

PEACE

Wed. Dec. 20 - '72

On the peace front at Paris - a so-called "technical session" today; with ^{emissaries} ~~diplomats~~ for both sides attempting to agree on the language covering at least a portion of ^{the} proposed peace terms. As it turned out - a futile gesture.

The Communist side - calling an abrupt halt to today's session. Also, cancelling a second such meeting - originally scheduled for Saturday. This in protest against the resumption - of all-out U S ~~and~~ bombing. A communist spokesman saying the U S air strikes - "had created an"extremely serious situation"- further telling the American side - "we will let you know - when there will be another meeting."

VIETNAM FOLLOW PEACE

*In the meantime the bombing continues -
with ~~a vengeance.~~ American jets hitting Hanoi and
Haiphong for a third straight ~~sex~~ day. ~~The~~ The
raiders including a hundred B-fifty-twos -- plus
some five hundred fighter bombers. These said to
have inflicted - "very serious damage."*

BETHESDA KEY BISCAYNE

For President Nixon - a brief stop at Bethesda Naval Hospital where he underwent today - his annual medical check-up. The President's personal ^{physician} ~~physician~~ General Walter Tkach - later saying the President should exercise more. Adding, however: ^{He} ~~The President~~ is in excellent health - the same as last year."

The President himself - perhaps expressing it more succinctly. ~~though~~ "They tell me" - said he - "I feel fine." [↑] Next stop: Key Biscayne where the President plans to work on his second Inaugural address and if he follows his doctors advice - get in some swimming and walking.

KANSAS CITY

Former ~~Harry~~^{Pres.} Truman remains in "very serious" ~~poor~~ condition ~~tonight~~^{with the}, Doctors ~~at Kansas Kansas~~ ~~City~~, saying his kidney function is still not adequate, ~~and~~ warning that this - could prove fatal. But also saying ~~that~~ the former President - was "more alert" today.

Incidentally, Mr. Truman's courageous stand ~~drawn~~² plaudits today from the present resident at Sixteen hundred Pennsylvania Avenue. Richard Nixon observing that his predecessor has ~~an~~ amazing strength. Adding that Mr. Truman - "always has been noted for his guts."

SAMOA

The men of Apollo Seventeen - homeward bound ~~back~~ tonight. Flying from the aircraft carrier Ticonderoga -- to Samoa - and then on to Houston where their families and friends are waiting.

~~It's~~ A long way to go - more than six thousand miles; ^{not} but nearly as long ^{as the trip from the} ~~as they go~~ ^{Moon where they've been,} ~~just been,~~ Space officials adding that the three astronauts - are in "great shape and extremely happy."

BEIRUT

In the Middle East - a rocket was fired today at the U S Embassy in Beirut. Reports - indicate some windows were broken, but apparently no one was hurt. Who did it, and why? We are not told.

JUSTICE

What with the play offs fast approaching
in pro football ^{there is} a determined attempt to end the
blackouts of home games on TV. Attorney General
Richard Kleindienst discussing the ~~matter with~~ matter
with National Football League Commissioner Pete
Rozelle. The latter ~~states today~~ ^{saying} it can't be done.
Kleindienst replying in effect - you'd better think
again. If not - he continued - the government would
attempt to reopen -- the touchy question of football's
exemption from anti-trust laws.

Lest there be any doubt, the White House
later confirming - that this ~~was~~ was, indeed, "the
President's view," as well.

ENVIRONMENT

The White House again - an announcement today that William Ruckelshaus is staying on - as administrator of the Environmental protection agency. Press Secretary Ron Ziegler adding that the ~~President~~ President considers E P A - one of the most important new agencies in government, And ~~the~~ ~~President~~ is confident ~~said he - that~~ Ruckelshaus will "continue to be a strong force in environmental protection."

SEOUL

Comedian Bob Hope arrived today at Seoul on ~~his~~ his latest Christmas tour. The famed entertainer - paying a courtesy call at the residence of South Korean President Park Chung - Hee; ~~and~~ Then he entertained the U S troops - at nearby Osan Air Base.

Bob's tour schedule - also ^{is to} ~~including~~ ~~stops in~~ Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, the Philippines and Guam. ~~But~~ He told reporters today: "This is my last overseas trip - for our soldiers."

NAIROBI

The story of a ~~man~~ really close call -
is reported ~~today~~ from ~~Nairobi~~ Nairobi in Kenya;
where a ten year old boy was homeward bound from
school - when he decided to go wading in a local
waterhole; splashing around without a care in the
world when he was suddenly grabbed by a crocodile.
Ah, but the Kenyans are a ~~hard~~ hardy lot - their
kids, too; and ~~some~~ several of the youngster's playmates
- leaping^{ed} onto the back of the croc~~odile~~; poking their
fingers in its eyes - till it finally let go. The
croc's intended victim ending up in a hospital -
but doctors saying he'll soon be good as new.

GRAND RAPIDS

From Grand Rapids Michigan - the sad story of one Larry Beckwith; who went to the local welfare office - told them he was out of work, his wife ~~was~~ in a hospital, ~~and~~ his six kids ~~were~~ facing a bleak Christmas; whereupon he was duly presented with a welfare check - for two hundred and ninety-five bucks.

All very touching - except that the saddest part is yet to come. The "Larry Beckwith - in question - really a county commissioner by the name of Stephen Kishkorn, a foe of alleged welfare fraud; who later told reporters that his hard luck story had been accepted - without verification of any kind.

Kishkorn also saying: "if any private industry were operating a ~~multi~~ multi-million dollar business in this manner it would be bankrupt in three ~~months~~ months."

PARIS

The current edition of a prominent French weekly - France-Dimanche -- was ordered seized today by a Paris court. This at the ~~the~~ request of the Duchess of Windsor - who was widowed just last May. The Duchess complaining about an article - ~~the that said~~ ^{saying} she planned ^s to remarry. Calling it an "intolerable" intrusion into her private life. -with this the Paris ~~and the~~ court agreed!

LOUISVILLE

*It's an ill wind that blows no good -
so the ~~unhappy~~ saying goes. Case in point - this
next from the Louisville Zoo - telling of a sudden
gust of wind that picked up a crane and blew it into
a nearby Lion's den.*

*For the crane - truly an ill wind. For
the lion, ^{Bill} ~~though~~ - ~~well, you might say,~~ an unexpected
guest for dinner.*

MILLER

Today's most quotable quote - comes from
President elect Arnold Miller of the United Mine
workers. ~~His~~ In discussing his running battle -
with the union's executive board, Miller observing
that all of the board's members - have been aligned
with deposed President Tony Boyle. Adding: "They
wouldn't know the meaning of union democracy -
if it was written on their back^S ~~side~~ with a blow
torch."