

Monday, December 18, 1972

WASHINGTON SAIGON HANOI

*In Southeast Asia - for the first time in nearly two months - full scale bombing resumed. The initial news coming today from North Vietnam - which told of "devastating attacks in the Hanoi Haiphong area; a development quickly confirmed in both Saigon and Washington.*

*This - clearly a response to the breakdown in the Paris peace talks. According to the White House, ordered personally by President Nixon - in order to cope with a troops build-up in the Communist North - a build-up "which could lead" - we are told - "to another offensive in the South."*

*Press Secretary Ron Ziegler adding: "The road to a negotiated peace is wide open! We want a rapid settlement to this conflict!" But he stressed: "We are not going to allow the peace talks - to be used as a cover for another offensive."*

## SPACE

*On the space front - the men of Apollo*

*Seventeen were heading home for Christmas. Along the way today hearing a Christmas carol - recorded earlier at the Houston home of Command Pilot*

*Ron Evans. "Sounds ~~like~~ like you're getting in the*

*Christmas spirit down there" said ~~he~~ <sup>Ron, as he listened</sup> ~~as he listened~~ as he listened far out in space.*

*Whereupon Mission commander Gene Cernan observed <sup>ed.</sup> ~~that~~*

*"It feels and looks a lot like Christmas - up here -  
too!"*

*Splash-down -- set for two-twenty-four*

*Eastern time - tomorrow afternoon. The ~~the~~ weather outlook - "satisfactory."*

KANSAS CITY

At Kansas City - ~~Harry~~<sup>Mr.</sup> Truman rallied slightly today. The former President getting a "restful" sleep - and then speaking to doctors for the first time in a week. When asked how he felt - we are told - "Mr. Truman replied, 'all right'." The doctors add that Mr. Truman's condition - is still "very serious." But, that by definition ~~is~~<sup>is</sup> said to mean there is a "chance ~~of improvement~~ of improved diagnosis." In other words, ~~it's~~ an uphill battle - but ~~there's~~ still hope.

## UNITED MINE WORKERS

*Tony Boyle is out. The man who long has been head of the United Mine Workers resigned suddenly today. This came at a hurriedly called meeting in New York. It of course follows the unofficial results of the court-ordered election in which the United Mine Workers voted overwhelmingly for Arnold Miller to replace Tony Boyle.*

INDIANAPOLIS

The ~~chief~~ director of the office of Telecommunications policy at the White House - one Clay T. Whitehead, ~~who~~ dropped ~~something~~ something of a bomb shell today at an Indianapolis meeting of a ~~professional~~ professional journalism society.

Whitehead disclosing the preparation of new legislation - requiring radio and TV stations to meet new criteria in applying for license renewals. These - said he - including a provision that each station shall have provided an opportunity - for the presentation of conflicting views on contro<sup>ver</sup>sial issues. Which means, in practice - he went on - that local stations shall "have final responsibility for news balance - whether the information comes from their own news room or ~~of~~ <sup>from</sup> a distant network."

This - says Whitehead - <sup>will be</sup> an attempt to put an end to what he calls "ideological plugola" wherein

network news men stress or suppress information -  
in accordance with their own ~~views~~ <sup>beliefs.</sup>

Whitehead further noting - there are now  
"only a few sources of national news on TV."  
Adding: "Just as a newspaper publisher has  
responsibility for the wire service copy that appears  
in this newspaper - so television station owners and  
managers must have full responsibility for what goes  
out over the airwaves - no matter what the ~~management~~  
origin of the program."

NEW YORK FOLLOW INDIANAPOLIS

*First reaction - from NBC-TV in New York.*

*A spokesman there saying the new administration policy - is "another attempt to drive a wedge between local ~~and~~ television stations and the networks."*

*Adding -- "this is regrettable;" in that networks and stations should be free to operate without government interference - particularly in the area of news and information."*

WHITE HOUSE

*The White House again - Mrs. Anne*

*Armstrong was named today - a counsellor to the President with cabinet rank. Her duties said to include a broad range of domestic responsibility - including the advocacy of increased rolls for women in government. Mrs. Armstrong - at forty-four - the mother of five. Born in New Orleans - but ~~is~~ married to a Texan. Serving eight years as a ~~member of the~~ national committee woman from that ~~so~~ state and more recently - Republican national committee co-chairman. Now becoming the first woman to hold cabinet rank -- since Oveta Culp Hobby, <sup>who was</sup> ~~she, of course, the~~ Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare - during the Eisenhower years.*



VATICAN

*From the Vatican in Rome - Pope Paul's message for peace in Nineteen Seventy-three. The Pontiff charging today that violence has become "fashionable again and even clothes itself in the breast plate of justice". ~~And~~ This ~~is~~ due in large measure - said he - to the "cold-blooded and unerring calculations" ~~is~~ of a worldwide "economy of arms."*

*The Pope insisting, nevertheless: <sup>that</sup> ~~is~~*

*Peace is possible - ~~if~~ must be possible. Adding:  
If peace is possible - it is a duty, for one and all.*

MOSCOW

Moscow - the Kremlin today announced a record Soviet budget for Nineteen Seventy-three; ~~this~~ including a ten percent increase <sup>for</sup> ~~in~~ agricultural ~~expenditures~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~through~~ -  
~~expenditures~~ For the third straight year ~~through~~ -  
Defense spending remaining stable.

COLLEGE

*From State Capitols across the nations  
comes today - the "last hurrah" of campaign ~~to~~  
seventy-two. Members of the U S electoral college -  
casting their ballots for President - as prescribed  
by law. The final accounting - set for a joint session  
of Congress January sixth.*

*Then and only then - will the ~~the~~ election  
become  
results ~~be~~ official. And the winner - well,  
it better be Richard Nixon or somebody's going to have  
some tall ~~stories~~ explaining to do.*

SALT LAKE CITY

~~And~~ This next - from Salt Lake City!

where two psychologists at the University of Utah,  
a man and a woman, apparently had nothing better  
to do so they went out and surveyed childrens' toys;  
<sup>then</sup>  
~~these two~~ coming to the conclusion that many toys -  
encourage ~~the~~ aggression and sexism in children.

Declaring, what's more, that most toys - are simply

a waste of money. Why? <sup>Because</sup> ~~Because~~ we are told -

toys should be "a primary socialization tool - by

which kids learn skills and social rolls." The two

psychologists adding: "In a sense, you could socialize

over a mud puddle - just as well as ~~you could~~ over

an electric train." All - true, perhaps, <sup>- would you say, Bill?</sup> ~~but that's~~

But who wants to socialize over or in a mud puddle,  
~~hearing a voice in the back of my mind - saying~~

~~"But a humbug!"~~

# AGRICULTURE

At the U S Department of Agriculture -  
the subject today was ~~the~~ hot dogs. Assistant Secretary  
Richard Lyng noting that all sorts of livestock  
by products are being used in making hot dogs. Adding  
that this is wrong - and the Department of Agriculture -  
therefore intends to impose new restrictions.

All of which - calling to mind <sup>the</sup> ~~an~~ old  
Austrian proverb ~~which says~~ - "if you like the  
weiner-wurst -- fine -- but never ask 'what's in it.'"