

Thurs. November 23, 1972

V I E T N A M

Henry Kissinger had his turkey and stuffing in Paris today - or could have had. If he had time to enjoy it? A Thanksgiving dinner was prepared at the American Embassy for the entire U. S. Peace negotiating team - but indications are that Kissinger spent most of his time - more than six hours - talking with the Hanoi negotiators. And we wonder did they talk turkey? There has been no sign of a breakthrough in the discussions. Both sides were merely waring and smiling at reporters when the session was over. Could their smiles indicate something.

In the war, Communist gun fire brought down an American observation balloon north of Saigon, and a U. S. spotter plane crashed near Da Nang, the sixth and seventh ~~U. S.~~ U. S. planes lost since Monday. Today both pilots parachuted to safety.

A military spokesman in Tel Aviv says the situation along the Syrian border is once again "normal" - or the nearest thing to it - following the end of the biggest battle that area has seen in more than two years. Border settlements, damaged by Syrian artillery, are undergoing repairs.

The population explosion - discouraged nearly everywhere these days, is being actively encouraged in Israel where the army says it will reward proliferating fathers. Under a new ruling, men with six or more children will be exempt from reserve army duty.

Israel's national radio says the Rumanian capital of Bucharest is now the main stop-over point for Soviet Jews enroute to Israel by both plane and train. Rumania being the only Iron Curtain country that retained diplomatic relations with Israel following the Nineteen-Sixty-Seven war. Immigration authorities there say that so far this year some thirty-five thousand Soviet Jews have passed through on their way to Israel.

FOREIGN

The Philippine government has officially requested the extradition of several Americans who - allegedly - were involved in a plot to assassinate President Ferdinand Marcos. According to Philippine authorities - evidence shows the conspirators used a so-called "liquidation fund" of one hundred fifty thousand dollars to hire both foreign and Filipino assassins in a plot against President Marcos.

At Hyderabad City in Southern India - police opened fire on rioting mobs today while Indian army units moved into the state of Andhra Pradesh to put down violent protests against government hiring practices. So far, recent mob violence in India has claimed at least fifteen lives.

It's the old story at La Paz, Bolivia. President Hugo Banzer has declared a state of siege throughout the lofty Andean country announcing also the arrest of several extremist leaders believed guilty of conspiracy against the government. LaPaz currently has much unrest among industrial workers.

Farther South in Buenos Aires, former Argentine President Juan Peron is reported working on plans for a whistle stop speech-making train journey across Argentina - if government authorities give him the green signal and a clear track. The authorities in Buenos Aires, B.A. are saying Peron's personal safety is the main factor involved. Peron, now age seventy-seven, hopes to visit half a dozen cities and also take a side trip into neighboring Paraguay on this yet to be approved train excursion.

MARIE

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Actress Marie Wilson - famous for her
movie portrayal of the dumb but beautiful blond -
died today in Hollywood at the age of fifty-six.

Cause of death was not given although friends ~~saw~~
say Miss Wilson had undergone ~~major~~ ^{major} surgery several
times. She starred also on television and ^{earlier} on radio
where she once had the lead role in a show called -
My Friend Irma.

FLIGHT

Another plane missing in Alaska on a flight from Anchorage to Ketchikan, same route on which a plane carrying Congressmen Hale Boggs and Nick Begich disappeared five weeks ago. The Air Force and Coast Guard is searching for a white Comanche plane - piloted by John Bratton of Sepulveda, California who took off from Anchorage yesterday but never arrived at Annette Island, the airport at Ketchikan.

EXPLOSION

An explosion ripped through a big poultry processing plant in the south Georgia town of Claxton today - killing at least two members of a holiday work crew busily engaged in preparing food for Thanksgiving dinner tables. Five others were injured - two seriously. Eleven workers escaped unhurt. Gas is believed to have been the cause. The explosion which occurred near two huge hot water boilers used in scalding nearly one hundred thousand chickens processed during each normal shift. The plant itself was virtually destroyed. Claxton Mayor DeLoach calls it a serious blow to the town.

CRANES

Turkeys were not the only birds to make news today. Out in Aransas, Texas, at least fifty whooping cranes - among the rarest birds known - were sighted at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. The flock included five young cranes - a sign perhaps that the trend toward extinction may now have been reversed. That's the whooping crane news Bill.

POST OFFICE

As it has for countless Christmas pasts the Post Office Department predicts the up-coming flood of Christmas mail will reach its wide-spread destinations with a minimum of delay - despite the usual chaos that hits Post Offices about this time of year. As in years past, temporary workers will be hired to help out with the Yuletide rush. And postal officials say there's no truth in the crack attributed to columnist Jack Anderson that some of the part time workers might help themselves to X^gmas candy and so as it passes through their hands. We're told that ~~neither~~ rain nor snow, nor sleet, nor employee interest in candy will stay these temporary couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.