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FORD ASKS \$972-MILLION IN AID FOR SAIGON AND RIGHT TO USE TROOPS FOR EVACUATION; FEARS IT IS 'TOO LATE' TO HELP CAMBODIA

SENATE APPROVES CEILING ON PRICES FOR DOMESTIC OIL

Measure Is Opposed by Ford as Congress Acts to Set National Energy Policy

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

WASHINGTON, April 10—The Senate passed today, by a vote of 60 to 25, legislation that would place a price ceiling on all oil produced in the United States.

The measure is sharply opposed by President Ford, who wants to remove price controls on oil, believing that consumption will decrease as the price rises.

It was the first formal action in what is expected to be a year-long effort by the Democratic-controlled Congress to develop a national energy policy.

The legislation would permit the President to take a broad range of actions to conserve energy, but an order installing gasoline rationing, would be subject to disapproval by either house of Congress.

House Bill Planned

A companion bill is being prepared by the House Commerce Committee. In addition, the House Ways and Means Committee is drafting legislation that would sharply increase the Federal tax on gasoline and impose other selected taxes in an effort to reduce energy consumption.

Since 1973, the price of domestic oil has been based on a two-tiered system.

The price of "old" oil—generally, oil produced from any property up to the level produced from that property in 1972—has been set at \$5.25 a barrel.

The price of "new" oil—produced from new wells or from old wells in excess of the 1972 level—is not controlled now and has risen to more than \$12 a barrel.

The bill passed today would give Congress the chance to disapprove any Presidential action raising the price ceiling on oil.

The price of new oil would be rolled back to the prevailing price of last Jan. 31, which was \$11.25 a barrel.

If the price-rollback were to be enacted, according to Congressional experts, the price of gasoline could be expected to drop by about a penny a gallon.

About one-third of the oil

Walker Evans Dies

Walker Evans, the photographer noted for his bleak portraits of American life, died yesterday. He was 71 years old. Page 40.

Computerized Chrysler Engine Planned to Save Fuel in '76 Car

By RICHARD WITKIN

DETROIT, April 10 — The Chrysler Corporation has ordered into production for 1976 cars a radically modified computerized engine that does away with the catalytic converter and improves fuel consumption, company officials said today.

The so-called "lean burn" engine will be installed in at least 200,000 standard-size Chryslers, Dodges and Plymouths to be marketed in late fall. The innovation will not increase the price of the cars, and eventually, when production gets into full swing, it is expected to bring price savings, the company officials said.

GOULD: The Fabulous Resplendent Gold from the U.S.S.R.; April 10, Metropolitan Museum of Art.—ADVT.

Port Authority Increases Tolls at Crossings by 50%

By EDWARD C. BURKS

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey yesterday raised basic automobile toll rates to \$1.50 from \$1 a round trip at the George Washington Bridge, Lincoln and Holland Tunnels and three other bridges, effective May 5.

At the same time, however, the agency announced, a new rate of 50 cents a round trip for motorists who form car pools consisting of three persons or more in one automobile. Reduced-rate ticket books for car pools will be put on sale.

The 50 per cent increase in basic rates is the first in the history of the toll crossings between New Jersey and New York and also applies to trucks.

The three other crossings affected are the Bayonne and Goethals Bridges and the Outerbridge Crossing, all between New Jersey and Staten Island.

More than 158 million vehicles used the six crossings last year, including 138 million automobiles. Nearly half of the business was at the George Washington Bridge, where 75.8 million vehicles were counted.

Existing reduced-rate ticket books will be phased out. They will be honored until their expiration dates, but no new ones will be issued. The new car-pool books will contain 60 tickets valid for six months and will cost \$30.

Dr. William J. Ronan, the Port Authority chairman, described the toll increases as evidence of the agency's commitment to several major mass-transit improvements in the area. The added tolls are expected to bring in \$39-million in addition to the \$80-million now being collected.

Buses will not be assessed additional tolls. The existing round-trip rate of \$1.80 will not be changed.

As the 12 Commissioners from the two states voted to ratify the new toll schedules yesterday afternoon, Dr. Ronan explained that the schedules would automatically be subject to review by the United States Department of Transportation.

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Ex-Attica Prosecutor Says Evidence Was Denied Him

By M. A. FARBER

Malcolm H. Bell, the former Attica prosecutor who has charged his superior with covering up possible crimes by law enforcement officers, told Governor Carey in his confidential report that he had been blocked from obtaining audiotapes and pictures of the assault on the prison in 1971.

This was one of a number of major items in the 160-page report that came to light for the first time yesterday as the controversy over Mr. Bell's charge continued to develop.

The Governor's counsel met for an hour yesterday with Charles D. Breitler, the state's chief judge, to discuss whether any action was warranted by the state's judiciary to resolve the allegation of a cover-up.

A spokesman for Mr. Carey said it would be "inappropriate" to disclose the conversation between Judge Breitler and Judah Gribetz, the Governor's counsel.

Mr. Carey rescheduled to Monday a meeting on the charge of a cover-up with Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz. The session, according to the Gov-

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REACTION IS COOL

But Many in Congress Support Request for Humanitarian Aid

By RICHARD L. MADDEN

WASHINGTON, April 10 — Leading members of Congress reacted quickly and overwhelmingly negatively tonight to President Ford's request for \$722-million in additional military aid to South Vietnam.

But there appeared to be support in Congress for the President's request for \$250-million for economic and humanitarian aid for South Vietnam as well as for authority for the use of United States military forces for the limited purpose of insuring the possible evacuation of American citizen from Vietnam.

A Few Walk Out

Senators and Representatives sat silently as the President solemnly described the situation in South Vietnam and Cambodia and requested additional aid. The first time he mentioned the \$722-million military-aid figure, a hiss was heard from the Democratic side. A few Democrats walked out of the chamber as Mr. Ford continued his speech.

"I can't conceive of this Congress voting \$722-million in military aid for South Vietnam," said Representative Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. of Massachusetts, the House Democratic majority leader.

"There would have to be a complete turnaround in the opinion of the American public, as I read it talking with members when they came back from the Easter recess, to support such aid," he said. He added, however, that there was "no question" that there was a moral obligation to make sure American citizens got out of Vietnam safely.

Jackson Is Opposed

"It's dead," said Senator Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of Washington, of the requested military aid. Mr. Jackson, who is a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination, added: "I oppose it. I don't know of any on the Democratic side who will support it."

Senator John J. McClellan, Democrat of Arkansas and chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, which would have to approve the mili-

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President Ford addressing Congress last night. At rear is Vice President Rockefeller.

EARLY VOTE URGED

A Big Sum Said to Be Needed to Rescue Up to 200,000

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN

WASHINGTON, April 10—President Ford appealed to Congress tonight to approve nearly a billion dollars in military and humanitarian aid for Saigon to give South Vietnam a chance to "save itself" as a country and make possible a large-scale evacuation of Americans and South Vietnamese "should the worst come to pass."

In a nationally televised address to a joint session, Mr.

Transcript of Ford's speech is printed on Page 10.

Ford painted a gloomy picture of the situation in South Vietnam.

Faced with various options, Mr. Ford said, he decided to ask for \$722-million in military aid—more than twice the \$300-million sought earlier—and \$250-million in economic and humanitarian aid for Saigon.

Purpose of Aid Stated

Mr. Ford stressed that this large request, which he asked to be acted on by April 19—a week from Saturday—was meant not only to keep Saigon from a military collapse, but to buy time for allowing the United States to try to arrange a political solution between Hanoi and Saigon.

This would also allow the orderly withdrawal, if necessary, of 6,000 Americans and of tens of thousands of Vietnamese, or a total estimated by some as high as 200,000.

The President also asked Congress for clear authority to use troops for the possible evacuation, and officials disclosed that the American embassy in Saigon, which had been resisting evacuation, had been ordered to begin a reduction of the number of United States government employees still in the city. [Details on Page 11.]

On Verge of Collapse

As to Cambodia, Mr. Ford seemed to acknowledge that Phnom Penh was on the verge of collapse. Without even repeating his old aid proposal for \$222-million, he asserted, that aid for the Cambodians may be "too late."

This point was underscored tonight when an Administration official said the fate of Phnom Penh would probably be decided in the next few days.

Late in the speech, the President made an impassioned plea to Congress not to allow its investigations of the intelligence community to destroy national security or harm the effectiveness of the Central Intelligence Agency. [Page 11.]

He confirmed that he planned

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Life With Vietcong—A Portrait by Refugees

By FOX BUTTERFIELD

SAIGON, South Vietnam, April 10—Refugees who fled from areas of South Vietnam lost by the Saigon Government in the last month report that the Communists have moved quickly to round up all ranking South Vietnamese Army and Government officers. But the refugees add that they know of only a few executions of Government officials.

According to the refugees, the Communists often appeared surprised by the speed of the local governmental collapse and, in many cases, were not prepared to assume the tasks of local administration fully.

But the Communists, usually led by small numbers of teen-aged North Vietnamese soldiers, have generally succeeded in restoring order, getting water and electricity running again and taking a census. In addition, the refugees say, students in occupied areas have been ordered to go back to school, take political indoctrination courses and report to the Vietcong authorities on family

members or neighbors who worked for the local Saigon Government structure.

This picture of life in the two-thirds of South Vietnam that has been yielded to the Communists since March 8 was pieced together from accounts of refugees who fled from such cities as Hue and Quang Ngai in the north, Tuy Hoa and Nha Trang on the central coast and Ban Me Thuot and Pleiku in the Central Highlands.

In almost every case, the refugees related, local people long associated with the Vietcong have been appointed to new jobs in Communist civil administrations, but the troops in charge are North Vietnamese. The refugees' accounts also suggested that the Communists were able to set up new governments most quickly where they had long had strong local sympathy and organized guerrilla movements.

For example, a functioning Provisional Revolutionary Government spokesman said that South Vietnamese fighter-bombers struck enemy positions in the Xuan Loc area and that there was destruction or damage to 25 trucks and two tanks. The battle, now in its third day, and fighting along the road west toward Bien Hoa, are considered a critical test of how determined the South Vietnamese are to defend

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FIGHTING IS HEAVY IN SOUTH VIETNAM

Battle for Xuan Loc Is Seen as Test of Southern Will to Defend the Capital

By ANDREW H. MALCOLM

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Friday, April 11 — Communist forces, bolstered by tanks and heavy artillery, maintained their pressure on Saigon today with more heavy fighting in and around Xuan Loc, a key provincial city 38 miles northeast of here. Control of the area was uncertain in a fluid battle situation.

Reports from the area said that the defenders were not abandoning territory as Saigon troops had done in the last few weeks in retreating from northern parts of the country. Airborne troops at Xuan Loc were fighting, but Communist soldiers were said to be slipping past them on both sides, chopping at their flanks and moving closer to Saigon.

Government spokesmen said that South Vietnamese fighter-bombers struck enemy positions in the Xuan Loc area and that there was destruction or damage to 25 trucks and two tanks. The battle, now in its third day, and fighting along the road west toward Bien Hoa, are considered a critical test of how determined the South Vietnamese are to defend

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Phnom Penh Defense Weakens; Rebels Within 3 Miles of Airport

By SYDNEY H. SCHANBERG

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia, April 10—The weary and thinly stretched army defending this encircled city fell back at several points today, leaving large gaps in its defense.

Government commanders were making frantic but poorly coordinated efforts to plug the holes, which put the insurgents less than three miles from the airport, Phnom Penh's last link with the outside world.

The Communist-led Cambodian insurgents have been shelling the airport daily with artillery and rockets. But now they are close enough to fire their even more accurate mortars. This morning the American airlift that keeps this Government alive was interrupted briefly by a barrage that killed and wounded several Cambodian cargo handlers.

As yet, no large concentrations of insurgent troops have poured through the defense gaps directly north of the airport, but as one pessimistic military source put it tonight, "The stage is set."

Other developments added to

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Communist troops entering Da Nang, one of the South Vietnamese coastal cities they have occupied recently

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