

News Summary

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International

Eritrea's 16-year-old fight for independence from Ethiopia has reached a decisive stage, with rebel forces braced to meet a major Ethiopian offensive. The rebels have grown far beyond the roving bands of guerrilla fighters who harassed Ethiopian soldiers a decade ago. They have formed a full-fledged, highly trained army of 700 strong, battalions, according to the first of three articles. [Page 1, Columns 1-3.]

Washington is pursuing an "old, bankrupt policy of imperialism," the Soviet press charged, with a warning that every new American arms development would be matched in kind, Pravda, the Communist Party newspaper, and Tass, the official press agency, condemned American weapons development in especially strong terms and both said that President Carter's decision to produce the cruise missile was a major blow to détente. [6:1-4.]

The kidnapping and ritual murder in Cairo of a Moslem dignitary who was a former Cabinet member, followed by explosions in public places, has jolted Egyptians who believed that Western societies had a monopoly on urban terrorism. The murder is believed by some to be a challenge to the authority of President Anwar el-Sadat's Government. [1:3.]

National

South Korean favors to senior House members were more numerous than had been reported, Congressional sources say. A preliminary reading of answers to a questionnaire sent to 700 members of the House by the House ethics committee has disclosed more details about the favors received, including cases of what committee sources said were confessions of criminal misconduct. [1:6.]

Hijackers took over a Soviet plane carrying 72 people on a domestic flight and forced the pilot to fly to Helsinki, the Finnish police reported. In Swe-

den, police officials said that the hijackers had requested permission to fly on to Stockholm. The hijackers' nationality was not known, but they spoke Russian. [5:1-2.]

President Carter has decided not to offer to sell some of the new Alaska pipeline oil to Japan in exchange for oil more readily available to the East Coast and the Middle West. James R. Schlesinger said in a television interview that the proposed exchange of oil with the Japanese to save transportation costs had been rejected, "partly for political grounds, partly for other technical reasons." The rejection, he said, "will have the advantage of increasing pressure" on oil companies to build in the interior part of the country. [1:4-5.]

Bodies of young men have been discovered almost daily in the Los Angeles area since David D. Hill and Patrick W. Kearney, who are suspected of murder, began cooperating with the authorities early this month. Both men have acknowledged a homosexual relationship and some of their alleged victims were believed to be homosexual. At least 12 bodies have been recovered and investigators say that the two men may be linked to as many as 40 murders. [1:1-2.]

Metropolitan

The New York State Senate will resume its session today, facing unfinished business that includes such major issues as no-fault insurance, increases in unemployment benefits and substantial revisions in the state parole system. The State Assembly in the meantime is in indefinite recess. It adjourned Saturday night and Speaker Stanley Steingut said that its members would not come back until the Senate "gets its act together and decides to act responsibly." [1:4-5.]

The operators of the Crossroads pornographic bookstore and peep show—

whose forced removal last spring from a conspicuous site at Broadway and 42d Street was regarded by city officials as a coup in their anti-pornographic efforts—are reported to plan to reopen less than a block from their former place of business. The city says it is powerless to stop the reopening because the bookstore's owners are not violating any laws. [1:1-2.]

Atlantic City real estate people say that unrealistically high asking prices for property may be holding back the boom that has been expected to follow official approval of gambling casinos in the resort. Since last November, when the casino referendum was held, the value of Atlantic City's real estate has increased by \$100 million or more, local brokers say. [29:1-2.]

Business/Finance

Corporate dividends are being declared, resumed and increased at a record rate as companies seek to draw investors away from the bond market and into new equity issues after years of a virtually unremitting bear market. The companies are in a position to offer more now that profits are up after the long and deep recession. [35:6.]

Taiwan has moved closer to its old friend Saudi Arabia, while the Carter Administration is preparing to switch its diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Peking. Taiwan and Saudi Arabia are bound by a mutual strong distrust of Communists. Saudi Arabia supplies more than 40 percent of Taiwan's oil and has been a generous provider of construction loans. The ties of friendship are likely to be strengthened by President C. K. Yen's state visit to Jidda this week, his first since the Nationalist Government withdrew to Taiwan from China 28 years ago. [35:4.]

Iran is taking steps to deal with a serious power shortage before it hurts the country's development programs. Serious delays in starting operations at the Reza Shah Kabir Dam are responsible for the shortage, according to the Deputy Minister of Energy, Jahanger Mahdmeina. The Iranian press and government officials tend to put the blame for the delay on foreign contractors—Harza International of Chicago and Alstom of France. Harza has been blacklisted, and it was reported that Alstom will be, too. [35:4-6.]

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Quotation of the Day

"I would sleep right near the nuclear plant; there is no question about that. It is a comfortable neighbor."—James R. Schlesinger, the President's chief energy adviser, describing his feelings about the safety of nuclear power. [40:3.]

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