

February 7, 1972  
Allen Jackson

**WHITE HOUSE**

*President Nixon signed today the nation's first election reform bill in nearly half-a-century; thereby invoking a ceiling on Presidential campaign spending this year - also, setting up a system of Federal checks to ensure compliance. The President called this "an important step forward - in an area which has been of great public concern."*

*On another front, the President resubmitted to Congress - an Administration plan calling for a nationwide Two Billion-Dollar manpower training program. <sup>He said --</sup> This ~~is~~ badly needed to "end the restrictiveness of old narrow programs" - many of which ~~is~~ he added - are badly afflicted with "a hardening of government arteries."*

*The President also met today - with the U. S. attorney's from thirty key cities; formally launching a campaign - aimed at driving drug-pushers from the nation's streets.*

## **HALDEMAN**

**Key Presidential adviser H.R. Haldeman - is one of the latest to take umbrage at Democratic attacks on the President's peace offer. Haldeman charged today that some of the President's critics - are "consciously aiding and abetting" the Communist cause. He further said: "The only conclusion you can draw now - is that the President's critics want to put a Communist government in Saigon."**

**The White House later stressed - Haldeman was "expressing his personal point of view." News Secretary Ron Ziegler adding, however: "When public figures are critical of Administration policy - they should look carefully at what they're saying."**

# McGOVERN

*But one of those critical public figures - Senator McGovern had a sharp rejoinder - denouncing those who - he said - would impugn other people's motives and their patriotism - in order to cover up administrative mistakes and policy failures.*

**CONGRESS**

***In Congress - the Senate Labor Committee Monday***

***- unanimously approved legislation to end the West Coast***

***Dock Strike by compulsory arbitration - an approach***

***rejected earlier in the day by a House Subcommittee. With***

***only one minor change - the Senate group approved the plan***

***President Nixon proposed to send Longshoremen back to work***

***while a final settlement is worked out by an arbitration panel.***

## **BELFAST**

*Legal threats notwithstanding, civil rights leaders in Northern Ireland today proclaimed Wednesday - a "day of disruption;" vowing to set off a series of demonstrations - aimed at bringing life in Northern Ireland to a complete standstill.*

*At the same time, there is a report that the British government is planning a new move - hopefully, to ease the Ulster crisis. This to include - we are told - an offer of greater political strength - for the Roman Catholic minority.*

**PENTAGON**

*Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan - a visitor today in Washinton. He conferred with his U.S. counterpart - Defense Secretary Melvin Laird - also, Secretary of State William Rogers. According to reports - Dayan attempted to close a deal for additional U.S. jets; offering in return - we are told - a reopening of the Suez Canal - as long as Israeli troops can remain on the East Bank.*

## **JERUSALEM FOLLOW PENTAGON**

**In Jerusalem - an attempt today to override memories of the past. Israeli Premier Golda Meir extended an invitation to Chancellor Willy Brandt. - to become the first German head of state to visit Israel. Bonn indicates - he will accept.**

## **PHU MY**

*In the Central Highlands of South Vietnam - near Phu My - a surprise raid by South Vietnamese militiamen. The government troops killed four men - identified as members of the Viet Cong high command for Binh Dinh, South Vietnam's most troubled province.*

*The pace of U.S. withdrawals eased somewhat - only twenty-eight hundred last week. This - perhaps in anticipation of another Tet offensive. But even so, total U.S. troop strength - is now less than a Hundred and Thirty-Four Thousand; and U.S. Army strength - less than a Hundred Thousand for the first time in more than six years.*

## **PILLS**

**From U.S. Food and Drug Commissioner Charles**

**Edwards - a report today that the government is currently studying so-called "diet pills" - amphetamines and so on; based on a charge that such pills - are virtually worthless and possibly dangerous; all of which could lead to a government ban - similar to that imposed on cyclamates.**

**Edwards added, in any event, the government's findings will be made public - "within a couple of months," certainly no later than July One.**

**SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "BIRDS OF PARADISE"**

**And now - it's time again for Lowell Thomas;**

**discussing tonight - the Bird of Paradise. Lowell...**

**NEW GUINEA BIRDS OF PARADISE**

*Good evening everybody: One of the most beautiful of all living creatures - as you know - is the Bird of Paradise, found only in New Guinea, and some nearby islands, New Britain, New Ireland and a few more. Back in the pre-World War One era when they were so prized by women in the West, especially during the Edwardian period, they were in danger of extinction. So they were banned by international decree.*

*Today the Australian Patrol officers in New Guinea face another problem. The tribesmen who wear these gorgeous plumes, they are allowed to wear them. But even they have been shooting too many of them - doing it with shotguns. So the use of shotguns is now being banned.*

*The Australians are also trying to restrict the import of an almost invisible Japanese fish net. These the tribesmen string between trees. The Birds of Paradise are unable to see them, fly into them and are easily caught.*

*So they are trying to keep the Stone Age people from*

**BIRDS OF PARADISE - 2**

*using anything now excepting bows and arrows; and these are people many of the smaller nations at the U.N. are saying should be urged to give up their traditional Stone Age way of life; become civilized like we are. Are we? And are these others at the U.N. so civilized? So long.....*

**SUGGESTED FOLLOW UP TO THOMAS TAPE "BIRDS OF PARADISE"**

*Thank you, Lowell.*

*A final note - in a moment.*

## LONDON

*First - it was the decimal system - and a new form of computing currency for the British. Now - the metric system - and a new form of computing weights and measures. Britain announced today that it plans to make the big changeover - by the end of Nineteen-Seventy-Five. This is in compliance with regulations - of the European Common Market. For the British quart - also, the British mile - the end of the road. Henceforth it'll be the liter and the kilometer. Now for Lowell - so long until tomorrow.*