

PRISON

Thurs. Dec. 26-74.

Rebellious inmates at the Lorton, Virginia federal prison ended a twenty hour siege by releasing seven hostages and returning to their cells. The hostages - all guards -- were not injured by the convicts who were ~~at~~ armed with butcher knives. The uprising began Christmas night after four inmates escaped over the prison wall. - ~~although~~ One was ^{shot} killed later, by a guard! ~~rifle shot.~~

And now word that an armed Indiana state prison inmate is holding three people hostage in an old farm house near the prison work farm outside Michigan City.

POLLUTION

New federal clean air regulations - originally scheduled to become effective on New Year's Day - ~~re~~ are now postponed at least six months until June 30th. The reason - ~~as~~ says the Environmental Protection Agency - is a "public ~~as~~ debate and mis-
~~understanding~~ understanding over the guidelines.

Also, whenever effective, the new rules will have a major impact on construction of shopping centers, - ^astadiums - airports and highways, -- or almost anything that ^{involves} ~~attracts~~ large numbers of automobiles.

MID EAST

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat today accused Israel of planning a surprise attack against southern Lebanon and Syria - charging also that the U S would then seize the opportunity ~~and then~~ to occupy Arab oil lands. No comment from either Tel Aviv or Washington.

GIRL follow Mid East

**In Jerusalem, surgeons amputated the right
leg of the sixteen year old girl - Dejean Replogle
of Jacksonville, Florida - who was wounded five days
ago in an Arab guerrilla attack. She was aboard a
bus carrying sixteen other Americans on a Christmas
tour of the Holy Land, all members of the ^{Jacksonville} Main Street
Baptist Church, ~~in Jacksonville~~**

OIL

President Ford - ^{at} ~~still on his ski holiday at~~

Vail, Colorado - again rejected proposals for an increase in gasoline taxes as a means of conserving oil. "That's about as dead as any option I know," said the President, as he started up the slopes for his fifth day of skiing.

And in Moscow, the Russians now ^{are saying} ~~claim to be~~ ^{they are} ~~the~~ the world's biggest producers of oil - ~~claiming~~ claiming to have surpassed U S production figures this year with four hundred fifty eight million tons.

ORBIT

An unmanned Soviet Salyut-Four space station went into orbit today - apparently in an effort to help insure a successful link-up between Americans and Russians in space next July seventeenth. Tass says the Salyut Four is functioning normally.

MAO

Still ~~to a limited degree~~ politically active
despite his ~~advanced~~ advancing years, Mao Tse Tung ^{today}
celebrated his eighty-first birthday. ~~to day~~ And Peking
hears he may be promoting a new economic program ^{to be}
called the New Leap Forward. A successor to the
so-called Big Leap Foward of the Nineteen Fifties.

CLIMBING

Despite warnings of ~~an~~ avalanche danger, veteran mountain climber Paul Petzoldt is going ahead with plans to again climb ^{the} Grand Teton, in Wyoming, ~~in~~ on New Year's Day. Petzoldt now ^{— year after year} sixty-six ^{the} has been climbing ^{— doing this} thirteen-thousand-seven-hundred foot Grand Teton, for more than half a century. The avalanche warning has special significance - for only last January three ~~members~~ ~~of a mountain climbing~~ ^{era} ~~expedition~~ lost their lives in a snow-slide near ^{the} Grand Teton.

DRIVING

The highway death toll for Christmas eve and Christmas Day was one-hundred-sixty-six - considerably below the National Safety Council's pre-holiday estimate. This follows ^{(a pattern} ~~has been a trend~~ of fewer holiday deaths in recent months - with lower speed limits ^{given some of the} ~~credited for much of the decline.~~

~~And~~ In a report issued today - the traffic safety administration says - "an alarming, if not frightening," number of teen-agers are driving cars while drunk - ~~or~~ or riding in cars which have heavy drinkers at the wheel. A survey says twenty-five percent of those interviewed confessed to drunk ⁱⁿ driving.

RIVER

Congress has apparently decided against blocking construction of a four hundred thirty million dollar hydro-electric dam on the ~~new~~ New River - ~~that's its name~~ - which flows through parts of ~~the~~ North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia.

~~Considered~~ Considerable opposition to the proposal still exists among farmers, ^{while} ~~of the area~~ ^{are} with power utilities and organised labor ^{are} lobbying ~~hard~~ for approval. The ancient New River - one of the world's oldest - flows through the heart of Appalachia.

~~pronounced apple-latch-so-ah - and of~~ Opponents of the dam fear it would destroy the region's wild life and scenic beauty. Said Congressman Ken Hechler of West Virginia in a ^{recent} house speech: - "kill the New River", ^{Why said he:-} that's like saying - dynamite the ~~the~~ Pyramids!"

SKINNY DIP

In Chicago, a state investigation is looking into reports that a number of staff workers at the Illinois middle health center - both male and female went skinny dipping recently in the center's swimming pool. Officials ~~not~~ stress that those involved in the nude swim~~ming~~ party were staff members, and not patients. Said one official - "You could hardly call this ~~this isn't~~ therapy," could you?"