

OPINION

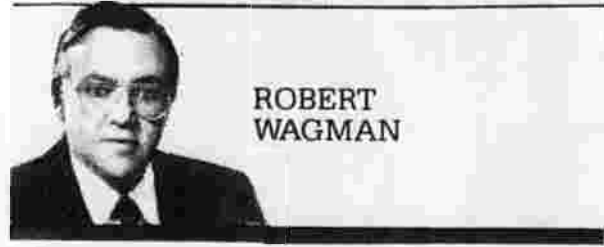
Mixed news on drug war

WASHINGTON — With America's attention focused on the Persian Gulf, many have forgotten about what George Bush continues to call the nation's top priority: the war on drugs. News from its front lines is very mixed at best.

Recently, the White House trumpeted the results of a government study that concluded that 72 percent fewer Americans regularly use cocaine compared to five years ago.

The study, by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, found that the number of "hard-core" cocaine abusers—those who use the drug once-a-week or more—declined from an estimated 862,000 in 1988 to 662,000 in 1990.

It found that over the last two years the number of monthly cocaine users dropped 43 percent to 1.6 million. The White House immediately cited the report as



ROBERT WAGMAN

proof that its anti-drug strategy is working. Said Bush, "This suggests that all our hard work is paying off."

Others, however, were far less impressed with the study.

The report, based on a survey conducted for NIDA by Research Triangle Institute, consisted of in-person interviews with 9,259 people chosen at random nationwide. In other words, the results were based on the willingness of people to admit to a representative of a government agency that they have committed what amounts to a felony.

Some experts believe what the survey does show is that drug use is becoming less socially acceptable, and that, as a result, people are less willing to admit they use controlled substances. While that might indicate a positive social change, it would not necessarily reflect an actual decline in drug use.

Still other experts say the study is even more flawed. Survey director Joseph GiCrozier admitted that the weekly cocaine-use figure was "extrapolated" from only 63 responses out of the more than 9,000 interviews. Statisticians regard such a low response as insufficient to draw any kind of meaningful conclusions, and say the apparent decline in cocaine use could actually be only random error.

The survey company also admits it did not do much sampling in the mean streets of major cities where most hardcore crack users live. The admitted that these hardcore users are probably "under-represented" in the survey sample.

Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., a frequent critic of the administration's anti-drug efforts, called the results "widely off the mark." Earlier this year, Biden's Senate Judiciary Committee had estimated weekly cocaine use at about 2.4 million—or three times the NIDA finding. Biden's estimate was based on mandatory drug testing on people arrested nationwide. From 50 percent to 70 percent of people arrested in major cities tested positive for cocaine.

Meanwhile, the news from the drug war's front lines abroad is not good. A number of our principle allies believe they are beginning to see a wavering of the U.S. will to continue supporting the war on drugs, and they are backing off on their commitments.

Peru has become a center for cocaine processing. So the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, using a specially trained squad from the Peruvian police, has stepped up raids on suspected processing labs.

Now, however, the United States has suspended these raids after DEA agents were prevented from entering a suspected lab by regular soldiers from the Peruvian army. A firefight was reportedly narrowly avoided. The United States is still trying to get an explanation from the government, but DEA sources say they suspect that local military authorities have been bought by the drug lords and are now providing protection and selling information about upcoming raids.

In Colombia, the government says that its war on drugs continues unabated. But it appears that in order to end the escalating bloodshed, the Colombian government is cutting a deal whereby it will promise not to extradite any drug lord to the United States who gives himself up and agrees to get out of the drug business.

An immediate result is that one of the most wanted leaders of the Medellin drug cartel, Fabio Ochoa Vasquez, may have outfoxed, or at least outflanked, the United States.

Ochoa is wanted on multiple U.S. indictments charging that he has masterminded the importation of billions of dollars worth of cocaine into this country and that he planned the murder of a DEA informant. But Ochoa has now turned himself into Colombian officials. They say that he has broken no local laws and may soon be set free—no doubt to enjoy the fortune he has undoubtedly salted away.

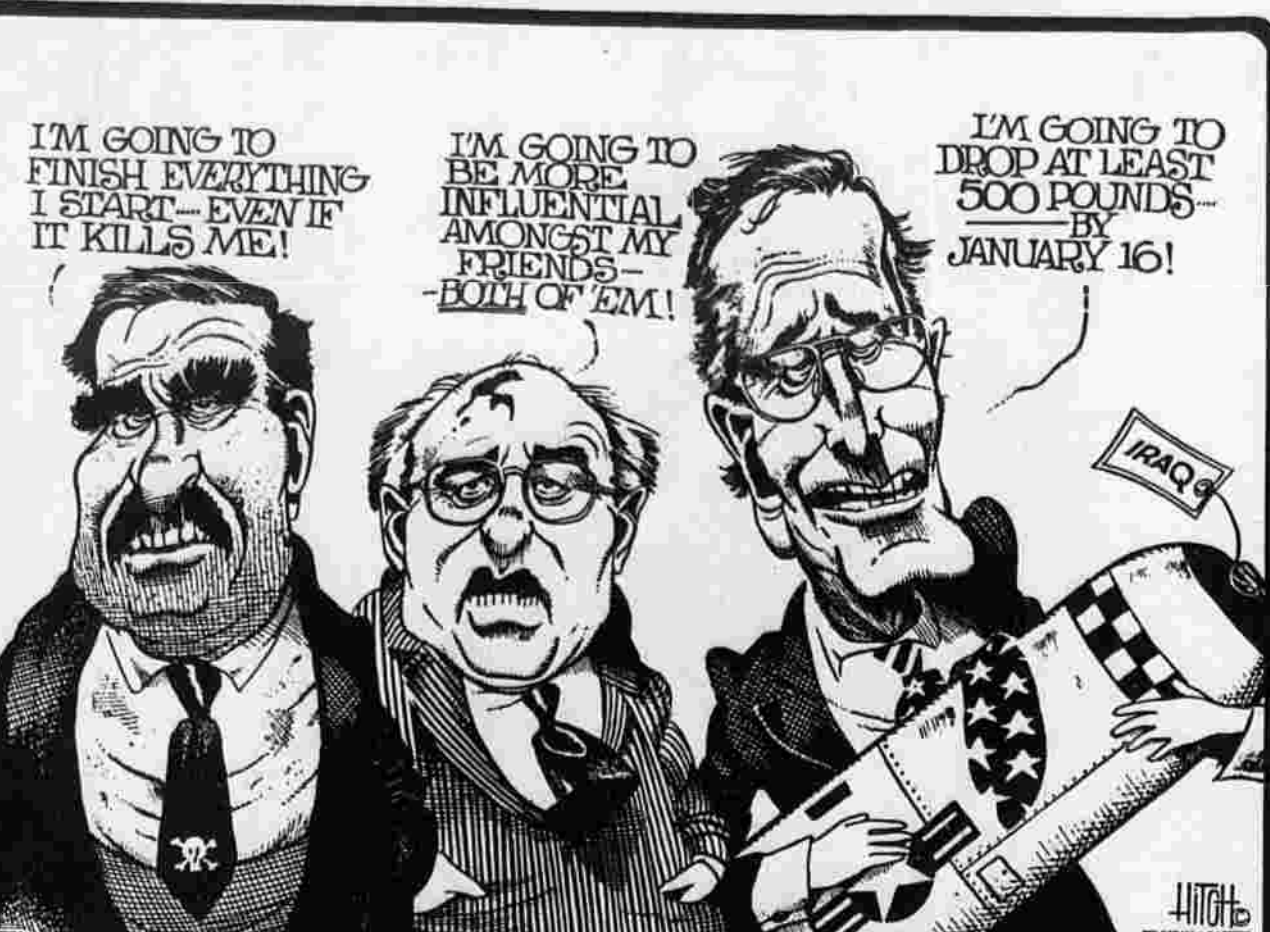
The United States is studying the matter. But insiders say it appears that Washington will not try to test the new anti-extradition policy on worsen already-deteriorating U.S.-Colombian relations.

Letters policy

The Herald welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be no more than two double-spaced typewritten pages. The Herald reserves the right to edit letters for any reason, including length, taste and style. The Herald tries to publish all letters, but the decision of the editor is final. Writers may be limited to one letter per month. All letters must be signed and writers must include their address and a telephone number for verification. Mail letters to Open Forum, Box 591, Manchester 06040.

Manchester Herald

Founded Oct. 1, 1881 as a weekly. Daily publication since Oct. 1, 1914. Executive Editor: Vincent Michael Valvo; News Editor: Alex Girali; City Editor: Andrew C. Spitzer.



Telling truth isn't racist

If the liberals have their way, some of the strongest Republican arguments will be ruled out of bounds in future election campaigns—including the 1992 presidential contest. The Republicans simply can't afford to raise them.

One of the most important is race quotas in hiring. The Democrats are determined to ram through the new Congress, as they did through the old, a bill compelling any employer who is sued for racial discrimination to prove that the charge is false. This violates the instinctive American presumption that a person is deemed innocent until proved guilty, but Congress can shift the burden of proof this way if it wants to.

President Bush vetoed the last bill, pointing out that it would indirectly force employers to adopt a racial quota system as the best way of disproving accusations of discrimination. He was probably vetoing the new one too, for the same reason, but that will be all right with the Democrats: They want to shift the burden of proof to the plaintiff.

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Turkey emerges as ally

By JACK ANDERSON and DALE VAN ATTA

ISTANBUL, Turkey — The taxi driver winding through the narrow streets of this ancient city could speak only a few words of English. When he learned we were Americans, he used them: "Bomb Saddam!"

Through several hairpin turns, made more treacherous by his gesticulations, he made the motion and sound of helicopter blades and a missile being launched. "Bomb Saddam!" he repeated.

Next came the sound of a jet streaking over the skies of Baghdad and dropping a heavy payload. "Bomb Saddam!"

Finally, as near as we could tell by his hands forming a mushroom cloud, the taxi driver simulated a nuclear bomb and said, "Bomb Saddam!"

He was articulating as best he could the feeling of many Turks that they are ready to go to war with the United States against neighboring Iraq. There seems to be little fear here of Saddam Hussein, even though Turkey and Iraq share a 150-mile border.

There also is a gnawing notion we picked up that the Turks are less interested in teaching Saddam a moral lesson than they are in carving off a piece of Iraq for themselves—a piece that once belonged to them.

Saddam's invasion of Kuwait was an Allah-send for this Moslem country, which was anxious to prove that it could and should be an economic ally with the West. Turkish President Turgut Ozal was one of the first to endorse the United States' strong stand against Iraq.

He was partly fueled by the arrogance of Saddam, who tried to intimidate Iraq by sending a deputy prime minister to meet with him three days after the invasion. The emissary was packing a pistol on his hip. When that didn't work, Saddam tried to bring Turkey by offering to repay loans of more than \$750 million owed to Turkey by Iraq and to give Turkey more than \$1 billion in free oil.

But Ozal couldn't be lulled or bribed. He shut down two pipelines that once carried more than half of Iraq's oil across Turkey to the Mediterranean.

He also kept the Turkish air force on alert, ready to launch a surprise attack against the Turks when they needed more divisions badly along his southern border with Saudi Arabia.

Ozal let the United States keep F-111 bombers bristling with nuclear weapons at a base in southern Turkey within easy striking distance of Baghdad.

He does this not out of charity, but out of hope that the reward will be big. "There is serious talk in Turkey that it might end up with an rich part of Iraq as a result of being on the right side of a war," he says.

Right-wing newspapers in Turkey are openly campaigning for the return of the Mosul and Kirkuk provinces of Iraq just south of the Center and meet staff. One may also register at this time for new classes. Free lunch will be given to those who apply for a golf membership. Call the Center to register, 647-3211.

The new class schedule is as follows: 1) Basket Weaving (advanced) Thursday, 2-4 p.m., Jan. 31-March 21

2) Basket Weaving (Intermediate & beginner) Tuesday, 2-4 p.m., Jan. 29-Mar. 26

3) Ceramics, Monday & Friday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Jan. 14-Apr. 5

4) Water Colors, Tuesday, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Feb. 5-Mar. 16

5) Oil Painting, Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Feb. 5-Apr. 9

6) Driver Education, Tues. & Wed., Feb. 5 & 6, 12:30-4 p.m., Fee \$8 made payable (by check only) to AARP

7) Exercise with Cleo, Tues., 12:30-2:30 p.m., Fri., 11-12 noon, Jan. 22-Mar. 22

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HOME

Caring for your ivory and marble

By READERS' DIGEST

If you've been wondering how to keep your piano's ivories white, or what to do about that nasty scotch on your marble tabletop, here are some tips for maintaining two of our country's most beautiful and decorative materials.

First, always make sure the item you are working on is real ivory or marble. Many of today's synthetics look like them but may require different care.

Ivory: — To retain its warm-white color, ivory must be exposed to light. If you always keep ivory-handled knives in a chest or a piano's keys covered, they will eventually darken and yellow.

Dust ivory with a soft, clean cloth. Wash with mild soap and water, rinse and let dry. Buff with a clean wooden cloth.

Marble: — On furniture, lay plastic under coasters under drinking glasses and wipe any spills immediately. — Never drag furniture across a marble floor. Protect heavy traffic areas with throw rugs.

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There are two basic types of joints used in walks, patios and slabs: isolation joints, often called expansion joints, and control joints, often called contraction joints. Isolation joints between dissimilar concrete placements prevent cracking caused by frost. They include joint strips to separate the two sections so each can move independently of the other. Control joints in walks and driveways are grooves in the surface that allow cracking but control its location.

Isolation joints permit slight vertical and horizontal movement between lines that separate dissimilar concrete placements. They include joint strips of asphalt-impregnated composition board to separate the two pieces and make minor movement relatively easy.

Control joints create straight-line planes of weakness in the concrete.

As the walk or driveway shrinks, a crack forms before the joint, along a straight line, rather than following an unsightly random pattern.

Q — We have a water sealer in our house. Unfortunately, it adds a lot of salt to our water. For health reasons, we don't want to drink this water because we are on low-sodium diets. As a result, we buy bottled water for drinking and cooking. However, we can't use our refrigerator's ice maker because it uses the softened water. Is there a way to bypass this and use unsoftened water?

A — Cut into the water supply line before the softener and install a Tee or Y fitting. Run a 1/2-inch diameter copper pipe from this fitting to the back of the refrigerator. You can then tap into this pipe and run a copper tube to your ice maker.

Q — Dark brown spots are appearing in areas of my concrete deck. They don't wash away with soap and water. What causes these spots and how to get them out?

A — The type of discoloration you describe occurs when tricalcium aluminate in the cement gives off a reddish-brown color. This has a foundation down to the frost line and is not affected by freezing temperatures.

However, the sidewalk is on grade, so any dampness in the base below the sidewalk will freeze and expand, resulting in some frost heaving during the winter. When this movement—or movement caused by settlement or shrinkage—is restrained, the concrete will crack.

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Questions and answers on home topics

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SENIOR CITIZENS

Involvement starts at meeting

By JEANETTE CAVE

The Newcomers Meeting to be held Wednesday, January 9th, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, is an ideal way to start one's involvement at the Senior Center. One will learn about available activities and services, discuss one's particular interests, get a tour of the Center and meet staff. One may also register at this time for new classes. Free lunch will be given to those who apply for a golf membership. Call the Center to register, 647-3211.

The new class schedule is as follows: 1) Basket Weaving (advanced) Thursday, 2-4 p.m., Jan. 31-March 21

2) Basket Weaving (Intermediate & beginner) Tuesday, 2-4 p.m., Jan. 29-Mar. 26

3) Ceramics, Monday & Friday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Jan. 14-Apr. 5

4) Water Colors, Tuesday, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Feb. 5-Mar. 16

5) Oil Painting, Tuesday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Feb. 5-Apr. 9

6) Driver Education, Tues. & Wed., Feb. 5 & 6, 12:30-4 p.m., Fee \$8 made payable (by check only) to AARP

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8) Exercise with "Celeste", Mon., Wed., Fri., 2-3 p.m., Jan. 14-Mar. 22

9) Line Dancing, Mon., 9:30-10:30 a.m., Jan. 28-Mar. 26

10) Photography every other Monday, 1-3 p.m., Feb. 6-Mar. 13

11) Square Dance (beginners), Wed., 9:15-10:45 a.m., Feb. 20-Apr. 29

12) Square Dance (advanced), Tues., 10-12 noon, Jan. 8-May 21

13) Water Aerobics at IOH Pool, Tues. & Thurs., 9:15-10:15 a.m., Jan. 15-Feb. 21, call Manchester Health Dept. at 647-3173, class size limited to 12.

14) Music appreciation "listening for beginners", Wed., 10:30-11:45 a.m., (5 sessions), Fri. 6-Mar. 6

15) Cribbage for beginners, Friday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., begins Feb. 8

16) Cribbage for serious players, Friday, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Please make note of the following Trips Schedule: 1) Ice Capades (filled) LV 11 a.m.

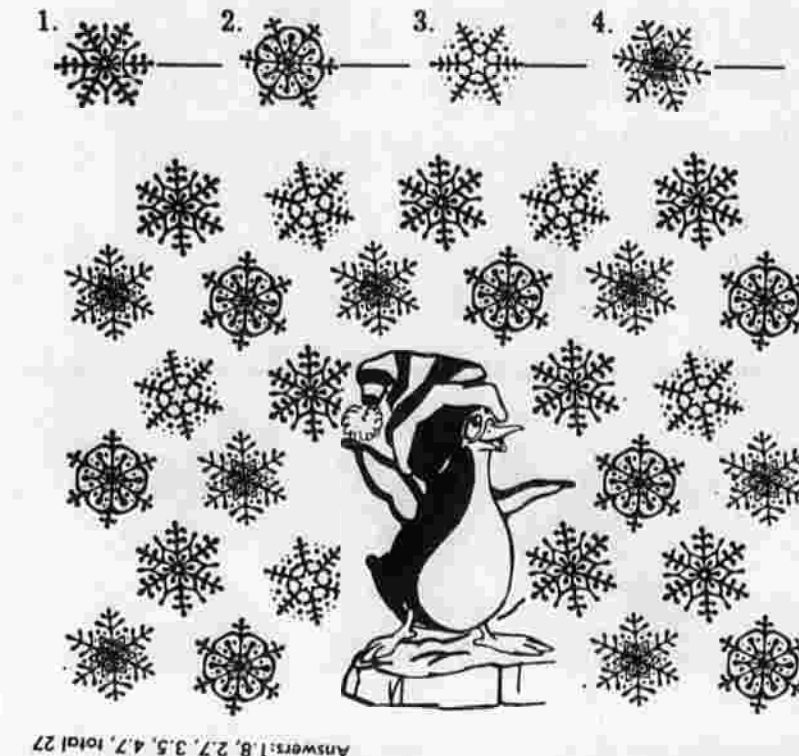
2) Ice Capades (filled) LV 11 a.m. Jan. 23 — Coachlight "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas", \$28.50 — seats still available, register in the office. Trip departs 10:30 a.m

The BUDDLE GUM Rapper

PUBLISHED JUST FOR KIDS

Snowflake Fun

Patty Penguin has noticed that there are four different kinds of snowflakes falling and is trying to count how many of each kind. Count each type and write the correct answers next to each snowflake at the top. What is the total number of snowflakes in the picture?



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Allie Alligator has a little work left to get ready for winter weather. He seems to have lost a few winter things. Can you help Allie find his mittens, boots, hat, scarf, snowman, sled, on-ice-skate, jacket, and ski.



Only two of these snowflakes are exactly alike. Circle the two that are alike.

A. B.

C. D.

A Little Bit of HUMOR

Father: Now, Cecil, you must not be selfish. You must let your little sister have the sled half the time. Cecil: I do. I have it going down the hill, and she has it going up.

Kevin: Did you notice how Kriener's little voice filled the hall? Gail: Yes, I noticed that a lot of people left to make room for it.

Faye: Did the doctor treat you yesterday? Ray: No, he charged me ten dollars.

Garry: I wonder why a hummingbird hums. Mary: I guess he doesn't know the words.

Solomon: This hair tonic will grow hair on a golf ball. Customer: Who wants hair on a golf ball?

BOOKS

Country Car by Mary Coltrane. Ages 3-10. Henry, the cat, becomes lost in the mountains and then must cross-country ski home.

Easy Ice Skating Book by Joseph M. You've always wanted to be able to do ice skating! Lots of tips on different styles of spins and strokes and even how to break in your skates at home without scratching the floor!

RELIGION

In Brief . . .

Christian Women to meet
The Manchester Area Christian Women's Club will have a "Happy New Year" breakfast on Jan. 9 at 9:30 a.m. at The Colony in Vernon. The program will feature fashions from the Penny Saver, Manchester Memorial Hospital's Auxiliary Thrift Shop. Fashions will be modeled by members of the club's committees.

Sherry Komer and Lee Salina of Storrs will be featured singers. Carolyn Barrett of Sudbury, Mass. will be guest speaker.

For reservations or more information call 649-3423 or 872-4876. The public is invited. Baby sitting will be provided.

King to be remembered
The Manchester Inter-racial Council, Manchester Area Conference of Churches and Manchester Community College will sponsor a tenth annual commemorative program for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 10 at 6 p.m. The program, which will feature a pot luck supper, will be at Community Baptist Church, 585 E. Center St.

Anyone interested is invited to attend and bring a main dish, casserole, salad or dessert, enough to feed eight people. For more information call Gladys Stringfellow, 632-2943 or Mrs. Mary Jaworski, 643-4938.

UUSE invites newcomers
The Rev. Connie Stenberg of Unitarian Universalist Society, East, 153 Vernon St. will conduct a series of meetings at her home to give newcomers an opportunity to learn about Unitarian Universalism and about the local Society, Jan. 17 and 24 from 7 to 8:30 p.m., 242 Talbotville Road, Vernon.

Anyone interested should call the church office Monday through Thursday mornings, 646-5151.

Koffee Klatch in Coventry
The monthly Koffee Klatch will be held Wednesday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 1171 Main St., Coventry.

Eat all you want from a variety of sandwiches, desserts, tea and coffee. The charge is \$2.50. Chowder or salad is 50 cents extra.

The Koffee Klatch is sponsored by the Friendly Circle of the church.

MACC helps needy during holidays

By NANCY CARR
MACC executive director

In spite of all the gloom and doom news reports, it's impossible to work in the MACC office and not view 1991 with a hopeful heart. In the face of greater need, more referrals and worries about the future, Manchesterites held out a warm and steady helping hand over the holidays to their less fortunate neighbors.

We're still celebrating the spirit of Christmas here — compiling lists of all those wonderful men, women and youth people who gave so much to so many.

Close to 100 families were serviced directly from the MACC Christmas Food collection which not only filled the Christmas baskets with a week's supply of food but restocked our Emergency Pantry shelves for heavy use during the next months were received from Manchester High School students who collected almost \$1,000 in foodstuffs, students at Wadell School, Nathan Hale School, Howell Cheney Technical School (Cheney students made and donated Christmas cookies for the baskets), Manchester Hospital, Manchester Herald, First Church of Christ Scientist, Savings Bank of Manchester, employees of Century Color in East Hartford, Paul Giguere, Post Office employees, St. James CCD and the whole crew at Papa Gino's in Heartland Plaza.

Special thanks to Frances Gordon who donated 80 loaves of bread, Mary Jane Bushnell for treats of nuts, members of the Senior Citizen Center who collected not only food but gifts and money, and the 6th graders of Verplank School who ran the food drive there.

Turkeys were received from members of DeMolay (who contributed both food and 6 turkeys), Tom Markey (who donated 12 turkeys), Frank Murray, Reggie and Alice Pinto, Doris Rivosa of Arnold's, Barbara Miller, Edith Howland, Woodrow Nancy Moffatt, Robin DiTaranto, Rita Hayes, Irene and Jay Salir, and Laura and Al Lanza.

Special Christmas treats were donated by Brownie Troop 670 who

MACC News

donated many cans of cookies for the Christmas baskets, kindergarten students at Martin School who made a delightful gingerbread house, other students donated warm gloves and mittens, Ed Carroll who brought in 4 pies and members of Clivian who donated 50 fruitcakes and from Ruth Squandino, Kathy Weissburg and Diana Belbruno.

All the food was sorted and then repacked for delivery to the families by the Prodigiously Capable Cordia Packing Crew: Martha Reichbach, Helen Witkofski, Mildred Scott, Grace and Henry Agnew, Bertha Dietrichsen and Elise Werner, and delivered by the hard working stand-ins for Santa and his reindeer: Charlie and Margaret Lewin, Nancy Buckley, Kathy Hughes, Faith and Tim McCann, Fern and Tate Pasternak, Kris Treat, Mr. Lebel, Sarah Melquist, Cathy Thrall and Mary Breen. A special thank you to the firefighters who helped deliver: Bob Schubert, Michael Suhic, Dan Huppe, Ron Trinka, Bob and George Martin, Ed Carlin, Larry Talbot and his daughter Aston. We truly don't know what we would do without you.

Thank you also to all those who came to sort toys and staff Toys for Joy in those last hectic days, Diane, Bob and Tracy Lombardo (Dianne also donated plastic bags and created the Toys for Joy signs), Carol Flourens, Donna Barri, Cori Soughmayd, Dan Kibbe and Chris Kaiser. Thanks also to the Corvete Club of Manchester who donated toys at their annual Christmas party, to Police Union 1495 who donated boxes of brand new toys including backpacks, trucks, slinger shockers, games and stuffed animals, and to the employees of Lynch Toyota and Pontiac who not only collected toys but also.

Curry Audette, teachers of Bolton Elementary (Mr. Ketterer, Ms. Dayton, Ms. Horzorg, Ms. Lariviere, Ms. Harpin, Ms. Browning, Ms. Stantington, Ms. Fenney, Mr. Casey and Ms. Moulis), Ruth Baker, Norma Gunsten, Israel and Shirley Snyder, Gregory and Eileen King, Arthur and Roberta Byam, Amy E. Helwig, Ruth Russell, Viola and A.R. Campbell, David and Carol Sutcliffe, Yea Gunas, Harry and Carol Freschlin, John Bertrand, Dorothy Moseley, Jeanne and Michael Santarocco, John and Elvite Johnson, Robert and Celeste Morton, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Benson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Benson, John and Diana Belbruno, John and Elvite McElravy, Margaret Churchill, John and Kathleen Fawcett, Peter W. Blair, Mildred Massaro, Sylvia and Dorcia Beaulieu, John and Mary McKeever.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS
by Eugene Brewer

The first mention of the "church" is in Matthew's gospel in the context of Jesus' promise: "I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it." (16:18) Throughout the New Testament it is spoken of in the singular, unless the reference is to individual congregations in various locales.

The proliferation of "churches" began well after the apostolic age. It resulted from the introduction of teaching and practices that were foreign to the apostolic revelation which formed the New Testament. Efforts at reforming existing churches and/or restoring the first century church have added to that number.

For those who would serve God without the denominational burden there is a way. Accept the simple terms of the gospel to believe and obey Mark 16:15-16. Being born again, live accordingly in Ephesians 5:1-21, worship as God directs (John 4:23-24), and serve your fellowmen (John 13:12-17).

Rev. Kyle McGaw
Church of Christ
Lydell & Vernon Streets
Phone: 646-2903

Thoughts

Howard Thurman, a former dean of the chapel of Boston University wrote these words, or something very similar: Now that the Kings have returned to their palaces and the shepherds have returned to tending their flocks, the real work of Christmas begins — visiting the sick, sheltering the homeless, aiding the poor, giving drink to the thirsty and feeding the hungry. So it is. Our work is before us.

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Crossword

ACROSS

1. Quilt
2. Dunes
3. South Sea
4. Word movie
5. Book
6. Garment
7. Lark
8. Dry as wine
9. — entry
10. Cuckoo
11. Main line
12. Dashed
13. Measure
14. Here dinner
15. Intimate
16. Here dinner
17. Measure
18. Here dinner
19. Intimate
20. Here dinner
21. Measure
22. Here dinner
23. Intimate
24. Here dinner
25. Measure
26. Here dinner
27. Intimate
28. Here dinner
29. Measure
30. Here dinner
31. Intimate
32. Here dinner
33. Measure
34. Here dinner
35. Intimate
36. Here dinner
37. Measure
38. Here dinner
39. Intimate
40. Here dinner
41. Measure
42. Here dinner
43. Intimate
44. Here dinner
45. Measure
46. Here dinner
47. Intimate
48. Here dinner
49. Measure
50. Here dinner
51. Intimate
52. Here dinner
53. Measure
54. Here dinner
55. Intimate
56. Here dinner
57. Measure
58. Here dinner
59. Intimate
60. Here dinner



Stumped? Get answers to clues by calling "Dial-A-Word" at 1-800-454-3535 and entering access code number 184. 95c per minute. Touch-Tone or rotary phones.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four jumbles. One letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEROU
TEELA
REVOND
GREDE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

Yesterday's Jumble: BATON USURP POLLEN NOUGAT
Answer: That optimistic guy was always down on anything — HE WAS NOT 'UP ON

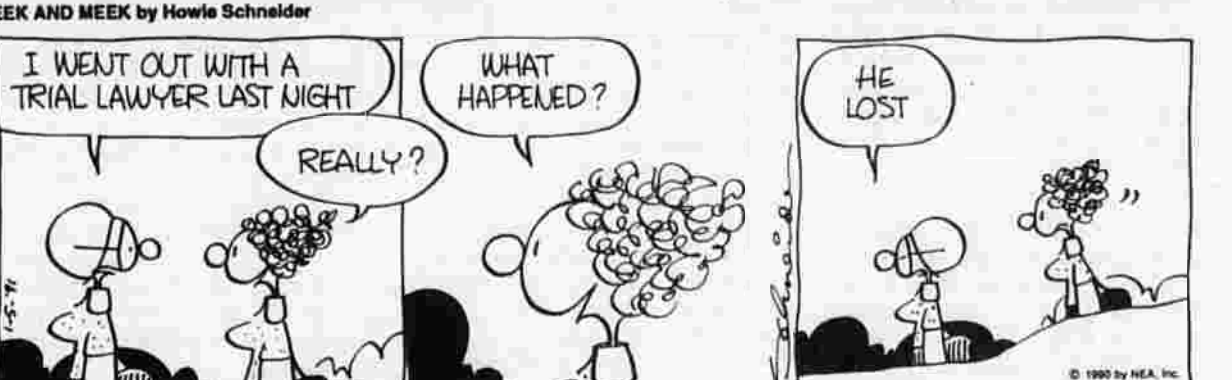
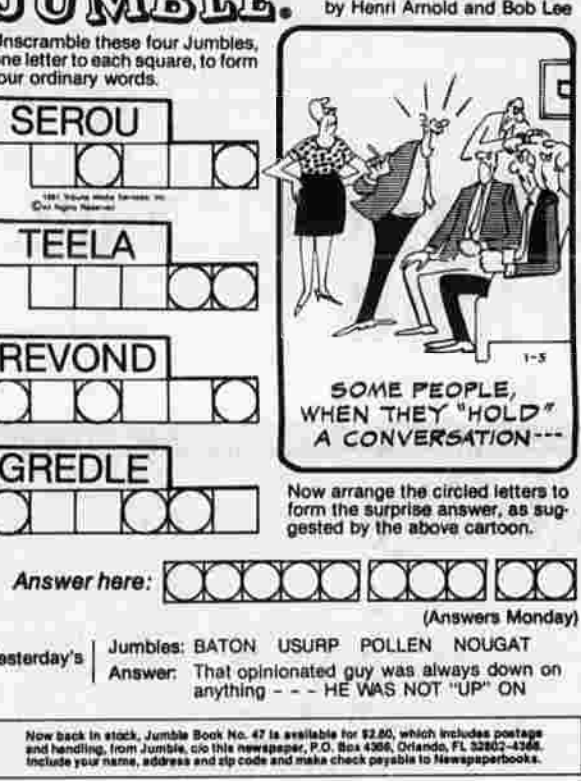
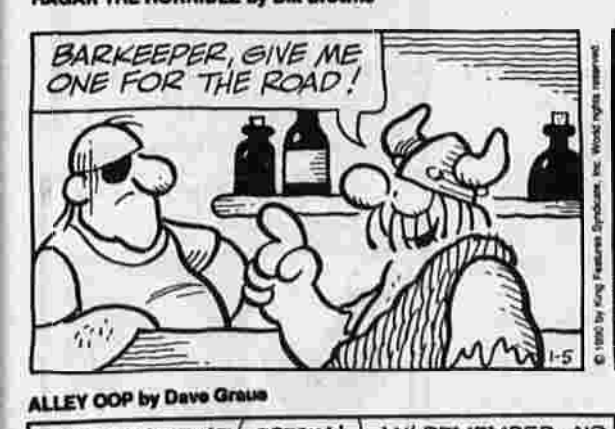
CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher is a word game for people, used and prepared. Each letter in the cipher stands for a celebrity. For a complete list of names, see "Answers" page.

MPFPS HPXWFFP
TMJZLWMV GMZWX
WZ LTE HPPM
ABBWYWTXX
UPWPUP

YXTOU YAYNHGSM

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "I'm not a writer. My plays and scripts are skeletons awaiting snow." — Hoggar Bergman.



JAN

FILMED BY THE PROFESSIONALS AT
CREST INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES, GEAR RAPIDS, IOWA

1991

Sears

line is we know there will be...a need for fewer employees.)

The changes that are to be made in the more than 800 Sears stores nationwide will take place in three phases over a period of about six months, he said.

At the national level, Sears has begun the process of eliminating the 21,000 positions, which is expected to ultimately include 3,500 full-time employees and 17,500 part-timers.

The layoffs, which are to be completed by June 1, are in non-selling areas such as stockrooms, loading docks, and clerical areas and represent more than 10 percent of Sears' in-store workforce.

Funny

representatives from the Los Angeles-based show came to Manchester as part of the show's regular nationwide search for fresh talent, show officials said.

John C. Hinton, 23, of Hartford, auditioned by doing impressions of Bill Cosby, Red Fox, Mike Tyson and Ronald Reagan.

Manchester resident Kelly Bible, 30, told the following joke while being videotaped:

"Do you know what Elvis Presley would be doing if he were still alive?" she asked. "He'd be scratching his coffin!"

John Oldham, 29, of South Windsor, who also auditioned, used a "Mr. Rogers" voice to tell jokes related to Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

Afterwards, Oldham, who has performed amateur standup comedy for television, said he hopes he got his message across.

Bank

holders proposed a debt-for-equity swap that would give them a 94 percent stake in the bank and infuse the company with \$65 million in capital.

The bank said it was still discussing the proposal with committees representing the bondholders, but analysts said some bondholders might reconsider this deal because the bank continues to hemorrhage.

Wilbur Ross, of Roubalich Inc. in New York, who helped devise the proposal, said the expected loss would "undoubtedly change the specifics" of the deal.

"Obviously we would not do a swap that doesn't solve the problem," Ross said.

The real estate slump, which has hurt many banks in the region, has had Bank of New England hanging by a thread for months.

The bank has been operating under tight government supervision since last spring, after it reported 1989 losses above \$1 billion.

Analysts say the bank was an aggressive lender during the real estate boom of the mid-1980s. But when the market slumped, it exposed mountains of bad loans.

The bank estimated its troubled assets climbed to about \$500 million in December to more than \$3 billion. The bank has \$23 billion in total assets.

The bank, which lost \$123 million in the third quarter, has cut payroll by several thousand positions. Based on December figures, the bank estimated it has reduced its monthly operating costs by \$17 million.

Lawrence Fish, who took over as bank chairman last year, said he would be looking for a new CEO by the end of the year.

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Forecast to fall to 54 feet by 7 a.m. Saturday and to 52 feet Sunday morning.

Elsewhere in Ohio, the Nation Weather Service said flood warnings were still in effect for the Scioto River in Pike and Marion counties, the St. Joseph River, the Tiffin River and Maumee River at Waterville.

The Ohio River was not expected to crest until Sunday at Evansville, Ind., where it was forecast to be about 2 feet above flood stage.

At the Ohio River, water levels were expected to drop rapidly where the river should drop rapidly where the river should drop rapidly.

The floods resulted from rains and melting snow, with water levels expected to peak this weekend, but forecasters said it would not be enough to worsen the flooding.

Stamp

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million over the past year. "We feel good about the fact they endorsed our automation program and these rates will still continue to help us achieve that program," Frank said.

As for the prospect of a 29-cent stamp, Frank, a former banker, quipped that "The penny is not going out of style, this will guarantee that it will not go out of style."

"I don't know what the typical household reaction is going to be. It saves them \$2 a year, and in exchange they will have to deal with a lot of pennies," said Frank.

While Frank said he anticipated that commission proposals would be accepted by the governors of the Postal Service, they could be rejected or accepted under protest.

When the post office filed for higher rates last March it expected to lose \$1.6 billion for the 1990 fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30. But staff cuts and increased automation held the loss to \$874 million.

The service still faces open financial questions, Frank noted. Most important are labor contracts with its largest unions, which are currently under binding arbitration. The final rulings could make a difference of millions of dollars.

Federal budget problems could also add an added burden. The Postal Service must pay \$4.7 billion into the U.S. treasury over five years as its contribution toward reducing the federal deficit and some administration officials have discussed asking for more.

The last significant disagreement between the rate commission and the Postal Service occurred in 1981, when the service sought a 20-cent letter rate and the commission agreed to 18 cents. In that case the 18-cent rate was introduced in March, and increased to 20 cents in November.

On Friday, the rate commission also proposed a new rate of 27 cents for individuals using specially prepared reply envelopes.

Stamp

Arabs living in Western countries will mount widespread sabotage attacks if war breaks out in the Gulf. If Iraq is going to be attacked, all Western countries will have targets to be hit," press counselor Nabil Abdul-Jabbar Hassan told reporters at London's Heathrow Airport.

Britain on Thursday ordered 75 Iraqi war planes to the country, citing Iraqi threats to attack Western targets if war breaks out.

In Baghdad, diplomatic sources said Iraq had state embassies to prepare to move out of the capital to temporary facilities in a city 65 miles to the west. Most embassies now have skeleton staffs in Baghdad.

The official Iraqi News Agency denied reports that Iraq government offices, too, would be relocated, saying, "Baghdad is the capital of steadfastness and victory and will remain so."

Darren Goddard had a career-high 21 points, Jeff Ross 18 and Randy Shakes 10 to lead the Indians. Steve Callahan netted 12 to lead Fermi.

Manchester also took the junior varsity game, 85-45. Chris Ritz had 17 points for the young Indians, 2-1.

Manchester (10) — Darren Goddard 20, Jeff Ross 18, Randy Shakes 10, Steve Callahan 12, Tim Gorman 8, Mike Walton 2, Tyler Miller 2, 2-point goals: M. Ross, Goddard, Walton, Miller, 2-10.

Regional in Deep River. Bolton outscored Suffield (0-8), 10-3 in the third quarter to take control. "Daniello" Curly has a dislocated thumb and will be out three weeks. It took a half for them to realize she wasn't there. Then I yelled a little bit, call it positive encouragement, and they played better."

Dawn Bedard had seven points and eight rebounds and Maureen Griffin five points to lead Bolton.

PORTLAND (10) — With four players in double figures, Portland High trimmed RHAM High, 68-48, Friday night in Cheshire Oak Conference boys' basketball action.

Don Simmons netted 17 points and Douglas Marcus Bloom 16 to lead the Highlanders, 4-0 in the COC West and 4-1 overall. The loss dropped the Sachems to 3-1 in the COC East, 4-2 overall.

Stamp



DICK KLEINER

Q. Please settle a bet between my brother and me. There are five comic books riding on your answer. How old is Steve Missety, who plays Caitlin on "Degrass Junior High"? I say she's 13 or 14, but my brother swears she's at least 17 or 18. Please answer soon, so I can prove him wrong for once. — D.N., Princeton, N.J.

A. Sorry, wrong number. He's much older. Right this moment, Steve is 19. She's just looking younger.

Q. I seem to remember hearing that Meredith Baxter Birtney's mother was a well-known actress. Can you tell me who she is? — J.R., Iron Mountain, Mich.

A. Birtney is the daughter of Whitney Blake, who played Mrs. Baxter on "Hazel" from 1961-65. Her father was a radio announcer named Tom Baxter.

Q. What became of my favorite actress — Brenda Marshall, Priscilla Lane and Elizabeth Scott? — J.P., Steubenville, Ohio

A. They all quit while they were ahead, and retired.

Q. After each episode of "Growing Pains," why does it show a person or persons jumping and screaming from a building? I've been wondering about this for a long time. It's weird! — E.M.M., Cascade, Iowa

A. That scene on ABC's "Growing Pains" was actually shot as part of an episode. In it, Ben Seaver (played by Jeremy Miller) has a fantasy about being in command in a battle — and one of his men falls out of the window. Lucy, youngest one of the show's producers, felt that was so good, and so unusual in a sitcom, that he decided to use it every week as the show's logo.

Q. Xavier Cugat and his orchestra were under contract to MGM for 10 years. Please name the woman in which he and his orchestra appeared. — J.C.C., Fort St. Lae, Fla.

A. Cugat was in "You Were Never Lovelier," "Two Girls and a Sailor," "Holiday in Mexico," "A Day With Judy" and "Neptune's Daughter." He did make a few other brief appearances in various films for a long time.

Q. I recently read where Shari Belafonte married an actor named Sam Behrens from "Knots Landing," which character did he play? — B.F., Tulsa, Okla.

A. Sam Behrens played a young man named Danny Walecka.

Q. What happened to Rosemary Clooney after she did the movie, "White Christmas"? — U.D., Manitoa, Mich.

A. Love. Professionally she still sings, often appearing now in concert with other singers of her era — Margaret Whiting and Helen O'Connell.

Q. In 1954, I saw a movie with Shelley Long called "South Seas Isles." I have never seen or heard of it again. She was on an island and simply could not get on any ship to get off. Is that the right name? — C.C.B., Long Beach, Ind.

A. I think you mean "She's a Singer," a 1950 release with Shelley Long, Mamie Van Doren, Lyle Waggoner and Lizabeth Scott. Lyle Waggoner was a singer, a dancer, a singer, a singer.

Q. Please tell me about Gilbert Roland. Nationality? How old is he? I've been a fan of his for many years, but know nothing about him. — C.B., Chattanooga, Tenn.

A. The great heartthrob of the early Hollywood days is a Mexican by birth. His real name: Luis Antonio Domínguez Domínguez. He is still with us at 95. His first wife was another early movie star, Constance Bennett. Roland and Guillermina Cansu were married in 1954.

Q. I was living in London last year, and on a TV show I heard that Paula Abdul was the daughter of basketball star Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. True? — M.J., Kalamazoo, Mich.

A. No. Thoroughly false.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1991 — MORNING

Table with columns for time slots (5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00) and rows for various TV channels (ABC, CBS, NBC, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

Table with columns for time slots (11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30) and rows for various TV channels listing programs and their descriptions.

Table with columns for time slots (6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30) and rows for various TV channels listing programs and their descriptions.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 1991 — MORNING

Table with columns for time slots (5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00) and rows for various TV channels listing programs and their descriptions.

Table with columns for time slots (11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30) and rows for various TV channels listing programs and their descriptions.

Table with columns for time slots (6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30) and rows for various TV channels listing programs and their descriptions.

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Iraq's TV war

By JAY SHARLUTT
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The blue plastic bubbles atop Saudi Arabia's Dhahran International Hotel symbolize all that has changed in TV's coverage of war.

The bubbles house satellite uplink facilities, and they now transmit reports on U.S. and other troops training for a possible war with Iraq. That is what war, the uplinks would transmit TV's taped combat coverage — faster and in greater quantities than ever before in a large-scale conflict.

And that coverage, for the first time, would be watched on both sides of the battlefield. Cable News Network's coverage of U.S. and allied troops can be seen on a Sunday basis both in Baghdad and in Washington.

How much will be seen is anyone's guess, even though Pentagon officials say there'll be no constraints on the transmission site in Dhahran. Because of all the new and flashy technology, at least one thing is expected to remain the same in a Persian Gulf war — the friction between the military and the media.

If fighting erupts, ABC anchorman Tom Brokaw thinks U.S. military officials "will prevent us from seeing it as best they can," although he admits that he doesn't know what really will happen if the shooting starts.

"I don't know what the bottom line is... but it's an extremely simple environment in which to control the press.

The U.S. military, after meetings with TV and print journalists, this week said there will be seven media centers, one for each of the seven major networks, and that they will be activated for training sessions for a possible war. They will be trained on how to deal with chemical warfare, authorities said.

Proposed rules for the pools require a "security review" of outgoing material and the presence of military reporters visiting ground rules of coverage.

Even though the Pentagon says there will be no censorship, it's unclear what will happen if the security review contains a dispute over a news report and what, if anything, will happen to the reporter if the story is sent.

"If you agree to the ground rules, you would not expect, if you violate them, to have access to the U.S. military," says a spokesman for a senior Pentagon spokesman.

He refuses to specify say if a violator would be barred from accompanying U.S. troops, but "we are confident that there is not a problem with reporters understanding what the purpose of the ground rules is," he says.

"We are not going to let people compromise the safety of the troops," he says. "That's the bottom line. I can't speculate on what would happen if people did. But we are not going to allow that."

Print and TV reporters in Vietnam, while also subject to ground rules regarding tactical information, such as planned operations, had a great deal of access to U.S. operations. American viewers saw an un-banned war.

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But fast TV coverage wasn't common. Satellite transmission was in its infancy and rarely used because of cost. Field reports — on film then, not videotape — usually aired several days after the fact.

But satellites got a heavy workout 23 years ago this month as U.S. networks showed the bloody scenes of the communist Tet offensive in Vietnam. NBC showed the first footage of fighting at the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, airing it raw and unedited.

Even with satellites, NBC's coverage was not a day old. It had to be flown from Saigon to Tokyo, processed there, and then sent via satellite to the United States. It arrived 10 minutes before the show began at 6:30 p.m. EST.

Despite today's swift TV coverage, network officials say that if war starts after — or before — Jan. 15 deadline the United Nations has given Iraq to get out of Kuwait, it's unlikely there'd be live battlefield coverage.

The uplink gear isn't mobile enough. It also can make a nice target. "You never say I'm in this business," says Ed Turner, CNN's executive vice president, for newsgathering. "But it (live coverage) is highly unlikely in this point because gear, while portable, ain't that portable."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jay Sharlutt covered the Vietnam War for The Associated Press in 1969-70.

