

Script taken from carbon -  
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December 8, 1965 Wednesday  
Ned Calmer: Substituting

(This is a suggested lead-in for Warren Moran, to introduce Ned Calmer)

And now - with Lowell Thomas en route to Europe on some  
more high adventure - here's Ned Calmer and the news.

## **KREMLIN**

*In Moscow - the Kremlin today announced a record peace-time budget - for Nineteen-Sixty-Six. Including a five per cent boost - in Soviet military spending. The money needed - said Soviet officials - to counter the increased U.S. war effort in Vietnam.*

*At the Defense Department in Washington - this is considered a rather large increase, inasmuch as the Soviets - are not directly involved in the hostilities in Vietnam.*

*In any case - American officials are predicting a much larger increase in U.S. military spending, in the next American budget - to be announced in January; a probable increase of more than ten per cent - because we are directly involved in Vietnam.*

## **McNAMARA**

**Defense Secretary McNamara today confirmed widespread reports - of a projected two-thirds cut in the nation's long-range bomber force. This as part of a plan to close or curtail the operations - of a hundred and forty-nine U.S. military bases. At an estimated annual saving - of four hundred and ten million dollars.**

**The scheduled reduction - between now and Nineteen - Seventy-One - to leave the Strategic Air Command - with just two hundred and fifty-five of its latest-model B-Fifty-Twos. A cut made possible - said McNamara - because of the "reduced Soviet bomber threat." Russia at present - said to have fewer than two hundred intercontinental bombers.**



## **SPACE**

**High above earth - Gemini-Seven today completed the first million-and-a-half miles - of its marathon voyage through space. Astronauts Borman and Lovell also getting a "go" for another day - toward a record fourteen days in orbit.**

**Lovell cheerfully observing - "we're doing pretty good." Clearly - the understatement of the year.**

**Back at Cape Kennedy - more good news. The Gemini-Six - today satisfactorily completing a full-scale flight rehearsal. Reviving hopes for a launch - and a history-making rendezvous with the Gemini-Seven - by Sunday - a full day ahead of schedule.**

## VIETNAM FOLLOW TRUCE

Meanwhile, the war goes on. American airplanes striking in about fifty sorties today - at entrenched Communist troops about thirty miles south of Da Nang. The Communist force - same one that ambushed and cut down a column of elite Vietnamese Rangers. As they attempted to reach the village of Xuan Thai - under heavy Communist siege.

## TRUCE

*From Saigon - news today that the Communist Viet Cong - have offered to observe a twelve-hour cease-fire.*

*From seven o'clock on Christmas Eve - to seven o'clock on Christmas morning. Purpose - said Viet Cong radio: To give South Vietnamese, American and other allied troops - a chance to attend "Catholic mass."*

*This apparently in line with similar cease-fires - or "pauses" in the war. Offered and observed by the Viet Cong last Christmas - and also at the time of Vietnam's Lunar New Year.*

*In any case, American response - one of diplomatic caution. The State Department adding that a "real Christmas present for the entire world - would be readiness" on the part of the Viet Cong - "to make peace."*

## BUNDY

*The Texas White House today announced - that McGeorge Bundy resigned his post as National Security Affairs Adviser. To become President of the Ford Foundation - at a salary of seventy-five thousand dollars a year.*

*The resignation - to take effect February Twenty-eighth. Accepted by the President - "with genuine respect" - as he put it.*

*At the same time - increased speculation that Bundy's post may be downgraded or eliminated entirely - in the new scheme of things. The job of National Security Affairs Adviser - in many ways that of a sort of "assistant president." And Mr. Johnson convinced - said White House Press Secretary Bill Moyers - that he must look to his Cabinet - first and foremost - "for major responsibility."*



MARTIN

*Here in New York - Chairman William McChesney Martin of the Federal Reserve Board - struck back today at critics of the Board's recent decision to raise interest rates. In particular, at Vice President Humphrey - who said the Board had failed to coordinate its policies - with those of the rest of the government.*

*The action raising interest rates - said Martin - taken not to hamper but to help Administration efforts - to keep the economy on an even keel. The Board - he went on - would always seek to coordinate its own moves - with those of other government agencies.*

*"But" - said Martin - "we cannot take monetary measures that are contrary to our best judgment - or refrain from taking measures that we consider necessary."*



## INDIA

*For the first time in eleven years - the government of India today ordered food rationing in New Delhi. The capital city - with a population of nearly three million people - hard hit by a shortage of grains. Indeed, the vast subcontinent of Hindustan - now virtually dependent on huge quantities of American wheat - to avert a disastrous famine.*

*The principal reason - a nationwide drought - that has decimated crops over the last three months. ~~THE~~ With the latest setback - a cold wave in Eastern India. That has killed additional crops - and frozen large numbers of cattle and fowl.*

## **RHODESIA**

*At Salisbury, Premier Ian Smith of Rhodesia - today ordered the deportation of all alien workers - now employed in that rebellious colony. The move necessary - said Smith - to creat new jobs for Rhodesians left without work - as a result of British economic sanctions. The order expected toaffect - about half-a-million Black Africans.*

*Smith also orderèd his own economic sanctions - against the neighboring countries of Malawi and Zambia. Both of which - have close trade ties with Rhodesia. The two nations told that for any future purchase of Rhodesian goods - they must make pre-payment in American dollars or West European currency.*

*British pounds sterling - the traditional medium of exchange - now virtually useless to Rhodesia.*

## LOVE

*The bitter end of a love affair - reported today from Tucson, Arizona. Final denouement - in the form of a will - filed in behalf of a Tucson woman.*

*The will containing a bequest as follows: "To my husband" - said the woman - "I bequeath thirty pieces of silver - in the form of thirty United States dimes."*

*Ah, but this final act of revenge - all in vain. You see - her husband died first.*

## DEMONSTRATIONS

*Tens of thousands of Russians - staged a series of demonstrations today in the streets of Moscow. In apparent protest - against American policies in Vietnam.*

*According to the Kremlin - about a quarter-of-a-million Russians in all - taking part in the protest. A handful of the demonstrators - attempting to deliver an anti-American petition to the U.S. Embassy. However, strong police precautions - barring any violence.*

*The demonstrations - part of a rising tide of Russian protest against the United States. Coinciding with Soviet Premier Kosygin's bitterest attack to date - on American foreign policy. One in which he accused American soldiers - of wantonly killing women and children in Vietnam.*

*American reaction - from State Department Press Officer Robert McCloskey. Kosygin guilty - said he - of "obvious extreme distortions and one-sided description of events taking place in the world."*



## COUNCIL

*At the Vatican - Pope Paul wrote "finis" today - to the Ecumenical Council. By means of an outdoor ceremony in St. Peter's Square - replete with medieval pomp and pageantry.*

*The public invited - and thousands showed up. Nevertheless, the Pope's last remarks - addressed directly to Council delegates. Some twenty-three hundred prelates - from more than eighty nations.*

*Said the Pope: "The Council is now finally closed - this immense and extraordinary assembly now ends." His closing salute - he went on - hopefully "like the ring of a bell reaching heaven."*

*The Pope's final blessing: "Ite in pace." Go in peace.*