

# News Summary and Index

NYTimes

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1975

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## The Major Events of the Day

### International

At the six-nation economic meeting at the Chateau de Rambouillet near Paris, the United States and France yesterday reached a compromise agreement on their dispute over exchange rates and President Ford invited foreign countries to invest in new energy development in the United States. Mr. Ford's invitation carried a promise of a share in the new energy production. The agreement on exchange rates reportedly would allow both fixed exchange rates, favored by France, and a floating system for the dollar, which the United States has insisted upon. Page 1, Column 8.]

In a major show of strength, Communist-led unions demanded the resignation of Prime Minister José Batsista Pineheiro de Azevedo of Portugal. The anti-Government demonstration in Lisbon was said to have attracted the largest crowd—estimated at more than 100,000—since last year's April 25 revolution. [1:7.]

Abdel Halim Khaddam, Syria's Foreign Minister, hinted in a major address in Damascus that Syria might intervene militarily to prevent any partition of Lebanon, and that it might take unspecified military action to undermine the recent Egyptian-Israeli agreement on Sinai. This was the strongest official suggestion that Syria might intervene actively in the Lebanese crisis. [1:5-6.]

A decree by the Spanish Government declaring Spain's regional languages—Catalan, Basque and Galician—to be national languages deserving of protection was greeted as a "step backward" in the regions where they are spoken. The decree, published in the official state bulletin, said that the regional languages should be protected as part of Spain's heritage but, in effect, it made Spanish, the only official language, virtually obligatory for all official bodies at whatever level. [1:6-7.]

### National

Even before announcing his candidacy, Ronald Reagan has emerged as the clear favorite over President Ford in the pivotal Florida primary next March 9. Former Gov. Jimmy Carter of Georgia has put together an organization of Democrats strong enough to discourage most of his rivals from campaigning actively in Florida, greatly improv-

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ing his prospects against Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama. Florida victories by Mr. Reagan and Mr. Carter would provide an early momentum for their underdog candidacies and badly damage President Ford and Governor Wallace. [1:4.]

A Federal study has found that the treatment of taxpayers by the Internal Revenue Service frequently is "whimsical, inconsistent, unpredictable and highly personal," and that pressures from an unacknowledged quota system and a lack of broad guidelines have provided "dissimilar treatment of similarly situated taxpayers." Under authority granted by Congress, I.R.S. agents are among the most powerful in Government, but a general lack of laws and regulations made the application of these powers erratic, the study said. [1:2-3.]

### Metropolitan

With new items such as Medicaid reform added to the agenda and with no visible progress so far toward resolving partisan differences over the state budget gap, the special legislative session that resumes today in Albany could well stretch into next week regardless of the progress in Congress toward passing a loan-guarantee bill for New York City. There was some indication that legislation for the Housing Finance Agency, which seemed assured of passage when the Legislature adjourned for the weekend, might run into difficulty when the party conferences get underway. [1:1.]

The Beame administration announced that John E. Zuccotti, the chairman of the City Planning Commission and one of Mayor Beame's closest advisers, has been chosen to succeed James A. Cavanagh as First Deputy Mayor on Jan. 1. [1:2.]

No one, Mayor Beame said—bankers, other businessmen or Governor Carey's representatives—had ever expressed to him any dissatisfaction with First Deputy Mayor James A. Cavanagh, his close associate of many years whose resignation was announced over the weekend. Still, Mr. Cavanagh had been widely criticized for his handling of the city's financial affairs. An account of how the resignation developed tells something about the ruthless pressures at this high level of politics and something of the ambivalent relationships between City Hall and Albany. [1:3.]

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## Quotation of the Day

"Jim usually ventured his opinion and he didn't care what happened. Maybe it rubbed some people the wrong way."—Mayor Beame, commenting on the resignation of Deputy Mayor James A. Cavanagh. [38:1.]

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## CORRECTION

Because of misinformation by a legal secretary, the lawyer who gave a sworn deposition that the Gulf Oil Corporation had made regular contributions to Senator Hugh Scott was incorrectly identified in The New York Times Saturday. The deposition was given by Thomas D. Wright of the firm of Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellott in Pittsburgh.

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