

News Summary and Index

NYTimes

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1976

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The Major Events of the Day

International

Defense Department officials in Washington disclosed that Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld was interceding on behalf of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in an attempt to overcome Japanese reluctance to purchase \$250 million worth of patrol aircraft directly from the company. The sale has been jeopardized by disclosure of the company's payment of bribes and commissions in Japan. Mr. Rumsfeld has proposed an arrangement under which his department would become the contracting agent. [Page 1, Column 1.]

The 24 countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development have agreed in Paris on a strict code of conduct for multinational corporations following disclosures of bribery and other illicit practices by some of them. The guidelines, scheduled for formal adoption June 21, are voluntary but are expected to carry considerable political and moral weight. [1:4.]

The British Government put on its biggest show of the year to celebrate the loss 200 years ago of the 13 colonies that became the United States. In Westminster Hall, cradle of the Mother of Parliaments, a Congressional delegation received a reproduction of Magna Carta to symbolize a common heritage. The British are getting more mileage out of the anniversary than any country except perhaps the United States. [1:2-3.]

Martin Heidegger, the German philosopher who was one of the most seminal thinkers of his time, died at the age of 86 in the town of Messkirch, where he was born. [1:1-2.]

National

The June 8 primaries are expected to clarify the Presidential nomination races for both parties—the California contest for Republicans and the Ohio contest for Democrats. The six primaries on Tuesday did little to change the long-range outlook in either party, though President Ford cut into his Republican challenger Ronald Reagan's Southern strength, and Jimmy Carter saw further erosion of the idea of his inevitable victory among Democrats. [1:2-3.]

West Point cadets who are accused of cheating or who are critical of the United States Military Academy's honor code are compiling lists of hundreds of their classmates who they say were also involved. Their apparent intention is to confront the Academy with a difficult choice: prosecution

The Other News

International

Miki defies party foes in new ouster move. Page 2
Soviet officials deny Jikns Moon sect. Page 2
Envoy sees U.S. "mistake" in Lebanon. Page 3
Giscard offer on Lebanon modified. Page 3
U.S. jets A.F.L.-C.I.O. veto. Page 3
Dorothy Schiff, editor in chief and publisher of The New York Post, says in a new biography that she had a romance with President Franklin D. Roosevelt from 1936 to 1943 and that her then husband, the late George Backer, was proud of it. She also implies that Mrs. Roosevelt knew and may even have approved. [1:2-5.]

Metropolitan

Patrick J. Cunningham, the Democratic New York State chairman, his law partner, Joseph S. Kamling, and Judge Anthony J. Mercorella of Civil Court in the Bronx were indicted in what could be the state's biggest political scandal in years. Mr. Cunningham was accused of arranging to nominate Mr. Mercorella, then a City Councilman, for the bench in return for a promised payoff to him and the Bronx County Democratic Committee. The special grand jury, under the supervision of Maurice H. Nadari, also indicted Mr. Cunningham and his partner on a separate charge of conspiracy and tampering with evidence. They allegedly tried to conceal from the jury the fact that a Bronx bank, seeking state government deposits, had paid them \$50,000 in legal fees for legal work they did not perform. [1:6-8.]

In a sudden turnaround, Governor Carey said Mr. Nadari should remain as special state prosecutor beyond a June 29 deadline to complete a backlog of trials. He carefully avoided, however, specifying that Mr. Nadari should retain his powerful post as head of the office investigating corruption in the criminal-justice system while resolving pending indictments. Politicians believed Mr. Carey changed his mind to avoid possible charges of blocking a Republican from competing in important cases affecting several prominent Democrats. [1:6-7.]

Moody's Investors Service, a leading bond-rating company, sharply downgraded its rating of Municipal Assistance Corporation bonds, saying that the state agency's recent moves to restructure its debt would adversely affect their security as investments. The action, a surprise to Wall Street, seemed certain to cast some doubt on M.A.C.'s offer to exchange its bonds for New York City notes. M.A.C. called the action irresponsible and without merit. [1:5.]

Quotation of the Day

"I hope we don't have to say there's a 'first black' anything in a few years."—Stephanie McManus, the first black woman to be color girl for the June Week graduation ceremonies at Amnopolis. [4:1.]

Health and Science

Drug misuse abroad seen hurting Americans. Page 20
Experimental lakes help purify water. Page 21
Jersey panel named to study cancer. Page 37

Education and Welfare

Dismissal of more New York teachers forecast. Page 26
Beame figures on City U. called short. Page 26

Amusements and the Arts

Rod Amateau's "Drive-In" in film houses. Page 28
"Embryo," science-fiction film, opens locally. Page 29
"Jewish Gauchos," Argentine film, opens. Page 29
"Mother, Jugs and Speed," is on screen. Page 30
"Won Ton Ton" film is more than a dog. Page 30
Suzanne Farrell dances role of Chloe. Page 31
"Rahner's Star" by Don DeLillo, is reviewed. Page 39

Going Out Guide

Family/Style Page 30
Fur showings: An embarrassment of riches. Page 40
C. Z. Geist writes book for gardeners. Page 40

Obituaries

Semuel Chernoble, printing inventor, executive. Page 36

Business and Financial

The stock market declines slightly for the day. Page 51
Prices of gasoline beginning to increase. Page 51
U.S. trade deficit narrowed in April. Page 51
GELCO capital financing plan approved. Page 51
Big charges due for potato trading. Page 51
Mutual funds face sweeping changes in rules. Page 51

Sports

Rangers acquire Bruins' Hodge for Middleton. Page 43
Baeza is fined \$500, jockey pleads for privacy. Page 43
Yanks hoping Hunter is back on winning track. Page 43
Mets get feeling that nothing is going right. Page 43
Tanner is upset by McNair in Italian tennis. Page 43
Frazier trying new technique for Foreman. Page 43
Dog fancier philosophizes about losing. Page 45
Canadian trotter makes his owner travel. Page 48
Leflore lifts hitting streak to 28 in loss. Page 49

Notes on People

Editorials and Comment Page 41
Editorials and Letters Page 34
Anthony Lewis assays Jimmy Carter's chances. Page 35
William Safire on Gene McCarthy's candidacy. Page 35
Lewis Feuer: Is history in Kissinger's way? Page 35

News Analysis

Steven Roberts discusses Turkey's shift. Page 2
New ethical questions posed in Quinlan case. Page 61

CORRECTION

Martin Weinberg, the new chairman of the local Democratic committee in Philadelphia, was incorrectly identified in The Times yesterday as Martin Weinstein.