

News Summary

Feb. 27/74 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY

The Major Event

International

A senior American official said that a team of United States Navy demolition experts had been sent to the Suez Canal at Egypt's request to advise on clearing mines and other explosives. The waterway, closed since 1967, is due to be reopened this year. Newsmen were told of this action, the latest apparent sign of improved Egyptian-American relations, shortly before Secretary of State Kissinger landed in Damascus. [1:1.]

Elements of the Ethiopian Army appeared to have mutinied in Asmara, Ethiopia's second largest city, placing their officers under arrest and demanding higher pay. The soldiers told foreigners in Asmara that they did not wish or intend to overthrow the Government of Emperor Haile Selassie, but wanted "enough pay to live." [1:1-3.]

The gold rush continued throughout the European bullion markets as gold surged through the psychologically important \$175 barrier and then went up to \$184 an ounce before settling back at the close. The closing price in London was \$175 an ounce, a gain of \$5 for the day. [1:5.]

National

Special Watergate Prosecutor Leon Jaworski said that he believed his office now knew the full story of the Watergate affair and predicted that major indictments in the cover-up phase of the case would come as early as tomorrow or Friday. He said in an interview that the indictments would come after a jury was selected in the trial in New York of two former Cabinet officers, John N. Mitchell and Maurice H. Stans. [1:6-7.]

President Nixon, in a surprise move, accused Congressional Democrats of acting "irresponsibly" on education legislation and of failing to move fast enough on health insurance. On education particularly, it was a sharp departure from the Administration's recent actions, which were to move in a conciliatory way. [1:6-7.]

Republicans and Democrats on the House Judiciary Committee challenged President Nixon's assertion that he could not be impeached except on the basis of evidence that he had violated criminal law. But several members of the committee conducting an impeachment inquiry said that as a practical matter, the outcome of the investigation would probably turn on Mr. Nixon's in-

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