

News Summary and Index

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1976 MAR 2 1976

The Major Events of the Day

International

The Ford Administration will seek Congressional approval of a foreign-aid bill of \$7.8 billion—\$1 billion less than it proposes to spend in the current fiscal year. Administration officials said yesterday. Detailed military and economic aid requests for the new fiscal year are being sent to Congress this week, they said. But no immediate action is expected because Congress has not yet completed legislative action on major portions of the foreign-aid bills for the current fiscal year. [Page 1, Column 1.]

Prime Minister Aleksei N. Kosygin said in an economic report at the 25th Communist Congress in Moscow that the Soviet Union in recent years had made important gains in its economic competition with the West. He said that the Soviet Union now produced more steel, oil, mineral fertilizers, pig iron, coal, cement, tractors, cotton and wool, in addition to other commodities, than any other country. Over the last five years, he said, Soviet industrial output has grown at an average rate of 7.4 percent. He compared this with what he said was a 1.2 percent annual rate in the last 15 years in the United States and the Common Market countries. [1:2-3.]

Scheduled airlines flying the North Atlantic propose to increase their fares by an average of 6 percent on May 1. The increases, which would be in effect for six months, must first be approved by the governments involved, but this is usually automatic since most of the 35 lines involved are government-owned. Under the increases due May 1, the round-trip fare between New York and London in the peak season from June to August would cost \$806 in economy class, a rise of \$42 over last year, and \$1,250 in first class, a rise of \$86. [1:4.]

National

The Supreme Court refused to hear a challenge to the 1973 Church Amendment, which permits federally aided private hospitals to decline on a religious or a moral ground to perform abortions and sterilizations. This was a setback to proponents of liberalized abortion laws who maintain that the amendment—named for its sponsor, Senator Frank Church—infringes on the constitutional right of a woman to decide whether or not to bear a child as guaranteed in the Court's 1973 abortion rulings. Critics

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"I don't use the word détente any more. I think what we ought to say is that the United States will meet with the superpowers, the Soviet Union and with China and others, and seek to relax tensions so that we can continue a policy of peace through strength." — President Ford in an interview. [12:4.]

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Correction

The obituary of Grover C. Loening, pioneer airplane designer, that appeared yesterday in The New York Times incorrectly listed a wife among the survivors. Mr. Loening's marriage to the former Marika Truesdala ended in divorce in 1940. In 1947 she was married to A. Felix du Pont Jr. of Wilmington, Del., where they live.

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