

News Summary

NYTimes

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International

At least 24 American servicemen were killed in a collision between a Navy launch loaded with sailors and Marines and a freighter in Barcelona harbor. The launch was taking the men back to ships of the United States Sixth Fleet from weekend leave. The Navy reported that 30 men were injured and that 26 were unaccounted for, but it had not been determined if they were all on the launch. [Page 1, Cols. 2-3.]

France's President struck back at the "campaign of insult and vilification" against his country's release of Abu Daoud, suspected of organizing the 1972 killing of Israelis at the Munich Olympics by Palestinian terrorists. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing said the basic responsibility was West Germany's since its representative in Paris, asked by the Foreign Ministry after the arrest what his Government's intentions were, said he had neither information nor instructions. [1:3-4.]

A trip to the Middle East next month is planned by Secretary of State-designate Cyrus R. Vance. Diplomatic and State Department sources say he will discuss ways of resuming peace efforts in the area and prepare for visits of Middle East leaders to Washington. [3:4-6.]

National

Theodore C. Sorensen decided not to fight the opposition in the Senate to his nomination by President-elect Carter as Director of Central Intelligence. He told the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that he had asked the President-elect to withdraw the nomination. Mr. Carter accepted the decision with regret. [1:6.]

Gary Mark Gilmore, a convicted murderer, got his wish and was executed by a firing squad at Utah State Prison. He was executed at 8:07 A.M., mountain standard time, after a hectic night

in which state lawyers flew to Denver to overturn a last-minute stay of execution obtained by the American Civil Liberties Union, an opponent of capital punishment. [1:4.]

President Ford's last budget was sent to Congress. It embodies his conservative philosophy by proposing a slowdown in the growth rate of Federal spending and a long-term policy of continuously declining income tax rates. Major changes by the Carter administration are certain. [1:5.]

Frigid weather put a heavy drain on natural gas and electricity supplies and forced the closing of thousands of factories and offices across the Eastern half of the country. Several large gas distributors said they would cut off supplies to all industrial customers and warned of cuts for commercial users if the unusually cold weather continued. [1:1.]

Metropolitan

Subzero temperatures, shattering records, put an Arctic hammerlock on the metropolitan area. Schools were shut in some suburban areas and commuter travel was in a turmoil. One degree below zero was recorded in Central Park at 8:45 A.M., the lowest temperature on a Jan. 17 since weather record-keeping in New York City began in 1869. It broke a record of 5 degrees set in 1893. [1:2-3.]

The New York City Ballet, which has not performed since the beginning of an orchestra strike five weeks ago, canceled the remaining four weeks of its season when the musicians' union rejected compromise recommendations for a state mediator. [1:5-6.]

A bribery and perjury indictment against Justice Irving H. Saypol of the New York State Supreme Court was dismissed, as expected. Justice Leonard H. Sandler said in his decision that although the circumstances leading to

the indictment were "distasteful" they did not constitute a crime. The indictment had been brought by Maurice H. Nadjari, the former special state prosecutor for corruption. [5:2-5-6.]

Business/Finance

There were good gains in 1976 in industrial production and personal income, Government reports said. Output of factories, mines and utilities rose by seven-tenths of 1 percent in December following an increase of almost 1.2 percent in November. This was taken as another indication that the pause in the economy has ended. Personal income rose to \$19.3 billion, an increase of 1.4 percent. [41:5-6.]

Reflecting a tightening of the money markets, the First National Bank of Chicago and the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company raised their prime lending rates back to 6¼ percent. A few weeks ago the banks had lowered the rate to 6 percent. [41:4.]

Shipping problems, caused mainly by windy weather, held the Arabian American Oil Company's oil production in the first half of January to 80 percent of last year's output, an Aramco executive said. This has emphasized the uncertainty at the Dhahran headquarters of Aramco, which carries out almost all Saudi Arabia's oil production, about how fast and how far Saudi Arabia can and will increase its oil output in its efforts to hold back price increases. [41:1-3.]

Stock prices declined in slower trading following the news that two big banks had raised their prime lending rates back to 6¼ percent from 6 percent. The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 4.91 points to 967.25, bringing its total loss since Jan 1 to 37.40 points. [41:1-2.] **The credit markets, which have been moving toward lower prices and higher interest rates since the start of the new year, continued downward.** One of the bright spots was three-month Treasury bills, sold at an average rate of 4.67 percent, up from 4.61 percent, their biggest rise since Nov. 15. [42:3-4.] **Soybean futures closed as much as 3 cents a bushel higher on old-crop beans.** The new crop, which has not been planted, declined as much as 4 cents. [49:1-2.]

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"Let's do it!"—Gary Mark Gilmore, when asked by the warden if he had any last words. [1:4.]

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