MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1973

SAIGON

The cease-fire in Vietnam to some today may seem a mere scrap of paper; with battles being fought in the central highlands - in the coastal highlands in the extreme north; with an attempt at launching a peace-keeping operation - getting bogged down in petty haggling in Saigon; with the Pentagon still attempting to get a full accounting for all American prisoners and missing in action.

Slowly but surely though the war is winding down.

Indeed, the great bulk of Americans remaining in Vietnam have now been withdrawn from combat areas. And the first prisoners will be heading home - we are told - perhaps within the week.

In the same vein—the Florida White House

Allowas taking note of continued fighting. Press Secretary

Ron Ziegler saying, quite frankly - it comes as no

shork surprise. "We are dealing here" said he
"with a number of units - in a very large country

- that are in the process of standing down."

Ziegler added, however, "we, of course, have stood down totally - we expect the agreement to be adhered to."

For Vice President Spiro Agnew - a brief rest stop today at Guam in enroute to Sock Southeast Asia. He did not meet with newsmen - he issued no statements.

At the same time, a report today from Vicl Hawaii - where the President stopped earlier; a report that it was "possible and quite feasible" that he might play a role in welcoming returning prisoners. This - we are told - perhaps in the Philippines or maybe in Hawaii itself.

The last American to die in Vietnam,

prior to the cease fire - Lt. Colonel William

Nolde; whose wife and family met with reporters

today - in their home at Onaway, Michigan. Mrs.

Joyce Thanks reading with pride - a statement

prepared by her nineteen year old son Blair;

declaring that her husband could not have asked

for a more fitting epitaph -- than an end to the war.

"His last wish - " she added - "would have been that all peoples of the world work to make the peace in Vietnam a lasting one; that all men and nations - would try a little harder to understand one another."

two hundred and sixty-eight billion dollar budget
was presented toggy today to Congress. The President
spelling out ways and means by which he intends,
as he put it - "to get big government off your back
and out of your pocketbook." These including drastic
cutbacks in the late L B J's "Great Society
programs; a sixty percent cut - in the President's
own White House staff.

Revertheless, a storm of protest - just

as the President had predicted. The Democrat front
runner Teddy Kennedy saying: "Once again, we have
a Nixon budget that means good news for the big
defense contractors - and bad news for the average
citizen." House speaker Carl Albert adding that this
would mark - an exax end to humanitarian se

In his speech Saturday night, and again today, the President made it perfectly clear - he would brook no retreat. "If we are going to keep taxes and prices down" - said he - "the Congress must keep spending down."

A bizarre murder case - is reported today from Santa Barbara, California; the way police tell it - a case that actually began three months ago.

One Gourgen Yanikian - age seventy-seven placing a telephone call to the Turkish Consulate in

Los Angeles; and identifying himself as a prominent

land developer of Armenian descent - which was true;

also, the author of five back books on religion and

philosophy - again true; but then claiming to have

in his possession a painting that was stolen more

than a contact century ago from the Sultan of Turkey.

And this - was apparently not true.

At any rate - there followed a series for of additional calls. The Turkish Consul General and Vice Consul General in Los Angeles finally agreeing to meet with Yanikian. Joining him for lunch

this new type of war."

in a private cottage - where they were the suddenly shot dead. Whereupon a phone call to the Sheriff's office. Yanikian quoted as saying: "I have we just

The Why? It may all go back

killed two men." to rather recent armenian

massacres by Turks. But

Why - still a mystery. The F B I and the U S State Department & both involkes strict secrecy. An old newspaper clipping - perhaps sheafing some light though. Yanikian telling a reporter that twentysix members of his family had been killed years ago when Armenia was torn asunder by Russia and Turkey. A local newspaper also received today - a lengthy ketmex letter signed by Yanikian; a letter - apparently mailed the day of the killings. In it, Yanikian asserting that "Armenians everywhere - should pursue this tactic

The subject of this next - August Ricord a Nazi collaborator in France during World War Two; later fleeing to South America. In Paraguay, just a year ago, I heard how for years he had headed an international drug smuggling ring. Finally arrested and brought to the US he was tried and convicted in New York earlier this month. In the words of the prosecuting attorney he was "the biggest narcotics trafficker ever brought to justice." Now the final pay-off. Renegade Frenchman August Ricord sentenced today twenty years in prison. Since he is age sixty-three this means a virtual life sentence. The death and suffering that he brought - said the judge - probably equalling "the recent figures for all Vietnam war casualties."

Love and marriage go together in like of horse and carriage -- so the song tells us. Now comes a report that love and marriage and longevity -bear an equal inter-dependence.

This - according to doctor Alexander

Leaf of Harvard University; based on a study of

centenarians -- in the regions where they are found

most often; at Abkhazia in the Soviet Union
Takistan.

Vilcabamba in Ecuador and Hunza in Kashmir.

To begin with, these are all mountainous regions - which helps. Says Doctor Leaf:-"just getting through the affairs of the day - conditions the heart," he observers. But more than that the good doctor discovering aparthments that virtually all the centenarians - were married folk.

Many elderly couples have been married seventy seighty, even hundred years - said he.

ABKHAZIA VILCABAMBA _ HUNZA - 2

Adding that, indeed, an abundance of one children was also readily apparent. Several of the women - said he - having had more than twenty children.

For a marriage to prolong life though
it better be a shappnex happy one says Doctor Leaf;

To prove his point, eiting, the case of an Abkhazian

gentleman age one hundred - who was recently married

for the seventh time.

The bridegroom quoted as saying: "My first six wives were all wonderful women but this present wife is an angry woman." And, he added a bit sadly: "since marrying her I've aged at yxx least ten years."

At Heimaey Island off the coast of Iceland - a bitter weekend storm; with winds up to seventy miles an hours was compounding the effects of the eruption of Helgafjell Volcano. The storm whipping tons and tons of volcanic ash - through the streets of nearby Vestmannaeyjar; filling every nook and cranny with a black powder which then turned into a thick black sludge.

Meanwhile, the government of Iceland has been debating what to do with an estimated five thousand refugees. Volcanologists are having a field day. Professor Arne Noe-Nygaard of Denmark proudly saying - "I have collected fresh lava from the volcano - and found it to be of a type earlier unknown" in this region. Others noting that the present eruption is now in its sixth day and may continue indefinitely.