

L.T. COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1967

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

From the Rockies to the Great Lakes and all the way to Atlanta -- the worst cold wave of the winter is upon us today. The mercury dipping to an unofficial overnight low -- of Fifty-Two below near Phillips, Wisconsin. Down to Forty-Five below -- at Pine River, Wisconsin -- when the thermometer shattered in the cold.

Eighteen states in all -- reported sub-zero temperatures. With the cold wave hanging on throughout the day -- making it colder -- in the Midwest, colder -- than in many parts of Alaska.

More of the same for tonight -- all the way to East Coast. With New England bracing for temperatures of minus twenty or less.

PENTAGON

Rumors of a coast-to-coast consolidation and reorganization of U.S. military bases -- announced today in Washington. Congressional sources -- disclosing the cost-cutting measure; which is expected to involve thirty-three separate moves -- affecting naval districts and army units.

Among the predicted changes: A merger of the Thirteenth Naval District in Seattle -- into the Twelfth District at San Francisco; also consolidation of the First Naval District in Boston -- into the Third District at New York City; plus a merger of the Fourth Naval District at Philadelphia -- into the Fifth at Norfolk, Virginia. With further details -- to be announced tomorrow -- we're told.

CAPEKENNEDY

At Cape Kennedy and around the world -- another amazing American space achievement today. A giant Titan Three-C "rocket Bus" -- carrying eight military-communications-satellites into orbit; completing six hours of space aerobatics -- before finally depositing its passengers, one by one, in carefully-spaced paths around the globe.

The eight satellites -- joining seven radio relay stations already in orbit. Giving the Pentagon a continuous, jam-free radio network -- providing instant communications ^{WITH} ~~to~~ American armed forces in Viet Nam -- and throughout the world.

VIET NAM

A new tactic introduced for the first time today -- in Viet Nam. Big U.S. B-Fifty-Twos from Guam launching a saturation firebombing attack -- against a Viet Cong hideaway just north of Saigon. The same type of attack -- that terrorized German cities in World War Two. Laying waste ^{some} eighteen square miles of jungle -- adjacent to ^{that} area known as the Iron Triangle, where ~~is~~ the biggest American land operation of the war -- is steadily destroying Viet Cong guerillas who have terrorized Saigon for years.

Whether the firebomb attack killed any Communists -- it's hard to say. But it did eliminate -- one of their last escape routes from the current campaign, which has already netted -- more than five hundred enemy dead. Today's major prize -- consisting of a vast, two-story underground complex; believed to have been the Viet Cong's principal military headquarters -- for all terrorist activities in the Saigon area.

BANGKOK

Meanwhile, in neighboring Bangkok -- the United States today officially acknowledged -- what has been an open secret for three years. ~~The~~^{That} fact that American troops are using based in Thailand -- from which to press the war in Viet Nam.

First public disclosure -- by Ambassador Graham Martin. In a speech discussing the American and Thai alliance -- in fighting Communism. Martin emphasizing that "Thailand brings as much to that partnership -- as she receives."

VATICAN

At the Vatican in Rome -- strong criticism today of President Johnson. The Vatican's weekly magazine -- taking the President to task for his State of the Union message last week, in which he advocated birth control -- as an answer to the problem of world hunger.

The magazine calling growing public support for birth control -- "one of the saddest signs of the times."

CONNOR

Less than two years in government--Secretary of Commerce John Connor resigned today from the cabinet. The former head of Merck and Company--a big pharmaceutical firm--returning to private business, ~~In~~ view of the President's announced intention--to merge the Commerce and Labor Departments.

CHICAGO

Barney Ross -- one of the boxing greats of all times -- a victim today of throat cancer. The champ passing away at the home of a friend in Chicago -- where he had long been under treatment.

Barney Ross -- a sickly child; who was, nevertheless -- aggressive and hungry. Building his strength and finesse -- through sheer will and determination; to win fame and fortune -- along with the lightweight, junior welterweight and welterweight championships -- in a long and illustrious boxing career.

Later -- as a Marine in World War Two -- he won the silver star for heroism on Guadalcanal. He was wounded though -- and this led to another greater battle for Barney Ross; for he was injected with morphine to ease the pain -- and ~~he~~ soon became dope addict.

Once ~~again~~ again -- through sheer will and determination -- he licked the habit. ~~And~~ Even in this -- his final bout -- he never gave up. Barney Ross -- a great fighter, dead at Fifty-Seven.

LOS ANGELES

A remarkable experiment in life preservation -- is underway today in Los Angeles. The body of a cancer victim -- whose name is withheld -- lying frozen in a ^{SPECIAL} cylinder, at nearly two hundred degrees below zero -- Centigrade. In hopes that he can be thawed and restored to useful life at some future date -- when a cure for cancer has finally been discovered.

The test revealed by Robert Ettinger -- a physics professor at Highland Park Community College in suburban Detroit; who helped develop and now is the leading advocate -- of his so-called "body freeze theory."

Ettinger explaining that the man's normal body fluids -- were drained and replaced with chemicals before freezing; in effect -- an anti-freeze to prevent damage to human organs. Ettinger adding: "There is good reason to believe -- that most of the cells of his body are still alive."

Will it work? Only time -- will tell.

MIDDLETOWN

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point -- under frontal attack today from a pretty, Seventeen-year-old schoolgirl. Carla Hammond of Middletown, Ohio -- demanding that she be admitted to West ~~Point~~^{Point} as a bona-fide candidate for an Army commission.

The Army, of course -- dead-set against the idea. Major General Kenneth Wickham observing that West ~~Point~~^{Point} -- is supposed to produce combat leaders for our fighting forces; "a profession obviously unsuited to a lady citizen of the United States" -- said he. Asserting, what's more, that a coed at West Point -- would be most "contrary to the national interest."

Ah, but the battle ^{is} far from finished. Carla asking her Congressman for an appointment to West Point -- and he has just promised to give it -- providing she can pass a screening board.

Carla herself adding that "she'd be glad to be a

combat leader" -- if only they'd let her. Come to think

Warren

of it -- what better training then four years among all those cadets.

ACCIDENTS

A traffic safety report -- from Northwestern University; a study of Eight Hundred and Fifty single-car accidents -- on U.S. Route Sixty-Six; shows that small foreign cars and sports cars -- were involved in such accidents about three-and-a-half times as often as standard-sized American cars. While the risk of accident in American compact cars -- was more than twice that in full-sized ~~mini~~⁹ models.

In addition -- the survey also showing that by far the greatest number of accidents -- full twenty-five per cent -- were caused by drivers falling asleep. But why so many mishaps in smaller cars -- the experts confessing: They wish they knew. Also -- why doze off?