News Summary

NYTimes

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International

Political unrest in Paoting, about 100 miles south of Peking, is reported to have erupted into conflict requiring intervention from the Chinese capital to quell it. The reports from reliable sources in Peking said that raiding of arsenals, blowing up of factories, looting, murder and rape in Paoting were linked with supporters of the discredited Chiang Ching, widow of Mao Tse-tung, and other radicals accused of plotting to seize power. [Page 1, Columns. 4-5.]

The discovery in Northern Syria of the ancient civilization of Ebla, which flourished 4,400 years ago, was acclaimed at the Archeological Institute of America as one of the most significant archeological advances of the century. Palace archives of cuneiform writing on clay tablets, only partly deciphered, attest to a vast commercial and cultural empire that flourished for at least 800 years. [1:1-3.]

The name of Pablo Casals, on the 100th anniversary of the birth of the musician, was restored to the avenue in Barcelona that bore it until Franco's victory in 1939. Casals, a conscientious resister of dictatorship, had remained in self-imposed exile from Spain and his native Catalonia until his death three years ago. At a public ceremony the city's mayor joined in singing a Catalan folk song made famous by Casals and banned under Franco. [1:2-3.]

American Jews are divided over whether they should have any contact with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization, given that the Government of Israel refuses to deal with it. The Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organization vigorously opposes any meetings, but Breira, a small organization that has become something of a thorn in the side of most other Jewish groups, defends contacts as long as they are not on the order of negotiations. [1:2-3.]

National

The Carter camp in Washington found itself in a minor flap over what its various spokesmen sought to treat as a premature and possibily inaccurate disclosure of several major White House staff appointments by a senior transition aide. It was not clear whether the President-elect had merely been embarrassed or whether he was experiencing some new difficulties or second thoughts about his prsonal staff. [1:6.]

The President-elect, winding up his meetings with his future Cabinet and other major advisers, in effect confirmed that it was uncertain that his administration would seek a cut in defense spending. Returning from St. Simons Island off the Georgia coast to his home in Plains, he said that his chief economic advisrs and Vice President-elect Mondale would join him there next Thursday. [9:1.]

Solar heating can compete with electric heating in newly built, well-insulated, one-family houses in at least 13 cities, according to a study by Federal energy researchers. They said it cannot yet compete with oil and natural gas but would be able to do so if the cost of installation could be halved. [1:2-3.]

The wrong helicopters are being bought by the Army if it should have to fight a short and intense war in Europe, according to a paper on the defense budget prepared by the Budget Office of Congress. The study represents a new interest of Congressional committees in examining the links between strategic plans and weapons procurement programs. [2:4-6.]

Metropolitan

Labor leaders and bankers in New York City welcomed President-elect Carter's new assurances, but said they needed many more answers before they could agree to a plan to redeem nearly \$1 billion in the city's short-term notes. Jack Bigel, a consultant to the municipal unions, said "we are cautiously optimistic" of an eventual settlement. [1:4-5.]

Nicholas Scoppetta, New York City's new deputy mayor for criminal justice, proposed a system of evaluating individual police officers that would include such information as how many of their arrests had led to convictions. He said he would try to eliminate questionable arrests reportedly made to get overtime pay. [1:1.]

Business/Finance

Signs of economic expansion after a "pause" in summer and early fall continued when the November index of leading indicators rose for the second straight month. The Department of Commerce reported a healthy 1 percent November increase and a revised increase of six-tenths of 1 percent for the month of October. [1:6.]

A charge of questionable fees for contracts to equip King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Riyadh was made by the Securities and Exchange Commission against the American Hospital Supply Corporation. The complaint filed in Federal court in Washington said it submitted to Saudi Arabian demands to pay some \$4.6 million, mostly in consultant fees to a dummy company. [29:5.]

Flying Tiger Line illegally listed as operating expenses its gifts and free services to American politicians and foreign dignitaries, according to a complaint against the air cargo carrier prepared by a lawyer for the Civil Aeronautics Board. The C.A.B.'s Bureau of Enforcement asked for a formal hearing on the allegations said to have occurred between May 1969 and March 1975. [29:5.]

Stock prices weakened, with the Dow Jones industrial average re-crossing the 1,000 level to close at 994.93, down 5.15 points. [29:3.] Credit markets remained firm in quiet trading, with Covernment securities buoyed by the Federal Reserve's purchase of Treasury coupons. [30:6.] Cocoa futures rose, with March delivery closing at \$1.39 65/100. [37:1-2.]

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Quotation of the Day

"We share what Pau Casals felt for Catalonia—the feeling of love and liberty."—Mayor José Maria Sosias Humbert of Barcelona, on the 100th anniversary of the birth of Pablo Casals (Pau in Catalan). [3:3.]

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