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The Arizona Daily Star

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Good Morning TOP of the NEWS

STILL SUNNY. Generally fair weather with little change in temperature is predicted for the city today. This afternoon's high should be near 70, with an overnight low in the middle 30s. Yesterday the temperature extremes were 72 and 36.

Clear skies and warm temperatures prevailed over the state yesterday but storms covered the northeast part of the nation. Details on Page 4A.

Global

IRISH PROTESTS. Demonstrators at rallies in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, and in Dublin call for an end to the jailing of suspected IRA members without trial and reject compromise with the Protestant-dominated provincial government in the north. Page 4A.

CORRUPTION IN MEXICO. Horacio Flores de la Pena, Mexico's minister of national patrimony, says government corruption is an obstacle to progress. Mexico's equivalent of the attorney general calls on citizens to file complaints when they find corruption. Page 14A.

STORYBOOK ENDING. The 11th Winter Olympic Games close in Sapporo, Japan, and for the United States hockey team, it's a "storybook ending" as it takes the silver medal, the first hockey medal for the Americans since 1960. Page 2B

National

POT AND HEROIN. The National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse concludes that ending criminal penalties for possessing marijuana could reduce heroin addiction by cutting the link of illegality between the two drugs. Page 6A.

HARRIS SURVEY. While the public is optimistic about economic recovery, it is pessimistic about the ability of the Pay Board and Price Commission to hold to the guidelines that were laid down, the latest Harris Survey shows. Page 7A.

GM RECALLS. General Motors Corp. brands "purely speculative" a report in the St. Louis Post Dispatch that the firm will spend "far less than the $35 million that has been estimated" in the largest automotive recall in history. Page 2A.

LOANS TO MAFIA. For more than 10 years, the Lafayette National Bank in Brooklyn — which became the Kings Lafayette Bank in 1969 — has been lending money to reputed Mafia members, who in turn, lend the money to others on their own terms. Page 2A. 3A.

Local

SEWER SYSTEM. Tucson's sewer system — unlike the water system — does not pay for itself through incoming revenues. Frank Brooks, city water director, favors assessing a sewer usage fee. Page 1B.

YOUTHFUL POLITICO. Tucsonan Frank Maish, selected as an alternate to the July 10 Democratic National Convention in Florida, is "finding out what politics is all about," he says. The 1970-71 student body president of Pueblo High School has worked in mayoral campaigns in South Tucson and Tucson and hopes, one day, to hold office himself. Page

POST OFFICE SERVICES. The United States Post Office is expanding its services. Under new policies, the agency will cash some checks and will accept personal checks in payment. Distribution of food stamps and handling of passport applications are under consideration. Page 1B.

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Complex Dope Trail Wends Northward From Sinaloa Hills

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In the mountains of Sinaloa, Mexico the sun is hot, the cooling breeze occasional.

The hills are green, but beneath their lushness lie thorns and brambles — all but impossible to penetrate. But there are trails that start where the pueblos end. They lead up, down, and around, steadily climbing eastward, flanking fields of beans, corn, marijuana and opium poppies.

The last two crops will eventually enter Arizona on the way to customers of the world's most lucrative cottage industry: the drug trade.

The croplands are the knolls, foothills and mountains of the Espinazo del Diablo — the Devil's Backbone — that forms a ridge of the Sierra Madre Occidental.

There, marijuana — mota, as it's commonly called — grows year-round. Poppies blossom twice a year, producing pink, red and white petals. Below the petals are the poppies' bulbous capsules. When ripe, about two weeks after the petals fall, the capsules are knife-scored with two or three parallel lines that drain, then hold, a white, sticky sap that is scraped with spoon or knife into a dish.

This liquid, when cooked, becomes what they call negra — raw opium. From negra, after laboratory processing, comes morphine base and finally heroin, raw sugar — brown in its Mexican variety, flour-white as refined in France from Turkish opium. Ten parts negra are needed to produce one part heroin.

As French processing methods move into Mexico, more locally produced white heroin is emerging.

Mexican laboratories, beaker-and-tubery affairs which may be moved from place to place any time, are scattered across the republic, from the jacales — rough-cut shacks — of the narcotics farmers to the garages, warehouses and suburban homes of Guadalajara, Monterrey and Mexico City.

The marijuana plants grow as high as a yard, tapering from a husky bottom to its top leaves, long and jagged.

When marijuana is sun-dried, it looks much like wilted alfalfa — even smells, at first sniff, like it. But beneath that smell is a more potent odor, with a bit of the sharpness of tobacco.

The farmers of these fields are very jealous of their crops, which they cultivate at the continual risk of raids by the army or by the federal judicial police. If the fields are found by the federales, they are sprayed with gasoline and burned. If the owners of the plantilos are caught, they go to prison and lose their lands.

Thus they are suspicious of strangers. Their dogs, short-haired mongrels, keep forasteros at bay while they converge on the cause of the fuss, machetes at the ready.

Mostly friendly if approached in town on market-day, these people dispense with pleasantries when encountered on their home ground. This is private land, they say — even the veredas, the paths between the fields.

No hay paso por aqui, they mumble, one hand on a hip, the other resting on a machete-handle to emphasize — if there were any doubt — that no one goes beyond here.

Their behavior is based on good economic sense.

A farmer in the Sinaloan uplands probably could earn $15-$20 a year for each acre he plants in corn or beans.

If he puts 20 acres into opium, however, he can likely produce 10 kilograms (22 pounds) of negra that he can sell for 2,000-3,000 pesos ($160-$240) a kilo — twice a year, if he's not in danger of a raid.

For all its risks, then, opium-growing can earn him 10-20 times what he'd get from an legal crop.

With less work and worry, he can sow crop after crop of that hearty weed, marijuana, and earn five to ten times what corn or beans would pay him.

There are many ways of handling the marijuana. In the mountains, the more popular method is cramming it into extra-long gunny sacks and sewing them shut with heavy twine. But the "downtown" method is also used: the grass is stuffed into garage-made steel compactors, where it is pressed with hydraulic jacks into one-kilo (2.2 pounds, mas o menos — mostly menos) bricks.

The farmers have their own system of middlemen. Sometimes these are their sons, who have moved to Mazatlan or Culiacan. Sometimes they are townsfolk who long ago approached them to buy the illegal produce.

To transport the negra — the blackened raw opium — is no problem. It is carried in cans, in corn easily placed in market bags, since so much as 10 kilos is a big buy.

The bulky marijuana poses problems, especially with the army posts poised along the main streets of towns and with troops now working year-round on search-and-destroy missions in the sierra.

Because roads fade to trails not far into the foothills, burros and mules make up most of the marijuana transport. The men leading them work their way down the mountains at the deepest hours of the night, trusting their years of walking these hills to get them to drop-off points with only occasional use of lantern or flashlight.

As they near Highway 15, they scout out their pre-arranged drop points and leave the sacks. Sometimes they just leave them at roadside; other times they signal with lantern or flashlight, and wait for the return signal from a truck headlight. Others operate with long-familiar whistles.

At this point, the marijuana is ready to go to town. But how to get it past the truck-inspection stations as they approach the cities — hide it under legitimate produce?

"That or put it in false bottoms of the trucks," says Lupe, taxi driver in Mazatlan and part-time trafficker in marijuana and pills.

"I've most often used a false-bottom truck," he said as he drove his taxi around the Pacific Coast port-resort. "It nearly always works."

Nearly always. Lupe was caught carrying half a ton of grass toward Laredo. At a checkstation near Monterrey he was stopped. Just carrying beans, he told the police. Sure. They went right to the undercarriage, where they found the welded-on compartment and its contents.

"Someone pointed the finger at me. It was a matter of traicion," said the slim youngster. "Otherwise I would never have been caught."

Lupe was lucky. His uncle is a high functionary in Monterrey, and he saw to it that his nephew went free after five days in jail. Now Lupe must go to Monterrey once a month to sign in with probation officers. He still works as a cabbie.

"I'd do it again," he said, "but I'd be sure I could trust everyone." He doesn't know who told on him — it could have been any of several associates.

Lupe does his carrying on a free-lance basis. Once approached by a customer, he goes to a shoestore near the central market. A stock clerk takes his truck to a warehouse in an industrial district, where it is loaded with one-kilo bricks of marijuana in the compartment that runs along the one-ton truck's frame and with beans, pineapples, or chickens in the truck bed.

Lupe doesn't know where the warehouse is, or if he does he won't tell. "They (police) beat me in Monterrey, but I wouldn't tell."

Why not? "I'd be killed."

Walter knows his warehouse. He owns it. He also owns a tank truck specially rigged for carrying marijuana by the hundreds of kilos.

Walter is big, muscular, cool and poised. He also drives a cab, working from a sitio at a Gaviotas Beach hotel.

He'll sell anything: marijuana, pills, cocaine, heroin. For the right amount, ie., price,

(Continued on Page 8A)

Desert Landing

In the vast emptiness of Arizona and Sonora, dope smugglers have a wide choice of landing strips. Among desert shrubbery their planes are difficult to spot, and loading operations are too fast to be stopped by police on the ground. (Duane Moore Photo)

U.S. Ignores Red Truce, Bombs Trails

SAIGON (AP) — A Viet Cong Tet cease-fire went into effect across South Vietnam Monday, but the United States ignored it and ordered a sixth successive day of heavy air attacks. The total number of strikes passed the 500 mark.

The Viet Cong had announced a 96-hour cease-fire for the lunar new year celebration beginning at 1 a.m. Saigon time.

The allies declared their own shorter 24-hour cease-fire beginning at 6 p.m. Saigon time Monday, claiming that the Communists wanted to take advantage of the longer truce to infiltrate troops and supplies from North Vietnam into the South.

Twelve hours before the Viet Cong cease-fire was scheduled to begin, a U.S. patrol helping secure Saigon's eastern flanks clashed with enemy troops 20 miles east of the capital, pulled back and called in helicopter gunships.

There were no U.S. casualties on the ground, but the enemy troops shot down an observation helicopter trying to pinpoint positions for the gunships to attack. The pilot was killed and the copilot wounded.

Although Tet falls on Tuesday, the celebrations last the entire week and most government offices and businesses are closed for the better part of the week.

Cease-fires for holidays in the past have been meaningless, with scores of violations reported. It was during Tet 1968 that the Communist command launched its biggest offensive of the war, while 50 per cent of South Vietnamese troops were on leave.

Informants said U.S. air strikes would continue across South Vietnam until 6 p.m. Monday, when the allied truce is scheduled to begin. They said that during the 24-hour allied cease-fire, American bombers would be diverted from targets in South Vietnam to attack enemy supply lines in Laos and Cambodia. The cease-fires do not apply in Cambodia and Laos.

U.S. officials said they do not anticipate a major North Vietnamese and Viet Cong offensive until after Tet, possibly timed to President Nixon's visit to China beginning next Monday.

The U.S. Command reported that Air Force and Navy tactical fighter-bombers flew 162 strikes against enemy supply lines and staging areas during the 24-hour period ending at dawn Sunday.

All but seven of the strikes were in the central highlands, against staging areas and infiltration routes leading from Laos and Cambodia, the command said. Despite the large number of strikes, few tangible results have been reported by the command.

Meanwhile in Vientiane, officials announced that Laotian government troops re-entered the town of Muong Kasy Sunday after pushing several Pathet Lao battalions north from Van Vieng. The officials declined to say if the town 88 miles north of vientiane, was "recaptured" by the government troops. The town fell to the Pathet Lao a week ago.

In Phnom Penh Sunday, the Cambodian high command reported that fighting broke out on the edge of the insurgent occupied Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom temples amid rumors that Cambodian troops plan a pincer attack on the great art treasures.

The command spokesman said one Cambodian soldier was killed and nine were wounded in clashes and harassing attacks Saturday along the southern edge of the temples, 150 miles northwest of Phnom Penh.

The fighting centered around an airfield for the former tourist center of Siem Reap, he added, and on a road from Siem Reap to the airfield. Siem Reap is four miles south of the temple complex.

The temple area was reported calm Sunday. The command said the only significant fighting occurred 25 miles southwest of this capital. Four Cambodians were killed and 16 wounded, the spokesman said.

The 9th and 13th century temples have provided sanctuary for an estimated 2,000 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops and another 2,000 Khmer Rouge guerrillas since June 1970.

Rumors persist in Phnom Penh that Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the deposed head of state living in exile in Peking, plans in establish rival government in Angkor Wat.

Versailles Group Backs Enemy's Peace Proposals

VERSAILLES (AP) — An international antiwar assembly, one of the largest ever held, Sunday unanimously backed Communist Vietnamese proposals for ending the Vietnam war and termed the U.S. peace plan "hypocritical and fallacious."

Then some of the 800 delegates from 50 countries — including a 147-member American contingent — braved a chill rain to march in nearby Paris behind Viet Cong and North Vietnamese flags and French Communist Party banners.

The six-block long parade rang with cries of "Nixon — fascist, murderer," and "U.S. go home."

The "Paris World Assembly for Peace and Independence of Indochinese Peoples," ended a three-day meeting in Versailles by adopting without a single dissent a resolution that said in part, "the solution to the Vietnam conflict lies in the seven-point proposals of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam" and two recently presented "clarifications."

The Versailles assembly was criticized by U.S. Ambassador William J. Porter, head of the American delegation to the Vietnam peace talks, as a "horde of Communist-controlled agitators." Because of the atmosphere created by the assembly, Porter said, he indefinitely postponed the next session of the peace talks, which had been scheduled for next Thursday.

The principal theme running through the three days of meetings was that Porter is an "unstatesmanlike tool" of Nixon and should resign, and that Nixon presented his eight-point peace plan only to cover a new "escalation" of the Vietnam war.

The assembly was organized by the Stockholm Conference on Vietnam and 48 French peace groups, including the French Communist Party. A number of non-Communist groups, including the American Friends Service Committee — Quakers — took part in the assembly.

British Coal Supply Dwindles

By LOUIS NEVIN

LONDON (AP) — Generating plant supervisors said Sunday they were sweeping up the last stocks of coal to provide power for dim and shivering Britain. Prime Minister Edward Heath's Conservative government faced a crisis of confidence over the coal miners' strike.

Opponents of Heath and even some influential Conservatives accused his administration of bungling its handling of the five-week-old strike and the impact on electricity supplies. The industrial confrontation is the worst since Britain's general strike of 1926.

A spokesman said some power stations were so low on fuel that they were "sweeping up the last remnants of coal and getting soil mixed up with it."

British industry prepared to cut back to a three-day work week starting today — with the threat of a total shutdown by the end of the month — in efforts to conserve rapidly dwindling power supplies.

Electricity cuts, applied on a rotation basis, left thousands of families in darkness after sunset and others with cold Sunday dinners and unheated homes.

In Barnsley, England, a man and a youth were killed by tons of falling earth Sunday as they tunneled into separate coal seams to dig fuel for their fireless homes.

They died at two of the open seam sites which have attracted hundreds of do-it-yourself miners since the strike made coal nearly unobtainable.

The first to die was 15-year-old Michael Phillips, who was buried after makeshift wooden props supporting a tunnel collapsed. Rescue workers dug for 90 minutes to recover his body.

"He was trying to get a stock of coal for the family," relatives said.

Henry Ellis, a 55-year-old painter, was killed while digging at another of the open seams which are scattered around Barnsley's outskirts. Ellis was trapped by an earth slide and was dead when rescuers pulled him free.

A special court of inquiry has begun an investigation into the labor dispute. The Central Electricity Generating Board said all consumers faced extra power and voltage cuts beyond those decreed by the government state of emergency proclaimed last week.

The board said most people were cooperating in keeping electricity consumption at a minimum.

The government's harshest critics accused Heath and the Cabinet of misjudging the miners' determination and the extent of coal stocks.

Ministers have claimed that miners' picketing of the country's mainly coal-fired power stations has been so adamant that a crisis has developed more quickly than expected.

Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers went before the court of inquiry to state their case for a big pay increase.

High Court Judge Lord Wilberforce, who is heading the inquiry, said he hoped its work would be completed by the end of the week. And miners leader Lawrence Daly said satisfactory recommendations could be put to miners' union branches in two or three days.

But he warned the union might opt for a national ballot, which would delay a decision on a return to work for up to three weeks.

"The miners are determined to continue their strike action until the government and the coal board see reason," he added.

The court's unusual Sunday meeting underscored the gravity of a situation that has put the nation's factories on half time and led to forecasts of even more power cuts.

Already supporters as well as opponents of the Conservative administration were asking why the crisis had been permitted to arise and why it was not foreseen.

Time Publishes Excerpts To Prove Irving 'Hoax'

NEW YORK (AP) — Time magazine printed parts of Clifford Irving's "Autobiography of Howard Hughes" Sunday and said they proved the book is a hoax, much of it pirated from another writer's unpublished manuscript.

The magazine also said Irving and his research assistant, Richard Suskind, had admitted that the "autobiography" was a hoax.

The Irving excerpts were published in tandem with matching passages from a manuscript by writer James Phelan, who once collaborated on a Hughes biography with longtime Hughes aide Noah Dietrich, 83. Dietrich later completed the book with another free-lance writer, Bob Thomas of the Associated Press, and it is to be published this month.

Time said that in some cases the Irving and Phelan manuscript versions of Hughes anecdotes were virtually identical and sometimes they were substantially the same.

When Irving was confronted with this evidence, Time said he said that they hadn't solved the whole mystery.

"It's more complex than you ever think," Time said the 41-year-old writer told its reporter. "You haven't seen the bottom line yet. There is going to be some big news breaking. So be careful."

Time's parent firm, Time Inc., also owns Life magazine, which had purchased magazine rights to the Irving manuscript but canceled the arrangement after deciding the book was a hoax. Time then disclosed it would publish the excerpts in an attempt to illustrate the hoax, although it did so only after overcoming a last-minute court challenge Saturday.

Irving's likeness, painted by art forger Elmyr de Hory, the subject of Irving's previous book called "Fake," appears on the magazine cover. Irving is dubbed "Con Man of the Year" on the cover by Time, which annually

(Continued on Page 15A, Col. 2)

Preparing For Tet

Crewmen aboard the U.S. carrier Constellation load bombs onto aircraft for missions over South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. The ship was recently summoned back to the Gulf of Tonkin to combat a North Vietnamese offensive expected for the Lunar New Year (Tet) or possibly to coincide with President Nixon's visit to Peking. (AP Wirephoto)

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