

News Summary and Index

NYTimes TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1975 APR 29 1975

The Major Events of the Day

International

Communist-led troops advancing behind rocket barrages on Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Air Base attacked the city's western defenses before dawn today. Two American marines guarding the United States defense attaché's office at the base were reported killed in the shelling. The rockets also destroyed a United States cargo plane waiting to pick up refugees seeking to flee South Vietnam. [Page 1, Column 8.]

Gen. Duong Van Minh assumed the Presidency of South Vietnam to make peace with the Communists, but they rejected his initial declaration. Attacks continued around Saigon and an air raid heavily damaged the capital's airport. A 24-hour curfew was immediately imposed on the city, which was in fear of imminent danger, but it was not clear from whom—the Communists or South Vietnamese opposed to a settlement with the Communists. [1:5.]

President Ford convened an emergency meeting of the National Security Council, apparently to consider whether to order an evacuation of all Americans remaining in South Vietnam. The meetings was called shortly after the Defense Department was notified by the American Embassy in Saigon that two United States marines guarding the American defense attaché's office at Saigon's Tan Son Nhut Airport had been killed in a Communist rocket attack. [1:6-7.]

The new Cambodian Government declared that no foreign military bases would be tolerated in Cambodia. The notice, apparently directed at North Vietnam, which has numerous troops and supply bases in Cambodia, was issued at the end of the third so-called national congress held by the new Communist leaders. [1:6-7.]

Unidentified gunmen invaded the heavily guarded Israeli consulate in Johannesburg, seized at least nine hostages and were reported to have demanded a helicopter for the first leg of an eventual flight to Israel. They sprayed the streets around the consulate building with gunfire at the start of the siege, killing two persons and wounding 32. [1:2-3.]

National

A group of physicists appointed last year by the American Physical Society to assess the safety of atomic energy reactors in the United States has found no reason for "sub-

stantial short-term concern," but they were critical of the reactors' long-range prospects. The study focused on the water-cooled reactors that are the standard energy sources in atomic power plants. [1:4.]

After five weeks of argument, the House, voting 335 to 59, passed a \$3-billion school lunch bill, but gave Republicans a partial victory by blunting proposals by the Democrats to increase the program's cost. Although the bill is almost \$1-billion above the current spending level and provides almost twice as much money as President Ford sought in his budget request, it was passed without \$1-billion in increases originally sought by the Democrats. [1:4.]

Although businessmen and economists continue to predict that the nation's deep recession will soon end, President Ford's chief economic adviser, Alan Greenspan, warned that the bottom of the slide has not yet been reached. "Despite a very dramatic slowing in the decline," Mr. Greenspan, in a speech at the Eighth Annual Institutional Investor Conference in New York, said the continued drag comes primarily from the extensive inventory liquidation which is still underway. [1:2-4.]

The Supreme Court refused to block a second attempt by the Department of Justice to prosecute the three national television networks for violating antitrust laws by monopolizing prime-time entertainment programming. When the first suit against the networks was filed in April, 1972, network executives charged that it was an attempt by the Nixon Administration to intimidate them and soften their political news coverage of the President during the election year. [1:1.]

Metropolitan

Unemployment in New York City in March reached a post-World War II high, the State Department of Labor reported. Unemployment rolls grew by 40,300 last month, bringing the city's total number of jobless people to 372,600 and the unemployment rate to 11.5 per cent of the work force. The steep rise in the city—up 1.1 percentage points from 10.4 per cent in February—was a factor in pushing the statewide unemployment rate from 9.6 to 10.2 per cent and the number of jobless throughout the state up by 54,500 to 775,000. [1:1.]

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"The coming days will be very difficult. I cannot promise you much."—President Duong Van Minh, speaking to the South Vietnamese people. [1:4:2.]

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CORRECTION

An article in The New York Times last Thursday incorrectly listed the Islamic Center of Washington as one of the sponsors of a conference on "Religion's Role in a Violent World" convened by the Armenian Church of America. The center withdrew its co-sponsorship of the conference several months ago.