

# News Summary and Index

NYTimes

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 1976

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## The Major Events of the Day

### International

At least one black man was reported killed in the South African coal-mining center of Witbank, 75 miles east of Johannesburg, when police reinforcements were rushed to the scene of serious rioting. Reports said about 3,000 black youths had poured out of black townships and attacked people and buildings in areas occupied by Indians and people of mixed descent. [Page 1, Col. 3.]

The price of gold on the London market has tumbled nearly 12 percent in only five business days. Experts in London say that unless the price recovers quickly there will be political as well as economic consequences for South Africa, the leading producer, as well as difficulties for the Soviet Union, also a major producer, which had been selling large quantities of gold to pay for wheat. [1:4.]

The British Cabinet held emergency meeting on proposed cuts in public spending as unemployment reached the highest point in any month since World War II—6.3 percent, regarded by supporters of Britain's welfare state as intolerable. Although Government spokesmen pointed to other signs of success in its anti-inflation strategy, the Labor Party's left wing, which had been supporting stringent limits on wage increases, were unhappy and putting more pressure on the Labor Government. [4:4-5.]

### National

The robot explorer craft Viking made the first successful landing on the planet Mars and began transmitting spectacular photographs of a rocky, wind-scoured desert plain, site of the first direct search for life on another world. At the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., the Viking project manager found it incredible that "all worked so perfectly" at the end of a voyage of nearly half a billion miles taking 11 months. Scientists agreed that the primary material in the landing area is probably volcanic in origin, modified by meteoric impacts, the winds of the thin Martian atmosphere and possibly water erosion. [1:1-8.]

The first definitive analysis of the atmosphere of Mars, contains a big surprise—that that argon, an inert gas that had been thought to account for as much as 30 percent, now appears to be about 3 percent, compared with the earth's 1 percent. There

are many long-sought clues to the planet's history, including the possibility of enough water beneath the surface to cover it a mile deep. [1:5-7.]

President Ford made substantial gains in delegate strength to pull within 18 of the total needed for a first-ballot nomination at the Republican National Convention. His campaign spokesman dismissed a claim from Reagan headquarters that the challenger had 10 more than the number needed for nomination. The New York Times calculated a net gain of 10 for Mr. Ford and one for Mr. Reagan. [1:1-2.]

The General Accounting Office, a Congressional investigating unit, accused the Food and Drug Administration, makers of pharmaceuticals, doctors and research scientists of exposing humans to unnecessary risks in the testing of new drugs. It said the procedures could also lead to F.D.A. approval for public use based on "inaccurate and unreliable data." [1:1.]

The chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Russell B. Long, promised it would have a new opportunity to vote for or against each of 73 separate provisions of the pending tax bill, most of which benefit just one company or industry. This followed a heated session in which Senator Edward M. Kennedy was a leading foe of narrow-interest tax legislation. [1:1.]

### Metropolitan

The Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court in Brooklyn reinstated the perjury indictments obtained by Maurice H. Nadari while special prosecutor against Judge Paul P. Rao Sr. of the United States Customs Court; his son, Paul Jr., and another lawyer, Paul Nigrono. The late State Supreme Court Justice John M. Murtagh dismissed them on the grounds of prejudicial statements to the grand jury by undercover agents as insufficient evidence. [1:1-2.]

Conditions in the state-prison in Attica, N.Y., were described as "just as bad, perhaps worse" than just before the 1971 inmate rebellion that was suppressed with a loss of 43 lives. The description came from the chief of a team sent into the prison by the State Commission of Correction last week following the most recent outbreak of violence there. The official said, "What we have is a combat situation." [1:3-4.]

## The Other News

**International**  
Syrian-Palestinian peace bid delayed. Page 2

G.I.'s still guarding Korean front line. Page 3  
U.S. completes troop pullout in Thailand. Page 3  
Burma reports plot by officers. Page 3  
Rhodesian guerrillas stage a raid in capital. Page 4  
Uranium for India meets opposition. Page 5  
Japanese ruling on secret documents reversed. Page 6  
Thirteen are jailed in Polish food riots. Page 7  
Yugoslavia plans to free U.S. citizen. Page 7

**Government and Politics**  
New York impasse on court changes persists. Page 14  
Connally "not that eager" for No. 2 spot. Page 18  
Carter is critical of Nixon pardon. Page 20  
Governor Grasso in difficulties with her party. Page 32  
"Serious problems" seen in New York's future. Page 38  
Key senators favor special prosecutor. Page 38

**General**  
Hearst trial halted briefly for a hearing. Page 13  
Metropolitan Briefs. Page 33  
Token-booth robbery suspects arrested. Page 33  
Levitt audit criticizes Goldin's office. Page 33  
Westchester to leave Con Ed system. Page 33  
Unit finds city unready for emergencies. Page 38  
Real estate soliciting barred in two boroughs. Page 53

**Industry and Labor**  
Job protection is key in auto talks. Page 10  
**Education and Welfare**  
Male domination of math studies analyzed. Page 14  
**Health and Science**  
Hempstead sues on city sewage issue. Page 53  
**Amusements and the Arts**  
First volume of Nehru biography reviewed. Page 27  
Zukerman leads Mostly Mozart concert. Page 35

## Quotation of the Day

"Even in a place chosen for its blandness, for safety reasons, Mars is an extraordinarily interesting place."—Dr. Carl Sagan of Cornell University, an astronomer on the team of scientists studying Viking 1's photographs of Mars. [12:1.]

Philharmonic park concerts open Aug. 3. Page 35  
Met Museum buys two 82d Street buildings. Page 36  
Perry Come at Westbury Music Fair. Page 38  
Scottish Orchestra Chorus at St. Bartholomew's. Page 38  
Mars and Olympics enliven the TV screens. Page 55  
Broadcaster finds rights in danger. Page 55

**Going Out Guide** Page 36  
**About New York** Page 38  
**Family/Style/Food Day**  
Some of the glories of American cooking. Page 16  
Crafts to amuse youngsters on summer days. Page 16  
A family adopts wild animals. Page 16  
Virginia wine industry is reviving. Page 18  
**Consumer Notes** Page 32  
**Obituaries**  
Ivan Morris, writer, translator and linguist. Page 32  
**Business and Financial**  
Stocks drop for sixth day. Dow off 2.54. Page 39  
Delaney named to S.E.C.; Shirk Comptroller. Page 39  
G.N.P. rise slowed to 4.4% in second quarter. Page 39  
BankAmerica and Citicorp lift earnings. Page 39  
L.I. salesman pleads guilty in silver swindle. Page 39  
Real Estate: Expansion in Queens. Page 49

**Page**  
Advertising News 47  
Market Indicators 40  
Aren't Exchange 48  
Money 40  
Bond Sales 46  
Commodities 48  
National Futures 50  
Corp. Affairs 51  
N.Y. Stock Exch 40  
Dividends 47  
Out-of-Town 41  
Higs & Lows 43  
Over the Counter 50

**Sports**  
Politics imperil Davis Cup. Page 20  
Mallus wanns. Page 20  
Goodell wins 1,500 freestyle. Page 21  
Egypt and Morocco withdraw from Olympics. Page 21

U.S. black athletes won't join Olympic exodus. Page 21  
U.S. quintet tops Puerto Rico by 95 to 94. Page 21  
Mets face up to a lineup without Kingman. Page 21  
Impasse threatens merger of N.B.A. and A.B.A. Page 21  
U.S. excels in trapshooting; falters in rowing. Page 23  
Yankees impress Richards of White Sox. Page 26

**Notes on People** Page 17  
**Man in the News**  
Joseph Lester Powell Jr., Carter aide. Page 20  
**Editorials and Comment**  
Editorials and Letters. Page 30  
C. L. Sulzberger appraises the gains in Spain. Page 31  
Bill Bradley proposes some Olympic reforms. Page 31  
Emily I. Goodman on the pensioner betrayed. Page 31

**News Analysis**  
Drew Middleton on Britain's waning role. Page 2  
Leonard Silk on candidates' economic views. Page 39

### CORRECTIONS

An article in The Times on Monday reported incorrectly that Costa Rica and Honduras had been involved in the 1969 conflict known as the "soccer war." The two nations in that conflict were Honduras and El Salvador.

● An article in The Times on April 7 incorrectly described Barry A. Schwartz, an assistant district attorney in Queens, as the trial lawyer in a case charging Lee Myles Transmissions with possession of stolen automobile engines. Mr. Schwartz was associate counsel in the preparation of a brief to appeal the case.