

News Summary and Index

WTimes

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 1975

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The Major Events of the Day

International

Six nuclear-equipment exporting countries are meeting in a secret conference in London to discuss possible means of controlling sales and developing safeguard standards to prevent the spread of atomic weapons. The session, the second in the last seven weeks, is being attended by the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, West Germany, France and Canada, with Japan and Italy "technically" represented as countries on the threshold of exporting nuclear equipment. [Page 1, Column 7.]

The Soviet Union reportedly has quietly shelved its campaign to convene a new Geneva peace conference on the Middle East. Soviet sources say the move appears to be an indefinite postponement, the duration of which depends on the success of new American initiatives in that region. [1:5-6.]

The people of the northern Mariana Islands have voted to become American citizens and turn the string of Pacific Islands into a commonwealth of the United States. With 87 per cent of the 3,800 eligible voters turning out, the "yes" vote was 78 per cent of the total. The Marianas will be the first territorial acquisition by the United States since 1925. [1:1-4.]

National

President Ford has pledged that he would curb Federal regulation of business and oppose those who would, in his view, turn the government into "an instrument of philanthropic collectivism." The President, in an address to the National Federation of Independent Business, said that well-intended regulation to protect consumers and the environment "often does more harm than good." [1:8.]

The White House press secretary, Ron Nessen, says that President Ford feels that it does not serve the national interest to have "unclear bits and pieces of incomplete information" on assassination plots made public. The comment appeared to be in response to the growing number of news articles recently on the Central Intelligence Agency's possible involvement in plots to assassinate leaders of foreign nations. [1:5-6.]

Housing starts in May showed the first significant monthly upturn since the current steep slide began in early 1974, the Commerce Department reported. Although the

housing picture has improved from its recent depressed state, it is still far from robust. [1:3.]

Metropolitan

Joseph Monserrat, who was president of the Board of Education for two terms and who still is a member of the board, has been indicted by a Kings County grand jury on charges of bribery, official misconduct and conflict of interest. District Attorney Eugene Gold of Brooklyn, in announcing the indictments, said the charges involved a \$211,660 subcontract in a federally financed Board of Education program that went to a corporation Mr. Monserrat served as a public-relations consultant. [1:1-2.]

Two of the city's most important judges—David Ross and John M. Murtagh—are leading contenders for two vacancies in the Appellate Division for the First Department, according to informants in the legal community. Justice Ross, the citywide administrative judge, and Justice Murtagh, who is assigned to hear all cases developed by the special state prosecutor Maurice H. Nefitari, have been recommended to Governor Carey's screening panel. [1:1-2.]

Senate Republicans in Albany have moved closer to offering Mayor Beane the \$200-million in new taxing authority that many people think he eventually will have to set for. The Republicans have added a \$75-million increase in corporate franchise taxes and \$28-million in expanded sales taxes to the previously offered \$25-million increase in stock transfer taxes and \$80-million in new bank taxes. [1:4.]

A young deer, found and nursed back to health by an upstate farmer and his family, was shot to death by a conservation officer only two days after the death of another pet deer taken forcibly from another farmer by officers in a highly publicized incident. The killing of the second deer took place before the officer had been informed of new regulations designed to prevent such an incident from being repeated. [1:5-7.]

An experimental "Uni-Ticket" combining bus and rail fares to entice Westchester County commuters to switch from their cars to buses by offering cost savings and convenience has been announced by David L. Yunnich, chairman of the Metropolitan Transit Authority. The plan will start at the Scarsdale station July 1st. [31:8.]

The Other News

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Quotation of the Day

"The conservation laws are designed to protect wildlife and not to be interpreted in such a fashion that they do exactly the reverse." —Ogden R. Reid, State Environmental Conservation Commissioner, after learning of the death of a second pet deer last week. [1:7.]

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