

Tues. Dec. 16 - '69.

PANAMA

In one of the ^{speediest} ~~quickest~~ come-backs in ^{Latin} ~~Central~~ American history, General Omar Torrijos ^{is back in} ~~has regained~~ power as Panama's strong man; ^{this} ~~and~~ only twenty-four hours after being deposed. National Guard officers - loyal to him - quietly accomplished this by taking over military garrisons throughout the country - and jailing the two Colonels who tried to ^{take} ~~throw~~ Torrijos ^{Torrijos} ~~out~~ out of power. Torrijos has ~~already~~ returned to Panama from Mexico City - where he was visiting when the abortive coup ~~took~~ took place.

MID EAST

46 1/2

The Semi official Cairo newspaper - Al Ahram -
claims more than one hundred Israeli soldiers have been
killed or wounded in Suez Canal fighting ~~for~~ during the
past twenty-four hours. If this report is true, ^{— at any rate it is the} ~~it's the~~
biggest one day enemy ^{casualty} ~~casual~~ claim the Egyptians have
made in two years. No comment from Tel Aviv where
Israeli officials usually dismiss such Egyptian reports
as figments of ^{Egyptian} ~~the Arab~~ imagination.

Allied spokesman in Saigon say South Vietnamese troops are taking a much more active role in the war ^{accounting for} ~~setting~~ more than one-hundred-seventy enemy soldiers today in several clashes throughout the country; ^{with} ~~At least~~ fourteen South Vietnamese killed and fifty-six wounded. This ~~of~~ ^{course comes close} ~~disclosure coming~~ on the heels of President Nixon's announcement last night that fifty thousand more American troops are slated for early withdrawal from Vietnam.

The President ^{today was} ~~also~~ quoted as saying he welcomes the Senate's action yesterday in approving a provision that would bar American combat troops from Laos and Thailand.

Republican Senate Leader Hugh Scott says the President views this as ~~being~~ "definitely in line with administration policy."

^{Also} that no American ground troops are now in Laos or Thailand ^{nor} does the administration ^{plan} ~~visualize~~ putting any ^{there} ~~in.~~

^{As for} the Paris peace talks, the North Vietnamese ^{today} delegation ^{charged} that President Nixon with his gradual withdrawal plan - is actually trying to prolong the war - and

they vow to fight on until all American troops ^{are out.} ~~have departed.~~
 A spokesman warns ^{that} the Vietnam problem can be solved only
 by a total and unconditional pull-out of American troops - and
 the formation of a coalition government to replace the present
 Saigon regime.

In Moscow, the Soviets likewise dismissed ~~the~~ the
 President's speech ^{terming} ~~calling~~ it an indication the U S A
 prefers war to the conference table. The decision to withdraw
 more American troops, say the Russians, is merely a
 concession to growing public demands that the soldiers
 return home.

The Soviet government also announced a slower
 rate of military spending to implement what was called,
 "a policy for peace." ^{Moscow} Defense spending for next year ^{to} ~~will~~
 increase by a mere two hundred twenty-two - million dollars.
 - as compared with an increase of more than a billion dollars
 at the start of this year.

SCHOOLS

A plan designed to slow down school
integration was approved by the Senate Appropriations
Committee despite protests by Administration officials
who say it's unconstitutional. The provision - already
passed by the House - forbids the government to cut off
~~federak~~ federal funds to schools which refuse to comply
with integration guide lines. ^{All this is} ~~The proposal~~ now under
debate ⁱⁿ ~~on~~ the Senate. ~~floor~~

HIJACK

Representatives of thirteen nations met in Washington today -- to begin discussions on the growing problem of airliner hijacking. The main topic - how to discourage hijackers who were more active in Nineteen-Sixty-Nine than ever, ~~before~~. In the past eight years, ^{there have been at} ~~at~~ least one hundred thirty cases - real or attempted - and a hundred of them ~~took place~~ this year and last - with the United States the hardest hit of all ^{this aerial hijacking,} ~~countries affected by~~ ~~the problem.~~

BATTLE

Today marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the battle of the bulge - that desperate last ditch drive by Hitler's troops as they tried to ~~drive~~^{force} a wedge between the Allied forces. Numerous accounts have been written ^{about} ~~by~~ the surrounded American troops who ~~courageously~~^{so superbly} resisted the Germans at the Belgium village of Bastogne during that cold blustery December. ¶ Some historians have written that the German attack was a surprise. ~~that retired~~ General Oscar Koch - who was ~~General George~~ Patton's chief intelligence officer, says - "Not so" - ^{He says} The historians ^{are} ~~have been~~ outflanked by the fact - that plenty of intelligence reports were available about the German build-up; - but ^{that} ~~apparently~~^{all} the warning was ignored. ¶ Without pointing an accusing finger at anyone, Koch says there was a "lack of communications" at Allied headquarters. At any rate, it was elements of "Old Blood and Guts" Patton's Third Army who finally ^{smashed} ~~broke~~ through the German line to save the defenders of Bastogne. ^{That was 1944 -- the day after X'mas.}

POSTAL

Seventy female clerks at the Nashville, Tennessee post office are complaining. They don't like what they call "the discriminating rules" which govern their clothing. They say they are subjected to constant harrassment and torment when they wear ~~short skirts~~ ~~or~~ mini-skirts to work. One quoted the post master as saying it's because women clerks have been in the Nashville post office only three years. "The men still aren't used to them" ^{in any dress - mini[^] or whatever,} To which one female clerk replied:

"Come on now, ~~women have been around since Adam and Eve~~ ^{be just} postal workers, ought to ~~be~~ used to them by now as ~~any~~ ^{anywhere}. ^{after all} ~~she!~~ ^{she!} ~~it's now~~ ^{since} women have been around ever since Adam and Eve! How about ^{a few} ~~some~~ words of wisdom from you, John?"

1/4