

Wed. Feb. 24 '71.

## WELFARE

The Nixon administration - still trying to come up with a workable welfare program - <sup>today</sup> presented a new plan to Congress ~~today~~ - one that would create city and state jobs for more than two-hundred-thousand welfare recipients. The jobs would be in city parks - hospitals - garbage collections - and other public service projects. ~~that would~~ <sup>This to</sup> get adults off welfare and into work. A Health and Welfare spokesman says annual costs of the jobs to the federal government would be eight-hundred-million dollars - bringing the total annual welfare bill to four-and-a-half billion.

## LINDSAY

New York Mayor ~~John~~ Lindsay, <sup>today</sup> filing a test suit in Federal Court ~~today~~ in an effort to force the federal government to pay New York City's entire welfare bill - which amounts to nearly two-billion dollars. The suit challenges the constitutionality of laws that parcel out welfare bills among national, state and local governments. Mayor Lindsay also contends that welfare is a national problem - rather than a local one.

## CONSUMERS

President Nixon today asked Congress to make life easier for consumers by passing legislation <sup>to</sup> ~~that would~~ <sup>the sale of</sup> prohibit products known to be hazardous;- regulate warranties;- and, put a stop to deceptive advertising and sales practices. He also urged creation of federal standards for testing certain products as an aid to buyers. The President adding that he still opposes creation of a separate federal agency to act as the consumers advocate in disputes - though he says such advocates are needed and could be placed within the Federal Trade Commission.

## INDO CHINA

South Vietnamese troops came under Communist fire on both sides of the Laotian border today - with one barrage of rockets hitting the base at Quang Tri - the supply communications center for the Laotian campaign. No damage or casualties reported. <sup>A</sup> A Saigon spokesman ~~saying~~ <sup>said</sup> the South Vietnamese offensive had halted sixteen miles inside Laos - with no immediate plans for an advance. In Washington, a spokesman for the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff says the Laotian drive has been halted to "study enemy reactions." Said General John Vogt - "If the Communists shift their supply line farther west, the assault will be resumed." ~~Vogt~~ <sup>He</sup> denied reports that the South Vietnamese drive had bogged down - reports he attributed to "some junior officers in the field." <sup>R</sup> Defense Secretary Laird - at a news conference <sup>today also</sup> ~~said~~ <sup>^</sup> said the South Vietnamese are achieving their objective of disrupting enemy supply routes - though he conceded there had been hard fighting and there was sure to be "tough going in the days ahead."

## CALLEY

At Fort Benning, Georgia, the defense rested its case in the court martial of Lieutenant William Calley; <sup>this</sup> only a minute after he completed his testimony on the massacre at My Lai. The prosecutor drew from Calley the admission that he did execute civilians at My Lai - but said he didn't consider it any "big deal."

## MIDEAST

Jordan announced today that it would recognize Israel as a sovereign state - if Israeli troops are withdrawn from all Arab territory occupied since the '67 war. Jordan, thus joining Egypt, in expressing the same stipulations for a mideast peace. But again today, Israel rejected any proposal for total withdrawal of its troops as the price of a treaty.

In Brussels, the leader of the militant Jewish Defense League was ordered expelled from Belgium as a possible danger to law and order. Rabbi Meir Kahane of New York, <sup>flown</sup> had ~~come~~ to Brussels, hoping to address the World Conference on Soviet Jewery now in progress there. Conference officials barred him - and Belgium police expelled him from the country when he refused to take "no" for an answer.

## OIL

The Soviet Embassy in Mexico City says the Russians are helping Communist Cuba in a search for oil in the Caribbean - with specialists from Moscow building an over-water platform for exploratory drilling. The Embassy said Cuba has a fuel shortage problem and large amounts of oil are currently being shipped there aboard Russian tankers.

**DRUG**

Federal agents <sup>today</sup> took fifty-four persons into custody in narcotics raids in four cities - an operation which Attorney General Mitchell called the "biggest crackdown ever on narcotics distribution by organized crime." The cities - New York, Chicago, New Orleans, and Hartford, Connecticut. Mitchell, saying eighty-nine other persons were arrested earlier in raids in Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Detroit. Nearly four-hundred pounds of heroin, cocaine, and marijuana <sup>was</sup> seized, <sup>all this</sup> with a street value of nearly thirteen million dollars.



## HAYLIFT

The U. S. Air Force went into action today on Operation Haylift - flying over the snow-covered pasturelands of Kansas and Oklahoma and dropping bales of alfafa, clover and grass to nearly three-hundred-thousand starving cattle. Some standing in snow up to their bellies, the cattle are stranded by what they're calling "the worst blizzard to hit Kansas this century." Five Kansas counties have been declared disaster areas because of the storm.

I was in Vermont today - on a well known mountain - Bromley - where there was new snow - but no blizzard like the one that hit our western prairie states, Warren.

## COIN

U. S. Mint Director May Brooks today announced plans for special collector's copies of the new Eisenhower dollar coin. The special coins - carrying a likeness of President Eisenhower - will contain forty percent silver. Later this year, the mint plans to begin producing Eisenhower dollars for general circulation. These, however, will be made without silver. - They'll contain the same copper-nickel alloy now used in quarters and dimes. *4 bits again!*  
*But not the same as the dollar we used to know.*