

PARIS

Monday, Dec. 4, 1972
At CBS - 57th Street

The pace quickens. Henry Kissinger for the U.S. and Le Duc Tho for North Vietnam - conferring first in the morning today; and then again - in the afternoon. For the second go-round - bringing in a number of key aides.

Here on our own shores - the Florida White House stressed that President Nixon is keeping in close touch with the talks. Adding that Dr. Kissinger had received "further instructions" - prior to today's second meeting. Also, saying a third session - will be held tomorrow.

This in the midst of growing speculation - that a cease-fire could take effect in less than two weeks; in which case - we are told - American prisoners just might be home for Christmas after all. What thrilling news that would be for wives, and children and parents - some of whom have been waiting for years. And what thrilling news for Ross Perot of Dallas who made so many gallant and vain attempts to get our boys released!

CAPE KENNEDY

At Cape Kennedy - a wage agreement today ending a brief strike by aerospace maintenance and laboratory workers. This removing the last foreseeable hitch - in Wednesday's scheduled launch of Apollo-Seventeen.

Meanwhile - the countdown continues; with space engineers activating today - three generators in the command ship "America." *As far* ~~Although~~ *they were* ~~the astronauts,~~ - sleeping late, attempting to adjust their schedules - in keeping with the nation's first nighttime launch.

KEY BISCAYNE

Key Biscayne again - President Nixon ~~was~~ ^{today}
continuing ^{ed} his second-term shake-up ^{by} announcing ~~today~~ the
appointment of Donald Rumsfeld - as U.S. Ambassador to the
North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The new appointee - a three-time Illinois
Congressman; ^{who} later ^{presided over} ~~heading up~~ of the Office of Economic
Opportunity; ^{re} most recently a director of the Cost of Living
Council, ^{and} now succeeding David Kennedy - who returns to
private life.

The Florida White House also called Rumsfeld - one
of the President's "closest advisers and personal associates."
Adding that the NATO Ambassadorship - is "one of the most
important diplomatic posts in Europe." But more than that -
we are told - perhaps a springboard to the ^{Illinois} Senate seat
- now held by Democrat Adlai Stevenson the Third.

HELSINKI FOLLOW KEY BISCAYNE

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A related item - from Helsinki; where the U.S. today presented its views - at that preliminary all-European security conference. U.S. Ambassador Val Peterson asserting that "a peaceful Europe - is central to a peaceful world." Adding: "This is the lesson we all have learned - from two World Wars."

Nebraska

"And from that lesson" - Peterson continued -
"Americans have learned yet another lesson;" that "Europe's security - is indivisible from our own."

MOSCOW FOLLOW WASHINGTON

In the same vein - a Moscow meeting between U.S. and Russian fishery experts; coming to a joint conclusion - that the North Pacific Ocean has been overfished; therefore, urging the imposition of international controls - before it's too late.

But just what controls - still to be decided. The two sides agreeing to meet again - next year at Seattle.

WASHINGTON FOLLOW HELSINKI

Back in Washington - U.S. and Russian officials today signed a new accord; an agreement giving each the authority to build new embassies - in Washington and Moscow. In the words of Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin - "a significant step" in U.S. and Russian relations.

Dobrynin also noted that this was the one hundred and first agreement between the U.S. and Russia - since the U.S. formally recognized the Soviet Union in Nineteen-Thirty Three. "Almost fifty per cent of those agreements - were signed during this Administration" - he went on. Adding: "I thought I should mention that."

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PHOENIX

~~At~~ The Republican Governors Conference at Phoenix - a private breakfast meeting today; with the main course - a post-election address by Vice President ~~Spiro~~ Agnew; who warned the GOP governors against abusing revenue sharing funds - lest they be taken away.

The Vice President also addressed the same type of meeting - after the Nineteen-Seventy election. He was then severely criticized - by Oregon's Governor McCall and others - for campaign rhetoric that some had thought too harsh. But this time - said, Governor McCall ^{it was} "a very tranquil meeting."

McCall added that he felt the Vice President - "during the 'Seventy-Two campaign, was the voice of responsibility." "He handled himself" - said McCall - "with a great deal of pride and poise."

DALLAS

Dallas, Texas: ^{at} a meeting of the Protestant-dominated National Council of Churches, ~~whose~~ ^{the} General Secretary ^{today} announced ~~today~~ that the Roman Catholic Church has just been invited to join. ~~up~~.

Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy noting that "Roman Catholic membership - in local, metropolitan and state religious councils - continues to increase;" to the point - he continued - where Roman Catholic participation - is now "a pervasive fact of ecumenical life across the country."

MADRID

**Generalissimo Franco of Spain - age eighty today;
an occasion he observed - practically the same as any other
day; hard at work - at his desk in the Pardo Palace in
Madrid. Franco's sister, Pilar, explaining: "He never
liked birthday celebrations - he thinks anybody who does
is a snob."**

RENO

The story of a freak accident - comes from Reno, Nevada; where a big Trailways bus was highballing ~~it today~~ along Interstate Eighty - when suddenly a gust of high wind caught it just as the bus hit a patch of ice. The vehicle skidding into a median strip - sailing up, around and over in a complete flip. To many of the passengers - it must have seemed like curtains.

Except - the bus landing right side up. Instead of a catastrophe - mostly cuts and bruises; and only three persons - ending up in the hospital.

Quite a ride!

CLEVELAND

Starting today at Cleveland - the First International Pollution Engineering Congress. Keynote speaker: Former Secretary of State Christian Herter - who is now an Assistant to the State Department's Secretary for Environmental Affairs Herter observing that the international community - is rapidly becoming aware of "environmental degradation;" and more important - said he - showing a willingness to "do something about it."

Herter adding, in short - he was "most encouraged."

Whereupon - the proof of what he was talking about.

Subsequent speakers - coming from London, Cologne, Stockholm, Tokyo and Ottawa. Indeed, the conference drawing in all - some fifteen thousand delegates from more than thirty nations around the globe.

LONDON

Starting today in London - a series of meetings attended by the representatives of sixty-two nations. These assigned the task - of forging a new international coffee agreement; one that will regulate the world-wide marketing of coffee - over the next ten years.

Appropriately,
Incidentally, today's round of talks - starting out with coffee all around. When they ~~broke up~~^{adjourned} hours later, then Bill ~~of course a coffee~~^{of course a coffee} ~~though - it was just in time for tea.~~ break!

TOKYO

Christmas in Japan - truly a time for giving. This year - as never before; with Japanese business and industry - expected to give out a record One-point-Five Billion in year-end bonuses.

This according to a poll by the Japan Federation of Employers ^{the} _λ results of which were announced today in Tokyo. The average bonus in Japan - coming to Six Hundred and Twenty-Five Bucks. On a per capita basis - nearly six months' pay.

Ah, so - ~~and a ho ho ho!~~ Ah so!
And for xmas - a jolly ho ho!