

News Summary

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International

France lent a fleet of military transport planes to Morocco to carry troops to Zaire to support the Government of President Mobutu Sese Seku, which is threatened by an invasion of hostile forces. Morocco was given the use of the planes, the French Government announced "in response to a request from the Governments of Zaire and Morocco." [Page 1, Column 4.]

Chinese leaders were told by former President Richard M. Nixon in 1972 that he intended to normalize relations with Peking if re-elected that November, according to Carter Administration officials. The Nixon pledge was discovered by key officials of the Carter Administration in their examination of the Nixon administration's secret documents on China in preparation of a China policy of their own. The Carter people believe that the Nixon statement was one of intention and not a binding agreement. [1:4.]

Shimon Peres, Israel's Defense Minister, was all but unanimously nominated as the governing Labor Party's candidate for Prime Minister in the May 17 election. He replaces the party's original choice, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, his old political adversary. Mr. Rabin withdrew his candidacy following the disclosure of an illegal bank account he and his wife had in Washington. The party's central committee voted 815 to 8 for Mr. Peres. There were 18 abstentions. [1:5.]

"Welcome All" said the sign as the tribal chief Johanes Peter led his people home last month to the Enewetak Atoll, formerly Eniwetok, in the Western Pacific's Marshall Islands. Their return, planned for a long time, is an experiment in the rehabilitation of the islands, which had been used for nuclear-weapons testing by the United States. [1:4-5.]

National

A White House statement on an anti-inflation program expected near the end of the week will include a variety of proposals intended to gradually slow down the rate of price and wage increases, various sources said. The Administration seeks to curb Government practices that raise costs and prices, bring labor and management together informally in an effort to hold down wages and prices and strengthen the Government's ability to anticipate cost-increasing production, bottlenecks and materials shortages. [1:6.]

A Soviet fishing trawler, seized off the New England coast for violating the new 200-mile fishing limit, was under escort to Boston. The order to the Coast Guard came from President Carter. The White House had been accused by Congressmen and New England fishermen of lax enforcement of the law. The State Department had warned the Soviet Union last Tuesday of "great concern at the number and seriousness of Soviet fishing violations." [11:1.]

Metropolitan

New York City's Police Department may not have to be reduced by 1,300 men as had been planned, according to officials familiar with Mayor Beame's budget. They said there was a "strong possibility" that the cut would not have to be made because of \$135 million in "unexpected" Federal assistance. [1:1-2.]

New York City's Board of Education has found that 86 full-time school custodians held part-time jobs as helpers to other custodians. A preliminary report said that holding two jobs was not illegal but that it "lends itself to irregularities." An investigation now will be made to determine whether the working hours of the part-time jobs conflicted with the regular jobs. [1:3.]

Four men believed to be members of the religious sect known as Rastafarians were found shot to death in a two-family house at 351 Martense Stret in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn. The victims ranged in age from 21 to 35 and had been bound. The police said the murders appeared to be executions. [1:1.]

Two years after Karen Quinlan lost consciousness, the parents of the comatose New Jersey woman say life has become more settled and letters from strangers show greater understanding of their court-sustained decision to remove her mechanical respirator. She has survived, but doctors still say she can never again be a normal human being. [1:3.]

Business/Finance

A revitalized bull market on Wall Street seemed to be assured as 1976 ended with the Dow Jones industrial average surging above 1,000 and record-breaking gains of 1,100 or 1,200 expected by spring. The buoyant expectations have not come true. Last week, the Dow average, the stock market's most closely watched barometer, dropped to a 15-month low of 918.88. "The market has gone down because of fear," said Leon G. Cooperman, chairman of the investment policy committee of Goldman, Sachs & Company. "It's the fear of a significant acceleration in inflation and, in time, a significant rise of interest rates." [43:5-6]

New York State's annual spring sale of billions of dollars of notes was completed successfully and quietly this year partly because, analysts said, borrowers' confidence had been restored when the state Moratorium Act affecting repayment of the principal on New York City notes was declared unconstitutional. This spring's note sale also benefited from the general improvement of the tax-exempt market where rates are now very near their lowest level in three years. The tax-exempt securities market sold \$3.6 billion of New York State notes at 4½ percent or less. Last year, there was a frantic attempt to sell \$4 billion of the state's notes at 7 percent. [43:4.]

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Quotation of the Day

"We had to draw the line somewhere. We informed the Soviet Embassy this week that we couldn't continue to release them, that we had to enforce the law."—President Carter, explaining why the United States seized a Soviet fishing trawler for violating the fishing limit. [11:1.]

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CORRECTION

A picture printed with the patents column in Saturday's Times, identified as Arthur D. Hall 3d, actually showed Representative Bruce F. Caputo, Republican of New York. Mr. Hall's picture appears on page 42.