

News Summary and Index

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The Major Events of the Day

International

The Senate approved a \$21.9-billion military procurement bill that provides \$1.3-billion less than the amount requested by the Administration for the new fiscal year. The bill will be reviewed in a conference with the House. The Senate, voting 46 to 45, defeated an amendment proposed by Senator Edward M. Kennedy that would have lowered the ceiling on military aid to South Vietnam to \$750-million. [1:1-2.]

President Nixon, on his way to Cairo, conferred with Austria's Chancellor, Dr. Bruno Kreisky, in Salzburg, as part of his preparations for the beginning of his Middle East tour today. Dr. Kreisky recently led a Socialist International fact-finding mission on a tour of Middle East capitals. [1:5.]

National

Secretary of State Kissinger, on his way to the Middle East with President Nixon, declared in an emotional statement at a news conference in Salzburg, Austria, that he would resign unless he was cleared of allegations that he participated in "illegal or shady activity" in Government wiretapping of individuals. His statement appeared to threaten what is widely believed to be one of the purposes of the President's journey—to divert public attention from Administration scandals. [1:8.]

A summary of an inquiry made last year by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concluded that some of the "original requests" for wiretaps on 17 Government officials and newsmen came from Mr. Kissinger or Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., who, at the time the taps were first ordered in 1969, was Mr. Kissinger's deputy. [1:6-7.]

A number of Democrats and Republicans on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and elsewhere in Congress expressed support for Mr. Kissinger and urged him not to resign. The committee unanimously agreed to accept his request for a review of information about the wiretaps initially given to the committee at his confirmation hearings last September while he was Secretary of State-designate. [1:4.]

A separate, and delayed, trial for John D. Ehrlichman in the "plumbers" case was ordered by Federal District Judge George Harb A. Gesell, who cited President Nixon's refusal to provide White House documents.

The judge's order was regarded as a significant victory by Mr. Ehrlichman and his lawyers, but lawyers for the special Watergate prosecution were reportedly bitter and angry. [1:3.]

President Nixon's lawyers said that he had asked the Supreme Court to decide the legal question of whether a grand jury had the right "under the Constitution," to "charge an incumbent President as an unindicted co-conspirator in a criminal proceeding." Mr. Nixon, the lawyers said, will argue that the evidence the Watergate grand jury acted on was "totally insufficient." [1:1-2.]

The House voted, 211 to 204, to kill a highly controversial land-use bill that would have given Federal aid to states seeking to control runaway real-estate development. The bill's opponents said that it would undermine states' rights, threaten personal property rights and "bring big government into everyone's backyard." The bill's supporters said it had been smeared by a "campaign of distortion." [1:1.]

Metropolitan

Governor Wilson completed his ticket, naming an upstart, former Mayor Stephen May of Rochester, as candidate for Controller. Mr. May was the only man on the seven-man ticket from north of Westchester County. The Republican ticket was endorsed by the party executive committee, at its convention in Hempstead. [1:1-2.] Representative Ogden R. Reid is expected to drop out of the Democratic campaign for Governor today. [30:3-5.]

Television's Channel 13 would establish a permanent studio at the Henry Hudson Hotel on West 57th Street with a long-term loan on \$7-million that the Ford Foundation has agreed to make to the Educational Broadcasting Corporation, Channel 13's licensee. The station would be able to consolidate all its operations, now scattered in various locations, under one roof. An additional \$8-million in gifts from business and industry will be needed. [1:8.]

With the apparent backing of the Federal Reserve Board, 11 major New York banks have agreed to lend \$250-million to the financially pressed Franklin National Bank on a secured basis. Franklin announced the agreement but did not issue the long-awaited restatement of its first-quarter results, expected to show a loss. [61:1-3.]

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