

News Summary and Index

NYTimes

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The Major Events of the Day

International

The Senate, voting 77 to 4, approved the Administration's sweeping foreign trade bill after adopting a provision authorizing trade concessions for the Soviet Union in return for freer Soviet emigration policies, particularly as they affect Jews. The bill, which has been in Congress for 20 months, prepares the way for major new international trade negotiations planned for next year. [Page 1, Column 8.]

The leading petroleum-exporting countries said in Vienna that they were stabilizing world oil prices for the next nine months at about the existing Persian Gulf level. This level is about 38 cents a barrel above prices set at the September meeting of the 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, but appeared to be little changed from the prices set in November in Abu Dhabi by Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi and Qatar. [1:5.]

The United States, in a major policy decision, announced that it would establish an economic aid program for the new Government in Portugal as "a positive demonstration of United States support and confidence in Portugal's future." The aid will be general, embracing housing, agriculture, transportation, public administration, education, health and Portugal's economy, including financial aspects. The announcement signified an apparent change in Secretary of State Kissinger's views about aiding the Lisbon Government. He reportedly had been extremely cautious because a Communist had become a member of the Government. [1:7-8.]

Elliott L. Richardson, who resigned as Attorney General 14 months ago during Richard M. Nixon's "Saturday night massacre" will be the new United States Ambassador to Britain, succeeding Walter H. Annenberg, who has served since 1969. Mr. Richardson's acceptance of the ambassadorship became known in Washington as the White House formally announced that Attorney General William B. Saxbe had resigned to accept the nomination as Ambassador to India, replacing Daniel P. Moynihan, who will return to Harvard. [1:6-7.]

National

Despite the promise of a veto by President Ford, the House, with support well short of the two-thirds majority needed to override

the veto, gave final approval to the strip-mining reform bill that would curb strip mining's flagrant environmental abuses. The Senate is expected to give the bill its final approval by Monday, probably with a veto-overriding majority. [1:6-7.]

Dr. Hans Bethe of Cornell University, a Nobel prize physicist well known for pioneering studies of the thermonuclear reactions that produce the sun's energy, believes that Americans must combat their dependence on foreign sources of energy with an all-out drive to build nuclear power plants and to double coal production within 10 years. He said that in energy supplies Americans were "far worse off today than we were a year ago." [1:3-6.]

Metropolitan

Governor-elect Hugh L. Carey raised the possibility for the first time that the state, like New York City, faced a deficit in the current fiscal year, and he described the situation as "the harshest government crisis since the Great Depression." He said the "inflated" cost of state services and goods and the impact of unemployment on state revenues caused the fiscal difficulties. [1:1.]

The Federal Government warned the city that it might be in violation of the anti-discrimination laws if it went ahead with its proposal to have 660 city employees between the ages of 63 and 65 retire before the mandatory retirement age of 65, in order to save the jobs of a similar number of younger employees. Governor-elect Hugh L. Carey noted that the state's Mandatory Retirement Law would have to be amended before the retirement proposal could take effect. [1:2-3.]

Mayor Beame proposed a six-year transit construction program providing no further money for the Second Avenue subway, but emphasizing, instead, completion of Queens trunk lines and the general modernization of the subway system. [1:2.]

A state appeals bench, voting 3 to 2, upheld the indictment against United States Customs Judge Paul F. Rao Sr., but at the same time censured Maurice H. Nadjar, the Special State Prosecutor, for the "illegal, outrageous and intolerable" methods used in gathering evidence in the case. Judge Rao, his son Paul Jr., a lawyer, and Salvatore Nigroni, a lawyer, were indicted on charges of perjury. [1:4.]

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Quotation of the Day

"If we follow the advice of these people, we might as well go back into the cave right away. There would be incredible unemployment. Food production would be cut severely. In that direction lies catastrophe."—Dr. Hans Bethe, discussing forces that oppose nuclear power, strip mining and offshore oil exploration. [58:4.]

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