

Tues, Dec. 23rd. '69.

After months of delay, bickering, confusion -
 a blazing finish today on Capitol Hill. The Ninety first
 Congress wrapping up a series of odds and ends - ^{then} voting
 for ~~its~~ adjournment ^{- and everybody} ~~its members~~ quickly heading for
 home, buoyed by a personal ~~assurance~~ assurance from President
 Nixon - that he ~~will not~~ will not call them back into

special session; ^{and} ~~that he~~ will not ask them to pass three
 major money bills - that still remain undone. ~~And now -~~

1/2 What about
 the post mortems ^{on what this Congress has} ~~done~~

done? Senator Mansfield, for one, calling the

just-ended session -- one of the "most productive" in

history. ^{However} ~~disagrees and~~ ^{disagrees and} ~~from~~ Congressman Ford, ~~who~~

called it - ~~handing~~ "a do-little" Congress. One and all

agreeing though ^{that now is the} time to "give it a rest" ^{- for a recess.} ~~in fact, the~~

In fact ^{Congress approved} ~~Congress approving~~ as one of its last acts ^{a measure}

next, its
 delaying the start of its ^{second} session from January

third to January nineteenth. Thus giving itself - nearly

a months vacation. ^{Perhaps enough} ~~plenty of~~ time to recharge - for
 those major legislative battles coming up in 1970.

MOSCOW

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Moscow! -- The Kremlin issued a major policy document today. A message setting the theme for upcoming celebrations ^{to} marking the one hundredth birthday of ^{their} Soviet founder ^{Father} ~~Lenin~~. The Kremlin ^{saying} ~~was asserting~~ that Russia will continue its struggle - against so-called "modern imperialism," ^{and even calling} ~~further citing~~ the U S and West Germany as the Soviet Union's ~~main~~ principal foes.

However, the Kremlin ruled ^S out any war with the West - stressing instead the advantages of peaceful co-existence. This - we are told - "to insure peaceful conditions" ^{such as they now believe} ~~said to be~~ best suited for the "the construction of Sociamism and Communism" - right around the globe.

As for Vietnam - the guns of war fell ~~strangely~~
 silent today; - for the most part, ~~anyway~~. The Viet Cong
 beginning their observance of a Christmas truce - one in
 which U.S. and Allied troops will also join as of tomorrow.

~~Back in Saigon a Christmas message today from~~
~~South Vietnamese President Thieu~~ issued Christmas ~~A~~ message directed
 mainly - to U.S. troops. Thieu noting "There are fewer
 Allied soldiers - spending this holy season in Vietnam," ~~and~~
 Adding; ~~what's more~~ there will be "even fewer next year."
~~A~~ The reason - said he - "because we" - meaning the South
 Vietnamese - "will progressively take over all the combat
 burden which "you" - meaning the Americans - "have nobly
 taken at our sides in recent years."

~~In the midst of all this - comedian Bob Hope~~

TP Bob Hope and his troupe were at
~~continues his Christmas tour of Vietnam. Stopping today at~~
Cuchi, ^{today} - just north of Saigon, where he told an audience of
some fifteen thousand G.I.s that they were last year's
winners in the draft lottery.

~~What about the losers? Well, there's "one guy"~~

~~- who offered to bet the government double or nothing -~~

~~said Bob Hope. Adding - "He's stationed now at Fort Benning~~

~~and also Fort Dix."~~

~~Next stop:~~ Apollo Eleven Astronaut Neil

Armstrong, ^{was} - ~~the~~ first man to set foot on the moon, Telling
the crowd: "It's man's nature to explore the unknown."

^{to which} ~~Whereupon~~ Bob Hope ^{retort was:} ~~observed~~ "You don't have to tell these
guys - they eat in the mess hall every day."

STATE FOLLOW CU CHI

Here at home - Secretary of State ~~Mr William~~
Rogers ~~held~~^{at} a press conference ~~today asserting that~~^{was describing}
Communist infiltration into South Vietnam ^{Which he says} has "tapered
off" considerably during the last three weeks. ~~indeed,~~
~~It's~~ now down about sixty percent ^{of what it was} -- ~~as compared with~~
last year. ~~said he~~

~~He~~^{He} then went on to reject an Israeli
charge - that America's latest mid-east peace plan
was, in effect, an "appeasement" of the Arabs. He
also challenged Madame Golda Meir's statement ~~that~~
acceptance of the plan by any Israeli government would
be "treasonous". Not so - said he. Adding that the
U S proposals were - as he put it "fair, comprehensive
and entirely ~~and~~ consistent" with previous U N ~~resolutions~~
Security Council resolutions/

Walkout at Rabat. Egypt's Colonel Nasser quitting today - at least, temporarily - ~~that~~^{the} all Arab summit conference. Stalking from the parley - in protest against the policies of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, ^{the} two oil rich countries which - in Nasser's opinion - have failed to provide sufficient support for ~~the nations~~ fighting Israel.

End result: a flurry of confusion - followed by a series of hurried back stage talks. Observers predicting ^{oil} the better healed Arab ^{oil kingdoms will} ~~leaders~~ eventually ~~would~~ agree to more aid; not only to Egypt, Jordan, Syrian, Lebanon - but also to ^{the} ~~the~~ Palestine guerillas.

JERUSALEM FOLLOW RABAT

— in the Holy Land —
Meanwhile, the Christmas season arrived

officially today, - ~~in the Holy Land Jerusalem.~~ With

more than a thousand Israeli ~~and~~ police and security

troops - taking up positions at the legendary birthplace

— the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem —
of Jesus, ~~there~~ to guard the thousands ~~and thousands~~

of pilgrims who will join ~~shortly~~ in celebrating the most

~~most joyous~~ *important* holiday in all of Christendom.

WEATHER FOLLOWJ ERUSALEM

As for here in the U.S.S.,

~~Speaking of which~~ it's beginning to look

~~not~~ like Christmas ^{right} ~~clear~~ across the U. A white

Christmas; ^{both ice and snow where I am,} ~~at that with an acute case of winter~~

~~miseries spreading today - from the Pacific Northwest,~~

~~across the upper mid west, all the way to New England~~

Chicago reporting ^{quite an early} ~~a first burst of~~ winter snow-fall, —

eleven inches. The mercury hit fifteen below - ~~to west~~

— and Owl's head,
~~in the nation~~ at Watertown, New York, ~~with~~ The outlook

for tonight - more of the ~~same~~ same.

WASHINGTON

For Senator Dodd of Connecticut, a clean bill of health from the U S Justice Department; ~~which~~ ^{ing} ~~ruling today~~ that an investigation of his financial affairs - ^A has shown that ~~no~~ no criminal investigation is warranted.

Senator Dodd, as you know - censured by the Senate a couple of years back, ~~this~~ for allegedly converting to his own use - a number of supposed campaign ~~contributions~~. ^{So} Today's ruling ^{comes as} ~~then~~ something of an ~~exoneration~~. ^{ing Sen.} And, indeed, ~~it~~ prompted ^{ing Sen.} Dodd to ^{say} ~~state again~~ - that he ['] will run for re-election, next year.

PESTICIDES

Elsewhere in Washington - a government
~~spk~~ sponsored commission published ^a~~its~~ report ~~today~~ -
on "pesticides and their relationship ^{to}~~to~~ ~~survival~~ environmental
life." The study urging drastic cuts in the use of
pesticides -- especially D D T; calling them "poisons
that could rob man - of the very air he breathes. The
main problem - we hear, ^{is}~~in the fact~~ that pesticides tend
to reduce drastically - the ability of plants to produce
oxygen. Impairing this process - by as much as ninety-
four percent in laboratory tests. Dr. Albert Kolbye Jr.
who headed the panel - going on to say: 'Man is just
another animal - and if we ~~mess up~~ mess up the environment
^{then} ^{soon}
Man may not be around."

HITCHIN

~~This next~~ From Hitchin, England. Subject:

The bells of St. Mary's -- ~~the~~ meaning the girl bell
ringers at St. Mary's Parish Church. Seems the girls
have been wearing micro-mini skirts of late -- to the
point where a local parishoner was prompted to versify.

~~the poem~~ ^ The poem -- published this week in a
Church newsletter ~~and it~~ goes as follows:

The mini-skirted peach who clings
To lively rope when church bell rings
Is now disclosing so much charm
That ^e~~at~~ burghers voice ~~d~~ their wolf alarm

~~How about it, John Shafer (or whomever)?~~

Does that ring any bells
~~Does that - ring your chimes?~~
1/2 for you John Shafer.

CREDIT

Moscow again - the credit card comes to Russia;
or more precisely - it's on its way. Announcement today -
from the American Express Company; which has just signed
an agreement - with Russia's ~~international~~ ^a ~~organization~~ ^{plan} ~~intourist~~ ^{calling for acceptance of American}
organization. ~~The~~ ^{plan} ~~calling for acceptance of American~~
credit cards at Russian hotels, restaurants, bars and so on -
as soon as Russian personal ^{can} can be trained to handle this.
~~At the~~ ^{if you just} ~~can~~ ^{across the street the Russian} ~~see it now,~~ ^{that sign reading -} "Buy now - pay later,
Comrade." And no tricks or ^{you'll get a} ~~else~~ ^{free trip to Siberia!}
~~no doubt.~~