

The Major Events of the Day

International
 A senior Administration official said yesterday that the United States planned to ask the Soviet Union whether an ambiguous Pravda editorial, which has puzzled the White House and the State Department, meant that Moscow was now ready to help bring about an end of all foreign interference in Angola. Pravda proposed an end to "foreign armed intervention in Angola"—which has also been proposed by the United States—but in its over-all context the editorial seemed to suggest that the Russians, and by extension, the Cubans, were not the ones guilty of "intervention." [Page 1, Column 8.]

Whether the controversial 1,350-mile-an-hour Concorde should be allowed to provide flights to and from the United States will be discussed at a crucial hearing today in Washington at which Transportation Secretary William T. Coleman Jr. will preside. Mr. Coleman has promised a decision by Feb. 4. Meanwhile, the supersonic Concorde, built by British-French interests, will begin its first scheduled passenger service on Jan. 21 with flights between Paris and Rio de Janeiro and London and the Middle Eastern sheikdom of Bahrain. [1:6-7.]

National
 Recent Government studies have found that members of the armed forces either deliberately or inadvertently fail to pay tens of millions of dollars in income taxes owed to their home states. Tax authorities suspect that noncompliance runs as high as 50 percent. Many military people, particularly officers, avoid state income taxes by maintaining legal residence in states that either have no income tax or exempt military pay. [1:1.]

One of the longest shutdowns in domestic aviation history ended when striking stewards and stewardesses at National Airlines accepted a 46-month contract that provides substantial pay increases. National, which connects Florida with the Northeast, the West and London, announced that some flights would resume tomorrow and full service would gradually be resumed in about two weeks. [1:6-7.]

The administrator of a Government program that provides low-cost crime insurance in central city areas considers the program unsuccessful and will recommend that Congress scrap it. The Federal crime insurance

program was established in 1971 when it became apparent that private companies would not provide insurance at reasonable rates. Only a small number of Federal policies have been sold, and J. Robert Hunter, acting Federal insurance administrator, said: "This is the kind of thing you have to get out and sell, but nobody's going door to door." [1:4.]

Six Southern states are attempting to ease overcrowding in prisons—their prison population is growing faster than prisons can be built—by releasing inmates early or by accelerating parole. Georgia is making the most extensive use of early release programs, and Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia are experimenting with some form of accelerated release or parole. [1:2-3.]

Metropolitan
 The 1976 Presidential campaign got under way in New York in 40 motel-meeting rooms and political clubhouses across the state, where supporters of Senator Henry M. Jackson of Washington gathered to propose candidates for delegates to the Democratic Convention. Meetings were held from Riverhead to Niagara Falls and gave the Jackson backers a head start on most of the Senator's rivals. Terry O'Connell, Mr. Jackson's state coordinator, said: "The reason that we did it all in one day is, frankly, to demonstrate that we're around." [1:2-5.]

Why New York State agencies keep large amounts of cash—amounting to millions of dollars—in bank accounts that pay no interest is a question the Assembly Ways and Means Committee in Albany has been assigned to investigate. The inquiry, requested by Assembly Speaker Stanley Steingut, will seek, among other things, to determine why much of the cash has been deposited with Bankers' Trust Company, one of whose vice presidents is the Republican state treasurer, James G. Hellmuth. [1:5-6.]

Delays caused by new procedures in city-budget approvals has virtually halted the development of a new program that was to have provided residential care centers for neglected and seriously disturbed children. About 1,600 children are affected by the delay, and nearly 900 of them, who should be in institutions, are being forced to remain at home without professional care. [1:3-4.]

International
 Spain looking with new hope to Europe. Page 2
 Slain C.I.A. man's name published in 1968. Page 3
 Opposition to shun Indian Parliament opening. Page 3
 India's tax cheats get immunity and pay up. Page 3
 New Zealander—"Islanders" tension rises. Page 4
 Rabin warns U.N. Council on Mideast talks. Page 5
 Neighbors celebrate birthday of Adenauer. Page 7
 Briton details charges of torture by Chileans. Page 8
 Exiled former President returns to Peru. Page 9
 Chinese pressing ambitious development drive. Page 12

Government and Politics
 Senators may extend inquiry into F.B.I. Page 22
 Butz admits some loss of farm backing. Page 23
 State Democrats favor Jackson and Humphrey. Page 24
 Presidential candidate running under alias. Page 25
 Kennedy's mother recalls pledge not to run. Page 25

General
 U.S. crime insurance program scored. Page 15
 Lockers closed at railroad terminals. Page 23
 Justices to weigh university's worship ban. Page 27
 Newspaper Guild and Post face strike deadline. Page 27
 Puerto Rican woman marks 16th birthday. Page 31
 Downtown Hartford, undergoes a resurgence. Page 31
 Bishop Moore hopeful over consolidation. Page 32
 Metropolitan Briefs. Page 33
 1,300 people form "Bicentennial chain." Page 33
 Wind and Arctic air hit Metropolitan area. Page 33
 More Manhattan-Queens subway building slated. Page 33
 Beane questions judge on Village Gate ruling. Page 33
 Carey may gain point in dispute with Nadjar. Page 39

Education and Welfare
 Donors to Neediest cite loved ones. Page 31

The Other News

Quotation of the Day
 "Nothing has changed, and nothing will change." — Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, reaffirming his decision not to run for President after his mother asserted that there were considerations that could make him change his mind. [25:2.]

Health and Science
 Doctor's slowdown to hit Coast hospitals. Page 20
 Artificial skin offers hope for burns. Page 35

Amusements and the Arts
 "A Hero in His Time," Cohen novel, is reviewed. Page 27
 Gene Wilder takes three roles in "Shenlock." Page 36
 Charles Ketcham leads New World Symphony. Page 37
 Hank Jones plays the jazz piano. Page 37
 Stephanie Saland dances in "Nutcracker." Page 38
 St. Luke's Ensemble at Tully Hall. Page 38
 Russians return to Paris cultural scene. Page 38
 "Upstairs, Downstairs" is recovers nicely. Page 53

Going Out Guide Page 38
About New York Page 36
Family/Style
 Craftsmen lend a hand to dollhouses. Page 34
 A single-acting baking powder is hard to find. Page 34

Obituaries
 Karl F. Landegger, built paper mills. Page 32
 Irving Kaufman, singer and early radio star. Page 32
 Leslie Weatherhead, ex-head of British Methodist. Page 32

Business and Financial
 Higher interest rates are expected. Page 47
 Personal Finance: Choosing executor for a will. Page 47
 Purchase group sees improving businesses. Page 47
 Reporter's Notebook: Economists' convention. Page 47
 Abu Dhabi looking to fertilizer profits. Page 47
 Mixed prospects facing farmers in Midwest. Page 47
 Australia upset over Japan's recession. Page 47

Sports
 Penn, Kentucky, Minnesota fives jolted. Page 40
 Anderson, 18, victor in Tolkie ski jump. Page 40
 Steelers beat Raiders, 16-10, gain Super Bowl. Page 41
 Cowboys upset Rams in N.F.L. final, 37-7. Page 41
 Raider field-goal try a play late, Davis says. Page 41
 'Queen' of National Boat Show is missing. Page 41
 Sabres turn back Soviet Wings, 12 to 6. Page 41
 Clarkson routs Vermont, wins hockey festival. Page 42
 Unused Edmondson upsets Newcombe in final. Page 44

Editorials and Comment
 Editorials and Letters. Page 28
 Anthony Lewis: our foreign policy on torture. Page 29
 William Safire: questions for Frank Sinatra. Page 29
 Ashraf Pahlavi: future of feminist movement. Page 29
 G. Alperovitz/J. Faux on economic planning. Page 29
 Curtis L. Cahill: personal view on busing. Page 29

Education and Welfare
 Donors to Neediest cite loved ones. Page 31

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 Doctor's slowdown to hit Coast hospitals. Page 20
 Artificial skin offers hope for burns. Page 35

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 "A Hero in His Time," Cohen novel, is reviewed. Page 27
 Gene Wilder takes three roles in "Shenlock." Page 36
 Charles Ketcham leads New World Symphony. Page 37
 Hank Jones plays the jazz piano. Page 37
 Stephanie Saland dances in "Nutcracker." Page 38
 St. Luke's Ensemble at Tully Hall. Page 38
 Russians return to Paris cultural scene. Page 38
 "Upstairs, Downstairs" is recovers nicely. Page 53

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 Mixed prospects facing farmers in Midwest. Page 47
 Australia upset over Japan's recession. Page 47

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