

News Summary and Index

NYTimes WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1976 AUGUST 5 1976

The Major Events of the Day

International

The State Department issued its official comment in Washington on the statement by a biracial constitutional committee last week in South-West Africa setting forth goals for independence by the end of 1978. It called it "a step in the right direction" but decried the failure to set a date for elections in the territory, known also as Namibia, and the failure to include all interested parties. This referred to the South-West African People's Organization, a guerrilla group recognized by the United Nations as representative of the people of the territory. [Page 1, Col. 4.]

Zulu vigilante groups armed with clubs and knives clashed violently in Soweto with demonstrating youths amid growing indications of a backlash against the campaign of harassment that has kept most of the black township's labor force from jobs in Johannesburg for two days. At least four blacks have died in attacks by the vigilante groups, formed with public encouragement from white South African officials and the workers' employers. [1:2-3.]

Prime Minister James Callaghan held an emergency cabinet meeting as Britain's worst drought on record threatened to disrupt the economy and cause layoffs or three-day work weeks. Sports Minister Denis Howell was assigned to supervise the shrinking water supply. The minister said that in water allocation industry and agriculture would precede householders. [1:5-7.]

National

Jimmy Carter drew stronger boos than applause from the national convention of the American Legion in Seattle with his position on Vietnam War draft resisters—a blanket pardon for violators of the Selective Service laws but no blanket amnesty. It was the first sour note of the Democratic Presidential candidate's West Coast swing. [1:8.]

President Ford proposed that Mr. Carter agree to begin their series of campaign debates in about two weeks. He proposed four 90-minute debates, focusing in turn on national security, domestic, foreign and economic policy, starting within four days after Labor Day, Sept. 6. The proposal, made in Vail, Colo., after a two-hour conference with senior campaign advisers, reflected their assessment that under favorable conditions he could win the debates. An early start and

The Other News

International

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Federal election records on file in Topoka indicate that Senator Robert F. Dole of Kansas, now the Republican Vice Presidential candidate, accepted as an "in kind" campaign contribution in 1974 the cost of anti-abortion newspaper advertisements he recently said he had disavowed. An aide said he had attempted to do this by reaching the newspapers publishing them to say they were not authorized in advance. [1:6-7.]

The United Automobile Workers designated Ford Motor Company as their strike target if no new contract agreement is reached by midnight Sept. 14. Negotiations are expected to intensify. The outcome is considered significant because a long strike could inhibit national recovery and because the U.A.W. contract has been a pace-setter in setting industrial worker benefits. [1:1.]

Metropolitan

Nearly a third of the employees of the New York City Housing Authority's elevator repair division were accused of cheating the city out of more than \$1 million a year in fraudulent overtime claims. Following a 14-month undercover investigation, the investigation Commissioner said that a total of 97 employees were involved. There were 60 immediate suspensions, and evidence against 37 of them was sent to the district attorneys of all boroughs except Staten Island. [1:2-3.]

The strike at the New York State prison at Attica went into its second day with most inmates remaining in their cells as their leaders met Correction Department officials on nine key demands. Newsmen taken on a tour saw the prisoners sleeping, reading and typing in their cells. Some shouted "Tell the people we won't compromise!" Many asked to speak with reporters but this was not allowed. [1:2.]

James V. Napoli Sr., long identified as a leading underworld figure, and eight confederates were convicted in Federal Court of running a \$35 million-a-year policy and horse-racing gambling operation. Three others were acquitted. Federal agents had testified that Mr. Napoli's personal take from 1969 to his arrest in May 1975 averaged \$1 million a year. [1:1-2.]

Quotation of the Day

"I do not favor a blanket amnesty, but for those who violated Selective Service laws, I intend to grant a blanket pardon."—Jimmy Carter, addressing the national convention of the American Legion. [1:8.]

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