

News Summary

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International

Eritrea's 16-year-old fight for independence from Ethiopia has reached a decisive stage, with rebel forces braced to meet a major Ethiopian offensive. The rebels have grown far beyond the roving bands of guerrilla fighters who harassed Ethiopian soldiers a decade ago. They have formed a full-fledged, highly trained army of 700 strong, battalions, according to the first of three articles. [Page 1, Columns 1-3.]

Washington is pursuing an "old, bankrupt policy of imperialism," the Soviet press charged, with a warning that every new American arms development would be matched in kind, Pravda, the Communist Party newspaper, and Tass, the official press agency, condemned American weapons development in especially strong terms and both said that President Carter's decision to produce the cruise missile was a major blow to détente. [6:1-4.]

The kidnapping and ritual murder in Cairo of a Moslem dignitary who was a former Cabinet member, followed by explosions in public places, has jolted Egyptians who believed that Western societies had a monopoly on urban terrorism. The murder is believed by some to be a challenge to the authority of President Anwar el-Sadat's Government. [1:3.]

National

South Korean favors to senior House members were more numerous than had been reported, Congressional sources say. A preliminary reading of answers to a questionnaire sent to 700 members of the House by the House ethics committee has disclosed more details about the favors received, including cases of what committee sources said were confessions of criminal misconduct. [1:6.]

Hijackers took over a Soviet plane carrying 72 people on a domestic flight and forced the pilot to fly to Helsinki, the Finnish police reported. In Swe-

den, police officials said that the hijackers had requested permission to fly on to Stockholm. The hijackers' nationality was not known, but they spoke Russian. [5:1-2.]

President Carter has decided not to offer to sell some of the new Alaska pipeline oil to Japan in exchange for oil more readily available to the East Coast and the Middle West. James R. Schlesinger said in a television interview that the proposed exchange of oil with the Japanese to save transportation costs had been rejected, "partly for political grounds, partly for other technical reasons." The rejection, he said, "will have the advantage of increasing pressure" on oil companies to build in the interior part of the country. [1:4-5.]

Bodies of young men have been discovered almost daily in the Los Angeles area since David D. Hill and Patrick W. Kearney, who are suspected of murder, began cooperating with the authorities early this month. Both men have acknowledged a homosexual relationship and some of their alleged victims were believed to be homosexual. At least 12 bodies have been recovered and investigators say that the two men may be linked to as many as 40 murders. [1:1-2.]

Metropolitan

The New York State Senate will resume its session today, facing unfinished business that includes such major issues as no-fault insurance, increases in unemployment benefits and substantial revisions in the state parole system. The State Assembly in the meantime is in indefinite recess. It adjourned Saturday night and Speaker Stanley Steingut said that its members would not come back until the Senate "gets its act together and decides to act responsibly." [1:4-5.]

The operators of the Crossroads pornographic bookstore and peep show—

whose forced removal last spring from a conspicuous site at Broadway and 42d Street was regarded by city officials as a coup in their anti-pornographic efforts—are reported to plan to reopen less than a block from their former place of business. The city says it is powerless to stop the reopening because the bookstore's owners are not violating any laws. [1:1-2.]

Atlantic City real estate people say that unrealistically high asking prices for property may be holding back the boom that has been expected to follow official approval of gambling casinos in the resort. Since last November, when the casino referendum was held, the value of Atlantic City's real estate has increased by \$100 million or more, local brokers say. [29:1-2.]

Business/Finance

Corporate dividends are being declared, resumed and increased at a record rate as companies seek to draw investors away from the bond market and into new equity issues after years of a virtually unremitting bear market. The companies are in a position to offer more now that profits are up after the long and deep recession. [35:6.]

Taiwan has moved closer to its old friend Saudi Arabia, while the Carter Administration is preparing to switch its diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Peking. Taiwan and Saudi Arabia are bound by a mutual strong distrust of Communists. Saudi Arabia supplies more than 40 percent of Taiwan's oil and has been a generous provider of construction loans. The ties of friendship are likely to be strengthened by President C. K. Yen's state visit to Jidda this week, his first since the Nationalist Government withdrew to Taiwan from China 28 years ago. [35:4.]

Iran is taking steps to deal with a serious power shortage before it hurts the country's development programs. Serious delays in starting operations at the Reza Shah Kabir Dam are responsible for the shortage, according to the Deputy Minister of Energy, Jahanger Mahdmeina. The Iranian press and government officials tend to put the blame for the delay on foreign contractors—Harza International of Chicago and Alstom of France. Harza has been blacklisted, and it was reported that Alstom will be, too. [35:4-6.]

Index

International

- Punk rock fad in Britain marked by violence 2
- Italian Communists see Eurocommunism causing problems in East 2
- The Portuguese seem exhausted as country drifts rightward 3
- Mennonites building farm community in Belize 3
- Arab hijackers surrender in Damascus 4
- Conservatives take an early lead in elections in Japan 7
- Eritreans welcome visiting newsman 8

Government/Politics

- Two civil suits filed against F.B.I. agents 12

General

- Moynihan charges Soviet phone surveillance is criminal 11
- Many factions of Ku Klux Klan vying for membership and publicity 14
- Prison "privileges" under investigation by state prosecutor 15
- Rare warbler is helped by project in Michigan 22
- Jewish anticrime patrol brings protest by blacks 26
- American chess waking from post-Fischer doldrums 27
- Sportsmen are asked to turn in colleagues who break laws 27
- Harassment of Hasidim in Rockland County ends 29
- New York's Armenian neighborhoods feel a surge of ethnic pride 29
- Women's conference in Albany approves a platform 31
- 83 child deaths in New York last year linked to parental abuse 31
- Alaska pipeline may resume operation this week 40
- Sterling Forest Gardens closed, but still draws visitors 42

Education/Welfare

- Kent State orders students to halt protest 14

Health/Science

- Astronomers find mass that may help bind universe 31
- Martian dust storms found surprisingly frequent 40

Religion

- Rebel Swiss Archbishop consecrates chapel in Texas 14

Amusements/Arts

- Louis Auchincloss's "The Dark Lady" is reviewed 23
- Gregory Peck gambles on giving MacArthur his due in film 32
- Royal Ballet stages an indifferent "Swan Lake" in London 32
- Two Tony winners act in legal twilight in South Africa 33
- Dan Fogelberg and Fools Gold perform soft country-rock 33
- Morgana King reigns at Trude Heller's 33
- Report on daytime television analyzes programming 43
- Emmy feud is settled; two academies set up 43

Family/Style

- More women changing career in midlife 30
- An easy way to shape paper for a ring mold 30

Obituaries

- Katherine Stinson Otero, pioneer aviator 28
- Alice Paul, a leader for women's rights 28

Business/Finance

- Concern over money supply data called overdone 35
- Commodities: Soybean futures plunge 37

Page	Page
Advertising News 38	Dividend Meetings 36
Commodities 37	Market Place 36

Quotation of the Day

"I would sleep right near the nuclear plant; there is no question about that. It is a comfortable neighbor."—James R. Schlesinger, the President's chief energy adviser, describing his feelings about the safety of nuclear power. [40:3.]

Sports

- Cosmos beaten, 1-0, by Sounders in Firmani's first game 16
- East Germany's oarsmen dominate regatta in Lucerne 16
- Orioles conquer Yankees by 6-0 as Grimsley pitches 5-hitter 17
- Zachry gains first victory as Met, defeating Expos by 2-1 17
- Tambay easily wins Can-Am race at Watkins Glen 17
- Bernard King, top pick of Nets, arrested in Knoxville 17
- Morley is the victor by 2 strokes in Quad Cities golf 17
- West and Nye win final of Anderson four-ball golf, 6 and 5 18
- Tim Gullikson captures final from Pfister on Newport grass 18
- East defeats the West all-stars, 23-18, in team tennis 18
- Pirates set back Phillies twice to complete 4-game sweep 20
- Shih Tzu best at Walkkill show at New Paltz 21

Features/Notes

- Going Out Guide 34

News Analysis

- Juan de Onis discusses Argentine inflation 35
- Leonard Silk on solving twin economic problems 35

Editorials/Comment

- Editorials and Letters 24
- William Safire on a controversial Presidential brief 25
- Christopher Pyle: What if a wiretap bill went through Parliament, 1774? 25
- Harry Eckstein on judging qualified students 25