

THURS. DEC. 12, 1968

SHOREHAM

At the Shoreham Hotel in Washington - a post-graduate course today in government administration, Nixon-style.

With the President-elect serving as headmaster to his newly-appointed Cabinet - during an eight-hour cram session.

First and foremost - Richard Nixon urging truth and frankness in the new government. Adding that he wants an open Administration - with a free flow of facts. Further assuring his key aides they will have the right to choose for themselves - the men who will serve as their own assistants.

Next - a series of lectures on domestic and foreign policy; with special emphasis on Nixon strategy - for dealing with major problems both at home and abroad.

Members of the incoming Cabinet - later meeting with their counterparts in the Johnson Administration. While Nixon himself - was conferring with LBJ.

I hope you saw and heard the President-elect on TV last

night when he introduced his cabinet to the nation. Mr. Nixon seems to have learned much about this new medium-TV. As I heard someone say today - just seeing that alone almost made TV worthwhile. It was most effectively and impressively done.

PARIS

In spite of persistent reports to the contrary -  
the U.S. and South Vietnam <sup>we are told,</sup> are as one <sup>those</sup> on Paris peace talks.

This according to U.S. chief negotiator Averell Harriman -  
also, South Vietnamese Vice President Ky; <sup>So announced today</sup> after a meeting  
~~today~~ at which the two ~~men~~ agreed on an Allied procedural  
package plan - aimed at getting expanded talks finally  
underway.

Details of the plan - still a secret; pending  
presentation to the North Vietnamese delegation - at a  
meeting set for tomorrow. In the meantime though -  
another indication that Hanoi is perhaps softening its  
hard-line: - North Vietnamese negotiators announcing  
agreement for the first time - to deliver Christmas cards  
and packages to American prisoners-of-war.

## SAIGON FOLLOW PARIS

Be that as it may - the city of Saigon is on full alert tonight. U.S. intelligence telling of nearby enemy troop concentrations - raising the threat of a third major attack on the South Vietnamese capital.

*While* here at home - the Pentagon today ordered an increase of seven thousand men - in its February draft call. Raising the monthly quota <sup>to</sup> nearly thirty-four thousand - highest since last May.



CAPE KENNEDY

<sup>late</sup>  
The verdict ~~today~~ from Cape Kennedy - "no problem."

Space officials completing a check of apparent fuel

leakage ~~in~~ in one of the Apollo-Eight's rocket engines ~~and~~

Coming to the conclusion it was merely an automatic drainage-  
to dispose of overflow fuel.

The Apollo-Eight thus clears its final test - with  
flying colors. ~~the~~ Target date for the U.S. moonshoot -  
remains December Twenty-One - Saturday after next.

## VALLEY OF THE KINGS

*Now* "The Case of the Headless Mummy..." Sounds like a horror film? ~~doesn't it~~. Actually though - it's the cause of <sup>*some*</sup> a furor today in Cairo, ~~with~~ publication of a report from the Valley of the Kings at Luxor - where King Tut's tomb was reopened last week. British and Egyptian archaeologists discovering that King Tut's head - had been severed from the rest of his body.

The culprit - we are told - famed British archaeologist Howard Carter - who originally discovered the burial chamber back in Nineteen-Twenty-Two. He was trying - apparently - to determine the cause of the King's death <sup>*- do it*</sup> ~~λ~~ before the tomb was re-sealed.

Oddly enough, the tomb has now been reopened - for precisely the same purpose. To clear up the age-old mystery of the young King's brief reign ~~λ~~ in one of the most turbulent periods in Egyptian history. Indeed, Professor George Harrison of the University of

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Liverpool - has already returned to London, ~~carrying~~ <sup>with</sup>

X-rays of the King's head and body - which may tell the tale.

CLEVELAND

Another death reported today from Cleveland - that  
*of immensely popular*  
Edward L. "Bob" Bartlett, senior Senator from Alaska.

Victim of a heart ailment - at age sixty-four.

Senator Bob Bartlett - the son of an Alaskan  
gold rush couple - although his mother went to Seattle  
for his birth. A gold miner himself - also, a newspaperman -  
before turning to politics. Fond of saying that the only  
regret of his life - was the fact he was born outside Alaska.



WASHINGTON

It's a girl - again - for Ethel Kennedy. The widow of the late Senator Robert Kennedy - giving birth to her eleventh child today at Washington's Georgetown Hospital. Her fourth daughter - weighing eight pounds, four ounces. At last report - both mother and baby doing fine.

This Ethel Kennedy's fifth ~~delivery~~ ~~by~~ Caesarian.

~~section~~ With Senator Edward Kennedy and his wife Joan -

*at the hospital. Her eleventh a girl.*  
~~on hand to offer moral encouragement.~~

NEW YORK

*one and only*  
For the ~~great~~ Tallulah Bankhead - a final curtain

today in New York. The rebel Southern belle who hit it

*- and maybe even*  
big in London - ~~and~~ bigger in New York - victim of double  
pneumonia complicated by emphysema. She was sixty-five.

Temperamental, tempestuous Tallulah! - *a* woman who  
said she could stand anything - as long as it wasn't  
dull. Perhaps best described by Broadway showman Billy  
Rose - whom she once called a "loathsome little bully."  
Said Billy in reply: "How can you bully Niagara Falls?"

DALLAS

With Christmas fast approaching - Santa's little helpers are hard at work; (as witness a catalog of novel gift suggestions - making the rounds today.)

For example, New York ~~furner~~<sup>fur</sup> Jacques Kaplan is offering a bedroom-sized his-and-hers practice ski slope - in white beaver - for couples who enjoy that sort of thing. Price - about Eleven Thousand Bucks. Another prize package - the "gem-of-the month" collection offered by Nieman-Marcus of Dallas. Starting with sapphires for Christmas - followed by rubies, pearls, diamonds and so on. Price - a cool Quarter-of-a-Million. *Interested, Warren?*

Oh, yes, here's another - his and hers **Jaguars**.

His, ~~a car~~ - hers, a coat - about Six Grand ~~apiece~~.

## GENEVA

From Geneva ~~comes~~ news today of a government master plan - for complete rejuvenation of the Swiss tourist industry. To begin - we hear - with a mass rebuilding and modernization program <sup>for</sup> existing hotels, ski resorts, summer spas and so on. <sup>This</sup> To be followed by construction of new and better tourist facilities - designed especially for the young-at-heart.

Ultimate goal - says the Swiss Tourist Federation - to double the Swiss tourist volume by the year Two Thousand.

*This in itself is*  
~~which is kind of~~ reassuring. ~~in itself.~~ The Swiss, at least - confident ~~that~~ there will be a year Two Thousand.