

Wed, Jan. 10-68

*War news from Saigon - colored tonight by a growing premonition - there's something in the wind.*

*Some reason - as yet unknown - for the enemy's furious but costly New Year's offensive; marked today by a fifth large-scale Viet Cong attack - all since Saturday - all within a twenty-five miles radius of Saigon.*

*This latest raid - a daring attempt to overrun a U S command post just northwest of Saigon; and, it nearly worked. A human wave assault by the Viet Cong - actually breaching the outer edge of the U S Defense perimeter; when U. S. artillerymen lowered their guns - firing point-blank into the advancing horde. The enemy finally melting back into the jungle - leaving behind at least sixty-six dead.*

PHNOM PENH FOLLOW VIETNAM

*Meanwhile at Phnom Penh in neighboring Cambodia - still another surprise today from unpredictable Prince Norodom Sihanouk. After stalling for days - the Prince suddenly agreeing, to bar Communist forces, henceforth, from seeking sanctuary in Cambodia. The United States, agreeing, in return - not to invade Cambodia in "hot pursuit" of enemy ~~guerrillas~~ guerrillas.*

*This dual accommodation - product of a brief meeting today between Prince Sihanouk and U S trouble-shooter Chester Bowles; first face-to-face encounter between the two men - since Bowles arrived in Cambodia last Sunday. Besides planting Sihanouk firmly on our side - for the first time in years - the agreement also greatly strengthening the hand of that three-nation international control commission; assigned the role of watchdog - on Cambodia's sensitive frontier with Vietnam.*

## TUNIS

*Vice President Hubert Humphrey - the man on the hot-seat today in Tunis - capital of Tunisia. For the first time during his current goodwill tour of Africa -- Hubert Humphrey telling a foreign audience exactly what our hopes and goals are in Vietnam. Later defending same - in an hour-long question and answer period with Tunisian students.*

*Along the way - the Vice President saying the United States will stop bombing North Vietnam; as soon as there is the first sign - it will lead to "prompt and productive" peace talks. Hubert Humphrey adding that the title "War of National Liberation - is a phony - a false definition" in Vietnam. "The National Liberation Front liberates no one" - said he - "because it is a Communist-directed organization."*

LBJ

*Turning to domestic affairs - President Johnson will deliver his annual State of the Union message next Wednesday night, before a joint session of Congress - also a nationwide radio and television audience. This - according to word today from the Texas White House, where the President is said to be putting the final touches - to his legislative program for the New Year.*

*At the same time - back in Washington - December job figures today from the U S Labor Department, showing a drop in the nation's unemployment rate to three point seven percent - lowest figure in eight months. This ~~is~~ said to reflect a recent economic upsurge; making it all but certain the President will again press for a tax increase - as the first order of business in the New Congress.*

PRINCETON

*The one man in the world that Americans currently admire more than any other - an old friend by the name of Dwight David Eisenhower - according to a Gallup Poll - just out today.*

*General Ike edging out President Johnson - who had previously headed the "most popular" list for four years straight. Marking the first time since Nineteen Fifty One - that an incumbent President has failed to take first place in this <sup>particular</sup> annual poll.*

## CAPE TOWN

*Also much admired these days - South African heart specialist Dr. Christian Barnard; who disclosed today in Cape Town - he may soon move to the United States; taking with him - most if not all, of his special thirty-member heart trānsplant team.*

*The reason mainly money - Dr. Barnard currently earning about eighty-five hundred dollars a year; as compared with a potential U S income - of maybe a hundred thousand or more. Another major consideration - the likelihood of better research and working facilities - said he.*

## PARIS

*For a change - in Paris - the shoe is on the other foot today. The French government urging the United States - to hold bilateral talks with its European trading partners, before enacting any of President Johnson's recent proposals - for cutting back the U S balance of payments deficit.*

*Ironically, France chiefly responsible for that recent run on the U S dollar - forcing the President's hand. Now, however, Paris apparently recognizing the fact that corrective trade measures could well backfire on the French ~~an~~ economy. Hence - today's distress call.*

## JAKARTA

After months of comparative quiet - the news wires from Jakarta were humming again today. Reports from the Indonesian capital ~~telling~~ telling of an alleged plot - against the lives of acting President Suharto and several ranking military officials. The plot supposedly broken by Major General Amir Machmud -- military commander of Jakarta - with the arrest of several ringleaders.

The plotters identified only as "subversive elements". Which apparently means Communists - or ~~possibly~~ <sup>maybe</sup> die-hard supporters of deposed President ~~Suharto~~ <sup>Subarno</sup>.



SACRAMENTO FOLLOW AUGSBURG

A second case of double trouble - is reported today from Sacramento, California, where an expectant mother has filed suit against her doctor - seeking damages in the amount of one hundred and ninety thousand bucks. Mrs. James Jacobs charging that she asked for birth control pills - and was given, instead, weight reducing pills.

As it turned out - the pills not only failed to protect her from pregnancy - they didn't help her lose any weight either, Warren.

## WASHINGTON

*Next up - a story from the National Bureau of Standards in Washington; telling of efforts to devise a so-called "flattery index" - for use by lamp and light ~~ka~~ bulb manufacturers.*

*This "flattery index" part of a move to improve standards of artificial lighting - in restaurants, stores, offices and homes; lighting that often ~~mk~~ makes food look sick - and women look terrible. Its ultimate goal - to make people and things look even better indoors than out.*

*Toward that end - the Bureau of Standards currently working with its own "preferred colors" <sup>--with</sup> standards of warmth and texture already established for such items as -- rich green peas - juicy <sup>ly</sup> red apples -- bright <sup>ly</sup> yellow butter, and so on. Government experts confident that lights most flatter <sup>ing</sup> to these delicacies - will also make the ladies look "good enough to eat."*