

PENTAGON

Mon. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 70.

The Pentagon - a startling announcement today.

Defense Secretary Melvin Laird <sup>telling of</sup> ~~discussing~~ a U S raid -  
on an American prisoner of war camp in Communist  
North Vietnam; a camp <sup>barely 20 miles from Hanoi -</sup> where American prisoners  
were thought to be suffering and ~~dying~~ dying.

However, a U S search and rescue team assigned  
the mission - ~~discovery~~ discovering on arrival, the P O W's  
had been "recently vacated." Melvin Laird saying:  
"If there had been prisoners in the compound - they  
would have been free men today." As it was - he went  
on - the rescue team escaping virtually unscathed.

The Secretary <sup>told of this at</sup> ~~remarks~~ a press conference  
called ostensibly to discuss retaliatory U S air strikes -  
against the Communist North this past weekend. Laird  
insisting that the rescue attempt ~~was~~ was "the  
only operation that took place North of the 19th  
Parallel!" And he added that President Nixon - had

personally authorized the rescue mission; because he was determined said Laird - "to show our dedication to these men - to do everything in our power to secure their release."

## MIDDLE EAST

In the Middle east - Israel today accused Egypt of three "grave violations" - of the present mid-east cease fire; charging that three waves of Egyptian reconnaissance planes - had flown over Israeli held territory. However, Cairo - promptly rejected <sup>ed</sup> the Israeli accusation. <sup>and made the</sup> ~~Further~~ charging ~~on its own~~ - that U S U-two planes <sup>have been</sup> ~~were~~ spying for Israel.

Next - Beirut. Jordan's ~~tough, young~~ King Hussein <sup>is</sup> quoted as saying he hopes to arrange an Arab ~~summit~~ summit meeting soon. Purpose - we are told; to discuss the possibility - of ~~an~~ establishing a new Palestinian state.

## CAPITOL HILL

*On Capitol Hill - a temporary setback today - for President Nixon's proposed anti-pollution pact on leaded gasolines. The House Ways and Means Committee - voting to kill the measure at least till the next session of Congress. Committee chairman Wilbur Mills saying: "We just didn't know enough about it." And he added: "We didn't know the whys and the wherefores - particularly the whys." And so - the committee voting otherwise.*

**CAPITOL HILL - ADD**

*Later on though - the President scoring a major legislative victory; with the Senate taking up again ~~the~~<sup>the</sup> bill he vetoed - the one that would have limited campaign spending for radio and television. The Senate ~~take~~ taking it up and turning it down flat.*

## **BUDAPEST**

*At Budapest, Hungary - a meeting of the Hungarian Communist party. Special guests including Soviet Communist party leader Brezhnev - also, a number of lesser Iron Curtain leaders. Hungary's Janos Kadar - the keynote speaker; asserting that Hungary is ready to establish diplomatic ties with West Germany - as soon as Bonn succeeds in cementing relations with other Communist countries. Kadar adding that Hungary's policy over the next four years - will be one of ~~careful~~ careful liberalism at home; and abroad -- total solidarity with Russia.*

MOSCOW

~~Back~~ in Moscow; - Russia and Red China ~~were~~

nearing a formal reconciliation, Peking's Liu Hsin Chuan -- meeting today with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko; clearing the way for Liu to present his credentials to Soviet President Podgorny -- as of tomorrow; when he will become Red China's first Ambassador to the Soviet Union - in more than four years.

## VATICAN

At the Vatican in ~~Rome~~ -- a ruling today from Pope Paul -- that Cardinals eighty<sup>years</sup> or older may not vote for ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> successor. The Pontiff also barring Cardinals eighty or over from serving in the Roman Curia, the church's central government. In addition, the Pope asking Cardinals who head the Curia's various departments -- to hand in their resignations when they reach the age of seventy-five; explaining that he alone - will judge whether to accept the resignations. All of which has revived speculation that Pope Paul - who is seventy-three - might be panning himself to resign soon.



## DACCA

*From Dacca in storm stricken East Pakistan - a progress report today from Jurg Vittani - a relief specialist of the League of Red Cross societies; who says that earlier difficulties in getting aide to East Pakistan's flood victims - have now been overcome. Adding that the Red Cross Relief program - is now in full swing.*

*Vittani also cites figures - showing that "two and a half million persons were affected by the disaster," including a half million or so - still in dire need of food. But ~~such~~ assistance must and will reach them -- said he - "within the next ten days."*

BOSTON

~~at~~ *at* Boston - an appeal today from a group of Ivy League doctors and educators - calling themselves the "Value of Life's Committee; an appeal to President Nixon to rescind a Pentagon order - allegedly permitting "abortion on demand" at ~~the~~ defense installations "in several states."

The group calling this - chillingly similar to "the anti-life stance" of Nazi Germany. Observing *how* "Yesterday - it was unwanted Jews, gypsies, political and religious dissenters, the mentally or physically handicapped. Today - it is our unwanted unborn; but tomorrow" - they continued - "it may be our unwanted aged or defectives or those who have outlived their usefulness." And thus - they concluded - "we face the spectre of the manipulation of human beings - from their genes to their life ~~s~~ goals ."

## SUPREME COURT

*Another Monday - another decision today at the U S Supreme Court; including a decision not to intervene in a Massachusetts obscenity case. The court thereby letting stand by a vote of five to three - a previous Federal Appeals Court ruling; in effect, declaring that photos of nude women -- "no matter how posed" cannot be held obscene if no sexual activity is shown."*

CAIRO

From Cairo - the story today of an alleged  
currency smuggler - ~~apprehended~~ apprehended by Egyptian  
airport customs officials. At the time of his arrest -  
Gomaa Soliman Ei-Smazly found to be carrying -  
four thousand Italian lire, one thousand Spanish Pesetas,  
one thousand R~~u~~manian Lei, three hundred Russian  
rubles, two hundred and fifty Norwegian Kroner, one  
hundred and seventy Swiss Francs, fifty Kuwaiti Dinars,  
thirty Sudanese pounds, and five hundred bucks <sup>US</sup> in  
travellers checks. All of which he had placed in  
balloons - and then swallowed <sup>them!</sup> ~~with the result~~ <sup>And now</sup> he's  
~~now~~ facing a stiff <sup>prison</sup> ~~sent~~ sentence.  
Bill Martin, how is that far personal  
~~Warren, would you call that - one of the dangers~~  
of over-inflation?

## SAN FRANCISCO

Here at home again - a report from the prestigious Carnegie commission on higher education - made public today at San Francisco. The commission urging a drastic reduction - in the time needed to earn all college degrees. Recommending, for example, a cut of one year - in the ~~four~~ normal four years of under graduate study; also, recommending a ~~cut~~ cut of one to two years in the time needed to earn a doctorate - either medical or philosophic. This - we are told - in order to reduce the ~~number~~ number of drop outs - and cut costs. The commission asserting: We should neither over-invest the time of the students-nor the resources of ~~society~~ society, in higher education.

Maybe someday we'll have instant education!