

Thurs. Dec. 14-72

## LUNAR ORBIT

*In the flight of Apollo-Seventeen - they came, they saw, they conquered - and now they're off again.*

*Astronauts Gene Cernan and Jack Schmitt - blasting away from the lunar surface late this afternoon. "We leave as we came" - said Mission Commander Cernan; "and, God willing, we shall return - with peace and hope for all mankind."*

*The two moonmen - quickly entering lunar ~~orbit~~ orbit; heading for a rendezvous - with fellow-Astronaut Ron Evans.*

**PARIS-WHITE HOUSE**

At <sup>the</sup> regular weekly peace talks in Paris today - a slight mix-up, or so it would seem. U.S. delegate Heyward Isham - who was filling in for William Porter - urging the Communist side to consider an extended Christmas cease-fire. This as proposed earlier - by South Vietnam's President Thieu.

But here at home - the White House quickly denying any change in U.S. policy. Press Secretary Ron Ziegler saying: "We have a proposal now being negotiated on a cease-fire - we support no other proposals."

Meanwhile, President Nixon <sup>was</sup> conferring with Henry Kissinger - who has just returned from ten days in Paris. Nothing official - but observers saying the talks appear deadlocked. At the heart of the problem - we are told: The question of whether South Vietnam is a sovereign nation - or the war merely a civil conflict.

## KANSAS CITY

The latest from Kansas City: A report today that <sup>Mr.</sup> ~~Harry~~ Truman's condition has grown "very serious."

Doctors adding that the former President - was "unable to talk", his lungs were congested, and his kidneys were showing "increasing impairment."

<sup>Nevertheless</sup>  
~~But for all this~~ - Mr. Truman was said to be

"slightly more alert." His vital signs - "fairly stable."

The doctors stressing - "he is, therefore, not critical."

## **WASHINGTON**

**Washington again - the counting of ballots continued today - in the election of a new President of the United Mine Workers. Challenger Arnold Miller - pulling steadily ahead of incumbent president Tony Boyle. At last report - claiming nearly fifty-five per cent of the vote.**

**Miller's supporters also note that the ballots from the union's big working locals - are just coming in. Predicting that Miller's margin - will "grow and grow and grow every hour."**

## CAIRO

Yesterday in Cairo - a meeting of Arab chiefs of staff; for the purpose supposedly - of planning joint strategy in <sup>what is referred to as</sup> "the coming battle against Israel."

Today in Cairo - an Egyptian spokesman blasting his fellow Arab leaders for petty bickering; also, calling the Arab strategy meeting - "an exercise in futility."

While the Cairo newspaper Al Akhbar - which is said to reflect official policy - <sup>was</sup> addressing an open letter to Egypt's comrades in arms.

"Arab Marshals and Generals"; - said Al Akhbar - "pray, spare us the agony of these empty meetings - which only serve to hide the truth." Al Akhbar adding: "The situation can be summed up in one sentence - either brace up and assault the enemy - or break up and get lost in the recesses of oblivion."

## **BANGKOK**

*We've all heard stories - about "the ugly American."*

*Here now - the story of a beautiful American.*

*Miss Genevieve Caulfield - a teacher who first arrived in Tokyo in Nineteen-Twenty-Three; in the years that followed - founding schools for the blind in Japan and Thailand; working to get laws changed - so ~~that~~ the blind in those countries could better fend for themselves. Of late - attempting to set up another school for the blind in Laos; when suddenly - at Bangkok - a fatal heart attack.*

*Miss Genevieve Caulfield - age eighty-four. But what makes it all the more amazing - the fact that she, too, had been blind since birth.*



## SEATTLE

*Twenty-five years ago this week - the invention of the transistor; and thus a silver anniversary celebration - at the Pacific Science Center at Seattle. Dr. Walter Brattain, one of the three co-inventors of the transistor - helping to make it a big success.*

*Along the way - a special news conference for high school reporters. Dr. Brattain saying he saw the invention of the transistor - as both "good and bad." <sup>The</sup> Good - said he - in that a poor shepherd in Iran or Peru - can take his radio into the fields and learn from it. And the bad - said he: "Rock and roll."*

## **BIRD CITY**

**At Bird City, Kansas - a proud father has just received one of the best birthday presents ever. Sixty-one-year-old Jimmy Evans - getting a birthday telegram from his son. Message, as follows:**

**"Congratulations from the moon. Happy birthday."**

**And it was signed: "Ron, circling the moon."**



## SAN FRANCISCO

The U. S. Navy's first girl gobs - were back in port today; returning to San Francisco - after a brief shakedown cruise aboard the U. S. S. Sanctuary.

And how did they do? Not bad at all, it seems. At any rate, a Navy spokesman saying: "They performed extremely well - considering it was extremely cold."

A number of enlisted men - also saying the girls really "pulled their own weight." Ship's cook Walter Markwordt, for one, observing: "We've got one girl who can lift fifty-pound sacks of potatoes - no sweat."

As for the girls themselves - they thought it was gobs of fun. Medical corpswoman Deana Trexler disclosing: "We have already had several shipboard romances." Adding: "A few girls - have even gone through more than one guy."

Girl sailors apparently the same as men, Bill - a sweetheart in every port.

## LONDON

*From London - the story of a man who came within a hair's breadth - of committing a perfect crime. One George Jones donning a fancy disguise - wig and all; staging a Sixteen Thousand-Dollar payroll robbery - and getting away clean; except that police later found in the car he used - a few strands of hair.*

*These - quickly traced to a wig-maker; and thence - to George Jones; who <sup>has now been</sup> ~~was just~~ convicted of armed robbery - and sentenced to ten years in prison. In the words of a local headline writer: "Hair today - gone tomorrow."*

**WILD LINES (TO BE TAPED FOR POSSIBLE LATER USE)**

*And now for the latest - from CBS Space*

*Headquarters in New York - my colleague, Reid Collins.*

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*And now for the latest - from the U.S. Manned*

*Spacecraft Center in Houston - my colleague, Steve Young.*