

News Summary and Index

MONDAY, MAY 19, 1975

NYTimes The Major Events of the Day MAY 19 1975

International

President Anwar el-Sadat of Egypt, completing a week's tour of four Arab countries in Damascus yesterday, said that he had obtained a mandate to speak for the Arab world, not only Egypt, when he meets with President Ford in Salzburg June 1. At a news conference as Yasir Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization, sat next to him, Mr. Sadat made it clear that he believed his trip strengthened the Egyptian negotiating position. [Page 1, Column 1.]

The United States was considering using B-52 bombers against the Cambodian mainland after the seizure of the freighter Mayaguez last week if the carrier Coral Sea had not arrived in the area of the freighter by Wednesday, a top United States official said. Reporters aboard the plane that brought Secretary of State Kissinger to Vienna for talks with Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko of the Soviet Union, were told that to wait longer would have brought a high risk of the Cambodian Government making public ransom demands, thereby freeing its position in regard to the freighter. [1:3-4.]

Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger said that the number of United States marines and airmen killed, missing and wounded in the rescue of the freighter Mayaguez was considerably larger than initially reported last week. He said the latest information lists three marines and two airmen killed in action, 16 missing and 70 to 80 wounded. [1:2-4.]

Saudi Arabia's Council of Ministers approved a five-year domestic economic plan of vast magnitude, requiring the investment of \$140-billion and the assistance of a half million foreign technicians, managers, teachers and laborers who would be imported into the country. The foreigners would increase the domestic labor force by 31 per cent to 2.3 million from 1.6 million. [1:3-4.]

National

The Administration will send to Congress this week the first of three bills aimed at fundamentally changing the way the Government regulates transportation. The first bill, Administration officials said, will be submitted in the next day or two and will propose changes in the way the 88-year-old Interstate Commerce Commission regulates

railroads. Similar legislation for trucking is expected in the next two weeks and a proposal affecting the Civil Aeronautic Board and the airlines within the next month. [1:5.]

One of the advisers who attended the first meeting of President Ford's campaign planning committee recently made remarks that indicated that the Federal election, act of 1974, which changes the way campaigns for Federal office are financed, was complicated beyond understanding. The second in a series of three articles on the new law finds that the situation is even worse than it appears. Not only is the law full of ambiguities and contradictions, it is also under all-out legal challenge, and no one is sure whether it will survive long enough for the 1976 election. [1:6-7.]

Abbie Hoffman, the radical leader who disappeared from New York 15 months ago after he was indicted for selling cocaine, was interviewed by two newsmen somewhere in California. In the interview, which is to be televised tonight on Channel 13, Mr. Hoffman said that since his flight he had been in "the underground" and hinted that he had established an association with the clandestine Weather movement. He said he had remarried, and had undergone facial plastic surgery. He said of his new political life: "I am, of course, seeing an incredible show. I have a great seat." [4:9-1:3.]

Metropolitan

State Senator John J. Marchi said that Mayor Beame would have to commit the city to some ceiling on spending in the coming year to get state aid, but added that the ceiling figure would be negotiable and "part of the political process." Meanwhile, State Senator Roy M. Goodman said Treasury Secretary William E. Simon had told him that the "door to Federal aid" that appeared closed last week "could be reopened." [1:8.]

Anger: Frustration. Hoplessness. Tens of thousands of black and Puerto Rican teenagers in New York City are "piling up at the bottom" of the recession. With no jobs and no prospects of employment, they are abandoning their dreams of education and their belief in the other institutions of civilized society and are slipping back toward the drugs and hustling of "the street." "Best that you can do is hang out, get high," one of them said. [1:5-7.]

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Quotation of the Day

"The biggest topic was the Federal election act of 1974. It's a minefield. None of us have ever been familiar with it. Just learning the jargon is kind of complicated."—Dean Burch, on a meeting of President Ford's campaign planning committee. [1:6.]

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