

News Summary and Index

NYTimes FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1975

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The Major Events of the Day

International
The victorious Cambodian Communists are carrying out a peasant revolution that has thrown the entire country into upheaval. It is estimated that three to four million people, most of them on foot, have been forced out of the cities and sent on a mammoth and grueling exodus into areas deep in the countryside, where, the Communists say, they will have to become peasants and till the soil. No one has been excluded. The old, young, sick and wounded have been forced on the road. For the moment money means nothing and cannot be spent. Barter has replaced it. [Page 1, Columns 7-8.]

For the 800 foreigners who spent two weeks in the French Embassy in Phnom Penh after the Communists took over, the time seemed like a chaotically compressed generation of life. A baby was born, another died. A dozen marriages were performed—all marriages of convenience to enable Cambodians to get French passports so that they could escape the country and its peasant revolution. There were days of deep sorrow. Friends were torn apart. Families broken up as Cambodian husbands were separated from their European wives and vice versa. Sobbing could be heard in every corner of the compound. [1:5-6.]

Leonid I. Brezhnev said that he hoped the end of the wars in Indochina would lead to a further relaxation of tensions between the Soviet Union and the United States. He made the bid for accommodation in his first public comments on the Communist victory in South Vietnam as he praised the "patriots of Vietnam" for having waged a successful "struggle against foreign interventionists and their henchmen." He refrained from identifying the United States as an adversary of the Communists in Vietnam. [1:7-8.]

President Ford's request for \$507-million for Indochina refugee aid was cut to \$405-million by a House Appropriations subcommittee that said the relief program should be financed with that sum for the next 14 months. The Administration's request was based on cost estimates for the transport and resettlement of 150,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees over the next 28 months. L. Dean Brown, director of the Intergency Task Force on Refugees, said that he was delighted with the appropriation, be-

ident's request. We will work with this, and if it doesn't work, we will come back for more." [1:3.]

National
The Justice Department advised a House Commerce subcommittee that a "controlled liquidation" or auction sale of the Penn Central and six other bankrupt railroads in the Northeast was the "preferred way" for restoring a competitive rail transportation system in the region. The subcommittee is holding hearings on a preliminary plan for the reorganization of the bankrupt systems into a new Federally supported Consolidated Rail Corporation, known as Conrail. [1:1.]

Jack L. Chestnut, a 42-year-old Minneapolis lawyer who managed Senator Hubert H. Humphrey's 1970 senatorial campaign, was found guilty in Federal District Court in Manhattan of arranging for and accepting an illegal corporate campaign contribution. He faces a maximum of two years' imprisonment and a fine of \$10,000. [1:2.]

Metropolitan
Mayor Beame asked the Legislature to postpone for one week his presentation of what will be a record \$12.8-billion budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1. The delay until May 22 was sought, the Mayor said, to permit "more meetings on our requests for aid." The postponement is expected to be granted. [1:2.]

Morton G. Van Hoosen, administrative head of the State Commission of Correction, resigned in the aftermath of charges that the watchdog agency had concealed irregularities and possible crimes by prison authorities. Two legislative committees are investigating the commission. [1:1.]

Governor Byrne has told the New Jersey Secretary of State J. Edward Crabel that he would go as far as abolishing Mr. Crabel's office if necessary to oust him from the Governor's administration. The Governor's position was confirmed by high administration officials and Democratic legislative leaders. [3:5-2.]

Under a six-month test period beginning May 22, New Jersey will permit lottery bettors to pick their own numbers on the basis of "hunches, dreams, birthdays" or any other individual preference. The new game, supplementing the state's four-year-old conventional lottery, will compete with the widely played illegal numbers game. [1:2-3.]

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Quotation of the Day

"The elimination of the hotbed of war in Indochina creates conditions for further improvement in the international atmosphere. This will benefit the cause of international détente, including, we believe, détente in relations between our country and the United States of America."—The Soviet leader, Leonid I. Brezhnev. [3:3.]

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CORRECTION

A headline in The New York Times yesterday incorrectly identified the Union Club as the site of a holdup. The holdup actually took place at the Union League Club, which was incorrectly described as the oldest club in the city. The Union Club is believed to be the oldest.