

News Summary and Index

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1974

The Major Events of the Day

International

Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn was stripped of his Soviet citizenship and exiled to West Germany for what authorities called "systematically performing actions incompatible with being a citizen." His banishment was the first forced expulsion of a major Soviet dissident since Leon Trotsky was exiled in 1929. The Nobel Prize winner, who came under attack for his account of the Stalinist prison system, "Gulag Archipelago: 1918-1956," seemed relieved that he had been expelled rather than imprisoned. [1:8.]

The Solzhenitsyn expulsion produced varying reactions in world capitals. Secretary of State Kissinger, while expressing the American ideal of "freedom of thought in all societies," separated the expulsion from the issue of détente, which he said was founded on "the unacceptability of general nuclear war." Mr. Kissinger said Mr. Solzhenitsyn would be welcome in the United States, and the Soviet writer also received an offer of asylum from Britain. [1:6-7.]

Overriding strong French objections, the United States and eleven other oil-consuming nations agreed on the need for a "comprehensive action program" to deal with the energy crisis. In a final communiqué dotted with French dissents, the 13-nation Washington energy conference accepted most of the American proposals, including plans for a meeting between oil-producing and oil-consuming nations. [1:4.]

The Arab oil countries abruptly canceled a scheduled meeting in Beirut to discuss the lifting of the oil embargo against the United States and the Netherlands. The indefinite postponement, according to the Libyan news agency, came at the request of Saudi Arabia and Egypt, which are believed to feel they need more time to persuade other Arab countries that the embargo against the United States should be lifted soon. [1:5.]

Using vastly increased oil revenues and the bargaining power of their oil reserves, Middle East oil countries are making great strides toward industrialization and taking a greater share of world trade. They are demanding, and getting, deals for enormous refineries, natural gas processing plants and petrochemical industries, in addition to deals for arms, textiles, steel, paper and other industrial plants. [1:1-2.]

National

Patricia Hearst's father rejected her kidnappers' multimillion-dollar ransom demand as impossible to meet and promised to respond with a counteroffer within two days. A radical group calling itself the Symbionese Liberation Army had demanded \$70 worth of free food over the next month for each poor person in California. Ransom with cost estimates of up to \$400-million. [1:6-8.]

President Nixon breezed through his annual physical check-up and then flew to Florida as his doctor pronounced him in "excellent condition" with neither emotional nor physical signs of the strain the President has been under for the last year. [31:2-4.]

The Administration asked Congress for a billion-dollar contingency program to extend unemployment benefits to workers laid off in areas of high and persistent unemployment. The proposal would add 13 weeks of coverage to workers who have exhausted their regular benefits. [7:4.]

William E. Simon, the federal energy chief, lashed out at Roy L. Ash, director of the Office of Budget and Management, thus exposing a personality clash that has had Washington tongues wagging for weeks. Mr. Simon's remark followed Mr. Ash's suggestion that the energy problem was temporary, instead of long-term. [29:7-8.]

Metropolitan

Governor Wilson recited Latin and rattled off statistics in his campaign to get Federal emergency gasoline allocations for New York State and then made an emergency allocation of his own. He ordered that 3 per cent of the state's 357-million-gallon February allotment be allocated to hardship areas in the state. [1:1.]

Connecticut joined New York and New Jersey in attempting to deal with the gasoline shortage on a statewide basis, but stopped short of setting up a mandatory rationing plan. Gov. Thomas P. Meskill called for a resumption of Sunday sales, an end to all limited purchases and a ban on sales to anyone with at least half a tank. [1:3.]

Commuters who ride buses across state lines face higher fares as a result of an Interstate Commerce Commission order allowing interstate bus companies to pass on recent increases in the price of fuel with

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Quotation of the Day
"Perhaps I should call a press briefing on the budget. Maybe I should ask Mr. Ash to keep his cotton-picking hands off energy policy."—William E. Simon, director of the Federal Energy Office, commenting on remarks about the energy crisis by Roy L. Ash, director of the Office of Management and Budget. [29:7.]

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CORRECTION

In Monday's issue of The New York Times it was reported incorrectly that Lundy's Restaurant in Sheephead Bay was closed. The restaurant was closed for a time last fall, but has since