

## The Major Events of the Day

### International

Peking published two new poems by Chairman Mao Tse-tung and an editorial defending the results of the Cultural Revolution. It was an apparent attempt by the aging Chinese leader to insure that his revolutionary policies are not overtaken by the drive for economic reform. One of the poems, composed in 1965, mocked Soviet "goulash Communism" and thus put Mr. Mao's personal stamp on continued criticism of Moscow. The editorial included a quotation from Chairman Mao that seems to criticize the emphasis on current economic policy. [Page 1, Columns 1-2.]

One of Spain's most militant Roman Catholic priests led a parade of 500 people around Barcelona's main prison to demand amnesty, with the highly unusual help of the police. What would probably have been a scene of violence and repression a few months ago began and ended in harmony with the demonstrators applauding the police. It was the latest illustration of the change in Spain since the death of Franco, although none of the laws and institution he devised have been modified. [1:3.]

A Lebanese jetliner flying from Beirut to Dubai and Oman crashed in the Saudi Arabian desert, killing all 82 persons aboard, according to Middle East Airlines. Sources in the Beirut airport control tower believed that bad weather had contributed to the crash of the Boeing 707. The airline said that most passengers were Lebanese or Egyptians, with six Greeks, four Britons, two French nationals, a Norwegian and a Cypriot. [1:1-2.]

### National

Construction of new apartment units plummeted in 1975 to the lowest level since 1959, and Federal housing specialists as well as builders expect only a modest upturn in 1976. They say higher costs for land, construction, financing and operating have priced many low- and middle-income Americans out of single-home ownership and confront them with having to pay larger portions of their income for rental housing. Many builders say no resurgence in apartment construction is likely without rent increases of 10 to 25 percent. [1:4.]

An investigation by New York Times reporters of theories of conspiracy in the 1968 assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther

## The Other News

King Jr., the civil rights leader, has found puzzling gaps and inconsistencies in the evidence thus far made public by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Justice and other agencies. Justice Department lawyers sought twice to induce the convicted killer, James Earl Ray, to tell a Federal grand jury what he knows. Mr. Ray, who has privately maintained that he had been an unwitting part of a larger plot against Dr. King's life, has refused. [1:7-8.]

A few months ago, Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama appeared headed for his strongest run yet as a Presidential candidate, aided by the new Democratic primary rules assuring his share of convention delegates, but doubts have arisen. His health is a major issue, and rivals in the early Southern primaries include the fast-rising former Gov. Jimmy Carter of Georgia, in Florida and former Gov. Terry Sanford of North Carolina in that state, where Mr. Carter is also in the running. [1:1-3.]

### Metropolitan

Deputy Chief Edwin T. Dreher was placed in charge of the police arson explosion squad, concentrating on the La Guardia Airport bombing as top police priority for the city administration. Chief Dreher, with a successful record as Queens chief of detectives, said telephone calls with a promise of confidentiality were being received at a special number, a few of which looked promising. He will also head the investigation of Puerto Rican nationalist bombings. [1:8.]

City and state officials will go to Washington next Monday to try to retrieve \$11 million in unused Federal funds, making possible the reopening of the Manhattan Men's House of Detention and the establishment of nine new State Supreme Court parts to ease prison overcrowding. They said that if they succeeded they could rehire up to 221 dismissed correction officers and an undetermined number of laid-off court employees for at least 12 months. [1:5.]

Governor Carey says he strongly doubted Maurice H. Nadjar's "credibility" as long ago as last spring, but did not seek to dismiss the special prosecutor until he found a replacement. This disclosure came in a series of interviews aimed at retracing Mr. Carey's attempt to dismiss Mr. Nadjar 10 days ago and replace him with the Manhattan District Attorney, Robert M. Morgenthau, holding both posts. [1:6-7.]

## The Other News

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## Quotation of the Day

"The only thing wrong with being born on New Year's Day is that you don't feel too good on the morning of your birthday."—Jimmy Cruise Jr., harness driver, at Roosevelt Raceway, celebrating his birthday. [33:1.]

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