

Wednesday, April 2, 1975  
Stuart Novins

*From SAIGON.....*

*From PARIS.....*

*From WASHINGTON.....comes today's news. Good evening.*

*I'm Stuart Novins, CBS News sitting in for Lowell Thomas  
and reporting on the CBS Radio Network.*

*North Vietnamese units are pressing toward  
Saigon from two directions - from the north and the west.  
And ahead of them come convoys of panicked, desperate  
refugees and soldiers trying to reach the relative safety of  
South Vietnamese capital.*

*The American Secretary of Defense, James  
Schlesinger says whether Saigon itself can be saved will be  
tested in the next thirty days. The outcome, he says, can  
not be predicted.*

*In Paris the Viet Cong is saying they will indeed  
attack Saigon, unless President Thieu is replaced and unless  
American aid for South Vietnam is ended. It says it would*

*open talks with Thieu's successors if the successors would endorse the Nineteen-Seventy-Three Paris peace accords.*

*In Saigon, the South Vietnamese Senate normally supporters of Thieu, voted unanimously today for a change in leadership. The Senate blamed the Thieu government and the United States for the series of disasters in the country.*

*That plane that brought about fifty-seven orphaned South Vietnamese children out of South Vietnam today, refueled in Japan and is now flying toward Oakland, California. The pilot of the plane says when he took off from Tan Son Nhut airport in Saigon, the control tower tried to prevent his departure. The pilot says, "I just didn't get the message."*

*Two of the fifty-seven children were taken off the plane in Japan for treatment of malnutrition.*

## WASHINGTON

**Vice President Rockefeller was asked today if there were anything the U.S. might do - to relieve the plight of the South Vietnamese war refugees. Rockefeller replied: "It's really too late to do anything about it - a lot of them are going to die."**



## **PHNOM PENH**

*The battle for Phnom Penh in Cambodia is also building today toward a climax. Communist troops today captured seven positions - East, West and South of the beseiged city. These included the last government outposts - on the Mekong River; which means perhaps as many as six thousand additional communist troops are now able to join in the expected Communist assault of Phnom Penh itself.*

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*The United States Embassy staff in Phnom Penh is being withdrawn - phased out. Thirty of the two hundred employees will be flown out to Thailand tomorrow.*

## **MIDDLE EAST**

### ***In the Middle East - Israeli Prime Minister***

***Rabin today called for face-to-face talks with Egypt.***

***"Contentions have been raised about misunderstandings" -  
he said - "but the reason for misunderstandings lies  
mainly in the absence of direct contact. "***

***Rabin said the Vietnam situation notwithstanding -  
he is confident there will be no cutoff in U.S. military aid  
to Israel. This - said he - because Israel could in no way  
-be equated with the countries of Indochina.***

## **SHELYEPIN**

*Alexander Shelyepin, the former chief of the Soviet Secret Police has returned to Moscow from London, after cutting his scheduled visit short. He had been invited to Britain by the Trade Unions Council in his present position as head of the soviet trade-union organization. Shelyepin was harrassed by large numbers of East European refugees. He called them ungrateful Zionists, opposed to detente.*



## **MADRID**

*Negotiators for the United States and Spain met today to begin the fifth round of bargaining over the future of American military bases on Spanish territory.*

*At the Madrid meeting, it is understood that Spain, in addition to economic benefits derived from the agreement wants an open binding security agreement with the United States. The U.S. Senate, in the past, has opposed such an agreement.*

## ENERGY

*The government reported today that the United States is using less energy now. The Bureau of Mines, which keeps the figures, says in Nineteen-Seventy-Four, the use of energy declined by more than two percent below the previous year. It's the first decline since Nineteen-Fifty-Two. That statistic may be distorted, however, by the fact that the period measured, includes the time of the oil embargo, higher prices for petroleum, a slowdown in industrial production and a very mild winter.*

*The news continues after this....*



## **VIZILLE**

*In the French Alps, near Grenoble - a crowded bus was returning today from a pilgrimage to a French shrine; when suddenly - it's brakes failed. The bus hurtled down the road, missed a curve - and plunged more than a hundred feet to the banks of a River. Police report at least twenty-seven dead - and sixteen injured.*

*Today's accident occurred at virtually the same spot - where a similar bus accident claimed forty-three lives just two years ago.*

**Stuart Novins - CBS News.**