

News Summary and Index

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MAY 26 1975

The Major Events of the Day

International

Facing solid opposition from Moslems and parliamentary forces, Lebanon's military cabinet was near collapse yesterday. A severe clash in southern Lebanon with Israeli troops in which seven Lebanese soldiers were killed and two seriously wounded barely distracted attention from the political crisis caused by weeks of street fighting and the appointment Friday night of a cabinet of military officers. President Suleiman Franjeh was under heavy pressure from other Arab governments to restore a parliamentary cabinet. [Page 1, Column 8.]

A midnight border encounter between Israeli and Lebanese soldiers, described by the Israeli military headquarters spokesman as "accidental and unintentional," developed into an occasionally fierce battle that lasted 12 hours, with an Israeli air strike and artillery and mortar exchanges. The Israelis said that two of their soldiers were killed, and estimated that Lebanese losses were much heavier. [1:6-7.]

At separate meetings in France and Austria, two groups of leading European Socialists took contradictory stands on working with Communists, and appeared to be drifting into rival factions. Socialist leaders from southern Europe called their weekend meeting in southwestern France with a plan to call a formal conference of their parties later this year. The prime purpose seemed to be support for Mario Soares, the Portuguese Socialist leader. [3:1-2.]

National

Customs officials have uncovered an international smuggling operation using German and Mexican connections that supplies cancer sufferers in the United States and Canada with large quantities of a drug, generally known as heptilic, but also sold under other names, that has been outlawed in both countries as a worthless nostrum. Quantities coming from Mexico are said to exceed in volume the Mexican brown heroin reaching addicts in this country. [1:1-2.]

Nine months after taking office, President Ford, who did not have time to develop a national platform, has begun defining the goals he would like the nation to endorse. As described in the White House, they are essentially conservative goals, including two high-priority programs. The first will deal with crime control and will call for manda-

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Disapproval of the state's new medical-malpractice law was voted by the House of Delegates of the New York State Medical Society following several hours of stormy arguments between the law's supporters and opponents. The vote was 143 to 82. Many physicians renewed their threat to strike this summer. [1:5.]

Appeals for state aid are being pressed by Buffalo, the state's second largest city, which faces the prospect of laying off 1,800 municipal employees, and Yonkers, the fourth largest city, which anticipates a deficit of \$30-million in a projected \$142-million budget. Speaker Stanley Steingut called to attention to problems of the cities and counties across the state and to continuing ap- pendent deadlocks between the Assembly and Senate over the issue of aid. [1:3-4.]

The City Council tomorrow will consider a bill proposed by Mayor Beane that would encourage the preparation of real estate taxes due in August by offering property owners a "certificate of deposit" with an interest yield that could be applied only to the payment of future tax bills. The measure is intended to ease the city's \$1-billion cash-flow crisis, the committee's chairman, Matthew J. Troy, said. [2:3-5.]

Quotation of the Day

"You don't just pick up your stethoscope and go away mad because you don't get all you want."—State Senator John R. Durne, speaking on the possible withholding of services by doctors because of the dispute over malpractice insurance. [1:5.]

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