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Wednesday

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

I have established a rapprochement with the Sopes. I went to the house of Juan Sopa for breakfast. Then he brought me to the Chronicle building to see Vice-Pres. Raul Sopa.

Rafael Romaldez laid the groundwork and prepared Juan for the visit through Ernesto del Rosano, former editor of the Chronicle and now public relations man.

Juan was first proper and civil but warmed up when I showed concern for his health and his family. "The devil does not die," he wryly commented. "That makes two of us - of a kind," I answered. Manila is agog over the development of North Vietnam.

The blockade by Nixon has been rejected by a resounding majority by the U.S. Senate. Nixon may end up as another Wilson.

America may have lost the war and its prestige.