

News Summary and Index

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1975 SEP 23 1975
NYTimes

The Major Events of the Day

International

Secretary of State Kissinger, in a speech yesterday to the General Assembly of the United Nations, proposed an informal meeting of key nations as a possible new approach for clearing the way to further diplomatic progress in the Middle East. This tentative new concept was described by American officials as an effort to spur peace moves either through direct Arab-Israeli talks or through a reconvened Geneva conference—not as a substitute. [Page 1, Col. 11.]

National

A 45-year-old woman fired a gunshot at President Ford as he left the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco, but a policeman deflected her gun just as it went off and the President was not hit. Mr. Ford, stunned momentarily by the sound of the gunfire, doubled over and was immediately shielded and rushed by Secret Service agents into his limousine, while a crowd of 3,000 people who had waited for a glimpse of the President broke into screams and pandemonium. Policemen and Federal agents quickly seized the alleged assailant, identified as Sarah Jean Moore. She is said to be an activist and had been questioned by the Secret Service last Sunday because she was believed to be a possible threat to the President. [1:8.]

President Ford said he would soon ask Congress for authority to begin a \$100-billion energy development program whose purpose would be to give the United States "energy independence in 10 years or less." Mr. Ford plans to establish a new Government agency that would be known as the Energy Independence Authority. The agency would cooperate with private industry. [1:8.]

A coalition of environmentalists and oil-state conservatives is expected to make an effort to scuttle President Ford's plan for the \$100-billion Government energy development agency. The coalition already has joined the strong opposition to a somewhat similar proposal by Senator Henry M. Jackson of Washington, which is now pending in the Senate Interior Committee. Both sides of the coalition have expressed deep reservations about the proposed agency on the ground that it would have unusual power that would be subject to little Congressional review. [1:5:2-7.]

The Justice Department has begun an investigation of the circumstances surround-

ing the destruction of a threatening letter delivered by Lee Harvey Oswald to the Dallas office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shortly before the assassination of President Kennedy [1:5:6.]

Former President Richard M. Nixon has denied under oath "responsibility" for the 18½-minute gap in a key White House tape recording, one of his lawyers said in court arguments over the constitutionality of a new statute that gives the Government control over Mr. Nixon's Presidential papers and tape recordings. [1:4.]

The Environmental Protection Agency said that purchasers of new 1976 model cars could look for better gasoline mileage than the automobile industry has offered in years. Industrywide, the agency said, the 1976 cars tested in the laboratory averaged a theoretical 17.6 miles per gallon in simulated city-plus-highway driving, and the most economical of them did almost twice as well, turning in about 33 miles per gallon. [1:5-7.]

Metropolitan

City Hall sources said that four more Beame administration officials, including the heads of two of the city's superagencies, faced the possible loss of their jobs under the coming reorganization of the city's governmental structure. Those who face either dismissal, demotion or transfer were reported to be Michael Lazar, Transportation Administrator; Robert Low, Environmental Protection Administration; Jerome Hornblase, Commissioner of the Addiction Services Agency; and Edgar C. Faber, Commissioner of Ports and Terminals. [1:2.]

A staff report by the staff of the city's Productivity Council said that the army of middle-level managers in city government—described as underpaid, poorly trained, hamstrung by unions and smothered by Civil Service bureaucracy—was caught up in a "crisis of morale" and had become ineffective. "For all intents and purposes, middle-level management does not exist," the report said. [1:2.]

The New Jersey Legislature passed a highly controversial measure seeking to guarantee a "thorough and efficient" education to every public school pupil in the state and mandating at least \$314-million in new state funds for education. The measure did not enact any new taxes, thus assuring the Legislature still another abrasive floor fight on a state income tax. [39:7.]

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Quotation of the Day

"The President immediately ducked as the shot was fired. A policeman on the line apparently deflected the gun just before the shot was fired."—John Gleason, a San Francisco police officer who was a member of the detail guarding President Ford. [1:8.]

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CORRECTIONS

A dispatch from Seoul in The New York Times yesterday recounted the death of a journalist who some opponents of the South Korean Government suggested had been murdered by Government agents. As the result of a typographical error the dispatch said that "now proof" of the charge "has come to light." It should have said "no proof has come to light."

In an account of the release of two inmates from a Florida prison that appeared in The Times on Saturday, it was erroneously reported that Curtis Adams Jr., who told a cellmate he had committed the murders for which the two men had been jailed, is black. Mr. Adams is white.