

Nov. Jan. 6 - 169

So - it's official at last. The new President elect of the United States Richard Milhouse Nixon. With a joint session of Congress formally certifying the poll of the Electoral College. Nixon in with a total of three hundred and one electoral votes.

This final approval - following heated debate in both house of Congress. Senator Muskie in the Senate and Congressman O'Hara in the House -- challenging the defection of a three hundred and second Nixon-plledged elector; Dr. Lloyd Bailey of Rocky Mount, North Carolina - who decided to cast his vote for George Wallace instead.

In the end - though - the Senate and then the House refused to tamper with the original tabulation. In effect, giving future members of the Electoral College

Congressional carte blanche to vote for whomever they please. Senator ~~Brooke~~ Brooke of Massachusetts observing, ~~and~~ for one - that Bailey's ~~is~~ action was wrong, *said Sen. Brooke -* But, "unless a state chooses to bind its electors"-- said he -- "Congress cannot do so after the act."

All of which seems certain to raise another *small* howl -- for long-sought Electoral College reforms.

SAIGON

On the battle field^s of South Vietnam - *little*
fighting today. While in Saigon they
~~armed combat was again at low ebb today back in~~
~~had~~
~~Saigon though~~ the country's first political assassination
in more than a year. With Education Minister LeMinh
Tri headed for his office when a grenade was tossed
in the window of his car. The Minister's chauffeur -
killed instantly. Tri himself succumbing to multiple
wounds -- some ~~twelve~~ hours later.

As to the identity of the assassin - ~~was~~
no clue as yet. Officials noting - they could have
been random Viet Cong terrorists. Adding, however,
that Tri *did have* ~~had~~ enemies ~~among~~ among his own
people; *First* - for trying to eliminate corruption -
from the South Vietnamese educational system. Second -
for putting a stop to cheating - on student draft deferment
tests.

MIDDLE EAST

In the tense Middle East Lebanon mobilizes

for come what may. The Lebanese high command ordering

all defenses stepped up today - along the border with

Israel. The Lebanese government also launching a study

to determine the feasibility of a new compulsory military

service plan to create a force of over a hundred thousand

this year - both sexes too.

These two new moves following disclosure of

a recent border parley - between Lebanese and Israeli

officials. Lebanon now says - it was merely a technical

meeting.

This latest: Amman accusing Israel of an air

and artillery attack - on the Jordanian village of As-Satt

near the Dead Sea.

OSLO

Oslo, Norway - the scene of a moving ceremony today. A state funeral attended by Norway's Royal family - world diplomats by the ~~score~~ ^{score} as well as thousands of ordinary citizens. ^{all} ~~Joining together~~ in a final tribute to Trygve Lie -- first Secretary General of the United Nations.

On hand for the U S - Vice President Hubert Humphrey, surprisingly though narry a Russian. One Norwegian noting ^{that} it was a Soviet boycott ~~that~~ that finally forced Trygve Lie to resign his U N post. Adding:
"The Soviet Union apparently is carrying on its boycott even after death."

PRAGUE

Rumors of another Soviet takeover - ~~was~~

~~running~~ rampant today through Czechoslovakia. The

Soviet army - said to have reoccupied ^{factories} ~~factories~~

newspaper offices, government buildings. Indeed, the

rumors reaching such proportions - that Radio Prague

finally broadcast an official denial tonight, ^{saying} ~~saying~~

it just wasn't true - and apparently it wasn't. At last

report - all quiet on the eastern front.

From the Federal Aviation Administration -
a plan today to set "maximum noise standards" for
new airliners. The plan specifies, for example, that
a coming five hundred passenger Boeing Seven Forty-
Seven - shall be quieter than the present, comparatively-
tiny Boeing Seven Oh Seven. The idea - said the F A A -
to reverse "the escalation of aircraft noise" around
airports - before it becomes intolerable.

VENUS LONDON

As for Russia's latest attempt at a Venus probe:

A future manned-flight to Venus our nearest planetary neighbor -- forget it! -- says the U.S. Space Agency.

Information - obtained from previous U.S. and Soviet spacecraft it said to show that the surface of Venus is hot enough to melt lead. Its atmosphere, accordingly, twenty-two times denser than ours, so dense it acts "like a giant lens; refracting or bending light waves so they circle the planet and even return to where they started." So, Stew Metz, if you are a visitor there you may have the fun of looking at the back of your own head.

SAO PAULO - LONDON

This next - from Sao Paulo; where a Brazilian doctor today performed -- the world's one hundred and eighth ^{This} human heart transplant, while in London - a famed British doctor was decrying the whole idea of heart transplants -- at least, in ^{older} ~~London~~ patients. Lord Amulree asserting: "Of what good is it -- when "a moribund person is given a new heart!" Of what good is it - said he - when all it does is - "enable him to shuffle around for a little longer in a macabre dance of death."

Lord Amulree - who is sixty-eight - going on to suggest that modern medicine ~~and~~ has some of its priorities all wrong. The goal - said he - should not be that of adding years to life, but rather "adding life to years."