

News Summary and Index

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The Major Events of the Day

International

A bomb thrown from a passing car into Wallton's, a fashionable restaurant in London, killed at least two persons. Scotland Yard and the Home Office assume it was the work of the Irish Republican Army or a breakaway group. As in a London restaurant bombing last Wednesday, no warning was given before the blast. [Page 1, Col. 4.]

The State Department has reported to Congress that it has cited no foreign nations for gross violations of human rights because it found "no adequately objective way" of distinguishing which countries engaged in more reprehensible violations than others. The 1974 Foreign Assistance Act included a "sense of the Congress" amendment calling on the President to reduce significantly or terminate except in extraordinary circumstances American security assistance to any government that consistently engaged in gross violations. Aides said Secretary Henry A. Kissinger had decided that since almost all countries do violate human rights it served no purpose to single out American allies and friends for criticism. [1:1-2.]

Mayor Vladimir F. Promyslov of Moscow said in an interview that he was glad not to be New York's Mayor. The problems of Moscow that he described are almost the opposite of New York's—labor shortage instead of unemployment, too much industry instead of industry moving out, and too many people trying to move in instead of fleeing to the suburbs. [1:7-8.]

National

The Senate approved a \$90.7 billion defense appropriation bill after rejecting a proposed additional cut of \$564 million to bring the measure down to the level approved by the House. The Senate earlier voted 95-2 to approve the nomination of Donald H. Rumsfeld to succeed James H. Schlesinger as Secretary of Defense. [1:1.]

Price reductions for consumers under the compromise energy bill expected to reach President Ford next month are expected to amount to only about a penny a gallon instead of the 3 1/2 cents mentioned by lawmakers last week, according to Congressional and Administration aides. If it is signed into law, about which some doubt persists, its disinflationary effect would be more

profit for refiners, wholesalers and retailers, they said. [1:2-3.]

The Federal Election Commission issued a ruling that clears the way for corporations to invest millions of dollars in voluntary contributions from their stockholders and employees in the political campaigns of candidates regarded as friendly to business. It also voted, 4 to 2, that the operating expenses of political action programs could be financed from corporation treasuries. [1:2-3.]

Metropolitan

President Ford told the Republican Congressional delegation from New York that if the State Legislature acted on Governor Carey's plan he would be sympathetic toward short-term Federal assistance to New York City. Meanwhile, the House Democratic leadership postponed floor action on a bill to aid the city. Mr. Ford's support is believed essential to passage of a bill. [1:8.]

Governor Carey has agreed to expand the seven-member Emergency Financial Control Board to give a seat to the municipal unions and another to local banks, according to Felix G. Rohatyn. Mr. Rohatyn has agreed to fill a vacant seat in the nine-member Municipal Assistance Corporation, of which he is chairman, with a union person. [1:6-7.]

The New York State Public Service Commission rejected a proposal by 12 utility companies, including Consolidated Edison and the Brooklyn Union Gas Company, to place a monthly surcharge on customers' bills to finance exploration for natural gas. The P.S.C. said the utilities could take part in a joint-venture project to search for new sources in view of declining supplies but ruled that the funds must come from conventional sources. [1:5.]

A budget-cutting plan proposed yesterday by the Board of Higher Education would turn down 20,000 applicants for February admission to the City University. It would also impose four-week payless furloughs on staff and faculty. In addition, all buildings would be closed during the Christmas and spring holidays. City Hall was skeptical and the faculty vowed a court fight. [1:6-7.]

In New Haven Superior Court, Judge George A. Saden sentenced 77 high-school teachers to jail for contempt for refusing to end their strike. Twelve union leaders are already serving jail sentences. [1:2.]

The Other News

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Quotation of the Day
"Under the system that exists in your country, if I were offered such a post I would not accept it."—Vladimir F. Promyslov, Mayor of Moscow, discussing the job of Mayor of New York City. [1:7.]

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