News Summary

NYTimes WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1977

MAY 18 1977

International

Early election results from Israel portended defeat for the Labor Party that has governed since the state was established, with the right-of-center Likud Party apparently to form the largest bloc in Parliament, but without an absolute majority. Its leader, Menahem Begin, was expected to be given the first chance in the complicated task of forming a coalition government. [Page 1. Column 6.]

Defense ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization approved a pro-posal of Defense Secretary Harold Brown to increase military spending to meet growing Soviet strength in Central Europe. United States sources at the Brussels meeting said the ministers had agreed to a 3 percent increase in real spending above inflation. [A5:1-6.]

Leonid I. Brezhnev, speaking in Moscow on the eve of high-level Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva, reiterated his position that a treaty limiting of-fensive nuclear weapons should be based on his 1974 Vladivostok understanding with President Ford. The Soviet leader's position seemed to preclude early acceptance of comprehensive cuts that were proposed by President Carter, [A34-6.]

National

The House adopted the budget resolution setting tentative spending ceilings for next year by 221 to 177, with significant Republican suport helping offset defections by liberal Democrats. The Senate had earlier passed the measure with its projected deficit of \$64.65 billion. [A1:2.]

President Carter toured California in what seemed like the style of a campaign front-runnre, delivering a spirited defense of his programs to an enthusiastic labor audience in Los Angeles and visiting farmland in the droughtstricken San Joaquin Valley. The blitz was designed not just to explain his policies but enhance his popularity and extend his personal contacts. [A1:5.]

Political contributions now being raised by groups representing corporations, business, professional associations and labor unions are the target of drives by the Republican and Democratic National Committees. They seek to tap this relatively new source of money to channel it where possible to close contests for governor, senator and representative. [70:1-2.]

Both the Supreme Court and Federal district courts, according to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, have been de-voting much of their time to cases involving questions of rights, including those of racial minorities, women, welfare recipients and the media. In addressing a legal group in Washington he appeared to rebut critics who say the Burger Court has reduced access to the Federal courts. [70:3-4.]

Metropolitan

Blame for the accident that took five lives when a helicopter keeled over on the Pan Am Building heliport was pinpointed by Federal investigators on metal fatigue that caused failure of a landing-gear brace. They called on the Federal Aviation Administration to order immediate inspection of that part on all other Sikorsky S-61 helicopters, pointing to at least one earlier instance of failure in that general area. It is doubted that the controversial service will resume. [A1:3-4.]

Governor Carey said President Carter had broken a campaign promise to have the Federal Government take over the entire local share of welfare costs. He said he hoped to lead his fellow Governors in a fight to convince Mr. Carey to keep his commitment. A similar demand came from Mayor Beame, who told the Senate Banking Committee that New York City could not afford to wait. [A1:6.]

Mayor Beame's proposed budget probably contains a deficit of \$53.6 million, city officials have been told by the accounting firm used by the Treasury Department to oversee New York City finances. This could mean a cutoff of Federal loans to the city if this budget, which the Mayor says is in balance, is adopted. City Comptroller Harrison J. Goldin's office disclosed this. [39:5-6.]

Business/Finance

Japan will cut back exports of color television sets to the United States over the next three years by more than 40 percent under an agreement to be signed Friday in Washington, according to American and Japanese sources there. Sets in which American workers account for at least 40 percent of the labor costs will be exempted under the arrangement. [A1:6.]

Slush funds for political contributions and other secret payments were formed by some American companies decades before the practice was exposed in the Watergate scandal, according to material made public from the files of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Data on nine companies released under the Freedom of Information Act showed, for example, that American Airlines ran an unrecorded fund in Mexico in the early 1940's, and that Ashland Oil made a corporate contribution to the Presidential campaign fund of John F. Kennedy in 1960. [A1:5-6.]

Most General Motors car owners who are entitled to exchange their car or receive an insurance policy because their engines were produced by a different division have not made up their minds what to do, a company spokes-man said. But most of those who have decided have chosen the insurance. In New York, General Motors is reopening its company-owned dealership at the request of State Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz to facilitate car exchange for those who want it. [53:3.]

Stock prices turned down-on a revised estimate of steel earnings, then recovered and closed with Dow Jones industrials up to 936.48, a gain of 3.98 for the day. Wall Street analysts were cheered to note that the blue-chip barometer had moved up nearly 11 points in the last three Stock Exchange trading sessions. [53:1-2.]

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Quotation of the Day

"Mr Carter's brother is currently employed by the United States Government. It is my hope that William Alton Carter's gems of wisdom about the minimum wage and other matters come to his brother's attention."—Representative Robert H. Michel of Illinois, commenting on an article by the President's brother that appeared in Nation's Business. [A16:6.]

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CORRECTIONS

An article in The Times on Monday incorrectly quoted a portion of the remarks by Willie Morris, the author, at a memorial service for James Jones. Mr. Morris said: "One of the ironies about this most unusual man is that he knew so much about human cruelty in all its manifestations—but as a person was so lacking in cruelty himself."

An article yesterday on Yale University's commencement exercises omitted from the list of persons receiving honorary degrees the names of B. B. King, the blues musician; Sir Peter Ramsbotham, the British Ambasador to the United States, and Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams, the Northern Ireland peace workers.