

## The Major Events of the Day

**International**

Advancing Communist troops took over Bao Loc, the capital of Lam Dong Province, 93 miles northwest of Saigon yesterday. The city's defenders reportedly had fled, adding to indications that large segments of the Saigon Government's army were disintegrating. It was the 12th provincial capital taken in the Communist offensive. [Page 1, Column 8.]

The Ford Administration was trying to decide how far the United States could and should go in evacuating civilian refugees and possibly troops from the surrounded South Vietnamese port city of Da Nang. Once the United States is involved in a large-scale evacuation, State and Defense Department officials say there is an eventual possibility that President Ford might have to decide whether to send troops to protect the refugees as they are evacuated, and to preserve order. [1:6-7.]

The South Vietnamese have lost more than \$1-billion in American weapons and equipment over the last two weeks, according to qualified Vietnamese sources. The abandonment of the equipment, including artillery pieces, trucks, tanks and planes, coupled with the rapid retreat of army units is viewed by Vietnamese and Western sources as a stunning and possibly irreversible military and psychological blow for South Vietnam. [1:5.]

With the collapse of the Saigon Government's authority in Da Nang, a tiny volcanic island in the South China sea assumed a vital importance to the American pilots and officials who had been maintaining a tenuous eleventh-hour hold in Da Nang. The crisis came suddenly. Mobs fought viciously to board any aircraft leaving Da Nang airport, overwhelming military police. Four persons reportedly were shot dead. [1:5-7.]

The assassination of King Faisal of Saudi Arabia may have been carefully planned, not an unreasoned act of a lunatic, according to evidence gathered in an official investigation. There were indications that the accused killer, Prince Faisal Ibn Musad Abdel Aziz, a nephew of King Faisal, had political aspects and motives. The Prince has a record of mental illness and drug abuse. [1:2-4.]

**National**

President Ford will announce in a televised

speech at 7:30 tonight whether he will veto or sign the \$24.8-billion tax-cutting bill passed by Congress this week. The White House press secretary said that Mr. Ford would also make "a statement on economic policy." The President reportedly was having an extremely difficult time making up his mind and has had sharply conflicting advice from his counselors. [1:4.]

The Civil Aeronautics Board gave National Airlines the go-ahead for a "no frills" service that will slash many fares 35 per cent for passengers willing to forgo meals and liquor, avoid flying on weekends and buy tickets a week in advance. The reduction will become effective April 14 on National, and on four other airlines, which have proposed similar service, if the expected board approval is forthcoming. [1:2-3.]

Many of the nation's banks and savings institutions have money for home mortgage loans again. Mortgage money, which was all but unavailable a few months ago and often cost upwards of 10 per cent in annual interest charges when it was available, is now plentiful and is getting cheaper to borrow. This, however, has had little effect on sales of new homes so far. [1:5-6.]

The Federal Trade Commission has secretly voted to halt an 18-month national investigation of abuses in the sale and management of residential condominiums. The action, approved by a vote of 3 to 2 of the agency's commissioners, was criticized on Capitol Hill, but a commission spokesman defended it for budgetary reasons and said that the investigation appeared to duplicate a study being made by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. [1:7.]

### Metropolitan

The conspiracy convictions of Thomas J. Mackell, the former Queens District Attorney, and two chief aides, were unanimously reversed by the Appellate Division of State Supreme Court. Lawyers who have followed the case viewed the reversal as a stunning defeat for Maurice N. Nadlari, the special state prosecutor who regarded Mr. Mackell's conviction as his major accomplishment. The appeals court repeated its criticisms of Mr. Nadlari for being overzealous and also was critical of Supreme Court Justice John J. Murtagh, who presides over Mr. Nadlari's special anti-corruption cases. [1:1.]

## The Other News

**International**

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That sees need to quit SEATO. Page 5  
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Special radio station serves handicapped. Page 35

**Industry and Labor**

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## Quotation of the Day

"I look forward to participate again in the politics of our city."—Former Queens District Attorney Thomas J. Mackell after an Appellate Division opinion cleared him of charges of official misconduct, conspiracy and hindering prosecution. [32:5.]

### Health and Science

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### Religion

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Newcombe is upset by Earl Buchholz, 35. Page 13  
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## CORRECTION

It was incorrectly reported in The New York Times last Saturday that the Sri Chinmoy Center had set up a table at the Earth Day celebration at Battery Park. Actually, the followers of Sri Chinmoy, a meditation leader, were working at the table of another organization.