

News Summary and Index

NYTimes

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1974

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The Major Events of the Day

International

Premier Golda Meir of Israel announced her resignation, bringing down her month-old coalition Government and setting the stage for new elections in the next several months. Mrs. Meir said she had found it impossible to continue because of deep divisions within her Labor party over the issue of assigning responsibility for Israel's military shortcomings at the beginning of the October war. Mrs. Meir and her Cabinet will operate on a caretaker basis until a new Government is formed in Israel. [1:8.]

Diplomats and Administration officials in Washington said they expected the United States to continue its efforts for an Israeli-Syrian disengagement agreement despite Mrs. Meir's resignation. Though warning that her resignation could cause problems, the experts expressed confidence that a caretaker government headed by Mrs. Meir would be able to negotiate an accord. [10:4.]

The second-largest French labor union has endorsed François Mitterrand, the lone candidate of the political Left in the nation's presidential campaign. The unsolicited move by the French Democratic Confederation of Labor, which has never before endorsed a leftist candidate for the presidency, is a major worry to the Gaullist-led Government coalition. Since the lively, 700,000-member union is largely Roman Catholic, the Government is afraid other traditionally centrist Catholics may be swayed by the endorsement to vote for Mr. Mitterrand. [5:3-8.]

National

Soviet trade with capitalist nations rose more than 40 per cent last year, according to figures released by Moscow, which indicated that for the first time the West accounted for more than a quarter of Soviet international trade. By the Soviet accounting, American trade more than doubled to \$1.56-billion in 1973. [1:7-8.]

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Quotation of

"This is an inevitable step for me. This is a burden I no longer want to bear. Don't ask me to change my mind, this is final."—Premier Golda Meir of Israel, announcing her resignation. [1:8.]

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CORRECTION

An article in The New York Times yesterday reported erroneously that the Getty Oil Company would raise prices, beginning today, on home heating fuel, diesel fuel, jet fuel (JP5) and certain petroleum blending agents. The price rises became effective April 4.