

*Capitol Hill. Would you call it a blow to the political aspirations of Senator Edward Kennedy? Turned down flat today - in his bid for re-election as Senate Whip. A Senate Democratic caucus choosing instead Senator Byrd of West Virginia. Robert Byrd - who is generally considered a conservative. The latter's upset victory - coming by a margin that was even more of a surprise. Thirty-one to twenty-four; so it wasn't even close.*

*Observers add that Senator Kennedy emerged from the caucus - looking "stunned". But he told reporters - he would make "absolutely no excuses." "I think when you lose you lose," said he. And, if you don't know how to lose - you don't deserve to win."*

*Senate Republicans also were holding a caucus at which Senator Baker of Tennessee challenged Senator Scott of Pennsylvania for the post of Senate minority leader. However, Scott managed to defeat Baker by a vote of twenty-four to twenty in a virtual replay of two years ago.*

## **WALTER REED FOLLOW SENATE**

*Senator Russell of Georgia passed away today at Walter Reed Army Hospital. Richard Russell - a power in the Senate for nearly forty years. At his death he was President Pro-Tem of the Senate; which placed him third in line for succession to the presidency. He was seventy-three.*

*Incidentally, Senator Russell's last political act - a proxy vote in favor of Senator Byrd in that Senate whip contest. Byrd later saying it was this - that convinced him he could beat Senator Kennedy, caused him to decide he "would run."*

## **INDEPENDENCE**

*Independence, Missouri - a somber note. Former President Harry S. Truman - waking up early today with severe stomach pains; whereupon he was rushed to a hospital - in nearby South Kansas City. Doctors later issuing a bulletin - saying Mr. Truman's condition was "not alarming!" They added, however, the eighty-six year old ex-President - was still - "fairly weak." The nature of his illness - not disclosed.*

## **PICH NIL**

*The war news from Cambodia marked by victory at last today at the Northern end of Key Pich Nil Pass. Cambodian troops who had been threatened with encirclement finally breaking through Communist lines; quickly seized a series of enemy bunkers overlooking Vital Highway Four, Phnom Penh's lifeline to the sea.*

*With enemy mortar shells still exploding around them they were cheering and dancing, and shouting over and over, "Chhayo! Chhayo! - the Cambodian traditional victory cry.*



## **PARIS**

**At the peace table in Paris - meeting number one hundred today. It lasted five hours and apparently ended the same as the previous ninety-nine; no progress. Oh yes, they did to cancel next week's meeting. This - in observance of the Vietnamese New Year.**

**MOSCOW**

*On the space front - Moscow - a tentative agreement today between the U S and Russian space chiefs. Doctor George Low for the U S and Mstislav Keldysh for the Soviets - initialing a document that provides for an exchange of information on space medicine, space weather and space environment studies; also providing for an exchange - of two to three grams of lunar soil.*

*Dr. Low adding that such a sample - is really "a very significant amount;" which should make - said he ' "a significant contribution to finding out more ~~the~~ information about the lunar ~~area~~ surface."*

## AIX EN PROVENCE

In the south of France - an airplane crash today near the village of Aix En Provence. The downed ship - a french air force jet; ~~the~~ bearing, at the time, nineteen persons - including seven members of the French atomic energy commission - also, several high ranking military officers. ~~First reporters from the scene - later~~ ~~indicated~~ ~~indicating~~ no survivors.

## **UNITED NATIONS**

*From the United Nations comes a report that the Finn, Max Jakobson is the man most likely to succeed retiring U Thant as U N Secretary General. Finland's Ambassador to the U.N. The Nordic countries - Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden as well as Finland - have already made him their candidate for Secretary General. And we are told - the Big Four powers agree that he is acceptable. Observers say there may be additional candidates - from Africa, Asia, and Latin America but that the Finn will win.*



## CHRIST CHURCH

From Christ Church, New Zealand - news today that American Walter Pederson has given up - temporarily, at least - his bid to travel by snowmobile to the South Pole. Pederson explaining that he had no other choice - in as much as the U S and Argentina had both refused to sanction his expedition. And he conceded that Polar authorities were probably right - in saying he was not fully prepared to make such a trip. So it's back home now - to St. Cloud, Minnesota; his dream of becoming the first man ever to travel over land to both poles, still a dream.

Pederson goes on to say, however, he intends to spend the next nine months - in intensive preparations. "While this ~~back~~<sup>set</sup>-back is disappointing - it won't tear me apart," said he. Adding: "I will persevere till I succeed." As for the fact that his expenses up to now have left him practically bankrupt. - ~~Pederson observing~~

LONDON

Over seas again - a strike by British postal workers is now in its third day; bringing mail deliveries - to a virtual stand-still. All of which - serves as a prelude to the next. Strike or no, the British newspaper *Daily Mail* - publishing its usual horoscope; including a note to those born under the sign of Taurus -- which read: "You can expect a letter - of considerable importance."

That - in case you missed it - ~~is~~ under the sign of Taurus. You know, <sup>Warren,</sup> - the bull?  
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## HOUSE

*Formal convening of the new Ninety-Second congress - the signal today for widespread distribution of a proposed constitutional amendment. Author - Congressman Brown of Ohio; who urged the "abolition" of the U.S. Senate - infavor of a U.S. House of Lords; one that would have little power - said he - except to issue resolutions "viewing with alarm or pointing with pride." And this - he continued - because of "the inability of the last Senate - to make the legislative process work."*

*If this happened would we have to call each Senator a Lord - even the new junior one - Lord Tunney from California Lord Buckley from New York so on?*

**KNOXVILLE**

**Instead of thinking about that let's salute W B I R**

**- Knoxville, Tennessee which today is celebrating its  
thirtieth anniversary on the air. And so long until tomorrow**

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