

Thurs, Dec. 9-71

INDIA-PAKISTAN

In the war between India and Pakistan - ^{today} New Delhi was ~~said~~ claiming ~~today~~ ^{Announce} a near-blitzkrieg. ~~Reporting~~ that Indian troops ^{now} have ~~now established~~ a "virtual ring around Dacca" and ~~all of~~ East Pakistan. Adding that Pakistani ~~troops~~ troops in East Pakistan - are retreating in "great confusion and disorder;" and well they might - says New Delhi - for their air and sea escape routes have already been sealed.

^{Also New Delhi tells of} ~~At the same time~~ a series of Indian ~~air~~ air strikes - in both East and West Pakistan. ^{And} ~~with~~ India ~~later~~ claiming ~~to~~ to have destroyed about a hundred ships, gunboats and motorboats in East Pakistani waters. ^{And} ~~To~~ the west, claiming to have sunk at least one foreign merchant ship - in Karachi harbor. ^{The report is} ~~although~~ they also hit an orphanage near Dacca Airport - reportedly killing hundreds of children.

Pakistan, for its part, ~~says~~ ^{insists most of all} stoutly, ~~maintaining~~ maintaining - ~~it~~ just isn't so. ^{saying} ~~asserting that~~ Pakistani troops are holding firm -

right down the line. Also warning that continued "Indian aggression" - ^{may} could lead to a widened world conflict.

In the same vein, Peking taking note of an Indian drive - said to have captured a number of strategic peaks near the borders of Communist Tibet. A Red Chinese ~~spoke~~ spokesman advising India "honestly," as he put it - to accept now the U.N. call for an immediate cease fire. ~~But~~ Peking's advice - apparently ^{given} ~~presented~~ ~~and, as yet,~~ unheeded.

CAIRO

Four men who lead an abortive plot against Egypt's President Anwar Sadat - sentenced to death today by a Cairo court; former Vice President Aly Sabry; former Interior Minister Shaarawi Goma, - former Presidential Affairs Minister Sami Sharef, - and former political leader Abdel Karim Basyouni.

But justice, Egypt style - also tempered with mercy, if such you can call it. President Sadat immediately commuting all four sentences - to life imprisonment at hard labor. *Which may mean for as long as Sadat is in office.*

TALKS

At the peace table in Paris - a U.S. request today that Hanoi designate some neutral country - that could then channel mail to U.S. prisoners of war. Said request - turned down flat. Also, ~~and~~ the rest of the meeting - getting nowhere. Whereupon William Porter, for the U.S. - proposed ^{ed setting} the next session for two weeks hence instead of next Thursday. This - said he - to permit the other side to confer with Hanoi; ^{as to put it:-} "to get the necessary authority they obviously do not have now - to tackle the issue before us."

Enemy response: a charge that the U.S. is guilty of "vile maneuver" and "manifest sabotage" - aimed at stalling the peace conference; coupled with an insistence - in fact, a "demand" - that there be no lay-off. But the U.S. - still holding firm. An American spokesman later stating unequivocally: "there will be no session next week."

VIETNAM - Follow Talks

Meanwhile, the war continues to wind down. The U.S. Command in Saigon today reporting - for American forces, ~~anyway~~, "a fifty percent decline in the intensity of fighting" over the past week; with the U.S. death toll ~~for that period - coming to~~ four. A ninth straight week ^{of this} - ~~in the same general range:~~

CHEYENNE

Cheyenne, Wyoming - a former nun goes to war. Miss Peggy Edna Karstoft - who was a member of the Sisters of Charity for eight years - enlisting in the U,S. Army. Miss Karstoft explaining: "my country has given me a lot - and now I can give it something." And she adds: "I just got disgusted with all those draft card burners."

Miss Peggy Edna Karstoft - "onward Christian soldier."

NEW YORK

The passing of Dr. Ralph Bunche - a loss mourned today the world over. U.N. Secretary General U Thant calling Ralph Bunche - "an incomparable friend and colleague;" a man - said he - who became "an international institution in his ^{own} ~~own~~ right - transcending both nationality and race." President Nixon adding that the fallen statesman - had carried out the "most delicate and demanding of missions;" becoming - ~~him~~ in the process - "one of the greatest architects of peace in our ~~time~~ time."

Ralph Johnson Bunche - ~~truly~~ a self-made man. ~~He was~~ orphaned at thirteen; ~~and~~ out on his own at fifteen; ~~but~~ He worked his way through U.C.L.A. - and then went on to ^{do} advanced work at Harvard, the London School of Economics and the University of Capetown. Next - the U.S. Diplomatic Service; where he helped ~~to~~ lay the groundwork - for the founding of the U.N. In 1948 - at the death of Count Bernadotte - becoming the U.N.'s Chief Mediator in the Mid-East; hammering out an armistice between the ~~Arabs~~ Arabs

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and Israelis - thereby winning a Nobel Peace Prize. ~~And~~

Later serving as the U.N.'s Chief Truce Supervisor - right around
the globe.

a most unusual
Dr. Ralph Bunche - ~~was a~~ man - age sixty-seven.

VATICAN

At the Vatican ~~in Rome~~ - Pope Paul ^{today} made public ~~today~~ the text of a number of resolutions adopted by that recent world synod of bishops; including one urging that married men be accepted into the clergy, ^{That is} - in places where there may be a desperate shortage of priests.

But the Pope also stated again his opposition to such a policy. Adding, what's more, that he alone will decide - when and if any of the synod's recommendations shall actually take effect.

ROME

At Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport - the introduction of a new technique for catching would be drug smugglers. Italian

customs officials using for the first time - dogs ~~speciality~~

that are
trained to sniff out drugs.

the we've heard of

And wouldn't you know! The first person arrested - thanks

to the new dog patrol - a young American. Ronald Aldrich -

age ~~■~~ twenty-one - late of Tennessee - allegedly carrying in

his knapsack - more than four ounces of hashish.

ATLANTA

From the national Center for Disease Control - Atlanta -
a report ~~today~~ that Red Measles is currently running rampant in
at least three U.S. cities. These including: St. Petersburg,
Florida - Lansing, Michigan - and Burlington, Iowa. The Center,
therefore, urging each local community - "to look at its level of
vaccination; and do what it can - to get children vaccinated and
avoid an epidemic." The Center noting that Red measles - is
generally considered a mild childhood disease; but adding that
it "sometimes has very serious consequences - including death."

PARIS

France's famed Academie Francaise - ^{is just about} ~~essily~~ that country's
most renowned institution, ^{- almost as famous as the Eiffel Tower,} Its total membership - limited to
just forty so-called Immortals; ^{they the} official guardian^s - of the
French language. A group of men - serving by official appointment
from the French government.

^{we have} ~~the~~ ^{now} the advent of ~~French~~ women's lib^s ^{- even in France.} And the
^{and madames -} mademoiselles - demanding an end to the "men only" policy. Urging
the government to appoint a woman to the next opening. Not likely
though. A member of the Academie explaining ^{Warren,} that: "women - in
France - may be magnifique, formidable, ~~or~~ fantastique - but never
immortal."

WHITE HOUSE

From the White House - a reminder today that Pat Nixon is fast becoming the most traveled First Lady in all history; if she hasn't already ~~even~~ ^{even} ~~to~~ ^{ed} surpass the legendary Eleanor Roosevelt.

Indeed, Mrs. Nixon has now visited seventy-three different countries during the course of her husband's globe girdling career. And coming up soon - an African jaunt; to be followed, of course, by her trip to Peking - and then a return visit to Moscow.

Pat Nixon, the First Lady of the U.S.A. ^{and} ^{maybe} in a sense, the First Lady of the World, ~~too~~.