

# News Summary

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## International

President Carter's stand on human rights was endorsed by 58 Senators not long before Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance was to leave for Moscow for talks with Leonid I. Brezhnev. The endorsement from the Senators was contained in a letter delivered to President Carter by Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum, Democrat of Ohio. Mr. Metzenbaum said he had organized the signing to demonstrate support for the Administration's "strong commitment to the ideals of human rights and individual freedom." [Page 1, Column 1.]

Another step toward normal relations with Cuba was taken by the Carter Administration with the lifting of a ban on the spending of dollars by United States visitors to Cuba. Meanwhile, American and Cuban representatives continued talks in New York on fishing rights in the waters between the two countries. A State Department spokesman said that "progress was satisfactory." [1:2.]

Thailand's six-month old military junta was overthrown in a coup led by the deputy army commander, the official Thai radio announced. The radio said that officers had established a "revolutionary council" and promised social and economic stability. [1:1-2.]

The principal opponent of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of Pakistan remained at liberty, about the only one of the opposition leadership who has not been arrested. Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, vice president of the National Alliance, called for a nationwide protest strike today. [2:3-4.]

## National

The Administration wants to separate conventional uranium reactors, so-called light-water reactors, "from the plutonium economy," James R. Schlesinger, President Carter's energy coordinator, told a group of citizens concerned about the spread of nuclear

power and weapons. Mr. Schlesinger said the Administration was opposed to the development of plutonium fuel systems for nuclear power reactors, but would go along with construction of additional conventional uranium reactors. His remarks were believed to foreshadow what Mr. Carter may say in an energy policy statement in April. [1:6.]

The Federal regulation of pay cable television is unconstitutional and improper, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia said in a decision of major importance to the television industry. The decision, if it survives an expected court challenge, could open the way to competition between pay cable stations and networks for showing first-run movies and major sports events. [1:4-5.]

## Metropolitan

A surprisingly brisk response by investors willing to exchange \$211 million worth of short-term city notes for bonds of the Municipal Assistance Corporation indicated that New York City's goal of redeeming at least \$250 million of notes with new M.A.C. bonds would most likely be achieved. This raised the possibility that the city would not have to rely on some of the other cash sources that were decided on a few weeks ago as a means of redeeming its \$1 billion moratorium debt. [1:3.]

The Long Island Press ended publication in its 157th year. A farewell statement in the last issue said that financial losses over the last three years, because of declining advertising and circulation, were responsible for the shutdown. The Press, whose circulation was concentrated in Queens, was the sixth largest in circulation of 27 newspapers published by the Newhouse chain. [1:4-5.]

A mandatory term of life imprisonment was given Joanne Chesimard, a black activist, after she was found guilty of

first-degree murder of a New Jersey state trooper. An all-white jury, after 22 hours of deliberation, convicted Mrs. Chesimard on all eight counts—two for murder and six for assault and related charges—for which she had been indicted. [1:6.]

A special meeting of the Board of Estimate on Monday was ordered by Mayor Beame in another attempt to pass the New York City Planning Commission's original anti-pornography zoning proposal. The Mayor is pressing for a zoning proposal less restrictive than the one defeated by the board on Thursday, believing that it has a better chance of surviving a challenge on constitutional grounds. [45:1-4.]

## Business/Finance

Stock prices continued their recent decline and the leading market averages closed at their lowest levels of the year. The Dow Jones industrial average dipped 6.81 points to 928.86, its low for the day. It has declined so far this year 75.79 points, or 7.55 percent and in the last seven sessions it lost 39.14 points. Two other leading market indicators, Standard & Poor's index of 500 stocks, and the New York Stock Exchange index of all common issues, also showed sizable declines. Analysts believed that the market had been weakened by the possibility of higher interest rates and a flare-up of inflation. [25:4-6.]

An anticipated loss in first-quarter operations for the Bethlehem Steel Corporation would be its first quarterly deficit since the third quarter of 1959, when the company was dealing with a 116-day strike. This quarter's expected deficit was attributed to effects of the unusually cold winter. [25:3.]

Lehman Brothers announced that it was leasing additional space in the Wall Street area for its securities business. At a news conference attended by Mayor Beame and Governor Carey, Lehman's chairman and president, Peter G. Peterson said the company would occupy 146,000 square feet of space at 55 Water Street, near South Street, and not far from the company's headquarters at 1 William Street. "We will have the largest single trading area that we're aware of," Mr. Peterson said. [25:4-5.]

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## Quotation of the Day

"If this is politics, then it's good politics, to clean this up."—Mayor Beame, after a raid on a Times Square pornography shop. [45:1.]

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## CORRECTION

An article in The Times reported incorrectly Thursday that a bill passed by the New York State Assembly providing for agency-shop negotiations by public employees would have also reduced strike penalties. The latter provision was not part of the bill.