

Wed. January 24, 1973

KISSINGER

So it's cease-fire in Vietnam! As you no doubt have heard by now - Henry Kissinger today spelled out the full terms; citing attempts to meet every conceivable roadblock - that might forestall a "just and lasting peace;" adding that the first of an estimated six hundred American prisoners - will be heading home within two weeks; further, expressing confidence - that the cease-fire will soon extend to Laos and Cambodia. Asserting, in short, that the U.S. has finally won essentially all the concessions so long sought.

Summing it all up - Henry Kissinger saying: "Of course, the hatred will not rapidly disappear - of course, people who have fought for twenty-five years - will not easily give up their objectives; but people who have suffered for twenty-five years may also come to know - that they can achieve their real satisfaction by other and less brutal means."

(over)

"And now that at last we have achieved an agreement"
- he continued - "an agreement for healing the wounds in
Indochina - we can also begin to heal the wounds in America!"

PARIS

At the same time - Hanoi's Le Duc Tho was holding forth in Paris; also claiming - "a great victory." Said he: "The just cause has won against the evil cause."

Beyond the bombast though - there does seem an equal determination to make the cease-fire work. Le Duc Tho saying that "all parties - have the obligation strictly to execute the agreement;" for that is the only way - said he - that we can ensure a durable peace. Le Duc Tho adding, what's more, that North Vietnam will now seek - "improved relations" with the U.S. This - clearly a reference to promised post-war aid.

WHITE HOUSE FOLLOW PARIS

Meanwhile, President Nixon was meeting - with a delegation of twenty-five Congressional leaders; an emotional session - lasting nearly two-and-a-half hours. The President reportedly saying of those who differed with his Vietnam policy: "I respect them." Also, thanking those present - who supported him ^{but} ~~and~~ saving his strongest praise - for the courage and perseverance of American fighting ~~men.~~ ^{men.}

Said the President: "Thank God for those who stood - thank God for those who gave their lives - thank God for those who suffered - thank God for them all - we're damn proud of them."

Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott later reporting - the President received a standing ovation. Adding: "There wasn't a dry eye in the house." Senator Fulbright saying of the peace agreement: "It's later than I hoped - but it's good." Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield - observing that the peace agreement is not technically a treaty; and thus it will not be submitted to the Senate - for its advice

and consents. "But I'm so relieved" - said ^{Sen} Mansfield -

"I don't care what they call it."

COMMENT FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

Similar statements echoed and reechoed today - throughout Washington, ~~clear~~ across the nation, and, indeed, right around the globe.

Senator Bellmon of Oklahoma - sending a letter to the Norwegian Nobel Committee; urging the awarding of a Nobel Peace Prize - to President Nixon. The President having proved himself - said Bellmon - "a truly great leader in the common cause of mankind." House Speaker Carl Albert - also praising the President; doing it - said he - "as an American and not as a Democrat."

OVERSEAS FOLLOW COMMENT

Overseas - Pope Paul was saying he rejoiced at the
cease-fire; adding that he hopes and prays - it will become
a "true peace." President ^{Ali} Bhutto of Pakistan calling the
cease-fire - "a turning point in modern history." Japan's
Prime Minister Tanaka - saying he was "extremely happy."
And a radio station in Rio De Janeiro - breaking into its
regular programming ^{with} an announcer proclaiming the
cease-fire - and then exclaiming, ~~hallelujah!~~ "hallelujah!"

Even the Kremlin ^{was} expressing a new-found sense
of optimism. The Soviet government newspaper Izvestia -
hailing the cease-fire as an "important step." Adding that it
"opens up possibilities for establishing a stable peace in
Vietnam - and the settling of their problems by the
Vietnamese people themselves."

LIVINGSTON FOLLOW OVERSEAS

The news of the cease-fire - was also greeted warmly by town druggist Clarence Davis of Livingston, Tennessee. Clarence Davis - the father of James Thomas Davis - the first American serviceman killed in Vietnam. *Way back on*
~~The date was~~ December Twenty-Second, Nineteen-Sixty-One. -

~~and~~ It's hard to believe it could have happened so long ago.

At any rate, Clarence Davis saying today: "Nobody is happier" about the cease-fire - "than we are." "I just hope it will last" - said he: Adding: "If that damn bunch in Washington will stick behind the President - I think it will."

Davis also saying: "We had a good man die yesterday" - former President Johnson. "They wouldn't stay with him" - he continued - again referring to that "Washington bunch." "If they had" - he contended - "this war would have been over several years ago."

CAPITOL FOLLOW LIVINGSTON

Back in Washington - the return of LBJ. His flag-draped coffin arriving in the same Air Force jet - in which he was first sworn in as President. It was later placed atop a caisson - drawn by six white horses; to the beat of muffled drums - borne down Constitution Avenue; as a single, riderless horse trailing behind - its stirrups reversed.

The former President's body finally arriving for the last time - at the Capitol he loved so well. Now lying in state - in the Great Rotunda; with President Nixon - one of the first to pay his respects. The funeral - set for ten tomorrow morning; and then - home to Texas.

ISLAND OF HEYMAEY

off the coast of

On the Island of Heymaey up ~~in~~ Iceland - two more

craters burst open today on the western slopes of Helgafjell

Volcano. These sending a stream of molten lava ~~to~~ down the

mountain and ~~some twenty yards on~~ *even far out* into the Atlantic; also,

spilling hot ash and glowing cinders - over the nearby town of

Vestmannaeyjar. *Altho' I was in Iceland recently I still have a lot of trouble with those Icelandic names.*

The island's five thousand residents - have all

been evacuated, ~~but an estimated one~~ *except for a* hundred policemen,

firemen and special volunteers - still attempting to save

what they can. The island of Heymaey - ~~accounting~~ *for*

some twenty per cent of Iceland's fishing industry, the

cornerstone of its economy. This marking the first eruption

from Helgafjell Volcano ~~in~~ in more than five thousand years.

KINGSTON

In the heavyweight boxing division - the king is dead, long live the king. The party of the first part - ex-champ Joe Frazier; who was left, if not dead - at least, badly mauled Monday night at Kingston, Jamaica. The party of the second part - young, powerful George Foreman; who was holding court today - as unchallenged Number One.

As to the question - who's next? George Foreman replying: "I've been training for three months - and I haven't seen my family - I'm not looking for anybody just now." But he added: "The public makes these fights - let the public demand what it wants - the public will get its demands." When will that be? Said the new champ: "Just as soon as my bread runs out."

REDLANDS

From Redlands, California - the story of Kenneth Agerskov; out riding his motorcycle on a deserted mountain trail - when he suddenly hit a big hole; in the ensuing spill - breaking a leg.

Luckily though - his son was riding on the back. Greg Agerskov - escaping the crash unharmed. And then guided by his father, he constructed a make-shift splint for the broken leg - built a fire for warmth - and walked four miles to summon help. All of which is truly amazing Bill - when you consider the boy's age. Greg Agerskov, six years old.

TEACH

Paris again - a final post-script on the Vietnam peace talks. At one of the closing sessions - we are told - Hanoi's Le Duc Tho saying to Henry Kissinger: "When our labors are over - perhaps you can find me a job as a Professor of Marxist Politics - at an American university." Whereupon Henry Kissinger replying: "Certainly - if you will let me teach politics in Hanoi."