

News Summary and Index

NYTimes

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1974

DEC 24 1974

The Major Events of the Day

International
The foreign leaders who have met with President Ford in recent months say they have been impressed with his honesty, his personal warmth and his grasp of issues. A survey by correspondents of The New York Times in West Germany, Canada, Israel, Japan, the Soviet Union and France shows that the impression Mr. Ford left with the leaders of these countries is generally more favorable than the one reflected in the American press and publications in Europe. [Page 1, Columns 6-7.]

National

President Ford ordered William E. Colby, the director of Central Intelligence, to report "within a matter of days" on published allegations of C.I.A. spying on American citizens. Ron Nessen, the White House press secretary, said that the President had ordered Mr. Colby to submit his report through the National Security Council, headed by Secretary of State Kissinger. The chairman of three major Congressional committees announced that they would begin extensive hearings into the C.I.A. soon after Congress convenes next month. [1:8.]

President Ford signed legislation that is intended to strengthen the national antitrust laws and give the Government more authority to act against companies with inflationary policies. He also vetoed two bills that he said were in excess of his budget and thus inflationary. [1:6-7.]

The United States Steel Corporation unexpectedly announced that it was reducing by about 20 per cent price increases that it announced a week ago. The increases had been challenged by the Ford Administration. The price cut came soon after two other major steel makers raised prices on a wide variety of steel products to the levels previously announced by U.S. Steel. The partial rollback was not regarded as a great victory for the Administration because U.S. Steel has already arranged a new series of substantially higher prices on its products. [1:5.]

The Supreme Court made a ruling in favor of a Pennsylvania electric company that could have wide impact on the many people all over the country who may have their telephone, electric power and gas service cut off without warning. The Court, in a 6-to-3 decision, said that private utility companies had no constitutional obligation to give customers notice or a hearing before

cutting off service. It said the Pennsylvania company was not closely enough related to the state government to enable consumers to invoke due process guarantees that protect them against abrupt and arbitrary action by public agencies. [1:2-3.]

William G. Hundley, John N. Mitchell's chief defense lawyer, told the jury in his final argument at the Watergate cover-up trial that "everything Mr. Mitchell did in 'Watergate' he did 'because he believed in and trusted, and he was completely loyal to' former President Richard M. Nixon. He asked the jury to acquit Mr. Mitchell, and said: 'Suppose Mr. Nixon were a giant,' a President such as 'Jefferson, Lincoln, Eisenhower, as the late President Kennedy. Then would you think that what John Mitchell did to protect the President was so bad, was criminal.' [1:1.]

Metropolitan

Mayor Beame announced that Stanley M. Friedman, his legislative representative in Albany, would replace Judah Grubitz as Deputy Mayor for Intergovernmental Relations. Mr. Grubitz was recently appointed counsel to Governor-elect Hugh L. Carey. Mr. Friedman's appointment—a number of other city officials also had been considered—drew some last-minute opposition from some politicians on the ground that he was too close to Patrick J. Cunningham, the Bronx County Democratic chairman who was named Democratic state chairman. [1:4.]

Letters seeking explanations of "statistical discrepancies" and other suspicious data in the results of standardized reading tests given last spring were sent by School Chancellor Irving Anker to superintendents of the city's 32 community school districts. This coincided with the release yesterday of the annual report on the comparative reading levels of the city's 805 elementary, intermediate and junior high schools. The report, Mr. Anker said, showed "no significant change in citywide reading scores" in relation to 1973. [1:2-3.]

Trinity Church is offering for sale 10 of its 24 commercial properties in Lower Manhattan because they are losing money, a situation that reflects the decline of manufacturing in Manhattan. The total asking price of the properties to be sold is \$14,665-million. They are assessed at \$7,827-million and are for sale either individually or as a package. [1:5-7.]

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Quotation of the Day

U.S. Steel is taking this action because of its sincere desire to aid the nation in its fight against double-digit inflation."—Edgar B. Speer, chairman of the United States Steel Corporation, in announcing a rollback of about 20 per cent in price increases. [31:1]

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CORRECTION

An article in The New York Times yesterday stated incorrectly that American electric utilities had canceled or delayed construction of 27 per cent of non-nuclear plant capacity scheduled for completion in the 1974-83 period. The 27 per cent figure applies to both nuclear and non-nuclear capacity. According to a recent survey, the delayed or canceled capacity totals 132 billion watts, of which 89 billion were for nuclear and 43 billion for non-nuclear plants.