

News Summary

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International

Legal and social changes directed to the more conservative Moslem elements among the coalition that is opposing him were offered by Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto of Pakistan. "I am taking new initiatives to normalize the situation, to tranquilize the situation," the embattled Prime Minister said. He declared an "immediate" prohibition of alcoholic beverages, banned gambling, proposed more strict censorship regulations "in conformity with the moral standards of Islam" and promised to move the country closer to the civil and criminal codes of the Koran. [Page 1, Column 2.]

The wife of Israel's Prime Minister was fined about \$27,000 for her role in maintaining bank accounts in Washington that violated Israel's currency regulations. Last week, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was fined about \$1,500 in an out-of-court settlement for maintaining the illegal accounts. Mr. Rabin told the Cabinet that beginning Friday, he would take a leave of absence for the rest of his term. [1:1.]

Alex Haley returned to Juffure, the African hamlet in Gambia where he had met kinfolk said to be descended from the slave Kunta Kinte. It was his first return since publication of "Roots," his account of the family history there and in America. Arriving on the Gambian presidential yacht, he was given a triumphant welcome. [1:4-6.]

National

California's two-year drought will not necessarily bring about a rise in retail food prices this year, according to Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland. He said after a four-day tour of farming communities in central California that he saw no need for prices to increase now, but a third year of drought would bring "a real crunch" in food supplies and prices. He will give President Carter a report today. [1:5.]

Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of foreigners most of them Mexicans illegally living in the United States, would be given amnesty under new immigration policies being developed by the Carter Administration. Amnesty is expected to be one of the more controversial parts of the immigration proposals, which differ sharply from the policies of previous Administrations. [1:3-4.]

The largest collection of British art ever brought together by a private individual goes on display tomorrow at the Yale Center for British Art in New Haven. Paintings, drawings, prints and rare books from the Elizabethan period to the mid-19th century, given to Yale University by Paul Mellon, a graduate of Yale, are housed in a new \$10 million art gallery-study center designed by the late architect Louis Kahn. [1:2-3.]

Metropolitan

A strike today by New York State's 140,000 public employees was averted with a contract settlement that gives them a total of more than \$215 million in wage increases and fringe benefits over the next two years. Governor Carey praised the agreement and said that it would be "well within the provisions of our financial plan." He said the settlement was made possible by the low interest rate negotiated for the state's spring borrowing. [1:6.]

A murder similar to those of three other young New York City women in recent months occurred in the Bronx. Valentina Suriani, 18 years old, was shot to death, and her 20-year-old companion, Alexander Esau, was critically wounded while sitting in a parked car early Sunday. There were similarities in the four slayings, but perhaps the most important was the fact that the fatal bullet was fired from the same .44-caliber revolver. [1:4-5.]

A balanced budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1 is expected to be pre-

sented this week by the Beame administration, but City Hall is also projecting a deficit of \$100 million for the subsequent fiscal year. There is a possibility that the deficit could grow to more than \$300 million if New York City were to award 6 percent wage increases to its employees in 1978. Relentless increases in costs, limited growth in tax receipts and declining other revenues are responsible for the anticipated deficit. [52:5-6.]

Foes of the Concorde jet drove almost 600 cars around Kennedy International Airport for nearly three hours in defiance of a State Supreme Court injunction. The motorcade slowed traffic on main roads to 5 and 10 miles an hour, but airport operations appeared normal. The number of protesters was far lower than anticipated. [54:1-4.]

Business/Finance

A record gain of 67.5 percent in futures trading from March 1976 to March this year was reported by the nation's 10 commodity exchanges. This brought the total volume for the first quarter of this year to 37 percent above the same period in 1976. The exchanges dealt in 4.2 million contracts last month, compared with 2.5 million in March 1976. [49:6.]

Bond prices made their biggest gains last week since late November as a result of a record increase in the nation's money supply. Financial analysts could see little reason why the trend toward higher fixed-income prices and lower interests should not continue a while longer. [49:1.]

The great corporate rite of spring—the annual meeting—will get underway in earnest Wednesday when the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, which has the world's largest number of shareholders, holds its meeting in Kansas City. For the next few weeks, stockholders in companies across the country will pester executives with questions about profits, dividends, women directors, new products, pensions for officers and political contributions. A.T. & T. is expecting 1,500 of its three million shareholders to show up, but is setting up seats for 3,000 just in case. [49:2-5.]

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Quotation of the Day

"In the long run, the United States cannot afford to wall itself off from the poor people of the world. It's not practical, it's not sensible, and it's not going to happen. What you need is world economic development."—Leonel J. Castillo, nominated to head the Immigration and Naturalization Service. [54:1.]

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CORRECTION

"Cold Storage," a new play by Ronald Ribman, continues through next Sunday at the American Place Theater, 111 West 46th Street. It did not close yesterday, as listed in Sunday's Arts and Leisure Guide.