

# Ship Gold Secretly to U.K. Bank

BY ROBERT MERRY

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

LONDON, Dec. 1 — Amid a cloud of security, Fort Knox sent 240 million dollars worth of gold to Britain on Wednesday after the buying spree on the London gold market.

Such was the secrecy of the operation that the Bank of England did not disclose it until late last night.

## Flown to Suffolk

The gold was flown into the United States air force base at Mildenhall, Suffolk, about 120 miles from London. A convoy of Bank of England trucks was waiting and so was an escort of police cars. The police were armed.

All along the route to London, police were alerted to insure that the operation went smoothly. The gold reached the bank's vaults intact.

## Russians Send Shipment

As the announcement of the huge gold transit was being made, gold market sources revealed that the Russians in October sent their first shipment of gold, worth 4.8 million dollars, to London since the end of 1965.

In normal circumstances, the news would have depressed the price of gold on the London market. But because of the recent frenzied buying of gold, market observers said it would make no impact at all. It is believed the Russians sold the gold in order to clear some foreign currency commitments.