

Nixon promises economic emphasis

WASHINGTON—President Nixon promised Monday night to follow policies to pep up the sagging economy and predicted that "1971 will be a good year and 1972 will be a very good year."

President Nixon also said he did not intend to resume bombing of strategic targets in North Vietnam and would confine retaliatory air strikes to military targets.

Nixon, in a nationally televised interview with four television network

correspondents, once again warned that if North Vietnamese troops begin massing to strike remaining Americans in Vietnam, he would order U.S. planes to bomb—but only in those military targets and only as necessary.

He said he will not ask Congress for any new taxes in the coming year, but said he would propose an unbalanced budget—he called it an "expansionary budget"—to try to pump more money into the economy.

Nixon was closely questioned about

the nation's economic woes—continued inflation and rising unemployment—during an hour-long live "conversation" from the White House Library that was broadcast nationally on radio and television.

Nixon said his greatest achievement has been to start the United States "on the way out" of the Vietnam War and his greatest disappointment was Congress' failure to approve his welfare proposals last year.

Asked to assess the first two years of his term, Nixon said, "the primary achievement is in the field of foreign policy. We now see the end of America's combat role in Vietnam in sight. . . we're on the way out, and we're on the way out in a way that will bring a just peace."

Nixon also cited college violence as among his greatest disappointments. "I think the greatest disappointment was in the terms of the tragedies at Kent State, Jackson State and the University of Wisconsin," he said.

Four television network reporters questioned the President, John Chancellor of NBC, Eric Sevareid of CBS, Howard K. Smith of ABC and Nancy Dickerson of Public Broadcasting Service.



Mideast talks due to resume

Egyptian and Israeli negotiators flew to New York Monday as top U.S. and U.N. diplomats conferred at U.N. headquarters on the resumption of the crucial Middle East peace talks, expected by midweek.

In Egypt, President Anwar Sadat warned of the possibility of a new war if the U.N.-supervised talks break down again and said "we are now stronger than ever before."

Sadat disclosed that the massive buildup of Soviet-made anti-aircraft missiles along the Suez Canal front cost Egypt \$100 million and stressed his government would not withdraw them. Israel withdrew from the talks under the auspices of U.N. mediator Gunnar V. Jarring on Sept. 6 in protest against the introduction of the new missiles in violation of the original U.S.-sponsored cease-fire agreement last Aug. 7.

The Egyptian president reiterated the Cairo government would not agree to another extension of the cease-fire, now scheduled to expire on Feb. 5, unless a timetable for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory had been set and serious progress made towards a peace settlement.

Israeli officials already have made clear that extension of the truce is an essential condition to continuation of the negotiations. Observers in Tel Aviv said this is one of the first subjects expected to come up at the talks which sources at the United Nations said could reopen Tuesday or Wednesday.

Secretary of State William P. Rogers went to New York from Washington Sunday night for meetings with Jarring and U.N. Secretary General Thant. He was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador Charles W. Yost and Joseph P. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

Jordan, also a party to the peace talks, was in the midst of another crisis involving the Palestinian guerrillas and there was some confusion over who would represent King Hussein's government in New York.

Killer snow leaves Midwest paralyzed

A killer winter storm Monday left thousands of holiday travelers stranded and whole states all but paralyzed under knee-deep snows and drifts up to 12 feet tall along a 1,000-mile belt of the Plains and Midwest.

The storm, which reached blizzard intensity in many areas, flailed Minnesota and upper Michigan with high winds and up to 16 inches of snow before heading across the upper Great Lakes toward Canada.

A cold wave swept southeast across

Minnesota and Wisconsin toward Illinois in the wake of the storm. Blizzard warnings remained up in hard-hit eastern Iowa. Travelers' warnings were in effect across much of the snow-bogged storm zone.

Iowa and Nebraska appeared hardest hit. In Iowa the storm was described as the worst in nearly 30 years. Des Moines, the state capital, was virtually paralyzed.

The Nebraska state patrol asked the Kansas highway patrol to close all roads leading into Nebraska because of a "serious backup of traffic, severe weather and road conditions." Deep snows blocked Interstate 80 across Nebraska and Dodge Street, the main thoroughfare in Omaha.

The toll of deaths attributed at least in part to the weather mounted to 20 as isolated communities began to re-establish communications with the rest of the world. Iowa counted 12, Nebraska 4, Kansas 2, and Minnesota and New Mexico 1 each.

Many of the victims were persons who succumbed to heart attacks while shoveling snow or pushing cars in the snow. Others died of carbon monoxide poisoning in stalled cars or in accidents on icy roads.

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Terrorists charged in Laporte murder

MONTREAL—Four suspected terrorists of the Quebec Liberation Front (FLQ) were declared "criminally responsible" for the killing of provincial Labor Minister Pierre Laporte Monday and ordered held for trial.

Judge Jacques Trahan handed down his decision against Paul Rose, 27, his brother Jacques Rose, 23, Francis Simard, and Bernard Lortie, 19.

Appearing in the final session of the inquest Monday morning, Simard and the Rose brothers—objects of the most intensive manhunt in Canadian history until they were captured a week ago—refused to testify, defiantly shouting, "long live the FLQ."

But police read into the record a confession they said was made by Simard, in which he admitted the three of them killed Laporte after Lortie had left the hideaway where they held the labor minister hostage.

On Oct. 17 "at 5:20 p.m., Jacques, Paul and me, we strangled him. We used the chain of his religious medal. We are responsible, the three of us," the statement said.

Before he was killed, Laporte wept in pain from the cuts inflicted as he tried to escape through a broken window, and begged his captors to take him to a hospital, the statement said.

According to the statement, Simard and the Rose brothers, with Lortie, kidnaped Laporte Oct. 10.

Attacker believes

Only luck saved Pope

MANILA—The first witness in the trial of Bolivian painter Benjamin Mendoza told the court Monday he saw Pope Paul VI struck twice in the chest by a dagger during the attempt on the pontiff's life last Nov. 27. He said he was surprised that the Pope was not wounded.

Mendoza has been charged with attempted murder in the attack during the Pope's visit to the Philippines.

Mendoza told the newsmen before the trial opened that he meant to kill Pope Paul. He said luck, not God, saved the 73-year-old spiritual leader of the Roman Catholic Church.

Did he feel any remorse, a newsmen asked? "I guess not," Mendoza replied.

Asked how close he got to the Pope in the attack at the Manila International Airport, Mendoza said, "I saw his eyes—80 per cent lies and perhaps 20 per cent kindness. I was just a short distance..."

Mendoza, 35, left Bolivia in 1961 to begin a vagabond life as a surrealist painter in the United States, Hong Kong, Japan and finally the Philippines. He previously had admitted a burning hatred of religion.

Mendoza said he lunged twice at the Pope with a foot-long dagger and believed he made a "couple of scratches" on the

pontiff's "very thick, very fancy and expensive" clothing before being subdued.

The first witness was Jolly Bugarin, director of the Philippine National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) who testified that the attack "was so fast I just saw the action of a knife striking twice on the left portion of the breast of the Pope."

The attack—the first serious attempt on the life of a Roman Catholic pontiff in modern times—came minutes after Pope Paul came down the ramp of his plane for the first major stop on his pilgrimage to Asia and the Pacific.

The opening session of the trial lasted 2 hours with only Bugarin testifying. Judge Pedro Bautista scheduled the next session for Jan. 13 or Jan. 18.

If convicted, Mendoza could receive a maximum sentence of six years imprisonment.

Teacher faces finals

NEW YORK—Mrs. Genella Barton Allison of Hickory, N.C., is one of five outstanding teachers chosen as finalists to compete for the 1971 National Teacher of the Year award.

Mrs. Allison, a teacher for 34 years, teaches journalism and English at Claremont Central High School. She won the Terry Sanford Award for creativity and innovation in education for 1969-70.

Dr. Craig Phillips, N.C. Superintendent of Public Instruction, nominated Mrs. Allison for the honor.

The Teacher of the Year Award, now in its 20th year, is the world's oldest national awards project honoring classroom teachers. It is co-sponsored by Look Magazine and the Council of Chief State School Officers in Washington.

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