begun at all -- had not India "started up the tanks and put bullets into rifles."

PEKING

Another development -- from Peking. The ~~Red~~ Chinese today lodging a "strong" protest -- with New Delhi; accusing Indian armed forces -- of intruding into Chinese territory bordering the Indian Protectorate of Sikkim. Observers noting this was virtually the same type of protest -- that preceded the 1962 Sino-Indian border war.

Peking also accusing the Soviet Union of encouraging Indian aggression by "pouring in a steady stream of arms and equipment." Adding ominously: "He who plays with fire -- will be consumed with fire."

SAIGON

The U.S. death toll in Vietnam last week -- down to two, ~~again;~~  
~~thereby~~ equalling the lowest figure ~~in~~ since the arrival of first  
U.S. combat troops in March of nineteen-sixty-five. During the same  
period though -- the South Vietnamese losing two hundred and forty-  
three ~~men~~; as compared with enemy losses <sup>put</sup> ~~at~~ at more than a  
thousand.

CAIRO

In the Middle East - Cairo -- an ominous note was sounded today -- by Russia's ambassador to Egypt. Vladimir Vinograd telling an Egyptian newspaper: "We support Cairo's decision -- whether it is for peace or the battle; because in either case "-- he went on -- "It will lead to liquidation of the Israeli aggressor." This coming the closest yet -- to an outright Soviet endorsement of a possible resumption of hostilities.

LONDON - GENEVA

London - police today seized a number of suspects -- in connection with that attack yesterday on the life of Jordan's ambassador Zaid Al Rifai. <sup>In the meantime</sup> ~~In addition,~~ Scotland Yard <sup>has ed</sup> placing a heavy guard on King Hussein's two young sons -- <sup>returning from</sup> ~~who were~~ passing through London en route home for the holidays.

~~However,~~ The terrorists, waging a campaign against Jordan -- <sup>ed</sup> switching their field of action today -- to Geneva . There, mailing a bomb to Jordan's <sup>to Switzerland,</sup> ~~Swiss~~ ambassador, Ibrahim Zreikat; who had the good sense -- luckily -- to call in the police. Not so lucky for them though. The bomb <sup>ed</sup> exploding suddenly -- seriously injuring three Swiss explosives experts.

ATTACK

*From* The Florida White House ~~again~~ a condemnation of that Cuban  
attack on the Johnny Express -- <sup>the</sup> a U.S.-owned, Panama-registered  
merchant vessel. Ron Ziegler calling the Cuban action -- a clear  
violation of "international practice and the right of freedom of  
navigation." Adding: "We are continuing to consult on this matter--  
with the Panamanian government."



ROME

In the Italian Parliament at Rome-- a thirteenth attempt today to elect a new Italian president. But number thirteen -- as unlucky as all the rest. Ending ~~up~~ in another stand-off -- between Roman Catholic and left-wing forces.

Incidentally, a rumor currently circulating in Rome -- <sup>says</sup> ~~claiming~~ the members of Parliament are deliberately stalling. This, -- ~~we are told~~ -- on the grounds that each receives an extra day's pay for each day of balloting. ~~But a delegation of~~ government supporters replying ~~publicly today -- that's~~ "absurd, and false!"

LEXINGTON - ODUM

From way down Georgia way -- a tale of two cities -- or ~~is it~~ towns?

Anyway, the first -- Odum, Georgia; where an election of local officials was scheduled this week, -- but nobody came! Mayor Joe Martin, therefore, ruling that the incumbent administration -- will continue to serve on an interim basis.

Next, Lexington, Georgia; where there was elected this week -- a new regime, from top to bottom. Not that they were "throwing the rascals out" -- or anything like that. Oh no. Ex-councilman Sidney Stephens explaining simply: "We decided not to run -- all of us have gotten just too old."

LONGHOLM

From the residents of Longholm, Scotland -- an invitation to U.S. astronaut Neil Armstrong to come and visit their village. The Scots pledging to make him an official "freeman" -- and thereby exempt from local taxes and parking tickets; <sup>too - and he'll be able to</sup> ~~and he could also~~ graze his sheep -- free, if he so desired, in the village square. ~~That is --~~  
If he has any sheep.

All this explained by the fact that Longholm -- is the headquarters of the Scottish clan Armstrong. <sup>say</sup> ~~and~~ the locals <sup>seeing</sup> that America's first man on the moon -- <sup>will - they are sure</sup> ~~would~~ feel right at home. <sub>1</sub>  
More than half the population of Longholm <sup>are</sup> ~~x~~ also named Armstrong.

And now that down highlander Warren Armstrong Moran. But wait a minute -- can there be any Scottish Morans?

EAST LANSING

The problems of advancing age -- also discussed today at East Lansing, Michigan; by Doctor Frederick Swartz -- Chairman of the AMA's committee on aging; who charged that mandatory retirement regulations -- are cutting back the average American lifespan.

"I'm not talking about changing jobs" -- said Dr. Swartz -- "because that's often a good idea." But "when you retire, you quit and go home" -- then, said he, "idleness can kill."