

# News Summary

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#### International

An agreement is impossible on the Middle East, President Carter said, without adequate Palestinian representation at a peace conference. At his televised news conference, the President said that a Middle East peace was of "vital national interest" to the United States, but he avoided taking sides between Arabs and Israelis on such questions as who should represent the Palestinians at Geneva. He said however, that the Palestine Liberation Organization represented a "substantial part" of the three million Palestinians and again offered to meet and "work with" the P.L.O. if it accepted Security Council resolution 242, which recognized Israel's existence at a state [Page A1, Column 3.]

The hijackers of a Japanese airliner agreed to give Japan more time to free nine imprisoned radicals and fly them to Dacca, Bangladesh, where five members of a terrorist group, known as the Japanese Red Army, are holding 146 hostages aboard the plane. Japanese officials said they also needed more time to get together the \$6 million in ransom in \$100 bills the hijackers are demanding. [A3:4-6.]

## National

The Senate filibuster over natural gas pricing appeared to be ending in a compromise, but renewed parliamentary wrangling broke out. The compromise, developed by Senator Henry M. Jackson would continue regulation but raise the ceiling price of newly discovered gas to \$2.03 per thousand cubic feet from \$1.46 at present and the \$1.75 proposed by President Carter. The President, meanwhile, reiterated his opposition to deregulation. [A1:6.]

A quick tax cut may be proposed for next year under recommendations the Treasury Department has made to President Carter so that he may achieve the broad tax revisions and reductions considered vital to his 1981 goals of high employment and a balanced budget. Treasury officials and the Council of Economic Advisers believe that a rise in unemployment may come in the second half of 1978 and that Congress might have to cut withholding taxes before completing work on the tax reform program. [Al:1-2.]

Most families with incomes of more than \$100,000 a year would pay higher income taxes and almost everybody else would pay less under the tax changes the Treasury Department is urging President Carter to propose. The Treasury estimates, for example, that the "effective" tax rate on incomes between \$20,000 and \$30,000 a year would be reduced to 12.4 percent from 13.9 percent. [A1:1.]

The controversial neutron bomb was supported in an appropriations vote in the House. Voting 297 to 109, the House struck down a proposal by Representative Ted Weiss, Democrat-Liberal of Manhattan, barring funds for the production or deployment of the weapon. [A1:4-5.]

## Metropolitan

The ban on Concorde SST's flights to Kennedy International Airport was removed by a Federal Appeals Court in Manhattan, which upheld a lower court's decision. The three-judge Federal panel agreed that the 18-month ban was unreasonable and discriminatory, and therefore illegal. But it modified the ruling by making it possible for local authorities to reinstate the ban if they could devise noise standards for Kennedy that did not discriminate against the Concorde. British Airways and Air France were expected to start scheduled flights about mid-November. [A1:1-2.]

Long Island may get a 400-billion-electron-volt accelerator that, according to its proponents, would restore the United States primacy in high-energy research. House and Senate conferees

approved the accelerator's construction at the Brookhaven National Laboratory. Representative Jerome A. Ambro, a Long Island Democrat, said the project would cost \$183 million and provide 1,800 construction jobs in the area, possibly starting a year from now. [A1:4.]

Suffolk County acquired development rights to 215 acres of Long Island farmland, the first such acquisition under a program aimed at protecting open land from the developer's bulldozer. Eventually the county hopes to buy development rights to 15,000 acres under its \$55 million Farmland Preservation Program, which is designe dto compensate farmers for giving up their rights to sell out to developers. [A1:5-6.]

### Business/Finance

A sharp rise in August in the Government's leading economic indicators wiped out distress signals that were apparent in early summer. The index last month was up eight-tenths of 1 percent after a revised increase of two-tenths of 1 percent in July and declines of two-tenths of 1 percent in June and May. The most significant increase was a rise of three-tenths of 1 percent in contracts and orders for plants and new equipment, indicating that manufacturers may be stepping up production. [D1:6.]

A stock market rally followed good economic news. The principal stimulant was the report that the Government's leading economic indicators made a strong showing in August. An analyst suggested that the rally was also due to the growing conviction among investors that the Senate's revised version of the President's energy program "will permit great profits for the domestic natural gas industry." The Dow Jones industrial, which gained throughout the session, closed up 5.37 points to 840.09. [D1:2-3.]

The proposed takeover of Miles Laboratories by Bayer AG of West Germany will be investigated for possible antitrust violations by the Government, the Justice Department said. Wall Street heard that other buyers—including a major Swiss pharmaceutical company—might make a competing bid. Any new bidder would most likely be European, investment bankers said. [D1:1.]

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