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Head For Far East

Vice President Humphrey and his wife, Muriel, wave from ramp of their plane at Andrews Air Force Base Monday.

Vice President Humphrey Off For Far East Tour

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey flew to the Far East on Monday to talk with three presidents, an emperor and a prime minister.

The talks will pivot around his going to the Philippines to represent the United States at the inauguration of the president of President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

The talks will be both cordial and mutualistic.

To Marcos, who will be inaugurated on Wednesday in Manila, Humphrey carried assurances from President Johnson of relations that will be firm, steady and friendly.

Marcos is expected to serve as his own defense minister. The former guerrilla leader will

determine what modifications, if any, will be made in the military alliance agreement between the two countries. And there have been indications of more Philippines support of the anti-Communist effort in Viet Nam.

Humphrey was seen off by Secretary of State Dean Rusk who had a working lunch with the vice president and the State Department and talked over the problems of Northeast Asia.

On arriving in Tokyo some 15

hours after his 2:15 p.m. departure from here, Humphrey will be met by J.S. Ambassador Edwin O. Reischauer.

The stopover in Tokyo will be for 14 hours only. And during that time, the vice president will call with Mrs. Humphrey at the imperial palace and be received by Emperor Hirohito.

Then Humphrey and Japanese Prime Minister Eisaku Sato will have a two-hour conference and

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Ky Reportedly Has Vetoed LBJ's Peace Talks Pledge

GARDEN CITY, N.Y. (AP) — Premier Nguyen Cao Ky of South Viet Nam has vetoed President Johnson's pledge to hold unconditional negotiations to end the war in Viet

Nam, the Long Island daily *Newday* reported Monday.

"A copycat story" from a pro-Chinese writer, a columnist for the paper, reported that Premier Ky has privately, but officially, informed the United States that a peace conference is presently out of the question. Frithcley also said that the State Department "has chosen to suppress Premier Ky's declaration."

"Moreover," Frithcley wrote, "President Johnson and Secretary of State (Dean) Rusk have... continued to insist publicly that the only obstacle to peace negotiations is the 'intransigence' of North Viet Nam."

The evidence, however, is that the South Viet Nam government is just as implacably against peace talks as Hanoi, if not more so."

Frithcley said Ky gave his reasons for not wanting to negotiate at:

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Continued on Page 3; 1st Col.

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The governor replied to criticism by Arlyn E. Barnard of Portland, executive secretary of the Maine Automobile Association, in which Barnard urged that the state's safety committee, a former chairman of the Maine Highway Safety Committee.

"This is not the first time Arlyn Barnard has taken a negative position toward others working for the best interests of Maine citizens in the highway safety field," Reed said in a prepared statement.

The governor said last Thursday he will ask the legislative special session Jan. 17 to appropriate about \$14,000 to expand a program of training instructors to give voluntary refresher courses to experienced drivers.

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The Driver Improvement

News, Features On The Inside

The Weather

Light snow, clearing after snow today; fair, cold Wednesday.
Full report on Page 11.

CHRISTMAS IS A DEADLY HOLIDAY on the nation's highways as the three-day toll climbs above the 700 record set in 1964. Page 2.

THREE AMERICAN SOLDIERS who were quoted as saying after their release by the Viet Cong that they wanted to campaign against the Viet Nam war face the possibility of the death penalty. Page 2.

FOUR CUBANS in a Cuban freighter defect in Japan, saying they do not want to help the Communists by carrying arms to North Viet Nam. Back Page.

Spruce St. gets a reaction from her twin girls as they are held by nurses Lois Reday, right, and Jennie DeGroch. The first twins born on Christmas Day in the Maine Medical Center, the infants entered the world

15 minutes after Patrolman Robert B. Cousins got their mother to the hospital. "I didn't think we were going to make it," she said. The Kennards have girls, aged 5 and 2, and a 10-month-old son.

With grateful heart, O Father, thank Thee for the manifold blessings of life. How manifold Thy goodness! I praise Thee for the thoughtfulness of friends and the attention of loved ones. As I have been beautifully received, may I this day and always generously share my life with others as an expression of my gratitude to Thee; in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

—F. Ralph Ward Jr., Syracuse, N.Y., The Methodist Church

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Christmas Presents

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Pope Tells LBJ His Pleasure Over Viet Christmas Cease-Fire

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP) — President Johnson received Monday an indirect message from Pope Paul expressing his pleasure over the Viet Christmas cease-fire in Viet Nam.

Acting press secretary Joseph Laitin said the letter was from the apostolic delegate to Washington, Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi.

Laitin did not make public the text, but said the apostolic delegate had told the President he "had received with great pleasure the news that a Christmas truce was ordered by the armed forces in Viet Nam."

Word of the message from Rome was given to newsmen at the end of a day which saw President back at the executive business jet after his return from Viet Nam.

Laitin said Johnson gave most of his attention to foreign affairs and the budget. Some official visitors from Washington are expected to be in Viet Nam.

The papal message, Laitin added, said the Pope had shown his satisfaction with the cease-fire by sending a special message to the governments of South and North Viet Nam encouraging each to do everything possible to bring about a just and peaceful solution.

Laitin said the archbishop's still has a glimmer of hope that

Laitin was addressed to a White House aide, whom he did not identify, and was forwarded to Johnson at the end of the day.

Asked whether there might be a reply, Laitin said: "My judgment would be that the letter does not require a reply."

Laitin said earlier that Johnson spent most of the day at his desk.

Among his phone calls to Washington was one to McGeorge Bundy, presidential assistant for national security affairs, for a meeting on events around the world.

There were no official visitors to the ranch, but some of the presidential staff members were on hand to help with the paper work which accumulated over Christmas.

Johnson still maintained silence on any Viet Nam truce moves.

Asked whether the United States had instituted a new pause in bombings in North Viet Nam, Laitin replied: "I have no information whatsoever on that."

Laitin said the White House had no comment on a report from Vatican City that Pope Paul VI is working to encourage a possible New Year's cease-fire in Viet Nam.

White mailing silence on Viet Nam, Johnson reported.

Laitin announced also Johnson plans to appoint James Stembel Duesenberry, a monetary expert and professor of economics at Harvard, a member of his Council of Economic Advisors.

Duesenberry will replace another Harvard professor, Otto Eckstein, who is returning to October. Mahan will succeed the late Francis A. Cherry, a former Arkansas governor, as chairman.

Treasury. A government action for the past 12 years, Mr. Lloyd joined the Treasury in 1961 in the office of the general counsel.

Duesenberry, 47, is a native of Princeton, W. Va., and received his bachelor's master's and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan.

Johnson approved also the retirement at the end of this month of Gordon E. McCullum as assistant surgeon general of the Public Health Service.

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Vatican Envoys Seek New Year Cease-Fire

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Vatican diplomats were reported Monday to be negotiating under orders from Pope Paul VI to bring about a New Year's cease-fire in Viet Nam.

Some reports said contact already had been made between papal envoys and Representatives of North Viet Nam in Cambodia. The Vatican has an apostolic delegate to the Roman Catholic hierarchy there.

Another possible channel was through Hungary.

Informants said Vatican diplomats had been instructed in the wake of the Christmas cease-fire experiment to step up their secret contacts with both sides.

Pope Paul was disappointed that the Christmas cease-fire he had appealed for was so short-lived.

But both the pontiff and his top diplomatic advisers were said to feel that, even so, the Pope's appeal had achieved some results and that new efforts were called for.

It was not indicated whether the Pope planned another public appeal for a specific cease-fire for New Year's as he had done Dec. 19 for the Christmas truce.

Sources said it was possible that this time the proposals would be less specific within other diplomatic channels.

The Vatican has no direct diplomatic relations with North Viet Nam. But informants re-

port that Vatican diplomats have indirect channels to Hanoi. There is speculation that one channel is by way of Hungary, where the Vatican has had working ties with the Budapest regime since September 1964.

An accord was reached between Pope Paul and a number of leaders in Hungary without government interference.

At the same time Archibishop Endre Halmay was named president of the Hungarian episcopacy to represent the Roman Catholic Church in dealing with the country's Communist regime in the absence of any papal nuncio ambassador.

It was thought that Pope Paul's Christmas message to Hanoi, asking that the truece be permanent, might have been channelled to North Viet Nam by way of Hungary.

Informants said that far from allowing down after the resumption of combat, Viet Nam was showing signs of increasing activity.

Secretarial aides were reported working far into the night over the Christmas weekend.

U. S. Secretary-General U Thant told newsmen in New York. Continued on Page 3; 1st Col.

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (AP) — Back in action after a short-lived Christmas truce, Viet Cong concentrations in South Viet Nam.

They gave no reason for the suspension of the strikes against the Communist North, but said that Washington was giving the orders.

The Communists reported taking only light casualties in skirmishes that flared around the big American base 380 miles northeast of Saigon.

North Viet Nam charged that U.S. planes and warships "intruded" into its territorial air and water space on Christmas Day when the cease-fire was on.

Understandably, the planes conducted surveillance and reconnaissances.

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