

Fri, Dec. 5-'69,

Chief topic today at the United Nations, airline hi-jackings. The General Assembly's legal committee taking up a resolution - calling for stiff penalties ~~now~~ right around the globe. The measure given a new sense of urgency - by a protest demonstration earlier this week outside the Syrian delegation office; a protest over ~~serious~~ Syria's conduct -- in the handling of that TWA jet hi-jacking way last summer.

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However, any hope of speedy U N action - was promptly put to rest. Cuba's Ambassador Fernando Alvarez Tabio -- rising quickly to challenge the hi-jack resolution. Thereby signalling the start of a debate - that could last for months - if not years.

DAMASCUS FOLLOW UNITED NATIONS

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While all this was going on though - Syria did finally relent today. Damascus releasing at last, that TWA jet -- as well as the two Israelis ^{Syria} ~~it~~ had ~~also~~ held for the past ^{one -} hundred and two days. Plane and passengers flying to Athens. The two Israelis - then continuing on to Tel Aviv, where ^{they} ~~where~~ ^{ed} ~~ing~~ - a hero's welcome. The ~~reception~~ reception committee including not only friends and family - but also a group of government officials ~~at~~ headed by Israel's Prime Minister Golda Meir.

TEL AVIV FOLLOW DAMASCUS

A later development: Tel Aviv announcing tonight the release of thirteen Syrians previously held captive by the Israelis. This apparently the final step - in a pre-arranged swap.

VIETNAM

In Vietnam - the U S command reported
a series of air strikes today into neighboring ~~Cambodia~~

Cambodia. ^{The} Second straight day [^] for such attacks. -

The American jets blasting a number of enemy artillery
batteries; the same ones that have consistently pounded
Allied troops - just across the frontier.

Meanwhile, the Viet Cong announced today
- plans for Christmas and New Year's cease fires of
their own. Cease fires they said will ~~last~~ last three

days - as compared with the Allies previously announced
twenty-four hour stand-downs. ^{In so doing} The Viet Cong ~~explanation~~

48 ^{referring to their} ~~citing the~~ ~~unconcern~~ of enemies' "unchanged humanitarian"
policies - and also their "deep concern for the feelings
of the American people."

PENTAGON - NEW ORLEANS

Here at home - Lieutenant William Calley

Junior was summoned today to the Pentagon, ~~there~~ to testify before a special panel, ^{that is} considering the possibility of an attempted "white wash" in ~~the~~ ^{what they are calling the} alleged Song My "massacre".

More on the same - from New Orleans; where Spiro Agnew said today - "we can do nothing but deplore" the alleged atrocity, - ~~to~~ punish those responsible - ~~to~~ see that it doesn't happen again. At the same time, he condemned those - "who seem to condone" much worse atrocities - such as those "committed by the enemy."

BRUSSELS

Brussels - the wrap up today on a three day meeting of Nato Foreign Defense Ministers. The panel issuing a communique - accepting at least in theory, Russia's call for an East-West European Security Conference. The Nato Allies insisted, however, that the U.S. and Canada must be allowed to take part. They also called for extensive preparations - ~~as~~ as a pre-requisite to ~~any~~ any such conference. The Nato ministers went on to observe that, in the meantime - there are "other areas and issues" which could be discussed between East and West. And these they listed specifically as: "Arms control and disarmament; two, Germany and Berlin; and three - economic exchanges across the Iron Curtain."

WASHINGTON

The U S Unemployment rate for December -
down half a per cent. According to government figures
announced today, ^{as} the sharpest decline in nearly two years,
with the jobless rate dropping from three-point-nine
per cent in October -- to a current three ~~point~~^{point} point-
four per cent. This representing a cut of some three-
hundred-and-sixty thousand -- in the ranks of the nation's
unemployed.

Next question: How does this square with the
past figures? Especially in view of ~~the~~ the Administration's
mounting anti-inflation campaign. ~~However,~~ Government
statisticians admitting ~~in effect~~ they just can't explain it,

ff.

SUPREME COURT

Elsewhere in Washington - Chief Justice

*Warren Burger of the Supreme Court announced today -
the appointment of a special three member judicial
panel. Its assigned task - that of checking out the
income and investment reports - to be required of all
Federal Judges starting May fifteenth; with the U S
~~just~~ judicial conference to be notified immediately -
in the event of any apparent "conflict with accepted
judicial standards."*

*The Chief Justice also appointed today -
another special panel. This one - consisting of seven
Judges; assigned the task of advising, in advance,
any fellow jurists -- who may have questions involving
their own off-bench activities.*

LONDON FLORENCE

From London ^{earned} a charge ~~today~~ that Benito

Mussolini was a bigamist. With wife number one said to have been an Austrian beauty and wife number two,

of course, his Italian bride who still survives him. ^{And} then there was Clara Petatchi, the mistress was ~~was killed with him.~~ ^{Now this} ~~from Florence, Italy.~~ ^{IP} The author

of a forthcoming book -- "Mussolini and the Women" - ^{said} in Florence today that Il Duce did ~~asserting that Il Duce actually~~ lived with three different

women at various times; three ~~women~~ - who presented him with a total of eight children - although he was married - legally, only once.

Warren says

~~In short, Il Duce said to be~~ busy, yes -

~~but a~~ bigamist no.

COMIC

From London ~~again~~ again - the story today of a British comedian; one Georgie Thompson - whose wife has always loomed large in his routine. For example, Georgie once said of his spouse: "Her cooking is so bad - we've got the only garbage can on the street with ulcers."

Another time he observed: "My wife is so thick - she thinks bacteria is the real ⁿ entrance to a cafeteria."

All this giving Mrs. Georgie Thompson - in her own words - a reputation as a bit of a horror" - but not any more.

~~By mutual agreement between husband and~~
signed a personal contract in which is
~~wife~~ Georgie ~~today inserting~~ a special clause ~~in his~~

~~personal contract~~ pledging) - quote:-
"I shall not under any
circumstances use material during my performance -
which is ~~not~~ in any way ~~at~~ derogatory to my wife."

On his own - Georgie adding: "She's really a wonderful missus." And she seems to have had the last word! And our last word - s-l - Mon.