

News Summary and Index

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1975 FEB 27 1975

NYTimes The Major Events of the Day

International

Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger believes that Cambodia will fall whether or not Congress approves emergency aid. Secretary of State Kissinger reasons that with American aid the Phnom Penh Government's chances for survival waver between zero and 5-5. Both believe Cambodia's collapse would be a setback but not a disaster for American foreign policy as long as aid has not been halted, leaving the United States open to blame. On Vietnam, however, both are reliably known to feel that the fate of the Saigon regime is still vital to the interests of the United States. [Page 1, Columns 5-6.]

Egyptian officials, who are proclaiming confidence that Secretary of State Kissinger will succeed in getting Israel to withdraw from the Sinai passes and oilfields, are at the same time continuing tough bargaining in Cairo with the American ambassador. The official Egyptian optimism is based largely on the belief that the United States has decided to induce Israeli concessions with new economic and military assistance. [1:7-8.]

President Ford, in a news conference in Hollywood, Fla., spoke out against Arab attempts to discriminate against financial "institutions or individuals on religious or ethnic grounds" and said that "such discrimination is totally contrary to American tradition and repugnant to American principles." He made these remarks in his opening statement and did not mention the boycott as such. He said any allegation of discrimination would be fully investigated and appropriate action taken under the laws of the United States. [1:7.]

National

The United States Railway Association, a Government agency set up to reorganize the bankrupt railroads of the Northeast, announced its preliminary plan. It would strip away unprofitable freight routes and invest more than \$7-billion in public and private funds in rehabilitation. The largest corporate restructuring in the nation's history would include establishing a Consolidated Rail Corporation from bankrupt lines, except for some that would be taken over by two solvent lines, Norfolk & Western and the Chesapeake System. Conrail and the two other systems would compete. But Norfolk & Western said the plan needed continuing Government financial support. The Senate in-

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"We must not let the opera house die."—Anthony A. Bliss, executive director of the Metropolitan Opera, asking employees to accept a 10 per cent pay cut. [1:3.]

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