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EARLY BIRDS are supposed to be winners, but the sea gull on the right appears to be the only one with any food. The bird and his companions (who are regarding him

with what can only be envy) are strolling along Portland, Maine's, Fore River, covered with ice from a recent cold wave. (AP Wirephoto)

Vietnam last one, Nixon tells writer

NEW YORK (AP) — President Nixon said in an interview published by the New York Times Wednesday that the Vietnam war is ending and, "I seriously doubt if we will ever have another war."

Describing himself as a "deeply committed pacifist," he said he saw a chance to build a "relatively peaceful" world.

"I deliberately say relatively peaceful," he said. "That doesn't mean everyone will be disarmed, safe and loving everyone else."

"The kind of relative peace I envision is not the dream of my Quaker youth. But it is realistic and I am convinced we can bring it about."

The rare on-the-record interview was with Times columnist C. L. Sulzberger in Washington on Monday.

Nixon pictured himself as caught in a cross-fire between "superhawks" and "superdoves"—both of whom he said want to

pull America out of the world. He said the superdoves opposed American commitment in Vietnam and all world responsibilities, while the superhawks "became fed up with the war for their own reasons."

"They felt that if the United States can't handle a distant little war, why then let's just pull out and build up our strength at home," he stated.

Nixon said that, as he explained it to Prime Minister Golda Meir of Israel, "if America winds up the war in Vietnam in failure and an image is developed that the war was fought only by stupid scoundrels, there would be a wave of isolationism."

"This would embrace the U.S. role everywhere — including the Middle East. Mrs. Meir saw the point immediately," he said.

Nixon said the Vietnam war must be ended in a way that gives South Vietnam a chance to survive without American help.

Medina claims Calley ignored orders

FT. BENNING, Ga. (AP)—Capt. Ernest Medina testified Wednesday that Lt. William L. Calley Jr.'s platoon ignored Medina's pre-assault order that women and children be spared at My Lai three years ago.

Medina also denied that he ordered civilians killed. Calley, on trial on charges of premeditated murder of 102 Vietnamese men, women and children at My Lai on March 16, 1968, had testified earlier at his court-martial that Medina ordered every living thing in My Lai destroyed.

Medina said that two days after the sweep by his Charlie Company through My Lai he asked Calley, at the directions of superiors, if he was "aware of any atrocities that had been committed."

"Lt. Calley made a comment

as to, 'my God, I can still hear the screaming,' Medina added.

This brought the chief civilian defense lawyer, George Latimer, to his feet to object: "If this is intended to be a confession of some kind extracted from this man, it would be inadmissible."

But the remark stood for more than three hours. After a dinner recess, however, the court-martial judge, Col. Reid Kennedy, ordered it stricken.

Subsequently, Medina testified: "Lt. Calley never stated to me that he killed anybody."

Asked by Latimer on defense cross-examination why he did not report to superior officers if his troops were running wild at My Lai, Medina replied:

"I realized exactly the disgrace that was being brought upon the Army uniform that I am very

proud to wear. Number two, I also realized the repercussions that it would have against the United States of America. Three, my family. And number four, lastly, myself, sir."

The first night session of the four-month-old court-martial ended shortly after 8 p.m. EST (7 p.m. CST).

Earlier, on direct examination, Kennedy asked Medina:

"Did you at any time order or direct Lt. Calley to kill or waste any Vietnamese people?"

"No, sir," replied Medina, 34.

"I felt the people of Charlie Company were good soldiers," Medina said of the period before My Lai. But as it dawned on him in the hours immediately after the assault that noncombatant civilians had died by the score, Medina recalled thinking:

"Oh my God, what happened?"

But despite My Lai, Medina signed an Officer's Efficiency Report on Calley afterwards, in which he wrote: "His display of knowledge and tactical experience has enabled him to carry out his mission. His overall performance was very satisfactory."

During the infantry advance through My Lai, Medina said he twice radioed cease-fire orders—"by cease-fire I mean to make sure no innocent civilians will be killed."

The witness said Calley's 1st platoon continued to fire its automatic rifles and Medina said he got the radio-telephone to the platoon, adding: "I said, 'Damn it, what's going on up there! I want all this firing stopped... I want to make sure no innocent civilians are being killed.'"

Medina said that in briefing Charlie Company before the My Lai assault he relayed instructions from his superiors to "burn hootches, kill livestock, close wells and destroy all foodstock."

Q. Is your recollection that you did not say that everything in the village was to be destroyed?

A. Yes, sir.

There has been testimony that the firing in My Lai came to a final halt shortly before noon following a message from Medina that "The party's over, that's enough shooting for today."

Q. Did you ever radio that the party's over, the show's over, or that's enough for today?

A. No, sir.

Q. Was it known to you immediately after March 16 or after you left the village of My Lai 4 that many unarmed people

had been killed in the village?

A. On the evening of the 16th of March, at the night defensive position, I became aware of the fact that due to the number of people—that there had been a large number of noncombatants that had been killed in the village of My Lai 4. I was not to learn until some time later how many, or you know, the great number of civilians that had been killed.

It was during the night bivouac, Medina continued, that he asked for a body count of innocent civilians slain by his troops at My Lai and received a figure of at least 50 from both Calley and the leader of the 2nd platoon. The 3rd Platoon reported six. It was at that point that Medina recalled exclaiming, "Oh my God, what happened?"

Medina was called as a witness by the six-man court-martial jury after prosecution and defense rested their cases. He commanded Charlie Company and Calley led the 1st Platoon.

Medina has been charged with responsibility for at least 100 deaths at My Lai and faces a court-martial.

Calley, 27, followed intently Medina's testimony which contradicted the defendant's claim that he directed a mass execution at My Lai only after being ordered to do so by his company commander.

The inside of the tiny courtroom's rail was lined with nine visiting lawyers, including F. Lee Bailey, Medina's civilian attorney, and Melvin Belli, who represents Col. Oran K. Henderson, a brigade commander at My Lai, who is scheduled to testify Thursday.

NASA tells of plans for space rescue

space agency disclosed plans Wednesday to develop the nation's first space rescue capability late next year.

It will be part of the Skylab program of prolonged space study that will follow immediately after conclusion of the Apollo lunar landing flights.

At present the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has no capability to rescue astronauts if they get into trouble in space.

The rescue technique now planned will be made possible by equipping an Apollo rescue ship that would be launched with a crew of two men instead of three.

It would rendezvous with the distressed Skylab vehicle and recover the three-man Skylab team.

18-year-old

(Continued from page 1)

Congress attempted last year by legislation to lower the voting age to 18 in all elections, but the Supreme Court held the law is constitutional only with respect to elections for federal officials.

Adoption of the proposed constitutional amendment would do away with the dual-age voting system resulting from the court's decision.

Sponsors hope ratification can be completed in time for elections in 1972, opening all ballot boxes to about 11 million Americans between the ages of 18 and 21.

They noted that the 19th amendment, extending the franchise to women, was ratified by the states in less than 15 months.

Approval of the 18-year-old vote amendment followed the Senate's rejection of another proposed constitutional amendment by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., to give the District of Columbia full voting representation in Congress just like a state.

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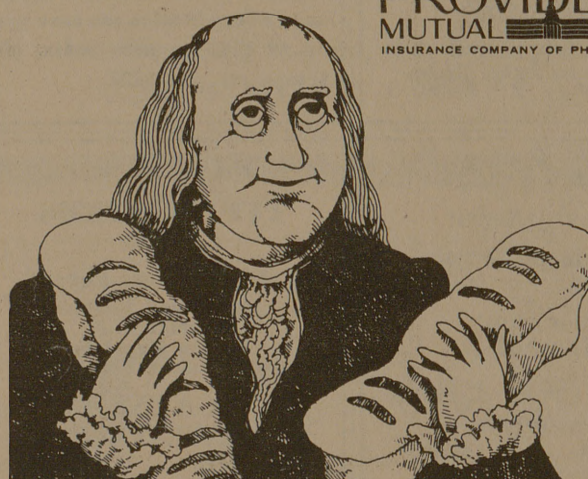
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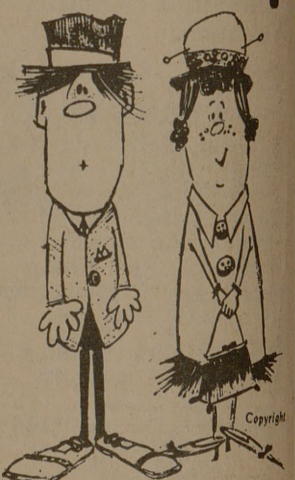
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