

News Summary

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International

Faced with the worldwide spread of nuclear reactors for the production of electricity, the United States is confronting major decisions regarding new policies to forestall an accompanying spread of material that could be used to produce nuclear weapons. According to specialists, two fundamental questions are whether to foster reactors that use plutonium despite the fact the material could be used for weapons, or to use its leverage to create tougher international controls over the spread of material that could be used for weapons. [Page 1, Columns 2-3.]

There were signs of confusion and possible conflict surrounding the apparent selection of Prime Minister Hua Kuo-feng as chairman of the Chinese Communist Party. Wall posters praising the selection were regarded by some analysts as signs that the choice of Mr. Hua was either being pushed by his supporters or being opposed by another faction. So far there has been no official announcement, a fact regarded as unusual by the analysts. [1:4.]

Only some of the demands made by Rhodesian black nationalists were conditions for attending the British-sponsored Geneva conference on Rhodesia's future, one of the nationalist leaders said. Robert Mugabe, who is regarded as the political spokesman for a Rhodesian guerrilla group, said the British Government knew which of the demands were conditions for attendance, but he would not specify which issues they were. [3:1-3.]

National

President Ford's campaign manager acknowledged that the campaign had hit a "bump" during the last week with the resignation of Earl L. Butz as Secretary of Agriculture and the President's remarks on Eastern Europe, but he expressed confidence that his candi-

date would win. Earlier, Mr. Ford listened as the pastor of the nation's largest Baptist Church denounced Jimmy Carter and gave what amounted to an endorsement of the President. [1:5-6.]

Jimmy Carter has stepped up his attacks on President Ford in an effort to achieve maximum political gain from his apparent victory in the second debate. In the days since the debate, Mr. Carter has overstated the President's low-profile campaigning and has drawn increasingly sharp comparisons between Mr. Ford and former President Nixon. He has used such vibrant language that some of his aides have encouraged him to tone his words down. [1:3-4.]

Southern schools have closed the gap in higher education that a panel of experts found in the region 15 years ago, but as yet there are no Harvards below the Mason-Dixon line. A regional educational board, which set up the original 1961 study, has found that Southern schools have come a long way in overcoming the crippling disparities in expenditures and teaching salaries. [1:2.]

Metropolitan

A harsh new program of drastic cuts and other steps that would produce \$500 million in savings is being drawn up by the Beame administration. Amid fears that the worst budget crises are still ahead, city officials started the process of selecting those services that would be cut. Although officials said it was too early to give any kind of specifics, they said almost everything about city finances in the months ahead was clouded with uncertainty. [1:6.]

Police sergeants rejected a proposed contract with New York City and directed their union president to meet with city officials to obtain more information about a new duty chart. The union head said the members had not

yet seen the new work chart and only wanted to make an informed decision on the new contract. While the sergeants' delegates voted, members of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association demonstrated outside the meeting. [1:5.]

The number of dropouts from New York City schools has been increasing, according to education officials. Despite a dispute over various definitions of what constitutes a dropout, the officials say the rate will probably continue to increase because of the school system's financial problems. The dropout problem has been accompanied by persistently high levels of absenteeism, truancy and suspensions of pupils. [1:5.]

The \$68 million Giants Stadium opening in New Jersey's Hackensack Meadows went smoothly with only minor operational problems and a loss by the home team to mar the day. The 76,042 fans who watched the Giants lose to Dallas, 24-14, arrived early and the anticipated monstrous traffic jams never materialized. [1:1.]

Business/Finance

Competition has increased between the New York and American Stock Exchanges even as they have begun studying a possible merger. During the last seven weeks, four stocks have been traded on both exchanges and a fifth will begin to be dually marketed next week. Until both exchanges changed their rules last summer, the practice of dual listing had been forbidden since 1911. Another development will come today when two specialist firms begin trading in the same stocks on the New York exchange. [41:5-6.]

A vigorous debate has been taking place for the last six months over the country's economy. Some economists contend that the recovery is still underway, others say it is only in a "pause," while a few fear a new recession is threatening. Current discussions have revolved around a recent set of unpromising statistics that normally are closely watched for indications on the direction of the economy. Economists say that two broad trends—the stagnation in consumer spending and the lag in capital spending—are largely responsible for the malaise. [41:1-4.]

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Quotation of the Day

"We ought to hold more U.N. meetings out here."—Edouard Ghorra, Lebanon's delegate to the United Nations, at a party in rural Pennsylvania given by William W. Scranton, United States delegate, and his wife, Mary. [30:1.]

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Columbus Day

Today is Columbus Day, the 484th anniversary of the discovery of the New World. Schools, colleges, banks, post offices, courts and other New York City, state and Federal offices will be closed. There will be no regular sanitation pickups.

Alternate-side-of-the-street parking rules will be suspended, but all other traffic and parking rules remain in effect.