

L.T. COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1966

(Anchorage, Alaska)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Again from Alaska -- a few of the highlights of today's news. While its balmy up here in what is often called The Farth North -- we hear how the second major snow storm of the winter swept out of the southern Rockies today -- dumping up to eight inches of snow on the Great Plains. Heavy snow and blizzard warnings are posted for areas as far east as Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky.

As for Anchorage -- the part of Alaska where we are spending the Christmas season -- the temperature today -- thirty above.

JOHNSON

President Johnson -- still in Texas for the holidays -- studied his budget proposal again today. But he is still undecided on whether to ask for an increase in taxes next year. White House News Secretary George Christian says no decision on taxes is expected this week.

In Washington, Commerce Secretary John Connor predicts that the national economy will show continued growth in nineteen-sixty-seven, with less inflation than was the case this year. He also foresees "a somewhat easier credit situation" -- which could mean lower interest rates.

WAR

A Communist Viet Cong force of about twelve hundred troops overran an American artillery unit today before they were driven back in savage hand-to-hand fighting. American casualties were described as heavy. While about forty-five of the enemy were counted on the jungle battleground some two hundred and ninety miles northeast of Saigon. The Communist attacks came against an artillery company of the First Air Cavalry Division. American military sources say the Viet Cong used the forty eight hour Christmas truce period to resupply their units with large amounts of guns and ammunition.

American bombing planes blasted Communist targets inside the buffer zone and along the Cambodian border again today. But low hanging clouds prevented some forty bombing sorties against Vietnam yesterday.

In Washington, State Department officials said again that the American Policy is to bomb military targets only --

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but they conceded the possibility of what was called --  
"accidental" -- damage to civilian areas. This restatement  
of policy came after Harrison Salisbury -- Assistant  
Managing Editor of the New York Times -- reported from  
Hanoi that American bombing raids have caused extensive  
damage to at least two towns near the city.

## KOSEYGIN

Soviet Premier Kosygin -- back in Moscow today after a good will visit to Turkey -- appears to have forged new ties with the Turks. But he failed to budge them from the pro-American camp.

A joint Soviet-Turkish communique expresses "deep alarm" over the Vietnam crisis, and urges a settlement on the basis of the Geneva conference agreement on Indochina. But this is interesting: No mention of Russia's customary demands for withdrawal of American forces, or an end of the bombing of North Vietnam. Trade ties and increased Soviet Industrial aid to turkey are expected as a result of Kosygin's visit.

## GUERRILLA

A British expert on guerilla warfare believes it may require up to ten years to defeat the Communists in Vietnam militarily -- and then another ten years to gain control of the countryside. Sir Robert Thompson -- who has served as an advisor to American forces in Vietnam -- appears convinced there is no shortcut to military victory in the Vietnamese war. He made his comment in London. It was Sir Robert who headed the successful British Guerilla warfare against the Communists in Malaya -- a jungle war much like the one now being fought in Vietnam.

EISENHOWER

Former President Eisenhower today defended the policy of bombing North Vietnam, saying "you can never be one hundred percent sure that the bombs won't strike non-military targets." He made the comment as he walked out of Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, where he underwent an operation earlier this month. President Eisenhower said the United States is only after Military targets in North Vietnam -- but he added that civilians can be found in almost any area, and injury to them is unavoidable in some instances.

CAIRO

The Palestine Liberation Organization has announced the formation of a Secret Revolutionary Council of Arabs, to plot the overthrow of King Hussein of Jordan. Ahmed Shukeiry -- leader of a so-called Liberation Group -- says the Plotters will operate both inside and outside Jordan. King Hussein has been the target of bitter attacks by Arab leaders for more than a month. They claim Hussein is using Military force to keep Arab leaders from striking across the border into Israel.



## RUSSIA

In Moscow, Agriculture Minister Natskevich says the Soviet Union has harvested the biggest grain crop in its history -- solving the problem of feeding its citizens. He also says the increased productivity resulted from better organization and farming methods -- and not because more land was placed under the plow.

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## BIRDS

I wonder what ornithologists like Dr. Dillon Ripley of The Smithsonian, and other bird enthusiasts will say about this?

The U.S. Air Force has decided it can no longer tolerate birds that pose a threat to airplanes and the lives of people aboard them. From now on, starlings, snow geese, seagulls, sparrows, and other birds that like to hang around airports -- will not be welcome. The Air Force is conducting research on ways to cut down the number of bird strikes against planes in flight. About three hundred birds fly into commercial airliners each year. With another five hundred colliding with private aircraft. And, the Air Force says its planes were struck by more than eight hundred birds during the past year -- six times the number in the previous year.

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for the crash of at least two big airliners. Number One menace are those that congregate around airports, where planes have to fly through them when taking off or coming in to land. Also high flying birds -- like geese and ducks -- are especially dangerous when flocks of them are migrating. Is the air for the birds -- or for airplanes, Warren?

## CROSSING

As you all know, George Washington cross the Delaware on Christmas Night, Seventeen-Seventy-Six , to launch his attack against the Hessians in Trenton, New Jersey. But he had an easy time of it -- compared to what happened during the Fourteenth Annual re Enactment of that historic event. What happened?

Oh, there was Saint John Terrell, of Lambertville, all dressed up like George Washington. With him a group of Twenty-Five continental soldiers, also decked out in Colonial costumes. While shivering on the riverbanks were some two thousand spectators -- waiting for the spectacle to unfold. Then -- as a loudspeaker blared martial music, Terrell stepped into the boat and waved the signal -- forward! Whereupon his men began rowing. But, the boat didn't move. There it was stuck in the ice. The men scrambled out, did some feverish chopping; finally the boat ~~re~~ broke away. Thirteen minutes later, George

CROSSING --2

Washington Terrell and his men reached New Jersey.

Slowest, Christmas crossing of the Delaware by a

pseudo Washington in recent history.

Next year -- to help celebrate Alaska's Centennial

I suggest St. John Terrell and his pals come north and

stage their pageant on the Yukon -- or its tributary

at Fairbanks. George Washington at Fairbanks, why not?

From KFQD -- Anchorage -- Solong until tomorrow.