

Friday, January 4, 1974
Reid Collins - sub.

SAN CLEMENTE

Defiance at San Clemente. President Nixon refusing today - to comply with Senate Watergate Committee subpoenas; refusing to meet the committee's demand - for some four hundred White House tapes and documents.

In a letter to Committee Chairman Sam Ervin - the President saying: "To produce the material you now seek - will unquestionably destroy any vestige of confidentiality of Presidential communications; thereby irreparably impairing the Constitutional functions - of the office of the Presidency!"

The President adding that "neither the judiciary nor the Congress - could survive a similar power by the Executive Branch to rummage through their files." "Under the circumstances" - he concluded - "I can only view your subpoenas as an overt attempt to intrude into the Executive - to a degree that constitutes an unConstitutional usurpation of power."

WATERGATE

Committee Chairman Sam Ervin says the committee is on solid constitutional ground and will attempt to substantiate that in further court contests with the White House.

GENEVA

Egyptian and Israeli peace envoys - met for fourth time today in Geneva. A later statement saying only:

"The parties examined technical models of disengagement."

Another meeting - set for Monday.

U.N. sources were quoted as saying, however, their could be an agreement on disengagement - in a week to ten days. An Israeli official adding that, indeed, two sides have already reached a broad agreement - on the withdrawal of opposing troops. But the final terms - said to depend on, quote, "Egyptian application of the cease-fire;" also, the "political decisions - as to how far forces should be moved."

SUEZ CANAL FOLLOW GENEVA

Meanwhile, a continuing series of clashes - along the Suez Canal. Egyptian and Israeli troops - exchanging tank, artillery, mortar and rocket fire; to the point where the Israeli press is now calling it - another war of attrition. A government spokesman further declared: "The war, in fact, is going on."

KISSINGER FOLLOW VIENNA

Here at home again - Secretary of State Henry

Kissinger conferred today with Israeli Defense Minister

***Moshe Dayan. Their talks later described - as "very useful
and positive." And they will meet again tomorrow.***

ENERGY

On the energy front - a warning today that the U.S. is facing fuel shortages - that could last anywhere from ten to fifteen years. This - from energy czar William Simon; who said the crisis will be over - only when the U.S. has developed new oil sources - also, solar power and geothermal power. Simon going on to say: "We have been a nation of energy wastrels - and this day is over because the day of cheap energy is over."

VIENNA FOLLOW ENERGY

A related item from Vienna - headquarters of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. A spokesman for said group - commenting on a report that President Nixon will seek a global solution to the present oil shortage. Abdul Kubbah saying: "We are always suspicious of moves President Nixon makes - but if his proposals are constructive, they will find a favorable response."

Kubbah also hinted that oil producing nations may join with consumer nations - in the search for an alternative energy source. "We don't want to strangle the economy of the West" - he said - "we only want a reasonable price for our oil as compared with other sources of energy."

UNEMPLOYMENT

The U. S. unemployment rate - was up again last month. Not much. From four-point-seven - to four-point-nine per cent. But this the second such increase - after a drop to the lowest jobless rate in nearly four years; due in part, at least - to the energy crisis. The economists telling us, what's more - the worst is maybe yet to come.

DETROIT FOLLOW UNEMPLOYMENT

**Reverse side - a report today from American
Motors Corporation - telling of a twenty-eight per cent
increase in new car sales in December. As you know -
AMC specializing in small cars.**

TIME

The new Daylight Saving Time law - is scheduled to take effect as of two o'clock Sunday morning. But three Western states - Arizona, Idaho and Oregon - today were granted exemptions at least for now; and a fourth - Kentucky - was granted permission to redraw its times zones - both Eastern and Central.

This - by order of Transportation Secretary Claude Brinegar; in response to ^{hardship} appeals from the governors of each of the four states involved.

SAXBE

Former Ohio Senator William Saxbe was officially sworn in today - as the Nixon Administration's fourth Attorney General. The blunt-speaking Republican later saying that over the past several years - Americans have "lost a great deal of respect of law." Stressing, however, that he remains - a firm "law and order man." Also, pledging to "bring credit to the law" - to leave the Justice Department "better than I have found it." Saxbe adding that unless laws are respected - there is "no way you can keep a society from drifting into anarchy."

METZENBAUM FOLLOW SAXBE

Saxbe's old job in the Senate - will now be filled by Cleveland Democrat Howard Metzenbaum; who was sworn in earlier in the day - with Saxbe himself attending the ceremony.

Metzenbaum later observed that President Nixon - is not his "favorite President." Adding: "I might be even more outspoken - than my predecessor."

WEATHER

An overnight storm that dumped up to six inches of snow on Southern California - was heading East today across Nevada, Arizona and Utah. The National Weather Service saying it could develop into a major winter blast - by the time it reaches the Plains States, probably Saturday night.

The temperatures there, by the way - remain extremely cold. At North Platte, Nebraska - twenty-one below; at nearby Lincoln - nineteen below.

SCHENECTADY

A tragic story - is reported today from Schenectady, New York. Frank Baker, age ninety-three, and his wife, Catherine, age ninety-two - failing to pay their utility bill. The local power company - finally turning off their electricity. The couple found dead - a few days later. And now - an autopsy report.

Dr. Robert Sullivan attributing the death in each case - to a "circulatory collapse associated with exposure to the cold." But he also noted that the couple had not eaten - for "at least two days" prior to death. In addition, their bodies ^{were} found side-by-side on their living room floor - fully clothed, but uncovered either by either overcoats or blankets.

Dr. Sullivan saying: "They may have just given up."

SUGGESTED LEAD-IN TO THOMAS TAPE "BADGERS"

And now - it's time again for Lowell Thomas. His subject tonight - the return of the badger. Lowell...

Tape January 4, 1974

BADGERS

For the past few years, we've been hearing all kinds of stories - about how modern technology has been ruining the environment. Now a reverse twist in a new report - that spray cans are proving the badgers' best friend Explanation - as follows:

The badger - for many years - the chief source of supply for toiletry makers around the globe. Ending up backside first - in millions and millions of shaving brushes. The average badger - yielding only about six of these brushes; and thus the entire species - was in danger of being wiped out.

Then came the electric shaver - helping some. Next - the spray can - helping a lot. Spray can pressurized shaving cream - making its first appearance in the 'Fifties.

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In the years since, all but putting shaving brushes back on the shelf - along with grandpa's shaving cup.

For the badger, I guess you could say - a close shave.

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "BADGERS"

Thank you, Lowell. Back - in a minute.

BERLIN

A new technique that may enable parents to pre-determine the sex of their children - is reported today from West Berlin. The new process - said to involve the screening of male semen; thereby separat^{ing}~~ing~~ the male "Y" chromosomes - from the female "X" chromosomes.

It's already been tried - we are told - in lab tests with rabbits. So far, resulting in the birth of nearly two hundred male rabbits - without a single female. This due to the fact that up to now - they have been able to isolate only the male chromosomes.