From Wire Reports

NO SURRENDER: A Warner Bros. exec says there's no way Clint Eastwood's character in Heartbreak Ridge will be changed from a Marine to an Army soldier — that it's far too late to make a change in the film. So says gossip columnist Marilyn Beck about the movie, which is scheduled for year-end release. Reports surfaced last week that such a change might be made, after Army veterans protested Eastwood's playing a Marine Corps sergeant who won a medal at Heartbreak Ridge — where the Army waged a major battle during the Korean War.

MORE LEEWAY: Walter Cronkite, making a rare appearance on rival ABC, said Monday that taking the CBS Morning News away from the network's news division could give the show elbow room to compete with its rivals. CBS announced last month that the third-rated program, with Forrest Sawyer and Maria Shriver as co-hosts, would be replaced with a revamped show under a department outside the news division. "They think it gives them a little more freedom, taking it out of news, where I'm very proud to say CBS has very strong stricture," the former CBS Evening News anchor said on ABC's Good Morning America in New York. Cronkite, speaking from his sailboat in Portland, Maine, also said network broadcasts should concentrate on important news. "I felt we weren't perhaps being serious enough about the news," he said.

STRONG HEART: Queen Elizabeth II, who had what was described as a routine heart checkup last week, climbed 152 steps to the top of Britain's westernmost lighthouse Monday at Kisloch, Scotland. The 60-year-old queen became the first British monarch to climb the 114-foot Ardnamurchan Lighthouse, overlooking the Irish Sea on the southwestern coast of Scotland. She is vacating the rest of this week at Balmoral Castle. Lighthouse keeper Jim Hardie said the queen climbed with ease and was not out of breath when she reached the top. Buckingham Palace said the queen underwent a routine examination last Tuesday at London's National Heart Hospital. Palace officials said the queen is in good health.

GLEAM IN THEIR EYES: Treasure hunter Melvin Fisher says he enjoys the looks on children's faces when they see the gold bars, silver plates, pieces of eight and antique weapons in his exhibit at the Indianapolis Children's Museum. "They can come in really bored about history but go out really turned on about the way people lived and the tools they used," said Fisher, 65. Monday was "Mel Fisher Day" at the museum, which has the only exhibit of the treasure Fisher retrieved from the Atlantic off the Florida coast from two sunken Spanish ships. "I'll never retire and just do nothing, but rather I'll probably be a consultant and oversee expeditions," he said. "I will probably be treasure hunting the rest of my life. Its not just the gold or the emeralds. It gets in your blood."

TODAY IN HISTORY: In 1898, Hawaii was annexed by the United States after Congress passed a joint resolution. Also on this date, in 1676, the most destructive Indian war in New England history ended with the death of Wampanoag Chief Philip near Mount Hope, R.I. In 1851, Isaac Singer was granted a patent on his sewing machine. In 1898, the peace protocol ending the Spanish-American War was signed. In 1915, the novel Of Human Bondage by William Somerset Maugham was published. In 1941, French Marshal Henri Pétain called on his country to support Nazi Germany. In 1960, the satellite Echo I was launched by the United States. In 1976, the Republican Platform Committee voted to support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. In 1985, a Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 crashed into a mountain in Japan, killing 520 people, in history's worst single-plane air crash.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Comedian-actor Carol Burnett is 75. Actress Jane Wyatt is 74. Choreographer Kidd is 67. Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark. Actor John Derek is 60. Actor George Peppard is 70. Actor and daughter Kathi (left), and wife, Peggy.