News Summary

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International

Talks in Moscow broke down on a treaty to limit offensive missiles and bombers carrying nuclear warheads. Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, rejected as inequitable both the Carter Administration proposals for breaking the two-year impasse that had been presented by Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance. Mr. Vance expressed disappointment, but insisted that overall Soviet-American relations had not been impaired. [Page 1, Columns 4-6.]

President Carter said he was undismayed by the setback to the treaty hopes. He added at a Washington news conference that if the Soviet Union failed to negotiate in good faith at a May round of discussions in Geneva he would be forced to consider speeding weapons developments. [A1:4-5.]

Mike Mansfield, the former Senate Majority Leader, who has often been mentioned as a possible United States representative in Peking, has been selected as Ambassador to Japan, according to Administration officials. Prof. Robert R. Bowie of Harvard, a former State Department policy planning chief, has been appointed Deputy for National Intelligence of the Central Intelligence Agency. [A1:4-5.]

American analysts of the disastrous collision between KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and Pan American Airways jetliners believe the tragedy might have been averted if the Dutch plane's radioed message saying it was taking off had been clearer. [A1:2.]

National

The Select Committee on Assassinations will continue through the end of 1978, the House of Representatives decided in a 230-to-181 vote that followed the resignation of its controversial chief counsel, Richard A. Sprague. The committee had been scheduled to expire today. [A1:1.] In 15 of 16 American cities—Los Angeles being the exception—money shortages have brought a decline in urban services and the quality of life similar to New York's much publicized cutbacks. A check has found reduced municipal services in cities from Seattle to Atlanta. [A1:1-3.]

Uranus has at least five rings like those around the planet Saturn, according to Cornell University scientists observing from a National Aeronautics and Space Administration plane with a 36-inch telescope. NASA said these were the first major solar system structures found since the planet Pluto in 1930. [A1:1-3.]

President Carter was rebuffed on his budget proposals when the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives rejected a cutback on water projects and insisted on a \$2.3 billion defense budget cut. While calling for spending generally below levels urged by the Appropriations Committee and various authorizing committees, it asked substantially more than Mr. Carter did for education, welfare, community development, agriculture and interest on the national debt. [A22:3-4.]

The Carter White House staff is now larger than President Ford's, Mr. Carter's aide for budget and organization acknowledged, while saying this was just temporary. Richard M. Harden told reporters that cuts were coming but would fall considerably short of Mr. Carter's original goal of a 30 percent reduction. [A20:3-4.]

Metropolitan

Albany legislators agreed on a final compromise between the Republicancontrolled Senate and the Democraticcontrolled Assembly to clear the path for passage of the New York State budget today. Two major elements in agreeing on the welfare budget were a formula for rent allowances to welfare recipients and a requirements that em-

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ployable home relief and welfare recipients perform public service jobs three days a week in return. [A1:3.]

A proposal that the Governor of New York, rather than the State Legislature as at present, should appoint the State Board of Regents will be part of the final report of Governor Carey's commission on post-secondary education. It will also recommend that seven of the 15-member board be designated "Higher Education Regents" to develop expertise and authority it now finds lacking in this area. [24:4-6.]

The affirmative-action requirement of New York City for construction contractors on municipal projects to hire workers from minority groups was ruled invalid in State Supreme Court. Justice Abraham J. Gellinoff said the new regulation displaced the "standard of individual merit" which is a requirement by law.

Business/Finance

The economic index pointed up in February, the Commerce Department said, with its barometer of leading indicators rising four-tenths of 1 percent after dropping 1.2 percent in January. The department's economist who manages the compilation said this was additional confirmation that the weather accounted for the drop and that the renewed upward trend meant better business ahead. [51:6.]

Stocks declined sharply, with Dow Jones industrials dropping 10.80 points to close at 921.21, their poorest reading since Jan. 13, 1976. The drop of 83 points so far this year continued to puzzle most investors and Wall Street analysts and seemed related to fears of an upsurge in inflation and uncertainty over Carter Administration policies in areas such as energy. [51:4-5.]

Westinghouse Electric settled out of court for cash, equipment and services with a value up to \$11.5 million the claims of three Pennsylvania utilities for failing to deliver 646,000 pounds of uranium for their operations. The significance lay as a possible pattern for settlement of a much larger case against Westinghouse involving 24 other power companies. [51:2.]

Index

International	8. 8.1 ×
Reporter's notebook: Aftermath of	
the Canaries air disaster	A2
Thailand rounds up rightists after	
unsuccessful coup	A3
Service for crash victims held in	
Canary Islands	A3
U.S. reports "substantial progress"	
in fishing talks with Cuba	A4
Mobutu's long rule in Zaire is	
	40
threatened	A6
World News Briefs	A7
India says foreign policy will not	
shift	A8
Evidence of key meeting in Peking	.~
seen	.A9
Giscard announces new coalition	1
cabinet	A9
the standard	21
Government/Politics	
Adams cancels plan for new St.	a., 1,
Louis airport	A19
New York State budget raises aid	1110
to school districts	24
to sendor districts	42
General	
Suicide is termed one time opera-	
tive for C.I.A.	A14
Around the Nation	A18
Violent crime down, thefts up in	- · · ·
'76 F.B.L. reports	A18
Stadium in Hawaii is losing money	
Series calls Arizona city crime	
· "outpost"	A21
Investigator indicted in youth's	
death	25
Edgar Smith badly beaten in hold-	20
ing cell	25
Metropolitan Briefs	35
Judge Weinstein urges open-court	50
policies	35
Portorea	00

Industry/Labor

Court order halts Conrail strike A19

Health/Science

Senate panel adopts easier clean air amendment A17 Amphetamine used with morphine is termed pain-killer A18

	The Home Section	
	Doing away with decorating rules	39
•	Congressional wife: A life in limbo	39
	Some not-so-conimon beauty secrets	39
	Notes on People	40
	Hers: Hair and heroines	40
	Fashion: a Chanel unveiling in	
	Paris	40
	A touch of Georgia in Brooklyn	42
	Stage: Definitive "Godot"	43
	How "Monsters" makes blood	43
	Hi-Fi: New disks	43
	Dance: Bejart's "Faust"	47
	Simon Kudrov, mime	47
	Books: "Total Poker"	47
	Sarah Kernochan's "Dry Hustle" Broadcasting: A TV sex comedy	47
	by innuendo	49
	Obituaries	
	Eric Shipton, explorer and moun-	
	tain-climber	34
3		34
	Dr. Frederick S. Craig, orthopedist	04

Business/Finance U.S. begins antitrust investigation of Kodak film business

of Kodak film business	51
Senators hear nominee for F.T.C.	
chairmanship	51
Washington & Business: The cham-	
ber's public interest law firm	51
Study cites "overcharges" at gro-	
cery chains	51

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Quotation of the Day

"Needless to say I am disappointed that we have failed to make progress." --Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance, on the collapse of strategic arms talks in Moscow. [A1:6.]

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Page Page Advt News 60 Exchange Ra Amer. Stocks .58 Bond Sales 56 Busn. Records .60 Money Commodities Corp. Affairs Counter List Dividends	le52 le51 50 s62 54
Sports	
Pelé, with English improved, join Cosmos' workout	ns 26
Indians put Boog Powell of waivers	on 26
Tigers' Fidrych out for 2 month with torn cartilage in left knee	hs 27
N.F.L.'s 16-game plan viewed a drastic but better	
No cut in racing season sought	1000
Features/Notes	
Going Out Guide	46
About New York	63
News Analysis	
Charles Kaiser on dispute over New York pornography curb	
Editorials/Comment	
Editorials and Letters	30
Anthony Lewis holds high cour mistreats a civil rights act	rt 31
William Safire on outlook for som	
Chinese foreign policies	31
Roger Rosenblatt: Why the Mo hammad movie should be show	7- 7n 31
Herbert London: the nest egg that	at

Herbert London: the nest egg that turned into note paper 31

CORRECTION

An obituary of Wilbur S. Forrest, a retired newspaper executive, that appeared in The Times last Saturday contained several errors on his survivors. Yvonne Hagen is his daughter. Benjamin Forrest is his son. He left eight great-grandchildren.

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