

**The Major Events of the Day**

**International**  
 Italy's Communist Party, which gained considerably more popular support in the elections last month, will now control parliamentary committees for the first time in the republic's history. With 49 more seats in the Chamber of Deputies, where a Communist was recently appointed president for the first time, the Communists now have 228, second in number only to the Christian Democrats, who have 263 of the 630 seats. Under an agreement reached yesterday by the leaders of the various political parties, Communists will chair four major committees: Finance and Treasury, Public Works, Constitutional Affairs and Transport. The Communists are also bidding for committee chairmanships in the 315-member Senate and the other parties are expected to yield to their demands. [Page 1, Column 4.]

**National**  
 Ronald Reagan named Senator Richard S. Schweiker of Pennsylvania as his prospective running mate on the Republican ticket. Senator Schweiker, 50 years old, is regarded as one of the most liberal and pro-labor Republicans in Congress. Mr. Reagan's announcement at a news conference in Los Angeles was a surprise, mainly because he is still far from assured of the nomination. As late as last week, he had been saying that if he was nominated he would probably let convention delegates choose his running mate from a list he would submit to them. His choice of Mr. Schweiker was apparently influenced by his struggle with President Ford over uncommitted delegates, particularly the key Pennsylvania delegation. A liberal running mate apparently also would mollify Northern liberals who have found Mr. Reagan too conservative. [1:8.]

Justice Department lawyers were said to have recommended that officials of the Central Intelligence Agency not be prosecuted for opening mail between the United States and Communist countries. A Government official close to the investigation said that the lawyers who had investigated this aspect of the C.I.A.'s operations had "found evidence of Presidential knowledge" of the mail openings that had made them legal. [1:6-7.]

The House ethics committee formally recommended that Representative Robert L. F. Sikes, Democrat of Florida, be reprimanded

on two of three complaints alleging that he used his office for personal gain. It was the first time that the committee had taken action against a member of Congress since it was set up in 1968, following allegations of misdeeds against the late Adam Clayton Powell. The panel's report was tentatively scheduled to go before the full House on Thursday for acceptance or rejection. [1:7-8.]

Viking I has detected an atmosphere on Mars that scientists believe is "encouraging to the search for life, but by no means conclusive." The lander's atmospheric "sniffer" made the following analysis of the content of the Martian atmosphere: carbon dioxide, 95 percent, nitrogen, 2 to 3 percent, argon, 40, 1 to 2 percent and oxygen, 0.3 percent. The atmosphere of Mars is less than 1 percent the density of Earth's. [1:2-3.]

President Ford signed a bill that would provide communities in coastal states, including those on the Great Lakes, with \$1.6 billion to meet the problems of growth that may arise from offshore oil and gas development. The measure, called the Coastal Energy Impact Bill, authorizes Federal financial assistance in the construction of roads, schools, hospitals, sewerage systems and water lines [1:1.]

**Metropolitan**

Co-op City tenants who led a 13-month strike in protest against an increase in maintenance charges lugged 68 cartons and a shopping bag filled with \$20 million in checks and money orders for back rent to State Supreme Court in the Bronx and handed it over—in effect, to themselves, because they now make up the Bronx co-op's reconstituted board of directors. With the presentation of the withheld funds, Justices Nathan T. Heiman and Alfred J. Calahan dropped contempt-of-court charges against the 10 leaders and their steering committee. This canceled fines that the rent-strike group said had run to \$235,000 apiece against the leaders and \$3 million against the committee. [1:1-3.]

Mayor Beame ordered the consolidation of three midtown development offices into a single area-action office and established a separate umbrella agency to take over the upper development offices in lower and work Manhattan, downtown Brooklyn and Jamaica, Queens. [3:5-3-4.]

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**Quotation of the Day**

"I have selected a man of independent thought and action with a background in business and 16 years in public service. He is respected by his colleagues but he has not become a captive of what I call 'the Washington buddy system.'"—Ronald Reagan, announcing that he would select Senator Richard S. Schweiker, Republican of Pennsylvania, as his running mate if Mr. Reagan wins the Republican Presidential nomination. [1:6-7.]

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**CORRECTION**

An article in The Times Friday incorrectly identified a Brooklyn gypsy cab driver who was shot and killed during an attempted holdup. He was David Wayne Gibson, 21 years old, of 28 St. James Place.