

January 4, 1973
Charles Kuralt

SENATE

On the Senate side of Capitol Hill - a Democratic caucus today is said to have been "heated" and "emotion-packed". It led to the adoption of an end-the-war resolution - similar to that adopted earlier on the House side.

The Senate Democrats urged that "no further public funds be authorized, appropriated or expended - for U.S. military combat operations in or over Indochina." And that such operations - "be terminated immediately." But the Senate Democrats qualified their stand, as the House did, saying it was conditional on the "safe withdrawal of American troops - the return of American POW's" - and an accounting of the missing in action.

WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW SENATE

President Nixon met today - with his top military and diplomatic advisers; for what the White House called - "a general review of the Indochina situation." But what, if anything, was decided- on that, no comment.

KISSINGER

The White House also announced today - the cancellation of a briefing that Henry Kissinger was scheduled to give new House Republicans. This - we are told - is an attempt "to avoid criticism that was piling up" - over Kissinger's earlier refusal to testify before Congressional committees.

PARIS-SAIGON

As for Thursday peace talks in Paris - same old story: A lot of heat - but little light. While in Vietnam itself - the war goes on.

KANSAS CITY

of the U.S.

In the Central Plains and Upper Midwest - a raging snowstorm overnight was followed today by bitter cold. Temperatures dropping below zero in many places - in company with gale-like winds whipping the snow into towering drifts.

But ¹ ₁₅ The city perhaps hardest hit of all Kansas City, Missouri; where an estimated thirty thousand homes - were without power at one time; forcing residents to huddle around fireplaces and gas stoves - and haul out old kerosene lamps.

EXAMINATION

Starting as of midnight tonight - the first phase of the government's strict new anti-hijacking program; to include the inspection of all carry-on luggage - including ladies' handbags; even a body search - if that is also deemed necessary.

The Air Transport Association is telling passengers to: "Keep your good humor - remember that the inspectors are doing their duty - and doing it for your protection."

JUSTICE FOLLOW EXAMINATION

A related item - from the Justice Department; where Richard Kleindienst held today - his first-ever news conference as Attorney General; disclosing plans to ask Congress for a mandatory death sentence - in certain "restricted cases." These - said he - including air hijackings, kidnapings, killing of prison guards and other "cold-blooded, premeditated" crimes.

NEW YORK

Arriving in New York tonight - Premier Jack Lynch of the Irish Republic. ~~Here~~ to attend a memorial service - in honor of the late Harry S. Truman. And then - to confer with President Nixon. Chief topic: That long-standing dispute - over air routes between the U.S. and Ireland.

Unofficially though - Lynch also has a second mission. Dublin sources saying he intends to appeal to Irish-Americans - to stop funneling money into the outlawed IRA. This ~~we~~ are told - on the grounds that U.S. donors - now constitute IRA's main source of finance; and thus are supporting its defiance of the law - in both the North and the South of Ireland.

VATICAN

After seven months of painstaking repair work - Michelangelo's Pieta was again unveiled today at the Vatican in Rome. To the naked eye - as good as new. The damage that was done by that hammer attack of last year - said to have been reduced now to a few hairline cracks. And the man chiefly responsible: Professor Deoclecio Redig De Campos - the Brazilian-born director of the Vatican museums, who led the restoration work.

How did he do it? By piecing together all the fragments he could find - and then replacing the rest with marble casts; using powder from the same Carrara marble - that Michelangelo used. Professor De Campos explained ^{modestly} it was "just like dentists do - the same thing."

SMITH

in On the disarmament front - Gerard Smith ~~calls~~ ^{quits} it *quits*. The chief U.S. negotiator at *U.S. and Russian* SALT talks - handing in his resignation; accepted today by the White House - with regret. A spokesman saying: "President Nixon believes that Ambassador Smith should take great personal pride and satisfaction - that he played so critical a part in one of the most important diplomatic achievements of all time."

Smith is now expected to join a private study group - headed by Governor Rockefeller of New York. Its mission - that of spurring economic development in the U.S., Western Europe and Japan.

EGYPT VALLEY

At Hendrysburg, Ohio - in the heart of so-called Egypt Valley - the closing of Interstate Highway Seventy, as of noon today. This to permit the construction of a giant earthen "dike" - over which two giant strip mining shovels will then pass into greener pastures. The two shovels, together - weighing nearly ten million pounds.

HAIG

The White House again - a special ceremony in honor of General Alexander Haig. The former chief assistant to Henry Kissinger - who now becomes the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff - received a Distinguished Service Medal. President Nixon said: "I can think of no one in the service today - who surpasses General Haig as a superb field commander, a statesman and a diplomat."

The President had his problems though - when it came actually to pinning on the decoration. On his first try - the medal promptly dropped to the floor. On his second try - amidst some fumbling - the President said: "I'm going to pin this on if it takes all day." When the medal was finally in place, although a bit askew - the President told Haig: "I've finally got it on - don't move."

A final story after this message.

LOS ANGELES

Earlier this week - in New York - selection of the year's ten best-dressed women. Today - in Los Angeles - the ten worst-dressed women; according to Mr. Blackwell - the West Coast fashion designer ; who lists, Number One - Britain's Princess Margaret; followed by nine actresses and singers - among them, Raquel Welch, whom Blackwell apparently considers a hopeless case. "How, but how" - said he - "can you dress a Sherman tank."

Blackwell! also gave out - a "Special Splash Award for Nineteen-Seventy-Two;" to Jacqueline Onassis - who was supposedly photographed by Italian cameramen while swimming nude. Blackwell observing that Jackie Onassis's "swimwear" had done, by far, "the most for the Italian magazine industry in the past year."

This is Charles Kuralt for Lowell Thomas.