

BAHRAIN

Thurs. Jan. 6 - 72,

*One of the important stories of the new year - or any year - was the one today from the Persian Gulf. The U S reportedly entering into an agreement - with the Sheik of that archipelago - to establish a permanent U S naval base on the island of Bahrain. This is the key island in the Persian Gulf, in the heart of the Middle East oil world. Perhaps the key to future control of that entire oil rich region "East of Aden" where today the most of our oil comes from.*

*The U S seems about to take over - where the British are dropping out. U S officials saying we intend to use the base - as "a flag showing operation to manifest continuing interest" in the Middle East.*

*Bahrain officials add that this will insure American protection against the possible inroads of the Soviet Union - as well as neighboring Iraq and Iran. Another major move on the world's chess board.*

PARIS

After a month off = "for bad behavior" would you call it? -- at any rate, another session of Paris peace talks today. Results- about the same as usual. The Communist side -- accusing President Nixon of "extreme hypocrisy" on the prisoner of war issue. William Porter, for the U S later telling reporters -- We listened hard and carefully - we didn't hear anything new or constructive. For what it's worth though - they did agree to meet again next week.

SAIGON

*Meanwhile, in Saigon - another milestone in the Vietnamization of the war. The latest U.S. casualty report - showing two dead last week; U S airmen shot down over Laos. For the first time in seven years - not a single American death attributable to enemy ground action.*

*It was also announced today - that Army Secretary Robert Froehlke will visit South Vietnam next week to discuss with General Abrams the prospects for stepped-up troop withdrawals. Ultimate goal - we are told - an end to all U S ground involvement in Vietnam as of next fall.*

**SAN CLEMENTE**

*Here at home - at the Western White House -  
President Nixon met today with Japan's visiting  
Premier Sato. The latter said to be seeking a  
"final, fixed and announced date" for the return of  
Okinawa to Japan. Sato's aides adding, however, <sup>that</sup>  
his main concern is, quote - "China, China, China."*

CONCORD

On the political front - a report that President Nixon will formally declare himself tomorrow - a candidate for re-election. This <sup>thru</sup> ~~we are told~~ ~~by means of~~ a letter to former New Hampshire Governor Lane Dwinell. Said letter - to be made public, ~~supposedly~~, at the New Hampshire Secretary of State's office, at Concord.

CAIRO

In the Middle East - Cairo - Egypt today  
escalated another notch ~~to~~ its current anti-American  
campaign. <sup>Cairo</sup> Calling for fellow Arab nations - to clamp  
down on U S business interests still operating within  
their borders. These interests as you know - mainly  
in oil.

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Elsewhere <sup>on the Nile -</sup> ~~in Cairo~~ - an Arab first; with a  
call today -- for the drafting of women into the Egyptian  
armed forces. This - from Madame Aisha Rateb,  
Egypt's Minister of Social Affairs; who says that  
"thus women - just like men - can take part in  
defending the homeland."

## **BETHLEHEM**

*In the little town of Bethlehem - where Christ was born - did you know another Christmas Eve tonight? This the second - in less than twelve days. Yes, it's the one celebrated by the Greek Orthodox Church; including a ritual procession that started out from the old walled city of Jerusalem - and ended at the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem - at the site of the manger. With still to come - a third Christmas Eve, that of the Armenian Church, tomorrow.*

## OSHAWA

*One of the last of Canada's and North  
America's automotive pioneers - dead today at Oshawa,  
Ontario. Robert Samuel McLaughlin -- known far and  
wide as "Mr. Sam" -- <sup>he was</sup> with his father, the builder  
of the McLaughlin motor car way back in Eighteen  
Ninety Two. Some twenty years later - merging his  
interests with those of General Motors; later becoming  
Chairman of the Board of General Motors of Canada;  
a post he held - right to the end. Robert Samuel  
McLaughlin -- "Mr. Sam." Age one hundred.*



PEKING

*For President' Nixon's advance team in Peking - a visit today with Red China's Premier Chou en Lai; also, the Vice President of China's military commission -- a chap by the name of Yeh Chien-Ying. <sup>TP</sup> So far, so ~~good~~ good - we hear.*

*The members of the advance party - also checking out a number of Chinese facilities; among them - Peking's "number two medical clinic;" to be made available to the President and his eniourage, if so needed. This - it turns out - a hospital originally built by the Rockefeller Foundation and despite its designation <sup>ea</sup> <sub>人</sub> "number two" -- still the best in Peking, it would seem.*

LONDON

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*From the Chairman of Britain's nationwide "youth protection movement" -- a rather novel idea for halting the spread of pornography. Paul Daniels urging today - the establishment of a network of government operated brothels. "Since human beings do these things" - said he - "we have to accept a moral obligation and this is the best way of dealing with it." So says the Chairman of Britain's Youth Protection Movement; ~~who may soon be an ex-chairman, one suspects.~~*

AMES

*This next - from Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa; a study of student reading habits ~~is~~ said to show that the ~~most~~ most popular books on campus are: One - those about cultural change; two - those about sex; and three - those about bicycling.*

*There must be a moral there - somewhere.*

F T C

The U S breakfast food industry - a really big business these days; with current sales - running around a billion a year.

Now comes a report - that the Federal Trade Commission is getting into the act. F T C staff members noting - we are told-- that three companies - Kellogg, General Mills and Post -- presently control more than eighty percent of the total market; therefore, urging a ~~landmark~~ anti-trust suit <sup>to</sup> ~~in hopes of~~ breaking up the big three cereal makers. In other words - an attempt to make them "snap, crackle and pop."

## **ATHENS**

*Athens, Greece - a new Greek drachma was issued today. Same value - about three cents, American. Bearing again on one side - a likeness of Greece's exiled King Constantine. But the other side - displaying a legendary Phoenix arising from the ashes. Also, a soldier armed with a bayonet - the symbol of the Greeks new ~~new~~ military regime. In effect, a two-faced coin. Wonder which is heads, which is tails, Bill Martin?*

**NEW YORK**

*Speaking of pollution - the New York Couture Business Council is holding its annual press preview this week. Today's session - concentrating on mi-lady's jewelry - including one item - made from "recycled" jeans; a so-called "denim bracelet - drawn from the tattered remnants of faded blue jeans.*

*But the piece de resistance - an oriental style crown - tiara, head piece or whatever, complete with a couple of brass "rabbit ears" like the kind you see on TV sets. Just the thing - we are told - for picking up favorable vibrations. You know to get in on the right wave length!*