

News Summary and Index

NYTimes

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The Major Events of the Day

International

President Nixon and President Hafez Assad of SYRIA announced in Damascus the restoration of diplomatic relations between their countries, which were broken off during the Arab-Israeli war of 1967. They said that this was a first step toward establishing lasting peace in the Middle East. [1:8.]

Despite some apprehensions about the new American initiatives for friendship with her enemies, Israel showered President Nixon with praise and cheers as he arrived in Jerusalem from conferences with Arab leaders. However, Mr. Nixon, the first President of the United States to visit Israel, encountered the first show of hostility of his Middle Eastern journey—signs held by some in the crowds greeting him that disparaged his role in the Watergate case. [1:6-7.]

Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Soviet Communist party leader, predicted that "good new agreements" that would please both the Soviet and the American people would be reached during President Nixon's visit to Moscow late this month. Mr. Brezhnev, speaking briefly to newsmen after voting in the Soviet elections, took issue with the views of unnamed American pessimists about Mr. Nixon's trip to the Soviet Union and appeared to regard with equanimity Mr. Nixon's Middle Eastern journey. But the Soviet press showed keen sensitivity to the American diplomatic offensive. [1:5.]

President Antonio de Spínola of Portugal will fly to the Portuguese Azores to meet President Nixon Wednesday. Mr. Nixon will stop there on his way back to Washington from the Middle East. Reports of the meeting were confirmed by the United States Embassy in Lisbon. The two leaders are expected to discuss the status of the American air base at Lajes in the Azores, Portugal's African problem and the continuing Arab oil embargo against Portugal. [3:7-8.]

Prime Minister Gough Whitlam of Australia said that France apparently exploded a nuclear device in the atmosphere southwest of Tahiti early today, and said it was "regrettable." The blast, he said, might result in deposits of radioactive fallout in Australian territory. [1:8.]

National

Secretary of State Kissinger's contention that he was not responsible for initiating the wiretaps of 13 Government officials and four

The Other News

newsmen from 1969 to 1971 was supported by William D. Ruckelshaus, former acting director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. On the "Face the Nation" television program, Mr. Ruckelshaus said that Mr. Kissinger's role in the controversial wiretaps was best I've been able to determine is pretty much as he's described it." [1:3.]

An extensive plan to politicize programs to aid the elderly was part of a White House effort on behalf of President Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign, according to a Senate Watergate committee staff report. White House officials, seeking to gain voter support among the elderly, were said to have put pressure on Federal agencies to cut the funds of two long-time advocate agencies for the elderly that were regarded as "enemies" of the President. [2:31.]

State-operated lotteries are becoming involved in a struggle with the underworld and the Federal Government over how profits from gambling activities are to be divided. State lotteries in Delaware, Massachusetts and New Jersey are competing with illegal gambling operations. Other states are expected to do the same. [1:1-2.]

Hale Irwin won the 74th United States Open golf tournament in Mamaroneck, N. Y., with 287 for the four rounds, two strokes ahead of Forrest Feiler, whose 70 was not quite enough to make up the handicap with which he started the last day's round—five shots behind the winner. [1:1-2.]

Metropolitan

Despite a new law that permits the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to aid mass transit, Governor Wilson and major backers of mass transportation said that they anticipated no provision of substantial funds. The Governor, acting with "great reluctance" at the last minute before a midnight deadline, signed into law a measure that repeals a 1962 covenant that banned Port Authority investment in unprofitable mass-transit projects. [1:4.]

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, to save money, is preparing to close down Tuesday nights during the summer and to shorten Sunday hours, unless funds are forthcoming to preserve the present schedules. This is only one manifestation of the many economies being made under inflationary pressures by New York City's arts institutions and museums. [1:5-7.]

Quotation of the Day

"The phonies and the fakery and the bluebloods have been digging and straining this lousy town too long. They took all the money while the people suffered, got rid of them live in big fancy houses out in the country but they still want to tell Utica what to do." Mayor Edward A. Hanna of Utica. [1:4.]

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CORRECTION

In the issue of The New York Times last March 26, the circulation of the magazine Architecture Plus was given as 2,000. The publication's actual circulation stands at 42,000.