

Friday, January 2, 1976
Jerry Landay

From Washington....

From London.....

*From Moscow.... comes today's news. Good Evening,
Everybody. I'm Jerry Landay substituting for Lowell
Thomas.*

*A denial today - from the Chief Presidential
spokesman of published reports - that the Central
Intelligence Agency has recruited about six hundred
Americans to fight in the Angola Civil war. Not so -
said News Secretary Ron Nessen. But Nessen would not
deny - that the United States might be training non-Americans
to fight in Angola. He refused to elaborate - or to respond
to a question on whether Fort Benning Georgia is being used
to train foreign mercenaries.*

*The original charge was carried in the Christian
Science Monitor. The official Soviet News Agency - carried*

ANGOLA MANPOWER - 2

an account of that article today - but left out the White House denials.

NAVY

A leading British Naval expert - assesses the Soviet Navy - as the most powerful, in terms of firepower - in world history. In his new book 'The Soviet Navy Today' - Captain John Moore writes that the Soviet Navy can endanger all the world's shipping lanes ...and the rapidly-growing fleet is far more powerful than the capability needed for defense alone. Captain Moore writes - that - in long-range missile-launching submarines - the Soviet Union has a seven-to-eight year lead on the U.S. Navy. Moore says these subs can encompass in their target area the whole of North America, Europe, and a large area of China - without ever leaving the Barents Sea - off Russia's Arctic Coast. In surface ships - Captain Moore says that the new Russian guided missile cruiser class - is more formidable than the "Little Rock" - the flagship of the American Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean. Moore is the Editor of the Authoritative Naval Reference Book - "Jane's Fighting Ships."

The Federal Trade Commission - is considering new rules to protect potential customers of used cars. The Commission says that a substantial number of used cars are being sold with mechanical defects. One proposed remedy to the situation - that used car dealers - turn a car over to a potential customer for an entire business day - so that the buyer can literally check out the car himself - part by part if he so chooses. Or, he could hire an independent expert to survey the car. Only then - the customer could decide whether he wanted to go ahead and close the deal - or - decide he might have a lemon on his hands - and look elsewhere. The Commission is asking the used car industry for comment - then plans to hold hearings on its proposed new groundrules.

COMMISSION

The Commission has also announced - it's investigating the way banks are advertising individual retirement accounts - pension plans designed for an estimated forty million Americans who are not covered by regular pension plans where they work. That announcement follows a warning from a House subcommittee - that some year-end advertising by banks - pushing the individual retirement accounts - contained "puff promotion" that failed to warn potential clients of the possible pitfalls involved. The F-T-C says it wants to find out whether the advertising was in any way - deceptive - or false.

CAMPAIGN

The U. S. Treasury today began the distribution of about one-point-eighty-eight MILLION dollars to eleven presidential contenders. - the first direct Federal campaign contributions in the nation's history. The aides of candidates - including those of President Ford - picked up checks at the Treasury Department. Checks for four others will be mailed. Senator Lloyd Bentsen, Democrat of Texas, received the largest check - nearly half-a-MILLION dollars. President Ford was second with about three-hundred-seventy five thousand. These funds are derived from the volunteer one-dollar political contribution each taxpayer may check off on his income tax returns.

FORD/POLITICAL

There's a report today - that former Governor William Scranton of Pennsylvania - as well as the outgoing Secretary of Commerce, Rodgers Morton, are the leading candidates for a new post in the election campaign of President Ford. The best job description available - that of campaign "Doctor", to help deal with difficulties reportedly affecting Mr. Ford's election efforts. It's reported that coordination and planning at the Ford campaign headquarters are in disarray, and political contributions are below expectations.

TAX

Business Week Magazine reports - that President Ford is considering a basic change in the way Americans figure their income taxes - the magazine says the President is supporting an end to claimed deductions on personal tax forms. Instead - he would slash the tax rates themselves.

ABORTION

Roman Catholic Bishops are launching a new campaign - urging all Catholics to seek popular support for a constitutional amendment that would prohibit abortions. A proposed pastoral letter on the subject is being circulated for possible use later this month - the third anniversary of Supreme Court's ruling which liberalized abortion laws.

For Lowell Thomas - I'm Jerry Landay - CBS News