

Wed. January 10, 1973

WATERGATE

Surprise in Washington. One of the defendants in the Watergate bugging trial - suddenly offered today to plead guilty to three of six counts. Former White House consultant E. Howard Hunt - admitting to conspiracy, in breaking into Democratic National Headquarters and monitoring private telephone conversations. The prosecution - agreeing to accept his plea with the Judge to come up with a ruling tomorrow.

SUPREME COURT

1/2
More than a decade ^{ago} ~~ago~~ - back in
Nineteen Sixty One - a whopping damage suit was
filed against Howard Hughes and his Hughes Tool
Company. ~~The plaintiff~~ Trans-World Airlines, ~~which~~
~~was~~ ^{was} formally controlled by Hughes, ^{was} charging a
previous violation - of the Clayton Anti-Monopoly
Act. When Hughes refused to appear in court -
gaining a default judgment in the amount of one -
hundred-and-forty-five million bucks - biggest ever.
TW A ^{didn't get the} ~~never got it~~ money though - and
now never will. Hughes' attorney ^{kept} fighting the case -
^{and today} ~~all the way to~~ the Supreme Court, ~~which~~ upheld
his appeal ~~today~~ by a vote of six to two.

Associate Justice William Douglas ~~was~~
who wrote the majority opinion - noting that Hughes
actions had been sanctioned at the time by the
Civil Aeronautics Board. Adding, they are, therefore,

immune by law - from anti-trust action. Which means, in short - case dismissed; with Hughes penchant for personal privacy - still intact.

The 2 who disagreed? Justice Harry Blackman and Ch. Jus. Warren Burger,

PARIS

~~In the search for peace~~ At Paris - a
third straight day of secret talks. Henry Kissinger
conferring with Hanoi's ^{Le} Duc Tho -- for another
four hours - in all. Neither side giving any indication
of what - if anything - was accomplished.

For what it's worth though - a note of
pessimism from North Vietnam's government
newspaper Nhan Dan. "There is no sign - allowing
one to state that the talks might be fruitful" - said
Nhan Dan. Adding: "On the contrary, on the
American side - there are again emerging indications
auguring badly for the future."

At the same time, the head of the
permanent U S peace mission in Paris ^{today was} - returning
~~today~~ to Washington. William Porter - now to become
Under Secretary of State for political ~~and~~ affairs;

~~and~~ his Paris post for the moment ^{no one to fill it,} ~~anyway~~ ~~remaining~~

~~SECRET~~

VIETNAM FOLLOW PARIS

Meanwhile, the fighting and the bombing continues. American jets blasting away today - at the North Vietnamese pan handle; their heaviest raids there - in nearly seven weeks. Another attempt we are told - to head off ^{an} ~~a suspected~~ enemy build-up.

SENATE

For Defense Secretary Designate Elliott

Richardson - a second day of testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee; including a discussion of the President's decision of last month - to launch massive B-52 raids against hanoi and Haiphong. Richardson saying "It must have been an agonizing decision." Adding that under similar circumstances - he himself would have probably done the same.

Richardson also urged ~~to~~³ congress - not to attempt a cut-off of war funds. Such a move, said he - would only be interpreted by the other side - "as an incentive to prolong the war."

HOUSTON FOLLOW SENATE

More on that - from Houston, ~~Texas~~ Texas, where former Treasury Secretary John Connolly said it was "beyond belief" - that Congress might cut off war funds. "A cut off of funds would increase the bargaining position of Hanoi - it can't do anything else." said he.

Connolly ~~is~~ also observed: "We hear a great hue and cry, even in the halls of Congress to bring the men home, give up the role of leadership and close our eyes to ~~our~~ obligations and treaty commitments because it is difficult and ~~expensive~~ requires sacrifice." But there is no easy way - he continued, adding: "If the U S ever casts aside the ~~is~~ mantle of leadership of the free world - no other nation on the face of the earth can or will accept that role of leadership."

TRIPOLI

Here's a North African news story
~~Something of a so-called "little Arab summit"~~

to ponder over: -

~~was held~~ Today at Tripoli in Libya, Egypt's President

Anwar
^

Sadat ^{was} conferring with Libya's Colonel Khadafy.

4
A ~~later~~ ^s communique saying they reached several decisions - aimed at speeding up the projected merger of their two countries. Adding that final plans should be completed - before the end of April.

~~And what with~~ formal union set ^{for} September. - ~~we are~~
~~told - that will leave four months to finish the job.~~

LONDON

A ninety day wage and price freeze is currently in effect in Britain; due to expire next month. But Prime Minister Heath has indicated he may seek a sixty-day extension. All of which today lead to something of a mutiny among British civil servants.

For periods up to three hours - they walked off their jobs. The protestors including immigration officers - guards at the famed British Museum - even the Prime Minister's own cabinet office staff.

MOSCOW

Moscow - the official Communist party line was expanded today - to include a section on pollution. This - according to the Soviet news agency Tass - which said that the party's Central Committee has now decided to establish a sort of Russian style environmental protection agency.

5
It's assigned task - ~~say~~ Tass - ~~that of~~ ^{to} observing ~~and~~ ~~controlling~~ controlling pollution levels - in the atmosphere, soil and water.

Tass adding, what's more, that as of next year environmental protection programs will be included - in Russia's annual economic development programs. ~~"It is planned" - said Tass - "to develop new equipment, in particular, for sewage treatment."~~

DR PEALE

Today's most quotable quote comes from
my good friend and ~~next~~ neighbor Dr. Norman Vincent
Peale, who says and I quote: "America ^{has become} ~~can become~~
so tense and nervous & it has been years since
I've seen anyone asleep in church. And that," ^{he} he
add^{ed}s, "is a sad situation."

ATLANTA

On the domestic front, the South was hit today - by its second major ice storm in less than three days. This latest wintry blast sweeping out of New Mexico across ~~into~~ Texas - on into Louisiana = Mississippi and Alabama. At last report, heading straight for the southern Appalachians - and the Atlantic Coast states.

A so-called ~~ice watch~~ "ice watch" is in effect tonight in Atlanta - ~~which is~~ ^{with the city} still fighting its way back from Monday's storm. ~~The~~ Schools ~~there~~ against closed ~~today~~ for a third straight day; ~~and~~ ^{with} tens of thousands of homes - still without power.

FLU

Before signing off I want to salute four eminent gentlemen who were here at this microphone during these recent days while I've been involved in a bout with the flu bug - the flu we are told has been a problem this winter right around the globe. My thanks to Reid Collins and Morley Safer for this week, and Charles Kuralt and Mike Wallace who were on for me last week. Whether I've ~~always~~ shaken it off I don't quite know but here i am, hoping all of you will have better luck.

Here where we live we've been having the most open winter in many years - with one redeeming feature, wonderful clear ice on our lakes and ponds, and with me on my back moaning because I wasn't out there on skates. But, just wait there's tomorrow! So get your skates and come along, Bill.

PENTAGON

At the Pentagon - Navy Secretary John Warner today presented flight training orders - to a twenty-four year old Naval lieutenant - J. G. Judith Ann Neuffer of wooster, Ohio, ~~thus becoming~~ ~~the~~ first official woman aviator - in U S military history. She begins her training March second - at Pensacola, Florida. Warner disclosing that three other women officers - will also be in the same class; with four more to follow ~~shortly~~ ~~just~~ as soon as they complete officer candidate school.

The U S Navy - first of the military services to offer ~~the~~ pilot training to women.-

Though barred by law, from combat - the lady pilots ^{will be} expected to perform duties such as flying logistics aircraft. ~~If~~ ^{maybe - but} not exactly blue angels [^] - ~~well, how~~ ~~about~~ "angels of the blue!" How would that do?