

I.T. [unclear] [unclear], Nought Wed. Dec. 27 - 64.
[unclear] [unclear], Alaska

OXYGEN

A CORNELL UNIVERSITY SCIENTIST WARNED TODAY THAT MANKIND MAY BE ON THE VERGE OF TAKING OXYGEN OUT OF THE ATMOSPHERE FASTER THAN GREEN PLANTS CAN REPLACE IT. PROFESSOR LAMONT COLE -- SPEAKING IN NEW YORK BEFORE THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE -- SAYS THE DANGER EXISTS BECAUSE WE ARE BURNING GASOLINE ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ AND FUEL OIL IN EVER INCREASING AMOUNTS. THIS, HE SAYS, COULD LEAD TO A CATASTROPHE FOR ALL HUMAN AND ANIMAL LIFE WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL HUMAN GENERATIONS, BECAUSE THE GRADUAL EFFECT WOULD BE LESS AND LESS OXYGEN TO BREATHE. (Keenful scientist. He views with alarm.)

SURVEY

AN ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION -- WHICH INCLUDES SOME OF THE WORLD'S WEALTHIEST NATIONS -- WARN^S THAT IT MUST TIGHTEN ITS FINANCIAL BELT TO REDUCE A BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT -- BROUGHT ON BY THE VIETNAMESE WAR. THE TWENTY ONE NATION ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT SAYS THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSED TAX INCREASE AND OTHER MEASURES MAY NOT BE ENOUGH. IT SAYS A SURVEY SHOWS THAT THE WAR IS FORCING THE UNITED STATES TO SPEND MORE MONEY ABROAD AND INCREASE ITS IMPORTS, THEREBY AGGRAVATING THE BALANCE OF PAYMENT PROBLEM.

BANKS

THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD HAS ORDERED ABOUT TWO THOUSAND OF THE NATION'S BANKS TO KEEP MORE DEPOSITS ON RESERVE DURING 1968. THIS WOULD FORCE THE BANKS TO KEEP ABOUT FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS MORE ON RESERVE THAN THEY HAVE TO AT THE PRESENT TIME. A FEDERAL RESERVE SPOKESMAN SAYS THE PURPOSE IS TO CHECK INFLATIONARY PRESSURES AND BRING ABOUT A MORE FAVORABLE U.S. BALANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS.

VIETNAM

SOURCES AT THE VATICAN SAY THAT POPE PAUL MAY SEND A MISSION TO NORTH VIETNAM EARLY NEXT YEAR TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR PEACE, AND SEEK HUMANE TREATMENT FOR AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR. NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN MADE -- BUT IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT POPE PAUL WILL FOLLOW THIS COURSE ^{and in so doing} ~~AS TO~~ IMPLEMENT HIS RECENT TALK WITH PRESIDENT JOHNSON. AND IN SAIGON, A SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN INDICATED TODAY THAT PRESIDENT THIEU HAS SENT A LETTER TO NORTH VIETNAMESE LEADER HO CHI MINH, PROPOSING PEACE TALKS. IN THE WAR ITSELF, SOUTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS ^{are} USING AMERICAN M-16 RIFLES FOR THE FIRST TIME, ^{and have} WIPED OUT MORE THAN HALF A 400 MAN COMMUNIST BATTALION IN A BATTLE NEAR THE DE-MILITARIZED ZONE. COMMUNIST SURVIVORS IN THE ACTION ALMOST IMMEDIATELY RAN INTO A NEW BATTLE WITH A FORCE OF U.S. MARINES WHICH LANDED NEARBY. IN LAOS, GOVERNMENT TROOPS HAVE REGAINED CONTROL OF MUONG PHULANE FROM NORTH VIETNAMESE REGULARS -- BUT THE LAOTIANS ^{are} BRACED FOR AN EXPECTED COMMUNIST COUNTER-ATTACK.

EXPLOSION

AN EXPLOSION ROCKED A MUNITIONS PLANT IN HANOVER, MASS., TODAY. -- KILLING ONE WORKER INSTANTLY, AND INJURING AT LEAST FOURTEEN OTHERS. THE BLAST OCCURRED AT THE ATLANTIC RESEARCH CORPORATION'S ORDINANCE DIVISION WHICH MAKES ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES FOR COMBAT USE IN VIET NAM. AN INVESTIGATION IS UNDERWAY TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE.

MID EAST

ISRAELI MILITARY OFFICIALS IN JERUSALEM CLAIMED THAT JORDANIAN TROOPS OPENED FIRE ON AN ISRAELI PATROL ALONG THE JORDAN RIVER TODAY. THE ISRAELIS RETURNED THE FIRE IN A SKIRMISH THAT LASTED ABOUT AN HOUR, ~~BUT~~ NO CASUALTIES ~~WERE~~ REPORTED. ISRAELI PREMIER LEVI ESHKOL WILL FLY TO THE UNITED STATES TOMORROW FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT JOHNSON IN TEXAS ON JANUARY 7 AND 8. ^R THE ISRAELI CABINET IS REPORTED TO BE SERIOUSLY DIVIDED OVER THE QUESTION OF POLICY TOWARD THE ARAB STATES. FUTURE DECISIONS WILL DEPEND ~~ONX&ONX~~ IN SOME MEASURE ON THE OUTCOME OF ESHKOL'S TALKS WITH THE PRESIDENT.

VILIERS

Up here in Alaska what do you do during the long, long subarctic night? For one thing, it's an ideal time to catch up on all that reading you intended to do. I've just finished one of the most interesting books I've ever read. Alan Viliers has done it again. His biography of Captain James Cook surely will be read for endless centuries to come.

To attempt to give a brief resume of it would take ^{more} time than I have. But if you want to read one of the most interesting and impressive biographies written in our time, hurry out and get a copy of "Captain James Cook," written by Captain Alan Viliers. Captain Cook, as you will no doubt recall, was the eighteenth century explorer who made most of the important discoveries among the islands and along the coasts of that greatest of all oceans, the Pacific.

I read much of the Viliers book, in my room just under the "Crow's Nest," here at the Captain Cook Hotel looking out toward Cook inlet, all named, of course, for the great navigator-explorer.

As we were driving along Cook Inlet, the Alaskan L. T., who also knows Captain Viliers, made a remark about this grand seafaring, writing man from Australia, on which I would not improve. He said: "Alan Viliers is that rare person, a scholar, a master of the English language, and the Master Mariner of our time."

At the end of this biography, Alan Viliers sums up Captain Cook in these words: "The greatest explorer-seaman the world has known." Then he adds that perhaps the best tribute we can pay to Captain Cook is to repeat four words, the names of his sailing ships: Endeavor, Resolution, Discovery, Adventure.

If you are looking for something light to read, and want a lot of laughs, I suggest you try a lively new novel "CHateau Bon Vivant", by that writing-skiing combination, Frankie and Johnny O'Rear.

PAWN BROKER

GEORGE PHILLIPS IS A CLERK IN A PAWN SHOP IN CHICAGO -- AND TODAY HE HAD PERHAPS ONE OF THE MOST SATISFYING EXPERIENCES OF HIS LIFE. A WELL-DRESSED CUSTOMER WALKED INTO THE PAWN SHOP, AND PHILLIPS TOOK ONE LOOK AT HIM, AND THEN IMMEDIATELY RANG THE BURGLER ALARM TO SUMMON THE POLICE. "WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT?" THE CUSTOMER ASKED. AND PHILLIPS TOLD HIM -- "THAT'S MY OVERCOAT YOU'RE WEARING, AND SO IS THAT BLUE SHIRT, CORDUROY JACKET, AND YOU'RE WEARING MY SHOES. AND THESE TWO SUITS YOU ARE TRYING TO PAWN, ARE MINE TOO. YOU GOT THEM ALL WHEN YOU BROKE INTO MY HOUSE LAST NIGHT." *How's that Warren?*