News Summary

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International

Sudan has been told that the United States is ready to contribute to its legitimate defense needs. This follows the decision to sell military supplies to Somalia and the request to Congress to approve sales to Egypt. A State Department official said similar requests from Chad would get sympathetic consideration. The Carter Administration, an official explained, has decided to challenge Soviet inroads in a strategically important area and also to demonstrate strong support for President Anwar el-Sadat of Egypt, who along with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Fahd has repeatedly urged such involvement. [Page A1, Column 1.]

Israel's Prime Minister rejected the American contention that Israeli settlement in occupied Arab areas violated international law. Speaking in Parliament in Jerusalem, Menahem Begin also attacked America's decision to sell 41 Hercules transport planes to Egypt, contending that any supply of arms to the Arab countries was an obstacle to peace. Parliament backed him, 59 to 36 with 31 abstentions. [A3:1-2.]

Japan was assured by Defense Secretary Harold Brown, stopping off in Tokyo after his mission to Korea, that the Carter Administration intends to maintain strong military foces in Asia and play an active role in the area. Diplomatic sources said that Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda had grave doubts about the gradual pullout from Korea as potentially upsetting the military balance in northeastern Asia, where the size of the Soviet fleet is causing concern. [A7:1.]

National

Changes in the welfare revision plan to make it politically more palatable have been recommended to President Carter in his Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Joseph A. Califano Jr., even though they would exceed the present welfare cost level that the President would preserve. As clamor over welfare mounts, the Secretary is submitting revisions, including the one demanded by Mayor Beame of New York and other mayors for some fiscal relief to local government. [A1:6.]

An explosive brush fire in Santa Barbara devastated large portions of one of the nation's most scenic residential communities, destroying more than 150 expensive homes. After threatening the downtown section of the California city for several hours, the wind shifted, diverting the flames when they were less than half a mile away. [A1:2-4.]

The House voted 317-102 to eliminate from the food stamp program the requirement that recipients purchase a portion of their stamps. The Senate had already approved the change, which the Carter Administration supports. A new urban-rural coalition that earlier helped farmers win higher price supports worked smoothly to produce major revisions. [A1:4-6.]

Metropolitan

Mayor Beame rejected an application by real-estate interests to end rent control on all controlled apartments in New York City that rent for \$300 a month or more. Although they number only about 15,000, removing control from them could have led to similar action on 100,000 additional apartments also renting for \$300 and up that are under the separate rent-stabilization pogrram. Mr. Beame's administration had stirred an angry outcry from tenants and their supporters among local politicians when it became known that lifting the controls was under study. [A1:3-4.]

Prince Saudi al-Faisal lost his bid to buy an 18-room cooperative apartment in a luxury building at 640 Park Avenue. The rebuff to Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister, a possible heir to the throne, was voted at a shareholders' meeting by a clear majority, one tenant reported, despite some heated arguing in his favor. The tenant said some feared the possibility of large, noisy parties and political violence if the Prince moved in. [Al:2.]

A Brooklyn grocer whose wife was shot to death by robbers Monday night was arrested on a murder charge, accused of killing one of his wife's assailants. Hector Sepulveda Sr., the grocer, was found under an assumed name in Maimonides Hospital after his son was arrested and told the police where his father was. [31:1-2.]

The arrest of 79 government employees on charges of defrauding New York City's Department of Social Services of nearly \$500,000 was announced by District Attorney Eugene Gold of Brooklyn after a computer cross-check. He used the occasion to castigate the Federal Government for refusing to give the city the Social Security numbers of welfare recipients as the simplest way to see if they have jobs. [36:1.]

Business/Finance

A record foreign trade deficit of \$2.82 billion in June, marked by soaring oil imports, again weakened the dollar and added to Wall Street gloom. Economists said it reflected strong economic activity increasing the appetite for imports, while weaker growth of America's trading partners limited export demand. The British Government ended its policy of holding the pound close to a fixed dollar exchange level and it rose nearly 1¾ cents. [A1:5.]

General Motors earnings set an all-time record for the company for any quarter of \$1.99 billion, 19.9 percent above last year's second-quarter profit. Sales were another record, \$14.8 billion, an 18.4 percent increase over the corresponding quarter. [37:1-2.]

Stock prices suffered their biggest single-day drop in more than two years, with Bethlehem Steel's surprise halving of its quarterly dividend the straw that broke the back of the market. The Dow Jones industrial average plunged in the selling wave by 19.75 points to close at 888.43. [37:6.]

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Weekend

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Quotation of the Day

"Any human being in America, irrespective of income, should be afforded the dignity of freedom of choice. If they choose to buy Twinkies or Cocacolas, so be it."—Representative Ronald V. Dellums. Democrat of California, arguing against an amendment to require food stamp recipients to buy only nutritious foods with their stamps. The amendment was defeated. [56:2.]

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CORRECTIONS

In a United Press International dispatch in The Times on July 6, John T. Connor, chairman of the Allied Chemical Corporation, was incorrectly quoted as saying that the disclosure of improper corporate payments could destroy a company's business and ruin the persons involved. In fact, Mr. Connor said that such payments could themselves be destructive and ruinous, not merely their disclosure.

In The Home Section of July 21 it was incorrectly reported that the Meredith Galleries Inc. had moved. The Meredith Galleries owners plan to relocate their gallery in October but are still operating at 210-16 East 57th Street.