

Feb-Blah-Airy
 WEATHER BUREAU FORECAST
 Partly cloudy tonight and tomorrow.
 Low tonight in the teens. High tomorrow in the upper 20s. Snow chance 20 per cent.

BINGHAMTON TEMPERATURES
 4 p. m. 26 4 a. m. 24 11 a. m. 23
 1 p. m. 25 8 a. m. 22 Noon 24
 Midnight 24 12 a. m. 22 1 p. m. 24
 3 a. m. 24 10 a. m. 23 2 p. m. 23

THE EVENING PRESS

Let's Chuckle
 Every mother knows which side the bread is buttered on — the side the kids drop on the floor.

THE HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER OF THE SOUTHERN TIER

Binghamton, N. Y., Friday, February 23, 1968

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Decoy Role Claimed For Tonkin Ships

By UP-International

Washington—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee claims it has a secret navy message suggesting that the two U. S. destroyers involved in the 1964 Tonkin Gulf incident were trying to decoy Communist patrolboats a way from a South Vietnamese bombardment mission when attacked.

A spokesman for the committee said yesterday that its staff report on the incident included a classified navy cable implying that the mission of the destroyers, the Maddox and the Turner Joy, was to lure Red yessels away electronically while South Vietnamese torpedo boats shelled radar stations on two North Vietnamese islands in the gulf.

Senator Wayne L. Morse (Dem., Ore.) told the Senate Wednesday that the Maddox was a "spy ship" that provoked a North Vietnamese attack on it and its sister ship on the night of Aug. 4, 1964. He disputed Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara's contention that the ships were on a routine, non-hostile patrol.

THE COMMITTEE, headed by Senator J. William Fulbright (Dem., Ark.) is investigating the circumstances surrounding the Tonkin incident. It was this attack which led President Johnson to request and receive overwhelming congressional approval of a resolution authorizing him to take any measures he deemed necessary to pursue the Vietnam war effort. One administration spokesman has called the resolution a "functional declaration of war."

Reprisal raids were ordered on North Vietnamese torpedo boat bases on Aug. 5, 1964. The first U. S. bombing of North Vietnam followed in February, 1965.

Fulbright says there is serious doubt whether the Maddox and Turner Joy actually were attacked by North Vietnamese torpedo boats the night of Aug. 4, and that McNamara has withheld secret information supporting this possibility.

McNAMARA SAYS Fulbright's position is totally wrong, and called it "monstrous" for anyone to suggest the incident was provoked by the administration as an excuse to start bombing.

Morse, an Oregon Democrat, believes the two destroyers probably were attacked. But he says

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Come Back, We Miss Ya

Agana, Guam — (UPI) — Guam's friendly Russian trawler is missing.

The U. S. Navy has reported to have been looking for it with no luck but officially the Navy didn't have much to say.

"It is not out there now," said Capt. John Mishan, chief of staff for Adm. Carlton B. Jones.

He said the Russian spy ship had been missing about a "week or so" from its habitual post just outside the three-mile limit of Apra Harbor.

ON THE AIR WINR RADIO 68

Tonight
 5:45—Area News and Sports
 6—NBC News on the Hour
 6:30 — Perspective with Chet Huntley
 10:05—LP Time—Roy Hamilton's Greatest Hits

TV 40

6—New Central 40
 6:25—The Ski Scene
 6:30—Huntley—Brinkley News (Color)
 7—The Detectives
 7:20 — Tarzan with Ron Eli "Jungle Ransom" (color)
 8:30—Star Trek—starring William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, DeForest Kelly. "By Any Other Name" (color)
 9:30—The Hollywood Squares, Peter Marshall host (color)
 10—Tomorrow's World: Feeding the Billions, NBC News Special on imminent world food shortage. (color)
 11—News Central 40
 11:30 — The Tonight Show, guests Tony Curtis, Richard

Secret Mission

By THOMAS B. ROSS
 Special Press Correspondent

Washington—Although Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara says he already had "incontrovertible evidence," it was learned yesterday that he sent two top assistants on a secret mission to investigate the controversial Gulf of Tonkin incident immediately after the event.

The two Pentagon officials flew to the Philippines and interrogated five navy men who had been brought in from the two U. S. destroyers involved in the incident.

The meeting took place Aug. 10, 1964, six days after the incident, at the U. S. naval base at Subic Bay without any public disclosure by the Defense Department.

The officials involved were Jack Stempler, then assistant general counsel, now assistant secretary for legislative affairs, and Alvin Friedman, then deputy assistant secretary for the Far East in the Pentagon's International Security Affairs Section, now a lawyer in private practice here.

Details of the secret mission are in the hands of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which is investigating whether the North Vietnamese attacked the U. S. destroyers, as reported by the administration.

President Johnson cited the incident as justification for starting the bombing of North Vietnam Aug. 5. He also used it to obtain a congressional resolution that the administration has interpreted as the "functional equivalent of a declaration of war."

McNamara told the committee Tuesday that at the time the first bombing strikes were ordered "we had available to us incontrovertible evidence of these attacks" by North Vietnamese PT boats.

Senator J. William Fulbright (Dem., Ark.), committee chairman, accused McNamara of deceiving the American people by suppressing facts that cast doubt on whether the second attack on Aug. 4 took place.

The committee staff has prepared a confidential report that cites military messages indicating doubt and confusion about the incident.

One message from the Pacific commander-in-chief, shortly before the President ordered the air strikes, asked the U. S. destroyers: "Can you confirm absolutely that you were attacked?"

One of the destroyers, the Maddox, radioed back: "Entire action leaves many doubts except for apparent ambush at beginning. Suggest thorough reconnaissance by aircraft at daylight."

Morton Retiring From Congress

Louisville, Ky.—(AP)—Senator Thruston B. Morton (Rep., Ky.), said today that "for very compelling personal reasons" he will not seek a third term next fall.

At a news conference in a downtown hotel, the 60-year-old former GOP national chairman said: "To use an old Kentucky expression, I suppose I am just plain 'track sore!'"

Morton said his decision is final. Only one week ago he indicated he would run. There was heavy pressure from many Republican sources to get him to change his mind about retirement.

The announcement opened the gate for a possible stampede of Republicans wanting to succeed Morton in the seat he has held since 1966.

IN A SIX-SENTENCE statement, Morton said "it is not the coming election that concerns me but the challenge and responsibility of a six-year term. He said that in July he will have served 27 years with the government.

Morton's statement confirmed reports on the eve of the news conference that he really was retiring after this year.

Regarded as immediately in line for possible GOP succession are Republican William Cowger (Rep., Ky.) and his political friend, Jefferson County (Louisville) Judge Marlow Cook.

Although Cowger is in the U. S. House, Cook was a Republican candidate for Kentucky governor last spring and still has a statewide organization.

ON THE DEMOCRATIC side, former state Commerce Commissioner Katherine Peden

(Continued on Page 8A)

Killed in Vietnam
 Las Cruces, N. M. — (AP) — Former New Mexico Gov. Edwin Mechem, whose brother Jesse was killed in action in the Philippines during World War 2, has



—Associated Press WIREPHOTO.
 WILLIAM KOSLOSKY

Crippled Scout Gets Eagle Rank

New Hartford — (AP) — William Koslosky was called on to do a little more with his head and feet than other candidates for the Boy Scouts' Eagle rank.

That was because the 15-year-old high school freshman was born with several bones missing in both hands and virtually cannot use them.

Scout leaders in this Utica suburb decided to waive some requirements for the high rank, such as swimming and life-saving. But they also added a few tasks that would "make him use his head to think and his feet to do it."

The youth earned 26 merit badges and became an Eagle Scout yesterday.

The toughest requirement, he said, was hiking.

Despite the handicap, he built a burglar-alarm system and prepared buns and fried chicken.

William is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Koslosky, Jr.

Soviet Union To Increase Army Size

Moscow — (AP) — Communist party leader Leonid I. Brezhnev declared today the United States is the main cause of war in the world and pledged that the Soviet Union will build up its armed forces.

He lashed out at the "criminal, dirty war in Vietnam."

Brezhnev spoke at a special Kremlin meeting celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Soviet armed forces. It was attended by other Soviet leaders, including Premier Alexei N. Kosygin and President Nikolai V. Podgorny and defense ministers of various Communist countries.

Brezhnev accused the United States of "creating centers of tension in different regions of the world" and called it "the main force of war."

He told an audience of 6,000 in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses that in view of this the government "considers it its sacred duty to strengthen the defense capacity of the Soviet Union in all possible ways."

Brezhnev cited no figures but he asserted the Soviet army has "the most modern rockets and nuclear weapons."

Police Robbed
 Dallas — (UPI) — One of the favorite targets of local thieves in recent days has been a warehouse in the southern part of the city. It is the police property storage building.

Cambodia Protests
 Phnom Penh, Cambodia — (AP) — Cambodia charged today that "American-South Vietnamese troops" killed several fishermen with bursts of automatic weapons fire in the Kompong Rau district of Svayrieng Province.

The accusation came in another protest to the United States and South Vietnam against alleged "deliberate attacks" on Cambodian territory Jan. 9 and 20. Cambodia also said that six Cambodians were wounded and serious damage

"Tombstones cost too much nowadays," she said today. "Besides, it's my last fund on food and drink. She spent all her money on a party. It's my last fund. 'A party is better

Allies Rip Frantic Red Relief Effort at Hue

Marines Wait to Hit Old Palace

By UP-International
 Saigon — U. S. Marines today halted their advance on the Imperial Palace in Hue to await a political decision from Saigon on whether to use artillery and air strikes against this final objective or attack without support, heedless of the heavy cost.

Fighting continued in the ancient capital and South Vietnamese Rangers killed 106 Communists in the ruins of the palace outer grounds and another 223 of a Communist battalion trying to break through Allied lines and reinforce the Viet Cong who have held out for 24 days.

U. S. and government officials estimated the Communist losses in the battle for Hue were nearing the 6,000 mark. U. S. losses have not been announced but were heavy.

UPI Correspondent Robert Ibrahim reported from Hue that marines of the 1st Battalion, 5th Regiment, originally were ordered to sweep the eastern section of the walled city north to south and as far west as the wall of the Imperial Palace set inside the walled Citadel.

THEY REACHED the south wall of the Citadel yesterday and planted an American flag on top.

Because of heavy covering fire from the wall of the palace the marines left a buffer zone one block deep fronting on the open ground around the palace. Today they hoped to carry out a final sweep through those houses still held by North Vietnamese troops.

But the marines delayed their final assault until they receive permission to use heavy artillery or air strikes on the palace walls. Fire from the walls could make even more costly this bloodiest battle of the Vietnam war.

Ibrahim said the marines apparently want either permission to use whatever weapons they consider necessary or a firm order committing them to battle without that air and artillery support against one of the architectural treasures of the Orient.

The decision became political because of the emotional value to the South Vietnamese of the palace with its great treasures.

A BATTALION of the U. S. 1st Air Cavalry Division moving south in Highway 1 above Hue to reinforce the northern screen around the city was ambushed 5 miles from the city yesterday while Communist guns shot down a helicopter gunship supporting the cavalrymen. Two

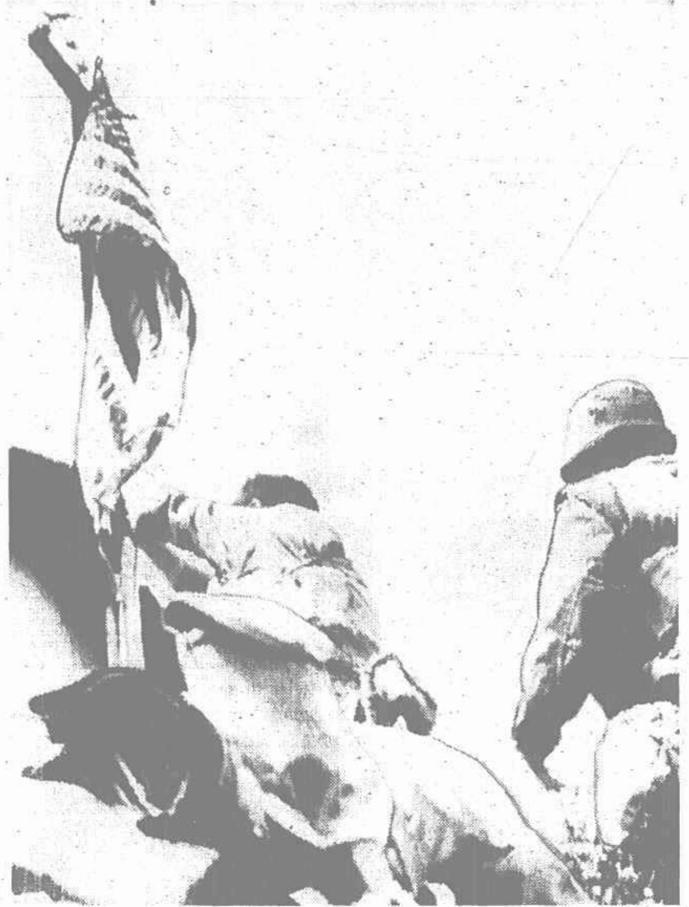
(Continued on Page 8A)

Syracuse Ups Yearly Tuition To \$2,000

Syracuse — (AP) — Syracuse University announced today that tuition for incoming freshmen and transfer students would be increased \$200 Sept. 1, to \$2,000 a year.

The university said it was studying whether the hike would also apply to students already enrolled.

Current tuition at Syracuse is \$1,800.



—Associated Press WIREPHOTO.
 FLAG OVER HUE—Marine Lance Cpl. James Avella of North Bergen, N. J., left, fastens the Stars and Stripes to telephone pole near south wall of Hue's Citadel. Sgt. Greg Pratt of Ojai, Cal., follows. Marines took objective after a fierce fight.

April Draft Is 48,000; Marines Get 4,000

Washington — (UPI) — The Pentagon announced today an April draft call of 48,000 men—highest in a year and a half. The Marine Corps will take 4,000 of the draftees.

The marines, who need draftees for the first time in two years, have been bearing the brunt of the burden of defense at the Vietnam outposts of Khe Sanh and Con Thien, near the demilitarized zone.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff

meanwhile has recommended mobilizing nearly 50,000 reservists and national guardsmen—in addition to stepping up draft calls—if President Johnson decides on a further Vietnam buildup.

No formal request has been submitted to President Johnson for mobilizing 50,000 more reservists, the Texas White House said today, however.

Press Secretary George Christian also told newsmen

"certainly no decision has been reached" on new troop requirements for Vietnam.

The marine corps, which took in draftees in World War 2 and the Korean War, has not had to rely on the draft since early 1966 when it was undergoing an accelerated buildup for Vietnam.

ALMOST ONE-THIRD of all marines are in the Pacific area—mostly in Vietnam.

The April draft call is the highest since October, 1966, when 49,200 men were inducted. The Defense Department said the increased level was needed to replace these men, who will soon be returning to civilian life.

The Pentagon also increased the March draft call from 39,000 to 41,000. The January call was 34,000 and the February level dropped to 23,300.

The Joint Chiefs' recommendation for mobilizing additional reserves would include the first call-up of ground troops since the start of the Vietnam war.

The proposal, which would include national guardsmen as well as army, marine, navy and air reservists, was submitted to Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON publicly indicated last week that

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Suspect, Bystander Shot

Senator, Wife Scramble To Safety in Shoot-Out

Washington—(UPI)—Police gunned down a holdup man on a downtown Washington street early today as Senator Claiborne Pell (Dem., R. I.) and his wife scrambled out of the line of fire. They were not injured.

Police said Pell, 49, and his wife were having a snack after attending a movie when they heard shouts from outside the restaurant that the theater next door was being held up.

The couple stepped outside to investigate and found themselves between the holdup man and an off-duty plainclothes detective, both with guns drawn.

Pell's wife, Nuala, rolled to the ground and Pell jumped back into the doorway as firing broke out. Six shots were fired, three by each man, and the holdup man fell wounded.

A bystander who tried to help an elderly crippled lady to safety in the theater was hit in the back by one of the gunman's bullets, police said. He was identified as Air Force Reserve Maj. Warren D. Volmer, 47, whose home station is Bakala Air Force Base, Ind.

Officials of Washington Hospital Center where he was taken said his condition was fair.

Pell told reporters that when he and his wife heard shouts for police, "We went outside, which wasn't a very bright thing to do."

GOP Leaders Watch Reaction to Wallace

Republican spies report that too many of the party's members are listening to George C. Wallace's speeches in Pennsylvania.

Will the "blue collar" workers, who are normally Democrats, vote for Wallace rather than a Republican presidential candidate?

Evans and Novak discuss the Wallace attraction in today's Inside Report on Page 6A.

Also on the inside:

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