

# News Summary

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## International

The West German mark's value against the currencies of the six other countries of the European currency bloc was moved up by agreement with them, without specifically changing its value in dollar terms. The mark will continue to float freely against the dollar. The seven countries announced their determination to maintain their currency union and carry out necessary anti-inflationary policies. [Page 1, Column 6.]

An exception to the cease-fire imposed on Lebanon by Saudi Arabia was the occupation of a Moslem village near the Israeli border by Lebanese Christian militiamen. Hundreds of villagers were forced to flee and witnesses said several were killed or wounded in the take-over following a night of shelling. Meanwhile, Palestinians in Beirut said the limited talks of six Arab leaders in the Saudi capital were making satisfactory progress. [1:5.]

A fourth Rhodesian nationalist leader should be asked to the Geneva conference, in the opinion of four black African presidents. They urged Britain to invite Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole to join the talks. Both he and Robert Mugabe say they represent one of the main nationalist organizations, and the request seemed certain to intensify their rivalry for power. [3:1-2.]

The Peking garrison vowed its allegiance to Prime Minister Hua Kuo-feng as Chairman of the Central Committee of China's Communist Party. The campaign continued against "the gang of four," including Chiang Ching, widow of Chairman Mao Tse-tung. A Shanghai wall poster accused Miss Chiang of having hastened Mao's death by nagging him in his last weeks. [3:2-4.]

The first Soviet splashdown was scored by the two Soviet astronauts whose mission was aborted and who came down, intentionally or not, in a lake in the Kazakh Republic. Heretofore all

Soviet manned capsules have parachuted to hard ground. Tass said helicopters and water craft operating at night in snowfall picked up the astronauts and their craft. [32:1-2.]

## National

Gifts to Jimmy Carter in the 1970 Georgia gubernatorial campaign were itemized in a list made public by the Democratic Presidential candidate. About \$57,000 out of a total of nearly \$700,000 was from corporate and business contributors, including some who did business with the state. The Carter staff did not indicate whether the gifts exceeded the cost of the campaign and, if so, where the surplus went. [1:1.]

A health insurance cost study for the Federal Government says the labor-backed plan in the Kennedy-Corman Bill providing cradle-to-grave coverage may not cost more than all other plans under consideration. This finding by actuarial consultants has political significance since the plan most resembles Mr. Carter's concept and differs widely from President Ford's. [18:2-5.]

At least 85 naturalized Americans and resident aliens are suspected by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of having concealed participation in World War II atrocities in order to enter the United States later. Almost all are from Eastern Europe, particularly the former republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. Their neighbors often call them model citizens. [16:1-6.]

## Metropolitan

Changes in the Mafia in New York City following the death of its most powerful boss are expected by law enforcement officials and underworld informants. Lawmen expect the initiation of many new members, the expansion into hijacking and narcotics and a possible flare-up of rivalry among some of the local Mafia families. [1:4.]

The United Federation of Teachers is submitting to ratification by public school psychologists and social workers whom it represents a tentative agreement that would increase their work schedules to provide evening and summer service for children. This was the union's first modification of its existing contract that would extend hours to save jobs. [1:2-4.]

A freighter has disappeared in the so-called Bermuda Triangle, and the Coast Guard fears it has sunk. The vessel, Sylvia L. Ossa, of Panamanian registry, was on the way from Brazil to Philadelphia. An overturned lifeboat and a life preserver with burn marks have been recovered. [1:5.]

The pace is changing for Governor Carey's administration in Albany. For two years the fiscal crisis kept its members under acute pressure. This had now eased enough for Mr. Carey and his top aides to have time to take stock, reflect, and decide what they will try to achieve in the remaining two year. [33:4-6.]

A church destroyed by fire three years ago was rededicated on Staten Island by Terence Cardinal Cooke. Rebuilt on a somewhat smaller scale, with an altar made of wood retrieved from the old church, the new Church of Saints Joachim and Ann in the Pleasant Plains section drew nearly 3,000 supporters to the occasion. [20:2-5.]

## Business/Finance

Dassault tax fraud was alleged in the Paris press with a story saying the aircraft builder's accountant's records showed the French Government was cheated of \$300 million. With higher tax levies currently at issue, the allegations had political impact since Marcel Dassault has long backed the Gaullist group. [45:1.]

Since the 1973 oil embargo, the United States has done little in the opinion of most oil experts to improve its energy posture and would suffer a comparable economic blow if it is renewed. But some of them contend that the nation has finally begun a serious attempt to attack the energy problem. [1:5-6.]

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## Quotation of the Day

"It has a human interest that's very important, but I'd hate to think I have to make history. If I did, I'd be afraid I'd do it wrong."—Petras M. Cillié, a white South African judge, who is holding hearings into recent black unrest in South Africa. [3:31].

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