

News Summary and Index

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1974 DEC 16 1974

International

The Major Events of the Day

President Ford and President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France held extended discussions yesterday at their meeting in Martinique on energy policy and other key issues, but failed to report any substantive agreement. However, a White House official said privately that it was still possible that the two sides would announce an agreement on energy policy today, when the talks are scheduled to end. [Page 1, Column 8.]

There were indications in Rhodesia's capital city of Salisbury that numerous problems remained in the way of a settlement between the country's white Government and the black majority. There appeared to be continuing divisions among black Rhodesian nationalist movements. A leading black nationalist said his faction had agreed only reluctantly to new constitutional talks with the Government of Prime Minister Ian D. Smith, who said he would resist quick political change. [1:6-7.]

African delegates to the United Nations are moving to increase pressure on South Africa over the issue of Southwest Africa, which they call Namibia. The African initiative coincides with new developments in the eastern tier of southern Africa, where the white-minority governments of South Africa and Rhodesia have started talks with their black neighbors and black liberation movements. Southwest Africa, renamed Namibia by the United Nations in 1968, is a mineral-rich territory about twice the size of the state of California. [10:4-6.]

Gen. Alexander M. Haig, Jr. assumed supreme command of Allied Forces in Europe, the military arm of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, in a brief ceremony in Casleu, Belgium. General Haig, former White House Chief of Staff under President Nixon, replaced Gen. Andrew J. Goodpaster, and asked "to be judged on my performance, and not how I got here." [1:5.]

National

Travel industry leaders said in interviews that they expected this year's holiday travel to be one of the slowest such periods in a decade. The nation's depressed economy—with widespread layoffs, inflation and apprehension about what lies ahead in the new year—will apparently keep many Americans

at home instead of on a warm beach or with relatives in distant cities. [1:2-3.]

The Buckley amendment requiring colleges to allow students to see their own files has indirectly led a team of Harvard biologists to consider the repudiation of a major series of experiments. Serious doubts about the experiments' validity arose when it was discovered that an honors student who had a key role in the research had forged or doctored four letters of recommendation for medical school, for admission to Phi Beta Kappa and for a scholarship. [1:2-3.]

Interviews with college placement officers and graduating students in universities in many parts of the country indicate that major companies are still sending their recruiters to campuses, although at several institutions the number of recruiters scheduling interviews is fewer this year than last. Several college placement officers expressed surprise at the number of jobs available. For example, majors in accounting and engineering, especially chemical or petroleum engineering, will find better job opportunities this year and the starting salaries will be 5 to 7 per cent higher than last year. [1:1-3.]

Metropolitan

Members of the City Council will be asked to give up \$2,500 each—or half of their annual expense allowance, called "puls"—as a contribution toward reducing the city's budget deficit. The proposal will be presented at a Council meeting tomorrow, but it already has "a lot of opposition" according to Matthew J. Troy Jr., chairman of the Council's Finance Committee. The expense cuts would amount to only \$107,500, but it would strengthen Mayor Beames's hand in seeking cutbacks in other salaries. [1:4.]

James A. Austin of the Riverdale section of the Bronx, who, police said posed as a physician but actually was the operator of a \$25-million-a-year cocaine smuggling ring, was arrested at Kennedy International Airport as he arrived from Peru. The Bronx District Attorney, Mario Merola, who had announced Mr. Austin's indictment on Nov. 23, said his arrest capped an investigation that had begun more than a year ago, had spanned three continents and had eventually employed a team of 35 Federal, state and local officials. [1:1.]

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Quotation of the Day
"I've seen much battle and I've been shot at."—Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., defending his qualifications for supreme command of Allied Forces in Europe. [6:1.]

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