

Wed., March 13, 1974

NEW YORK

In the John Mitchell, Maurice Stans trial in New York - the government today attacked the credibility of its own key witness. Assistant U.S. Attorney General John Wing - hammering away at former New Jersey politician Harry Sears - with the latter stoutly denying that financier Robert Vesco - ever had him "in a box or in his pocket." Further denying that Mitchell or Stans - had been guilty of any wrong doing.

Wing then asking the witness: "Did President Nixon have anything to do - with the two hundred thousand dollar Vesco contribution?" Whereupon - heated objections. Defense Counsel finally agreeing, however, to let the witness answer - quote - "out of fairness to the President." Sears replying - the President had nothing whatsoever to do with the Vesco contribution.

GOLAN HEIGHTS

*In the Middle East - Syrian and Israeli gunners
were again dueling today - across the Golan Heights.*

~~By now~~ *Syria later claiming to have killed - "a number"
of Israeli soldiers; also, claiming to have silenced -*

a number of enemy gun positions. ^{TO} Israel replying ~~though~~ ^{- ?}

*the Syrian shelling had caused neither casualties nor
damages.*



TRIPOLI FOLLOW LIBYA

As for the meeting of Arab oil ministers - at Tripoli in Libya, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrein, and Abu Dhabi were all said to favor an end to the present oil embargo against the U S.

And now a report - the embargo will be lifted.

This - we are told - at the next meeting of the oil ministers Sunday in Vienna.

HUSSEIN FOLLOW TRIPOLI

Here at home again - Jordan's visiting King

Hussein today ~~conferred~~ conferred with Gerald Ford.

The Vice President later praising the young Monarch -

for his courage and wisdom in his role in creating a

permanent peace ~~path~~ in the Middle East.

UTAPAO

The remains of the last American pilots known to have died in Vietnam were returned today into American hands. Eleven in all. The bodies were then flown to Utapao Air Base in Thailand for final processing.

ADDIS ABABA

In Ethiopia the troubles of Emperor Haile Selassie continue to mount. Dissident priests in Addis Ababa today joining the protest movement of the past month like members of the armed forces, student groups and trade unionists demanding a "new deal" from their government.

DUBLIN

*At Dublin - a meeting of the Irish Parliament
hushed and crowded, ^{today} ~~hearing today~~ an historic speech -
from Irish Premier Liam Cosgrave, who said: "The
factual position of Northern Ireland - is that it is
within the United Kingdom; and my government - accepts
this as a fact." The Premier's statement marking the
first time since the founding of the Irish Republic
- that Dublin has ~~now~~ so recognized Northern Ireland.*

VATICAN

At the Vatican ~~in Rome~~ - Pope Paul today
launched a ~~show-church~~ drive aimed at repealing Italy's
new divorce law. This - at a meeting of the Vatican
committee for the family. The Pontiff saying that ~~any~~
any society tolerating divorce, contraception and
abortion - is doomed to "tragic isolation or soul-less
dictatorship."

CAPE PITSUNDA

For President Pompidou of France and Soviet leader ~~Leonid~~ Brezhnev - a final meeting today at Cape Pitsunda on the Black Sea. The two ~~men~~ conferring for three and a half hours; then winding up their talk with a ~~no~~ sea-side lunch.

Results - if any - as yet undisclosed. Pompidou later ~~disclosing~~ ^{saying} though - Brezhnev had urged a grand summit meeting to formulate an all-European security pact. Pompidou adding he was not "obstinately negative" to such a summit - but preferred to await the outcome of the present Geneva security conference.

GRACEHAM

At rural Graceham, Maryland - only seven miles from Camp David - the birds have arrived. An estimated ten million - starlings, grackles, and black birds; chasing livestock away from their ~~feed~~ feed troughs - ~~also~~ dive bombing seed bags; and on rainy days - swarming onto porches, under eaves, any place they can find.

Bill
A local health official saying: "The ~~big~~ birds haven't attacked anyone and we don't think they will - but they sure do leave their mark."

KINSHASA

From the Republic of Zaire, once the Belgian Congo - a report that Pygmies are now being recruited into the Zairean army. The Pygmies ^{are indeed} ~~of course~~; fearsome fighters. Also, quick to adapt to modern customs - and modern weapons. By and large, excellent ^{soldiers} ~~enlist~~ we are told - except for one thing: They find it hard to adjust to discipline - ~~are~~ preferring instead their traditional lives as free roving hunters. All of which raises the question, ~~But~~ of why the pygmies would ever enlist. ^{Why not just go on enjoying} ~~Could it be that their friends, the giant~~ ^{life in the depths of the forest?} ~~Bantu have put 'em up to it?~~