

Good Morning TOP of the NEWS

GENERALLY FAIR. Generally fair weather with high clouds and warmer temperatures are forecast for the Tucson area today. The high today will be near 70 with tomorrow morning's low near 48. Yesterday's high and low were 68 and 38.

Global Gearing wheels packing snow and rain lashed the Pacific Northwest in the hours yesterday. Details on Page 4A.

DOLLAR TRADE. The dollar falls sharply in foreign speculative markets amid signs that central banks have not been buying to support the value of U.S. currency. Page 4C.

BRITISH STRIKE. Nearly 3,000,000 British are out of work as a result of the long coal strike and resultant power crisis, and Britons are warned to expect further curtailment of light and heat. The health government faces a crucial vote today. Page 3A.

CODED POW MESSAGE? Ruth Romar of Mesa believes that her husband, Lt. Col. Jack W. Romar, is dying of a kidney ailment as a prisoner of war camp. She tells U.S. officials that she decoded a series of letters to obtain this message. The confirmation came with the note, "... start working on my fireproof vault." Page 3C.

WAITING WALL HOMES. Israeli religious leaders demand that a row of Arab homes built atop Jerusalem's Wall of Wailing be torn down. Homes were recently built in the sacred wall in an attempt to shore up the homes. Page 3C.

IRISH VIOLENCE. A Londonderry bus driver is dragged by terrorists from his bus and shot to death in the gateway car. The victim was a member of the Ulster Defense Regiment and a Catholic. Page 3B.

National

GALLUP POLL. President Nixon's popularity rating is at its highest point recorded in four months, with 52 per cent of those polled expressing approval of the President's performance in office. Page 3A.

SCHOOL BURNING. Elliot L. Richardson, secretary of health, education and welfare and a member of President Nixon's committee studying school burning, says he has seen a proposal for a constitutional amendment solution that satisfies him. Many such proposals would weaken civil rights laws and hamper desegregation, he says. Page 3C.

CAR RETURN? A small but growing number of people are trying a new tactic after they've been sold an automotive "lemon." Take it back for a refund. The idea is called "revocation of acceptance," and it's legal in 40 states. Page 3D.

MURPHY LEADER. Robert Murphy beats Edmund Muskie in the recent polls of three local union leaders. President Nixon lapped for behind, receiving less support than Alaska Governor George Wallace. Still, a spokesman says, the AFL-CIO has no favorites now. Page 3B.

N.H. BOMBINGS. The bombing of police and fire department buildings in Manchester, N.H., are said to be linked to plans to blow up the New Hampshire primary headquarters of President Nixon. Page 3C.

WEST COAST TIEUP. Both the longshoremen's union and employers are studying terms of an agreement which could end the 15-day-old West Coast dock strike. Union officials say the pact will be ratified and work may resume Sunday. Page 3C.

SECRET TREATIES. The Senate unanimously approves legislation requiring that all international agreements be submitted to Congress. The vote is seen as an attempt to prevent the executive branch from entering into secret foreign commitments. Page 3C.

Arizona

EMPIRE RANCH WATER STUDY. State law requires that the Arizona Health Department evaluate the immediate and long-range water supply of new developments, such as the 15,000-acre Empire Ranch north of Sonoita. Since the department doesn't have the funds, it insists the state of the Water Commission. Page 1B.

CITY, COUNTY PLANNING. A proposal to unite city and county planning operations brings a mixed reaction from officials — qualified support from politicians and moderate opposition from planners. The Chamber of Commerce also proposed revision of the city building code and enactment of a city building code. Page 1B.

Local

GEOTHERMAL POWER. Southern Arizona may have deposits of underground steam that can be tapped to run power generators, a UA professor told a California conference. He cites geological features and warm-water wells. Page 1C.

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Giveaway Not Allowed Army Junking Viet Equipment

By RICHARD BLYSTONE PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Ballisticians are busy making junk out of equipment the U.S. Army says it is not worth keeping and too expensive to give away.

Most of the incoming equipment has been on hand for a month, says Warren S. Everett, the agency's deputy director in Vietnam.

But much of it has served U.S. units well during the war and could be put to use by the Vietnamese, who patch up anything from roofs to automobiles with an ad hoc sense of necessity.

The disposal men are bound on one hand by red tape designed to prevent corruption and on the other by a work load that has doubled in the last month and may double again before spring.

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"There, they've done it to us again," sighed

S. Sgt. Sylvanus Watts, pointing to three steel acetylene gas cylinders dumped near a heap of scrap aluminum.

"We've had them bring new motors in here, still in the crate, and I've turned them back. We can't accept those things, but there's only half a dozen of us. We haven't got the men to keep it all out."

A four of the yard turned up four-wheeled hydraulic lifts with olive drab paint unsmoothed, cans of lubricating oil and more acetylene bottles. A smashed toolbox heaped wrenches into the mud. A battered computer keypunch stood in the rain.

While the yard crew is racing to keep up with sorting and paperwork, a steady stream of trucks spurs in more and more usable equipment.

The reason, disposal men say, is the arrival of scrap aluminum.

(Continued on Page 8A, Col. 4)

Nixon To Begin Trip To Red China Today

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon, after doing 11th-hour homework at his scheduled mourning retreat, leaves for Hawaii today on the first leg of his so-called "journey for peace" to China.

As Nixon prepared to fly back by helicopter after an overnight stay at Camp David in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains, aides wrapped up final details for his 10-day, 27,350-mile trip.

Congressional leaders and Cabinet officials are to join a thousand flag-waving school children who will be on the White House South Lawn in 340 farewell to the President, Mrs. Nixon and the 15-member official party at 10 a.m. EST Thursday.

Nixon will make brief remarks at the ceremony which will follow a White House meeting with bipartisan congressional leaders.

Despite assurance from both Washington and Peking that the meetings will not attend bilateral sessions of problems involving third parties, there has been some apprehension among Asian nations that the talks might adversely affect their interests.

In an apparent effort to counter this uneasiness, the State Department announced Wednesday that its main Asia expert, Marshall Green, will visit also Asian and South Pacific nations after the talks to give reports on the discussion. (Other stories on Page 4.)

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Mrs. Irving Arrested Edith Irving, wife of author Clifford Irving, was arrested in New York yesterday on a charge of being a fugitive from Swiss justice. Mrs. Irving, who was surrounded by newsmen as she arrived at the courthouse, has been charged in Switzerland with counterfeiting, forgery and larceny in connection with her husband's purported autobiography of Howard Hughes. Story on Page 5A. (AP Wirephoto)

Expected Birth Rate Change Wanted In Public-School Financing Law

By AL BRADSHAW JR. Star Phoenix Bureau

PHOENIX — The Arizona Senate majority leader Wednesday recommended another shift in state taxes to further finance the effort to provide equality in public education, then criticized his legislative colleagues for failing to meet the problem.

"The problem is compounding under the present school finance law. Inaction will make it worse," said Sen. David Kret, a Scottsdale Republican, in an eight-page speech delivered on the Senate floor.

"While the inequities of school financial support have long been recognized," Kret said, "there have been strong forces motivating toward inaction or delay. In recent months, they have held the upper hand, but I think that will change rapidly."

Kret recalled that some lawmakers wanted to begin work on the subject last year during the first session of the 30th Arizona Legislature. "We were committed to delay action," he said, until a special session on taxation. That session was never held.

The majority leader recalled that the tax issue was reworked for a special session last year, but that session was devoted instead to legislative redistricting and congressional reapportionment.

"To relieve the growing pressure," Kret said, "large tax advantages also have had great political strength and are most persuasive."

He said there has been resistance to the concept of shifting the burden of school support after first elections.

"We must replace tax advantages and loopholes with tax equity and equal educational opportunity," Kret said, then added, "It has been automatic that those who have enjoyed large tax advantages also have had great political strength and are most persuasive."

He said there has been resistance to the concept of shifting the burden of school support after first elections.

(Continued on Page 12A, Col. 6)

Waves Of Jets Smas Giant N.V. Viet Guns

SAIGON (AP) — American fighter-bombers launched waves of strikes against powerful Soviet-made artillery pieces inside North Vietnam Wednesday and resumed pounding the targets today, the U.S. Command announced.

The command said one Air Force F4 had been shot down inside North Vietnam just north of the demilitarized zone, the two crewmen were listed as missing. Radio Hanoi reported that two planes had been shot down and that a number of airmen had been killed or captured.

"There was a hell of a lot of enemy activity, both surface-to-air missiles and anti-aircraft artillery fire," a U.S. spokesman said, "and it's hard to figure out what hit (the plane)."

Flots returned fire at the missile sites and anti-aircraft guns.

Initial reports said American planes destroyed at least five of the long-range 130mm guns. They are the most powerful in the enemy arsenal with a range of more than 16 miles.

A command spokesman said the guns had been installed inside North Vietnam's half of DMZ, and just to the north of it for the first time in the Indochina war. They have been used previously in Laos, he added.

The raids were the heaviest inside North Vietnam since the intensive bombing of Dec. 28 through 30. The downed F4 was the first reported loss of American aircraft and airmen over North Vietnam since the December raids.

The command said the new attacks were "limited-duration protective reaction air strikes against an enemy buildup of long-range artillery in and just north of the demilitarized zone." It said the strikes "were necessary to counter a threat to the security of remaining U.S. forces posed by the introduction of these new offensive weapons into the area. Initial reports indicate that five guns have been destroyed."

Informants indicated that the latest raids would not run as long or be as extensive as those in December, which ranged over a much wider area of the North stretching to the 19th Parallel.

Although no figures were immediately available, the informants characterized the strikes as "heavy in a highly concentrated area." Both Air Force and Navy planes took part in the strikes.

U.S. informants said the Air Force brought about 13 fighter-bombers into South Vietnam to

serve as backup reinforcements for its strike force. This was one of several moves in recent days to reinforce American air and naval strength to counter what U.S. officials call a major enemy buildup.

Radio Hanoi said a number of American jets had attacked the populous Quang Binh and Vinh Linh areas just north of the DMZ.

Earlier, a senior U.S. military source noted that North Vietnam had moved surface-to-air missiles to near the DMZ where they could hit American planes flying intended air strikes in the northern quarter of South Vietnam in a massive campaign to crush an expected enemy offensive.

"When he puts SAMs near the DMZ, that's a threat to any pilot who goes flying up there in support of Route 9 and five bases along the DMZ," the source said. "We've got to do something to protect the pilots if we're going to have them flying missions."

The heaviest sustained bombing campaign in South Vietnam in 18 months entered its second week with no letup in sight. Sources said the number of strikes had surpassed the 1,100 mark.



Tree Doomed

This ancient cottonwood tree, long a landmark in the Flowing Wells area, will be cut down to make room for a county paving project. County Engineer D. A. DiCicco said there was probably no way contractors could avoid cutting down the tree, which is situated in the middle of the planned widening of Flowing Wells Road. The tree is about 100 yards north of Roger Road on Flowing Wells. (Sheaffer Photo)