

News Summary

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International

At a Kremlin dinner in honor of the visiting President Tito of Yugoslavia, Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, indicated that he welcomed President Carter's latest efforts to mend troubled Soviet-American relations. He pledged that the Soviet Union would respond to any practical measures to resolve the current differences. [Page A1, Column 6.]

Severe strain in relations between Italy and West Germany occurred following the escape from a military hospital in Rome of Herbert Kappler, a former SS lieutenant colonel serving a life sentence for the reprisal killing of 335 Italian hostages near Rome in 1944. A West German official said that no request for extradition would be considered since the constitution bars handing over a citizen to a foreign country. Chancellor Helmut Schmidt postponed a meeting scheduled for Friday in Verona with Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti at the latter's request to avoid demonstrations that might jeopardize the two countries' amity. [A1:5.]

Former President Ford gave full backing to the Panama Canal agreement after a briefing by high Carter Administration emissaries in Vail, Colo. He called it an important step forward and asked for prompt Senate approval. [A1:3.]

President Carter's representatives in South America are seeking to promote respect for human rights by working through the existing military regimes not against them. Terence A. Todman, the visiting Assistant Secretary of State, has been stressing the recent "improvements" in observation of human rights and saying Mr. Carter's concern for rights is not aimed at any particular government. [A7:1.]

National

A campaign against abortion began with a speech by Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin, president of the National Conference

of Catholic Bishops, to a Knights of Columbus gathering in Indianapolis. He outlined strategies for restricting abortions, passing a constitutional amendment against them and alleviating social problems that lead women to them. He linked the abortion theme to President Carter's stress on human rights. [A1:4.]

Internal Revenue Service special agents are investigating whether the Atlanta regional administrator for the Comptroller of the Currency accepted a free airplane ride from the Georgia bank in which Bert Lance holds some 200 shares, according to Administration sources. The administrator was the official who ended an agreement between the Comptroller and the Calhoun First National Bank in 1976 that could have embarrassed Mr. Lance at Senate hearings on his nomination as Director of the Office of Management and Budget. [A13:1.]

"Unethical, unfair and illegal" was how the chairman of the First National Bank in Calhoun, Ga., once headed by Bert Lance, described the conduct of the Comptroller of the Currency in his investigation of Mr. Lance's finances and the affairs of the bank. He said the discussion of the affairs of the bank and its customers was "the only law that has been violated here." [A14:1.]

Creatures like shrimps have been recovered alive from ocean depths as great as 18,700 feet. Scientists from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography using a newly designed high-pressure trap took the amphipod crustaceans from the floor of the Pacific 400 miles north of Hawaii. It opens the way for systematic laboratory studies of life processes on the deep-sea floor. [A17:1-4.]

Metropolitan

A bill to stiffen penalties for crimes against the elderly or disabled was vetoed by Governor Carey, who asserted that its provisions were inconsistent with New York's criminal laws and would not be

effective in achieving its stated goals. He questioned the wisdom and usefulness of creating separate categories of crime based on one characteristic. [A1:6.]

A New Jersey statute requiring public school pupils at least to stand at attention during the pledge of allegiance to the flag was overturned as unconstitutional in Federal Court in Newark. Judge R. Curtis Meanor ruled that it illegally compelled "symbolic speech," violating the students' rights of freedom of expression and speech. [A1:3-4.]

The Dennis Hotel on Atlantic City's Boardwalk is being purchased for \$4 million by Bally Manufacturing Corporation, the world's largest manufacturer of slot machines, according to a well-informed source. The company already controls the adjoining Marlborough-Blenheim Hotel site and plans to erect a luxury casino-hotel complex. [33:1-3.]

Business/Finance

Banking officials of the enforcement staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission are trying to salvage a report on New York City's financial crisis by the S.E.C.'s New York staff that is considered inadequate, according to Government sources in Washington. It was said to be poorly investigated and badly written. The highly unusual action follows speculation that the report could have an impact on the city's mayoral primary next month. [A1:1-2.]

Housing starts rose suddenly in July, the Commerce Department said, raising hopes for a better year than economists had expected. An 8 percent increase brought the seasonally adjusted annual rate to 2,064,000, well above the 1.7 million houses predicted last winter. Housing construction was particularly strong in the West, increasing from 476,000 starts in June to 540,000 in July. It had been declining in the west, especially in California. [D1:6.]

Stock prices plunged, with weakness in the glamour sector that rallied on Monday helping to unsettle the rest. The Dow Jones industrial average sank 4.85 points to close at 869.28, its lowest since the opening session of 1976. Railroad and airline issues also declined, and the transportation average declined to its lowest since last November. [D1:1.]

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Quotation of the Day

"We are all familiar with the latest statements by President Carter. He speaks in particular about the desirability of developing Soviet-United States relations in the interests of strengthening universal peace. Compared with the previous moves by the United States Administration, these statements sound positive."—Leonid I. Brezhnev, he Soviet leader. [A1:6.]

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CORRECTION

An article in The Times on Monday incorrectly reported the number of deaths in Los Angeles this year resulting from "police-involved" shootings. The police department said the correct number was 26.

ABOUT REAL ESTATE
 keeps you up on a changing city.
 Wednesday and Friday in
The New York Times