

# UPI Roundup

## U.S.-Australian relations ease

WASHINGTON — After some serious friction over Vietnam, relations between the United States and Australia have returned to normal and tentative plans call for Prime Minister Gough Whitlam to visit the United States. State Department officials report that Whitlam, whose Labor government pointedly criticized the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam, may attend an August meeting of parties to the U.S.-Australian-New Zealand defense treaty or the opening of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

## Senate doves threaten filibuster

WASHINGTON — House Democrats return to their fight over congressional reform this week while the Senate heads for a dispute over confirmation of President Nixon's chief Pentagon nominees. A threatened filibuster by Vietnam war critics such as Sen. Harold Hughes, D-Iowa, will come to a head on Tuesday when the Senate considers Nixon's appointment of William Clements Jr. as deputy secretary of defense and James Schlesinger as chief of the Central Intelligence Agency. The fight by Hughes, who said his protest is aimed more at Nixon's Vietnam war policies than the nominees will arise again Thursday when Elliot Richardson's nomination as secretary of defense comes to the Senate floor. House democrats will caucus today seeking to resolve reform proposals pushed by liberals in the party.

## Corona trial may be replayed

FAIRFIELD, Calif. —

A 63-year-old widow said Sunday she talked with a county sheriff's matron who offered information to "ease your conscience" before she ended a two-day holdout and voted with her fellow jurors to convict Juan Corona of the biggest mass slayings in U.S. history. Naomi Underwood, whose change of heart ended a week of nearly deadlocked deliberations in the case, said the talk with the matron was "after everybody knew, including myself," that she was going to change her mind and vote for conviction "to get some peace." But defense attorney Richard Hawk, who first disclosed the incident, said the discussion took place the night before Thursday's verdict was handed down and could be construed as jury tampering.

## Teachers' strikes continue

NEGOTIATIONS between striking Chicago public school teachers and the school board broke off Sunday, insuring the schools will be closed to 558,000 pupils again Monday for the ninth school day. Teachers in St. Louis took a strike vote. Walkouts by teachers in Philadelphia and Superior, Wis., continued pending court sessions today. A strike by St. Louis teachers would be the first in the city's history and would idle 103,000 students.

## 'Dispirit' in U.S.

OXFORD, ENGLAND (UPI) — Sen. George McGovern denounced President Nixon's recent bombing of North Vietnam Sunday as "barbarous" and declared the United States seems headed toward "one-man rule."

In a speech prepared for delivery at St. Catherine's College at Oxford, the defeated Democratic presidential candidate also said "dispirit" is prevailing in America.

The South Dakotan expressed regret that the British government had not protested the intensified bombing ordered by Nixon.

# Nixon: 'on the threshold of new era of peace'

Declaring that America today stands "on the threshold of a new era of peace," President Richard Nixon was inaugurated Saturday for four more years of national leadership.

Although his short inaugural address mentioned America's efforts for peace several times, Nixon emphasized that his administration will continue to respect treaty commitments.

"We shall do our share in defending peace and freedom in the world," the President declared. "But we shall expect others to do their share."

Addressing a divided nation, Nixon said, "As America's longest and most difficult war comes to an end, let us again learn to debate our differences with civility and decency. And let each of us reach out for that one precious quality government cannot provide — a new level of respect for the rights and

feelings of one another and for the individual human dignity which is the cherished birthright of every America."

Nixon attacked those people he said have lost faith in America. "But I am confident that theirs will not be the judgement of history on these remarkable times in which we are privileged to live."

Following the inaugural ceremony, the parade down Pennsylvania Avenue was watched by some 300,000.

During the parade, Frank Van Riper, a reporter for the New York Daily News, was arrested by local police for running along side the President's car. Van Riper was charged by police with disorderly conduct. The newsman called it "false arrest" and vowed to fight it in court.

# Peace settlement might be signed this week

UPI — White House sources said Sunday South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu had agreed to the proposed peace settlement in Vietnam and President Nixon had authorized Henry Kissinger to initial it in Paris Thursday.

Communist diplomats also expressed optimism over what appeared to be an imminent agreement ending 12 years of war in Vietnam.

The White House sources told UPI Correspondent Helen Thomas that Nixon gave Kissinger the go-ahead in a meeting Sunday after learning that Gen. Alexander Haig was able to win Thieu's backing.

The sources said Kissinger would meet with Nixon again early today before departing for Paris and new talks with Hanoi's Le Duc Tho on Tuesday.

Haig returned early Sunday from a trip to South Vietnam and Korea last week to present a revised draft of a tentative peace agreement reached by Kissinger and Tho in Paris two weeks ago. Thieu was believed to have some reservations but ready to go along generally with the accord.

Both the United States and North Vietnam

announced last Thursday that the next round of peace talks were arranged to complete the text of an agreement.

The optimism at the White House was echoed in Paris by negotiators for North Vietnam and the Viet Cong.

Xuan Thuy, head of the North Vietnamese peace talks delegation, said he expected the Vietnamese lunar New Year on Feb. 3 to be "happier than usual" this year.

Asked whether he meant a peace settlement was imminent, Thuy replied: "We must first finish the text we are working on."

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, the Viet Cong foreign minister, said she had returned to Paris with instructions to "employ all our efforts" to sign a Vietnam peace agreement.

As diplomats began converging on Paris for Tuesday's meeting between Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho, other reports from both Communist and non-Communist sources also indicated a Vietnam peace settlement could be completed this week.

## At Nixon inaugural

# Thousands protest war

WASHINGTON UPI — Buoyed by the support of thousands who turned out to protest President Nixon's Vietnam policy on his second inauguration, antiwar leaders said Sunday they would call for similar actions until the war is over.

The leaders outlined their plans shortly before about 700 protesters attended an inter-faith service at the Wesley United Methodist Church, concluding three days of events called "An Inauguration of Conscience" that centered around the mass march and rally coinciding with the President's inauguration Saturday.

Among the speakers at the antiwar service were former Sens. Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota and Ernest Gruening of Alaska as well as Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska.

Sidney Peck, national co-coordinator of the

Peoples Coalition for Peace and Justice (PCPJ), a sponsor of Saturday's activities, said they were "a success beyond our imagination."

He said the PCPJ estimated that between 100,000 and 125,000 "participated in some phase or another" of Saturday's antiwar demonstrations. Police estimates varied from between 60,000 and 25,000.

Jerry Gordon, national co-coordinator of the National Peace Action Coalition (NPAC), the other major organization sponsoring Saturday's protests, said it assessed the crowd at "over 100,000" and that the demonstration showed "how deep the feeling of revulsion against the war lies."

Peck said Saturday marked the beginning "of the third and final phase of the antiwar movement's struggle against the war."

