

News Summary and Index

NYTimes

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1974

The Major Events of the Day DEC 30 1974

International

The Nicaraguan Government agreed yesterday to release 26 political prisoners and fly them to Cuba in exchange for the lives of a group of prominent politicians and business leaders seized by leftist guerrillas at a Christmas party in Managua Friday night. Earlier in the day, the guerrillas released five remaining women hostages, but kept 13 men for bargaining purposes. [Page 1, Columns 1-2.]

Inflation is beginning to slow the steady growth in defense budgets of the Western alliance and Japan, though not yet to the damaging degree that had been feared by defense planners in the United States. A country-by-country survey by The New York Times on the impact of inflation on defense budgets of the major allies of the United States finds that most of them are still increasing their budgets sufficiently to keep pace with inflation, except for Britain, Canada and Italy, and that the United States defense budget has been hardest hit by inflation. [1:1-2.]

At least 300 persons and perhaps as many as 1,000 were believed to have been killed in a severe earthquake that destroyed the remote mountain village of Patang, which had a population of about 4,000, in northern Pakistan, officials in Rawalpindi, the capital, said. Another village was badly damaged. Pakistan did not immediately call for international aid. Officials said the Government preferred first to learn the full extent of the damage. [5:1.]

Twenty-one American tourists, including 19 from the New York metropolitan area, were killed when a chartered plane crashed in northern Guatemala. Three members of the plane's crew were also killed. The plane crashed shortly after take-off from Tikal, where the tourists had been visiting the Mayan ruins. [3:1-2.]

National

A high Administration source said that President Ford had abandoned his proposal for an income tax surcharge as an anti-inflation measure. Government economists reportedly were putting strong pressure on the President to do the opposite and cut taxes as a means of pulling the economy out of a worsening recession. [1:4.]

The continuing, apparently uncontrollable, increase in Federal spending threatens to

cut the size of any antirecession tax reduction that President Ford is expected to propose to Congress next month, according to Administration officials. The major constraint on a tax reduction is the huge size of the budget deficit that may exceed \$30-billion. [10:1-4.]

Three more high-ranking officials of the Central Intelligence Agency resigned last week in a major shake-up of the agency's Counterintelligence Division, well-informed Government sources said. Their resignations occurred within a week of that of James Angleton, who had been the C.I.A.'s counterintelligence chief. [1:3.]

Metropolitan

School Chancellor Irving Anker, declaring that children are not expendable even in times of financial crisis, called for a record \$1975-76 school budget of nearly \$2.8 billion—an increase of \$518-million over the current modified budget—to make possible some improvements in education, including increased services for handicapped and non-English-speaking students. [1:8.]

Warren M. Anderson, the State Senate's majority leader, issued an economic challenge to the incoming administration of Hugh L. Carey, stating that there should be no state tax increases "for whatever reason" and promising scrutiny of the new Governor's budget "to a degree never before undertaken." [1:7.]

A secret memorandum from a top aide of Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz to another aide last summer warned of political repercussions that might arise from a minor inspection of the nursing-home industry. The aide complained that a temporary agent of the Attorney General's office had been making inspections at night, without warning, and had stirred the wrath of a nursing home operator, who was a close friend of a high-placed judge. [1:7-8.]

The Interior Minister of Israel, Yosef Burg, dismissed as irrelevant a request by Representative Edward I. Koch, a New York Democrat, that Israel refuse citizenship to Bernard Bergman, the New York nursing home operator, pending the outcome of a United States Senate hearing next month on nursing homes. Mr. Bergman is among 35 persons affiliated with nursing homes in New York State for whom subpoenas have been issued by a subcommittee of the Senate Special Committee on Aging. [1:4.]

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Quotation of the Day

"Some things are expendable, even superfluous. We can leave the car in the garage; we can do with less sugar. But we cannot write off the children of New York City without calling into question every value we live by."—Chancellor Irving Anker calling for a record budget of nearly \$2.8-billion. [1:8.]

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