

Jan. 1, 1971
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GREETING

*And now, a Happy New Year and a Happy Birthday
to CBS Radio affiliate W-F-M-D in Frederick, Maryland,
celebrating their thirty-fifth anniversary today.*

MIDEAST

Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban broadcast an address to the Arab world today - and declared that Israel wants a just peace in the Middle East. Speaking in Arabic over the Israel state radio and television, Eban said he was directing his words "to every Arab wherever he may be." He spoke mostly about the resumption of peace talks - scheduled for the middle of next week - under U-N Mediator Gunnar Jarring. In London, diplomatic sources say an extension of the current Middle East ceasefire beyond the February Fifth expiration date now appears a virtual certainty.

SOVIET

Sources in Leningrad say a Jewish member of the Soviet Armed forces will be court-martialed on January Fifth on charges that he was the "twelfth man" involved in the airliner hijacking plot. The court-martial would begin the day before nine other accused "Zionists" go in trial in a ~~civilian~~ civilian court on charges of treason. Two of the accused could receive the death sentence.

The Soviet government is reported to be circulating a pamphlet which rejects any suggestion that Russia is pursuing an anti-semitic policy. The pamphlet - entitled "Soviet Jews - Fact and Fiction" - says three-MILLION Jews have been integrated into Soviet life and that at least a third of the country's young Jews are members of the Young Communist League. The pamphlet charges that the present reports of an anti-Jewish campaign in Russia is propaganda assisted - if NOT promoted - by the United States.

INDOCHINA

Eleven American servicemen were killed and forty-four wounded in Communist attacks, mines of booby traps - actions, an American spokesman says, which violated the New Year ceasefire in Vietnam. U-S and South Vietnamese troops resumed combat operations after a twenty-four-hour holiday truce - although a three-day truce - proclaimed by the Communist - was technically still in effect. In neighboring Laos, an American Air Force captain and a Laotian officer were killed when their light observation plane was shot down by ~~the~~ enemy antiaircraft fire over the Plain of Jars.

In Saigon, South Vietnamese President Thieu says the "prospects are promising" for ending the war, regardless of whether or not the Communists sign a peace treaty. Speaking to members of Saigon's diplomatic corps, says he believes any peace agreement with the Viet Cong would be worthless anyway, unless the Communist movement in South Vietnam is rooted out and destroyed.

THOMAS TAPE

And now we have this report from Lowell Thomas.

Tape Runs: 1:45

Outcue: So Long...

Someone up north has sent me a first rate human interest story from the Anchorage Alaska Daily News. ~~It~~ It's about an old timer, one Harold Eide who way back in the early Gold Rush days in Alaska struck it rich twice ^{way,} way up north of the Arctic Circle on the Koyokuk River. He was a Norwegian-American Arctic and Antarctic explorer, who as a boy lived next door to the legendary [^]Roald Amundsen.

What did he do with all his gold rush wealth? Oh,

~~He~~ went outside to San Francisco and Chicago and blew the works, [^]both times. He rented the entire fifth floor of the Palace Hotel in San Francisco just to entertain his friends. But, evidently in later life he was a success, and now a vigorous age seventy-five the oil people decided to fly him back to the Arctic so he could see something of the changes.

He hadn't seen his old haunts in the Brooks Range way up there near the Arctic Ocean for forty-five years. ^{He told how} One day when he was panning for gold he ~~was~~ looked up and there was a grizzly bear ^{less} than twenty feet away. ~~He says:~~ ^{And "} All I had for protection ["] ~~he says,~~ ^{was a shovel.} I knew if I tried to make it to the cabin for a rifle ~~that~~ he'd kill me. So I just slowly lit my corncob pipe and started blowing smoke ~~around~~ around. The grizzly came closer, smelled the smoke, sneezed and turned and left. I guess he didn't want to eat anything that smelled that bad."

Now in a plane it was taking him less than thirty minutes to fly over an area where it once had taken him two months on foot, from Prudhoe Bay to Barrow.

His comment: "Times sure do change!"

Speaking of the past he added: It was a beautiful life. I'd like to do it all over again."

SO LONG

MINE

A Federal official says rescuers now believe it was dynamite - NOT methane gas - that was apparently responsible for the coal mine explosion at Hyden, Kentucky, that took the lives of thirty-eight miners. The mine's owner - Charles Finley - denied allegations that dangerous conditions existed in the mine because of safety law violations, ^{which} led Federal inspectors to close the mine for three days last summer. He says the closure was ordered because new equipment failed to arrive in time to meet Federal deadlines.

PLANE

A chartered French Airliner - carrying members of an Algerian football team - has disappeared in the Mediterranean on a flight from Algeria to the Spanish Island of Minorca. At least thirty persons are reported on board the twin turboprop plane - including nineteen members of the Agal Football Club who were scheduled to play a game today. The plane apparently went down in the Mediterranean about sixty-five miles off the Algerian coast - but a day-long search has failed to find it.

CONGRESS

The Ninety-First Congress will officially adjourn tomorrow after the Senate holds a morning meeting to approve a House-Senate compromise on the supersonic Transport program. Opponents of the S-S-T have reluctantly agreed to a House resolution to continue financing the Transportation Department - and the S-S-T - at its current rate until March Thirtieth. The House has already adjourned. The Ninety-Second Congress will convene on January Twenty-First.

NIXON

President Nixon spent New Year's Day at his Camp David, Maryland, retreat today. He and Mrs. Nixon flew the seventy-five-mile distance by helicopter. On arriving at Camp David in the Catoctin Mountains, they found a foot-deep blanket of snow. The President will return to Washington tomorrow and next week he hopes to fly to his other vacation spot - Key Biscayne, Florida - to work on his State of the Union message for the Ninety-Second Congress.