

On Congo Atrocities

The joint Belgian — American military invasion of the supposedly independent nation of The Congo is explained away as a humanitarian mission.

American plans flew Belgian paratroopers into that unhappy land with the sole purpose of rescuing some 2,000 white settlers who did not have sense enough to get out when warned to do so.

With their arrival back home comes a flood of atrocity tales.

Twenty whites were mowed down with machine guns at Stanleyville, we are told. Fifteen more lost their lives at Paulis. There were daily beatings, torture and humiliations.

The stories, designed to justify the violation of a free country's sovereignty, leave us unmoved.

The rebels must not have been as bad as American propaganda mills would have us believe, since fewer than 100 out of 2,000 so-called hostages lost their lives.

We are given a detailed head count on white casual-

ties and never an estimate of the thousands of Africans who were slaughtered. The impression is given that the life of a white man is of far greater value than that of a black man.

From our viewpoint the rebels certainly were more civilized and exercised greater restraint than did the ancestors of their Belgian captives.

Vivid in Congolese memories is the horrible fact that under Leopold the Belgians killed more than eight

IN SOUTH PACIFIC

For Fiji Islanders, Christmas starts at 2 a.m., when carolers wake the villagers with serenades. At dawn, when everyone is awake and assembled, some attend church while others take care of preparing the feast.

Tallest Christmas tree? In the U.S. the title probably goes to the Indianapolis, Ind., "tree"—the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. At Christmas, the 246-foot structure is decorated with electric candles and stars.

million Africans in the world's worst blood bath with no apparent remorse.

When it comes to atrocities, tenderhearted Congolese rebels as yet haven't learned the full meaning of the word.

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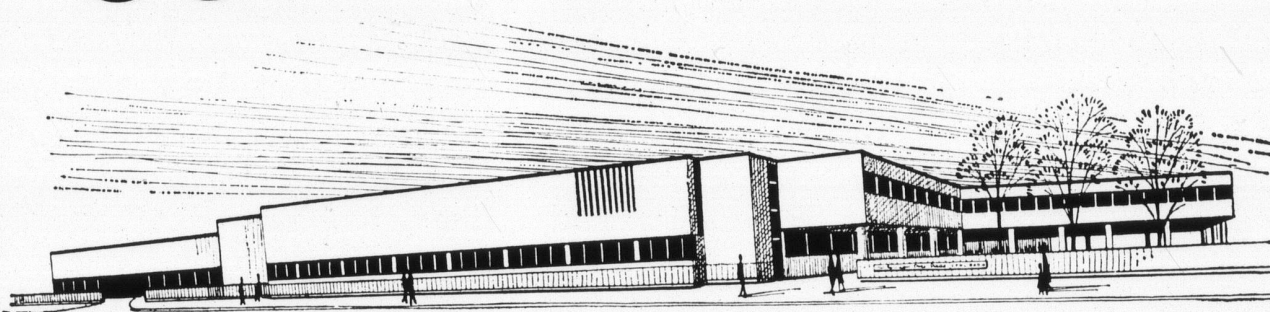
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