

# News Summary and Index

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## The Other News

## QUOTATIONS OF THE DAY

"I am now changing constituencies." — Senator Richard S. Schweiker of Pennsylvania, explaining why he might, as Ronald Reagan's running mate, oppose pro-labor positions he had held in the past. [1:1.]

## International

The Chinese Government has not made public any estimate of the casualties in the two earthquakes that apparently shattered the city of Tangshan, but diplomats in Peking yesterday said that at least 100,000 people had been killed. That figure resulted from a study of records of past earthquakes, population statistics and the number of foreigners known to have been killed in this week's quake. Meanwhile there was an official warning that another quake was possible. [Page 1, Column 8.]

An anti-Egyptian clause, unexpectedly written into the cease-fire proposal for Lebanon signed by Syrian and Palestinian representatives Thursday, worsened the conflict between Syria, Egypt and Libya and jeopardized the cease-fire. The clause condemned the Sinai disengagement agreement reached by Egypt and Israel last September, calling the pact a "Zionist plot" that destroyed Arab unity and brought on the Lebanese conflict 16 months ago. [1:7.]

## National

Senator Richard S. Schweiker of Pennsylvania, regarded as one of Congress's more liberal Republicans, said that he would support anti-labor positions if the Republican Party platform required him to do so as Ronald Reagan's running mate. He explained at a news conference in the Senate Caucus Room that his votes in Congress, such as for the right of construction workers to close down building sites, had been influenced by his constituency in a labor-oriented Northern state. But when he was asked if he expected to exert a liberal influence on Mr. Reagan if they should be elected he replied: "No question about it." [1:1.]

President Ford went to Jackson, Miss., to attend a caucus of the potentially pivotal Mississippi delegation to the Republican National Convention and won two important endorsements, both from the only Mississippi Republicans in Congress. Mr. Ford told the delegates how he would choose a Vice President. The delegation, which will cast its 30 votes as a unit, gave Mr. Ford a standing ovation. [1:2-4.]

Housewives who have no job outside the home will benefit more from their husbands' pension under an amendment to the omnibus tax bill approved by the Senate.

## The Major Events of the Day

Under present law, an employee who has no other pension plan may set aside up to \$1,500 a year in an individual retirement account. No tax is due on the account until retirement when most people are in a lower tax bracket than in their working years. The Senate vote would allow the owner of the retirement account to add \$500 more a year for the benefit of a spouse who does not work. Senator William V. Roth, Republican of Delaware, sponsored the change in recognition of the role housewives have. [9:5-7.]

The first transmission from Viking 1's laboratory on Mars did not contain any results from the biology experiment looking for life on Mars but dealt with the chemical makeup of the soil. Mars, it appears, is a painted desert, its soil made up of iron, sand and other elements varnished red or rusted by a thin coating of iron oxides, according to scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. [1:5.]

## Metropolitan

A 25 percent cut in their wage-and-fringe package for work on residential rehabilitation projects has been agreed to by the principal construction unions in New York City, which have many members out of work. The cut has also put the unions in a better competing situation with nonunion contractors who have been getting most of the remodeling jobs. Rehabilitation projects now make most of the construction work in the city. There is virtually no construction of new buildings. [1:6-7.]

Government scientists have concluded that a dumping site operated by the Army Corps of Engineers is a more serious threat to the waters south of New York City than the general ocean dumping of sewage sludge. Each year, the Engineers Corps supervises the dumping of 11 million cubic yards of material at a dredge-soil point site six miles east of the New Jersey shore. [1:2-3.]

New York City's Acting Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Dominick J. DiMaio, who would have automatically become the Chief Medical Examiner on Monday, voluntarily relinquished his title yesterday and reverted to his permanent Civil Service position of deputy medical examiner. Dr. DiMaio stepped down so that an inquiry into his private business transactions could be concluded. [1:6.]

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