

WHITE HOUSE

Thurs. Dec. 23-71

The White House - President Nixon today signed his long sought anti-cancer bill; thereby setting in motion - a one point six billion dollar effort to put an end to this killer, ~~once and for all.~~ The President saying - he cannot promise a cancer cure; but <sup>he added</sup> we can "at least have the assurance" - ~~said he~~ - "that everything that can be done will be done."

The President of the American Cancer society - Doctor A Hamblin Letton -- also present for today's ceremony, <sup>ed</sup> ~~Call~~ enactment of the new bill - "a milestone" in the battle against cancer; for it guarantees action - said he - "on the highest and most effective level possible."

LEWISBURG

Former Teamster President Jimmy Hoffa -  
once more a free man tonight; gaining his release from  
the federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania --  
after serving nearly five years for mail fraud and  
jury tampering. This following a ~~commutation~~ commutation  
from President Nixon. Cutting in half - Hoffa's original  
sentence of thirteen years; with time off for good  
behavior \* clearing the way for immediate release.  
The President's action <sup>was</sup> based on a report from the  
Justice Department / noting Hoffa's excellent prison  
records - also, the fact that his wife "is suffering  
from a severe heart condition."

The commutation specifies however that  
Hoffa - presently age fifty-eight - shall not engage  
"in the direct or indirect management of any labor  
organization - prior to March 6, Nineteen Eighty."  
So picking up the threads? - ~~well, it's~~ <sup>too</sup> not likely.

BANGKOK

At Vientiane in Laos - Bob Hope plays it straight. The famed comedian flying in today - ~~for~~ for a meeting with a top official at the North Vietnamese Embassy in Vientiane; attempting thus to obtain a visa - for a trip to Hanoi; the first step, hopefully <sup>towards</sup> ~~in~~ obtaining the release of U S prisoners of war; all of which he later explained -- on his return to Bangkok. Ross Perot of Dallas has been working on this for a long time. Perhaps he and Bob Hope are doing this together. I think I could make them a proposition -

a financial proposition said Bob Hope; something "in the neighborhood of ten million; for a childrens charity in North Vietnam in return for the release of U S prisoners. Bob Hope going on to say his visit to ~~Vientiane~~ Vientiane had been well received. "Not one bit of ~~villification~~ villification." And he added: "I feel pretty good about it, right now - I just might get lucky - we're going to find out in a couple of days."

STATE

U S concern for the American P O W - was further expressed at an impromptu press ~~conf~~ conference in Washington . Secretary of State William Rogers - calling Hanoi's treatment of the prisoners "barbaric " adding: "It is difficult for me to understand - why the North Vietnamese treat our prisoners in such an inhumane way." Rogers also saying: "We are most anxious to do anything we can" - within reason - "to get the return of the prisoners." The ~~Secretary~~ Secretary made it plain, however, that this will not include total withdrawal from Vietnam. Asserting flatly - President Nixon's phased withdrawal will continue. Rogers saying: "We think this is essential for the Vietnamization program."

SAIGON

Meanwhile, in Saigon - South Viet Nam's President ~~Thieu~~ Thieu was dedicating today - a new half million dollar national ~~to~~ library. That done - ~~Thieu~~ Thieu telling reporters the Viet Cong will probably launch another offensive - some time in advance of President Nixon's visit to Peking. An attempted show of strength " said he - "because they are afraid the Chinese will sell them out."

But it won't work - said Thieu. Insisting the Communists - "in reality, are weak." Thieu adding that ~~library~~ there may never be - an actual peace agreement, "but I can see a peace" - said he - "that we accomplish, <sup>9</sup> by weakening the ~~Communists~~ Communists - by repelling the war and making it fade away."

NEW DELHI

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Some nine million East Pakistani refugees  
now living in New Delhi - will soon be going home.  
So announced today - by Indian Defense sources;  
with the mass repatriation ~~to~~ to begin January  
one. New Delhi adding that Indian troops will not  
remain in East Pakistan or Bangladesh - for "one  
hour more than they are wanted."

BELFAST

Britain's Prime Minister Heath - a surprise visitor today in Northern Ireland; under heavy guard - ~~was~~ conferring with local officials - inspecting bomb damage - also, inspecting British troops. A British Army spokesman saying: <sup>The</sup> Prime Minister has always said he would visit Northern Ireland at an appropriate time - he <sup>has</sup> come ~~to say~~ to say 'Merry Christmas' to us."

CANBERRA follow Belfast

On the other side of the globe - at Canberra  
- an attempt today to firebomb the official residence  
of Australia's Prime Minister McMahon; <sup>This</sup> the third  
such attempt in recent months - apparently intended  
to embarrass the Prime Minister. And, this time it  
nearly worked; at least one and possibly two men  
actually getting inside the grounds.

Luckily though - their fuse fizzled - they  
were spotted by guards - and ~~they~~ had to take off under  
~~a~~ a hail of bullets. Officials adding, in any event,  
the Prime Minister was some two hundred miles away  
at the time; - ~~and~~, therefore in no danger.



OLD SAYBROOK

This next - it may come as a shock to some - but the Santa Claus in one department store at Old Saybrook, Connecticut, ~~sounds, it's~~ a girl! And a pretty one at that. - Twenty-four year old Dorothy Brooks, whose ~~rather~~ unusual occupation ~~often~~ leads to some interesting ~~and~~ conversations.

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For example, a young boy recently blurting out: Hey, you're a girl. Dorothy replying: "That's right - I'm really Mrs. Claus. Whereupon <sup>Warren-</sup> the boy's <sup>^</sup> reaction - stopping her cold:- "Why the beard?" - <sup>said</sup> ~~he.~~ <sup>^</sup> ~~Why indeed?~~ ~~And a girl.~~

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WASHINGTON

A project called *The International Biological Program - or I B P* - <sup>has</sup> recently ~~form~~ formed worldwide; ~~with~~ its task <sup>to</sup> ~~that of~~ studying primitive societies before they're all gone; <sup>This</sup> in the hope that we can ~~then~~ discover and preserve the secrets they possess - that might prove of great value to mankind as a whole.

Now comes a progress report - from the American arm of I B P. Among other things - ~~its~~ showing that old eskimos seldom suffer from tooth decay. Why? Because they grew up - when there were no sweets around - no refined flour, and so on. It also shows that the Indians of Venezuela and Brazil have long practiced abortion as a means of population control. Further, that ~~people~~ people living at high altitudes - seldom have heart attacks or high blood pressure. Something about the thin air - as ~~is~~ opposed to all that <sup>is</sup> thick air - smog and <sup>so on</sup> ~~such~~ - we get down here."