

# News Summary

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## International

**President Carter has indirect word** that Cuba intends to remove its troops from Angola, he told questioners on a visit to the Agriculture Department. He said such a step would make it possible to consider normalizing relations with Fidel Castro's government. He said he did not want to start formal talks until he is persuaded that it has ceased interfering in other countries, and has begun paying more attention to human rights in Cuba. [Page 1, Column 6.]

**Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance** in effect endorsed Israel's refusal to have the Palestine Liberation Organization take part in a Middle East Conference as long as it stands by its current charter. After talks with leaders in Jerusalem, he said the P.L.O. had no basis to participate until it revised its covenant to recognize Israel's right to exist. He said he hoped that current discussions would lead to a conference in the second half of the year. [1:4-5.]

**The Uganda radio** announced arrests of the Anglican Archbishop, Janani Lumum; the Minister of Internal Affairs, Oboth Ofumbi, and the Water Resources Minister, Lieut. Col. Erinayo Oryema. All three are accused of conspiring in an alleged plot to overthrow President Idi Amin. [6:1.]

## National

**The House Ways and Means Committee** amended by a 17-to-9 vote a tax proposal in President Carter's economic stimulus package, eliminating the suggested \$50 tax rebate for those making more than \$30,000 a year, and trying to reach more poor people with the estimated \$1 billion that would be saved. The rebate would be reduced in \$10 steps for every \$1,000 of annual income above \$25,000. [1:3.]

**The House Select Committee on Assassinations** overrode the objections of its chairman, Henry B. Gonzalez, and

took no action on its general counsel, Richard A. Sprague. Mr. Gonzalez issued a statement calling Mr. Sprague "dishonest, deceitful and irresponsible" in his conduct. [24:3-4.]

**Detroit schoolchildren** who saw their teacher killed in the classroom last November have experienced severe difficulties since the shock. [1:1-3.]

**The Attorney General, Griffin B. Bell**, has asked leaders of Congressional tax committees to suspend temporarily the new privacy provisions in the tax law. He contends the provisions limiting access of investigators and prosecutors to information about tax returns and bank records would impede efforts against political corruption and so-called white collar crime. [22:1.]

## Metropolitan

**Mayor Beame proposed** a way out of the impasse between New York City's municipal unions and the banks: expanded powers for the Municipal Assistance Corporation to go to court and force the city to balance its budget and to adhere to other budgetary controls. He appeared to be relying on the M.A.C., which he would reconstitute with an equal number of city and state employees, as the monitor of the city's fiscal affairs. [1:1.]

**Permission for the Concorde**—the British and French supersonic airliner—to make a 16-month test of landings in Washington and New York City, first granted by the Ford Administration, has been reaffirmed by President Carter. But he had advised leaders of both countries that he cannot direct the decision of authorities in New York who have jurisdiction. [1:2.]

**The Westway project** was declared "environmentally unsatisfactory" in a report prepared by the regional office of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. It said the plan to replace the West Side Highway in lower Man-

hattan would increase auto traffic and air pollution and harm the Hudson River and commercial fishing. It favored an alternative surface road and improvement of mass transit. Transportation Secretary Brock Adams, who, like his predecessor in the Ford Administration, had approved the project, said the comments would be reviewed. Governor Carey said it showed unsound reasoning and misuse or disregard of available technical data. [1:2.]

**Mark Twain's family papers** have been donated to Vassar College by his great-grandniece, Jean Connor, and her husband. [1:4-5.]

## Business/Finance

**The cold wave** caused a record 27 percent slump in construction starts of new homes begun during January, most dramatically in parts of the country where the cold was most intense. The outlook for economic recovery was more encouraging in another Department of Commerce report, indicating that stocks of unsold goods declined in December for the third consecutive month. [57:6.]

**A judge in Pittsburgh** has promised to decide by early April a \$20 million suit by three utility companies charging Westinghouse Electric Corporation with failure to deliver uranium fuel. Westinghouse has a separate suit in Chicago, accusing uranium producers of conspiring to raise the price. The Pittsburgh case could set the stage for a similar suit against Westinghouse in Richmond for nearly \$2 billion. [57:2-3.]

**Refunds of \$3 million** were ordered by the Federal Trade Commission to consumers it found had overpaid their bills. The companies named for keeping substantial credit balances to customers on their books were Diners Club, Carte Blanche, Atlantic Richfield Company, City Stores Company of New York and 10 of its subsidiaries, and Federated Department Stores of Cincinnati and 15 affiliates including Bloomingdale's in New York. [56:5-6.]

**Stock prices** advanced broadly in accelerated trading, with the Dow Jones industrials gaining 3.98 points to close at 948.30. [57:4-5.] **Bond prices** moved higher in both Treasury and corporate markets. [58:6.] **Grain and soybean futures** moved higher. [61:1.]

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## Quotation of the Day

"This is Mark Twain's second visit to Vassar, and he is here to stay."—Alan Simpson, president of the college, in announcing the acquisition of Samuel Clemens's family papers. Twain described his first visit to Vassar as "ghastly." [1:4.]

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