

The Major Events of the Day

International

Prime Minister John Vorster said in Johannesburg on the eve of his departure for talks in Zurich with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger that "moral lessons and threats" from other countries would make no impression on South Africa. His primary target was Mr. Kissinger's speech Tuesday terming apartheid incompatible with human dignity. Mr. Vorster also assailed recent statements by the leader of the South-West African People's Organization, calling for United Nations sanctions against South Africa, as unacceptable. [Page 1, Column 7.]

The Government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi formally introduced constitutional amendments that would give her sweeping new legislative powers and India's small parliamentary opposition protested bitterly. The President, acting as the Prime Minister's best, would obtain virtually unlimited power to amend the Constitution further. [1:8.]

National

Representatives of President Ford and his Democratic challenger, Jimmy Carter, agreed to hold the first of a series of three television debates on Sept. 23. They will discuss domestic and economic issues for 90 minutes. The dates and duration of the second and third debates are not set, but the second will be on foreign policy and defense matters and the third was described as "open to discussion on all issues." Their Vice-Presidential running mates, Senator Robert J. Dole and Senator Walter F. Mondale, will hold a television debate between the second and third of the series. [1:8.]

Senate and House conferees working on the tax bill agreed that penalties should be imposed on United States companies that comply with the Arab boycott of Israel. The penalties would be less than in the Senate bill and the actions subject to penalty would be more carefully defined. But the Ford Administration raised the possibility that the bill might be vetoed because of this provision. The Administration contends that tax penalties would not affect the Arab boycott but would hurt relations with Arab countries, harm United States companies and impair efforts for Middle East peace. [1:1.]

The House, by 384 to 0, and the Senate, by a voice vote, sent to President Ford a "sunshine" bill that would require some 50

The Other News

Federal boards to conduct most of their business in public. Representative Bella S. Abzug of Manhattan had sponsored it in the House and Senator Lawton Childs, Democrat of Florida, in the Senate. Closed meetings could be held only under specified circumstances when matters such as defense and foreign policy were discussed. [1:5-6.]

Representative Wayne L. Hays, Democrat of Ohio, resigned his seat effective immediately, in letters to House Speaker Carl Albert and Gov. James A. Rhodes of Ohio. He failed to get a pledge of no further House action against him. [1:4.]

President Ford asked Attorney General Edward H. Levi for a quick report on allegations that the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Clarence M. Kelley, had improperly accepted gifts from subordinates. Mr. Levi said that a report that one Justice Department lawyer who had seen the information against Mr. Kelley had recommended his dismissal was inexact. [1:2-3.]

The Securities and Exchange Commission accused the accounting firm of Seidman & Seidman, formerly headed by L. William Seidman, now President Ford's economic coordinator, of negligence in auditing the books of the Equity Funding Corporation of America and three other companies. Mr. Seidman denied involvement. [1:2-3.]

Metropolitan

Accompanied by seven lawyers, Mayor Beame spent more than five hours with S.E.C. investigators to answer questions regarding allegations of fraud in city finances. Many experts say the investigation will produce recommendations for nationwide changes in municipal finance and may also give local politicians big problems. [1:5-6.]

The director and two officials of the Bureau of School Lunches were ordered suspended after a New York City Board of Education investigation found that purchase orders totaling \$2 million had been split into small amounts, apparently to circumvent competitive bidding requirements. There were indications of overpayment of double or more in some paper purchases. [1:1.]

The state-owned Meadowlands race track in East Rutherford, N.J., opened with a harness-racing program. Located only six miles from midtown Manhattan, it is expected to challenge the previous New York parimutuel monopoly. [1:2-5.]

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Quotation of the Day

"South Africa's internal and external policy is determined by South Africa itself and is not prescribed to her by any person or country from outside."—Prime Minister John Vorster of South Africa, responding to criticism of his country's racial policies by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. [1:7.]

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