UNITED NATIONS

At the U.N. - Egypt today made public its terms for a peace settlement. These including Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territory - also, settlement of the Palestine refugee problem; with the U.S. Security Council then to set up a demilitarized zone - manned, at least in part, by "big four" troops. This is seen as a good beginning - if nothing else.

Even more encouraging - a report appearing today in the semi official Cairo newspaper - Al Ahram; which says Palestinian Guerrilla leaders - have now decided to support efforts toward a peaceful solution - support rather than fight them as they have in the past.

At the same time - Baghdad reportedly ordering the withdrawal of the thirty-six thousand Iraqui troops in Jordan.

This is considered a sign that King Hussein's Jordanian government - is once again in firm control.

At the Pentagon - a press conference today for

Defense Secretary Laird - just in from his latest inspection
tour over in Southeast Asia. The Secretary saying that U.S.
air and sea support is crucial to the Cambodians in their
fight against the communists. And he added: "I am sure
they have the will - and the determination - to succeed.

Does this mean increasing U.S. involvement - in support of the Cambodians? Says Laird - not at all. "We are going to do our best to help them" - said he - "and at the same time keep the U.S. Military presence at a minimum." Then he added: "As long as I am Secretary of Defense - I will continue to recommend the use of air and sea power in Cambodia;" with the witimate goal - said he - "to reduce the loss of life - as we withdraw our troops from South Vietnam."

T'he cry, "Yankee Go Home" - a refrain that's been heard so often and always seem to get attention it sometimes seems pandemic right around the globe, perhaps makes this next - worthy of special note.

A man you might call the spokesman for the world's

Silent Majority - speaking up today in Tokyo. Japan's

Foreign Minister - Kiichi Aichi - paying tribute to the

U.S. nuclear shield that now covers most of Asia; a protection

that has so far spared Japan - said he - the need to achieve

an "excessive military capability."

Kitchi Aichi adding that "a power vacuum" - carrying with it the threat of a major war - "will never occur in Asia; that is will never occur - said he - "as long as the U.S. determination to stand by its security commitments abroad - remains clear." A forthright honest statement from a Japanese statement states nan.

text.

President Nixon today passed the half way point - in his term in office. An occasion he marked with a special meeting - calling together more than a hundred key White House aides. The President praising his staff members - for their "vigor and dedication" in carrying out administration policy. John Erlichman, Chief White House Assistant for Domestic Affairs - speaking for the group, replied: "We appreciate the quality of life at the White House - the days are long but the years are short."

Today's session, however, was devoted to more than just mutual admiration. The President going on from there to say that his state of the union report this Friday - will represent "the most comprehensive, the most-far-reaching, the boldest legislative program - ever presented to the American Congress;" details of which were later discussed - after the reporters had left. The President then retiring to his sanctuary in the nearby executive office building - where he began the job of completing the final draft of his

Elsewhere in Washington - an exercise in International trust. The U.S. State Department - announcing today an agreement with Soviet officials; an agreement whereby convicted Soviet spy Igor Ivanov - will be permitted to return home to Russia pending the outcome of an appeal. This enabling him to see his aged mother - also his ailing father. The State Department stressing there is no "deal" involved - other than an assurance that Ivanov will return. The latter's Attorney calling it simply - an "act of humanity."

On the aviation front - a landmark event. The giant Boeing Seven-Forty-Seven - today completing its first year in active air line service; having carried more than seven million passengers - in speed comfort and safety.

Boeing boasting proudly - not a single passenger casualty to date.

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PORTLAND KEY WEST

Here at home again - record cold today from Portland,

Maine - where it was twenty-one below - all the way to Key

West, Florida where it was a bone chilling, for the Keys

anyway, forty-nine degrees. This the product of an Arctic air mass currently enveloping the entire East Coast. I've

been in the Berkshires today where skiing conditions are just

about perfect at all areas. But I nearly froze. Warmer

Meanwhile, a record heat wave in California - temperatures soaring into the nineties; with Los Angeles announcing its first air pollution alert of the new year; the third day of this L.A. alert.

You may already have heard how at Columbia,
Missouri there'll be another record breaking milestone
tomorrow when Mr. and Mrs. Ward McDaniel celebrate
their eighty-first wedding anniversary - Eighty-One!

Ward McDaniel - age one hundred-and-two; his wife,

Anne - age one-hundred-and-one. As far as we know, the

nation's - indeed, the world's first centenarians - ever to

achieve such an enduring marriage, so far as we know. And

they have done it - we are told - stressing the enduring

truth; love of home, love of family, love of each other;

which accounts for all the children, grand children, great

grandchildren and so on - helping them celebrate.

So here's to the McDaniel centenarians who have miraculously survived those eighty-one years of Matrimonial bliss. I suppose it was all bliss, Warren.

The big news in Spring and Summer fashions displayed this week in Rome? A growing trend to those short shorts the trade calls - hot pants. Including a new still hotter batch that might be called even "shorter than short". This was the main offering today in the celebrated Biki collection.

But, the biggest hit of the show - Italian film star

Sophia Loren; who showed up wearing a midi length maxi

dress unbuttoned at the front all the way up to there; - or

down to there maybe; showing even more - we are told - than

the short shorts models. And getting all the attention,

Sophia Loren! so I'm told, but I don't actually know.

She could draw a crowd wearing almost nothing and frequently

does?