

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

LATE CITY EDITION

U. S. Weather Bureau Report (Page 90) forecasts: Rain followed by clearing today; cloudy tonight. Fair tomorrow. Temp. range: 66-50; yesterday: 71-52.

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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1961.

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FIVE CENTS

600 MILLION MORE PLANNED TO SPUR SPACE PROGRAMS

Funds Would Go to Projects for Manned Flights and Practical Utilization

KERR SEES 'GREEN LIGHT'

Rise Reflects Policy Study of Reactivated Council Headed by Johnson

By JOHN W. FINNEY
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 9—The Administration is planning a 25 per cent increase in the space budget.

While the exact amount has not been decided, Congressional sources reported that the Administration was thinking in terms of a \$600,000,000 rise in the civilian and military space budgets for the coming fiscal year, which starts July 1.

Plans to accelerate and expand the space program were stimulated by the success in sending the first United States astronaut, Comdr. Alan B. Shepard Jr., into a brief suborbital flight last week.

As Senator Robert S. Kerr, chairman of the Senate Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee, put it today:

"I think this flight has given the President and the Congress the green light to go into much higher gear on the space program."

Council Reviewed Plans

The Oklahoma Democrat, who has been informed of the proposed budgetary increases, predicted that the Administration would request a 25 per cent increase.

Plans to enlarge the space program, however, go back to the reactivation in late March of the National Aeronautics and Space Council, with Vice President Johnson as chairman. The official primarily responsible for drafting the expanded space budget is Dr. Edward C. Welsh, executive secretary of the policy-setting council.

One of the first tasks undertaken by the council and its executive secretary was to review the space program with the aim of determining where it could be accelerated and what areas offered the best hope of overcoming the Soviet Union in space accomplishments.

In the process, the council has brought about a significant

CAMPAIGN BEGUN TO DRAFT JAVITS

2 G.O.P. Groups and Liberal Urge Mayoralty Race

By LEO EGAN

The beginnings of a campaign to draft Senator Jacob K. Javits as the Republican-Liberal-Fusion candidate for Mayor were discernible yesterday.

As a first step, the Republican Committee of Ten issued a formal statement that said, "No political, personal or business considerations should be allowed to stand in the way of accepting nominations that are a call to civic duty."

Although Senator Javits was not mentioned by name, the view among Republicans and others was that the committee had him especially in mind.

A few hours later, the board of governors of the New York Young Republican Club unanimously adopted a resolution asking Senator Javits to run.

Urged to Accept

The resolution, voted at a board meeting at 106 West Fifty-sixth Street, urged the Senator to accept the Republican nomination for Mayor and promised to support him.

Another sign of the draft-Javits drive was a telegram to the Republican Senator from Stuart Scheffel repeating his willingness to drop his own campaign for the Liberal nomination for Mayor and to support Mr. Javits.

Mr. Scheffel, an associate of the late Rudolph Halley when he was President of the City Council, asked the Senator for a prompt decision.

The Republican Committee of Ten presumably acted with the approval of the city's five Republican county chairmen. The

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F.C.C. Head Bids TV Men Reform 'Vast Wasteland'

Minow Charges Failure in Public Duty—Threatens to Use License Power

Excerpts from Minow's speech to broadcasters, Page 91.

By VAL ADAMS
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 9—Newton N. Minow, the new chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, presented a scorching indictment of contemporary television at the National Association of Broadcasters convention today.

Addressing more than 2,000 broadcasters, Mr. Minow described TV's program output as a "vast wasteland." He excoriated the amount of violence and mediocrity in shows and said the F. C. C. would no longer automatically renew station licenses.

He called upon viewers to speak up at public hearings that he plans to hold at the community level when a station's license is up for renewal.

Calling for diversification in programming, Mr. Minow invited



Newton N. Minow

White House Doubts Need Of New Rights Laws Now

WASHINGTON, May 9—The White House disassociated itself today from civil rights legislation introduced by two Democrats yesterday in Congress.

POWER PROGRAM OF A.E.C. SET BACK

Contract With Utility Groups for a Prototype Reactor in Florida Is Canceled

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 9—The program for joint development of nuclear power by the Government and private industry received another setback today.

The Atomic Energy Commission announced that because of "technical and economic uncertainties" it was terminating an agreement with two groups of utility companies to build an experimental 50,000-kilowatt reactor in Polk County, Fla.

The move was symptomatic of the economic and technical difficulties besetting the Government's cooperative program, inaugurated in 1954 by the Eisenhower Administration.

Under it, the Government has relied upon private utilities and public power groups to take the lead in proposing and building atomic power plants. The Government has assisted by providing research and development funds.

Thus far, only one project has been completed under the cooperative program—a 110,000-kilowatt plant at Rowe, Mass., built by the Yankee Atomic Electric Company.

Five plants are under construction, but these have generally been beset by delays and rising costs. Five projects proposed under the cooperative program have been dropped in the last two years, and the commission has not been able to get either private or public power

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Kenny Faction Tops Vote in Jersey City

By GEORGE CABLE WRIGHT

The candidate of the Democratic organization of Hudson County won a comfortable plurality in the mayoral election in Jersey City yesterday.

However, he failed to gain a majority, and a run-off election was made necessary.

Thomas Gangemi, Hudson County Supervisor, who led the organization's attempt to regain control of the city, polled 49,815 votes, to 30,736 for his nearest rival, Commissioner Bernard J. Berry.

The three other candidates, Mayor Charles S. Witkowski, August W. Heckman and James P. Higgins, polled 23,707; 3,747, and 3,505 votes, respectively, on the basis of complete but unofficial returns.

The county Democratic organization, led by John V. Ken-

each station operator to view his station's programs for one day, from sign-on to sign-off.

"You will see," he said, "a procession of game shows, violence, audience participation shows, formula comedies about totally unbelievable families, blood and thunder, mayhem, violence, sadism, murder, West-

Continued on Page 91, Column 1

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Eichmann Directive Is Blamed For Deaths of 4,000 Children

By HOMER BIGART
Special to The New York Times.

JERUSALEM (Israeli Sec- assistant prosecutor, Gabriel Bach, purported to show that the round-up of 40,000 stateless Jews in France in the summer of 1942 was made under pressure from Eichmann and his deputy in Paris, Capt. Theodor Dannecker.

One was a letter from Dannecker to Eichmann's office on July 10 pointing out that 4,000 Jewish children would be left behind after a round-up of their parents scheduled in Paris between July 15 and 18.

Dannecker said that Jewish institutions had facilities to care for only 400 and that it was undesirable that they stay with non-Jewish children in French orphanages.

Apparently well aware that he was dealing with a cautious bureaucrat who hated to put such orders in writing, Dannecker told Eichmann's office: "I want your answer by cable. Can these children be deported together with stateless Jews destined for deportation and beginning with the tenth deportation?"

Eichmann, when he replied ten days later, did so by telephone.

This was shown, said Mr. Bach, by a memorandum from Dannecker dated July 21. In

Documents submitted by the

CONGRESS VOTES 600 MILLION START IN LATIN AID PLAN

Senate Passes Long-Range Economic Program—Bill Will Go to Conference

By FELIX BELAIR Jr.
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 9—An appropriation of \$600,000,000 to start a long-range economic aid program for Latin America was approved by the Senate today in a voice vote.

The measure was proposed by former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and pressed by President Kennedy to implement the Act of Bogota and pave the way for sweeping land and tax reforms.

It was sent to a House-Senate conference group to determine the fate of a single Senate amendment.

The House previously passed the measure without a provision on interest rates contained in the Senate amendment.

The amendment, proposed by Senator John J. Williams, Republican of Delaware, would limit to 8 per cent the amount of interest that might be charged by Latin American credit institutions engaged in financing low-income housing construction.

Chileans Will Gain

In addition to \$500,000,000 for initiating the aid program, the appropriation included \$100,000,000 for the Chilean reconstruction and rehabilitation program that was undertaken after an earthquake had devastated much of southern Chile.

Of the \$500,000,000 program, \$394,000,000 will be administered by the Inter-American Development Bank, \$100,000,000 by the International Cooperation Administration and \$6,000,000 by the Organization of American States.

Only scattered opposition from a few Senators was voiced against the appropriation. Earlier, Senator J. W. Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, had stressed that recipient governments would have to prove their good intentions before they could benefit from the fund.

Assurance by Fulbright

While the United States would have to deal through Latin-American Governments in carrying out the aid program, Senator Fulbright said, "This bill is designed primarily to help the common man." He added:

"It will help promote land settlement, low-cost housing, community water supplies, sanitation and education. It should be administered so as to encourage—indeed to require—cooperating governments to bring about changes in their own economic and social structures.

"We cannot do this job for them. But we can refuse to help those governments which give up on us."

The House committee last week disputed this judgment and authorized \$337,000,000 for the bidders. The Senate committee was more emphatic and increased the amount to \$525,000,000. This would provide an extra wing, or forty-four bombers.

The authorization bill passed by the Senate panel totaled

Continued on Page 22, Column 4

Ban on Park Cafe Refused by Court

By RONALD MAIORANA

A suit to prohibit the proposed Huntington Hartford cafe in Central Park was dismissed yesterday by the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court.

The ruling set aside a lower court decision in which a trial of the issues had been ordered; this decision was made after a request for a dismissal of the suit had been rejected.

At the same time, the higher court left the door open for the suit to be heard again.

In a unanimous decision, the Appellate Division said that the suit had presented "broad conclusions of law."

But it added that the complaint failed to set forth facts on its charges that construction of the cafe would be contrary to the purpose for which the

Continued on Page 31, Column 3

Johnson Leaves to Assure Asians of U. S. Support



Vice President Johnson and party are welcomed at Travis Air Force Base in California by Maj. Gen. Russell Waldron. From left: Mrs. Stephen E. Smith, the Vice President, General Waldron, Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Smith, who is a State Department official.

By E. W. KENWORTHY
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 9—Vice President Johnson left today on a mission to reassure nations in Asia of United States support against Communist aggression. The

SENATE UNIT ASKS BOMBER INCREASE

Joins House Committee in Rejection of Kennedy and Eisenhower Positions

By JACK RAYMOND
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 9—The Senate Armed Services Committee joined its House counterpart today in unanimously asking more long-range strategic bombers than Presidents Eisenhower or Kennedy believed necessary.

The Senate panel underscored Congressional concern over the adequacy of the nation's long-range missile power in the immediate years ahead if plans were carried out to end bomber production.

President Kennedy, although he revised the defense budget prepared by President Eisenhower for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, left unchanged his predecessor's decision to seek no more money for manned bombers.

The House committee last week disputed this judgment and authorized \$337,000,000 for the bidders. The Senate committee was more emphatic and increased the amount to \$525,000,000. This would provide an extra wing, or forty-four bombers.

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Continued on Page 31, Column 3

Vice President carried personal letters from President Kennedy to heads of government in that region who are deeply concerned over the possible loss of Laos to communism and what this might portend for the rest of

WASHINGTON, May 9—Vice President Johnson left today on a mission to reassure nations in Asia of United States support against Communist aggression. The

Nixon Urges U. S. To Toughen Policy Toward the Soviet

Joins House Committee in Rejection of Kennedy and Eisenhower Positions

By DAMON STETSON
Special to The New York Times.

DETROIT, May 9—Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon called today for a firmer and tougher United States policy toward the Soviet Union.

At the same time, Mr. Nixon suggested that a meeting between President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev might help to convince the Soviet leader that he was dealing with a man and with a nation that would not be pushed around.

Mr. Nixon emphasized repeatedly that he did not care to make any except constructive criticisms of the Administration. But he conveyed the impression here that he considered the Cuban invasion attempt a major failure of United States foreign policy.

Mr. Nixon, who was the unsuccessful Republican candidate for President last year, was also critical of what he termed President Kennedy's tendency in his first weeks in office to assume that Premier Khrushchev might change if he were treated "a little nicer."

In dealing with the Russians, Mr. Nixon said, the United States must maintain a firm, tough but nonbelligerent policy that does not change with Mr. Khrushchev's "smiles" and "scowls."

The former Vice President warned that the Soviet Premier might assume, because of events in the last few weeks, that the United States' bark was worse than its bite. Every time an aggressor bluffs and the defenders of freedom back down, Mr. Nixon said, a dictator is encouraged to become more aggressive.

The United States, he said, must convince the Communist aggressors that it is prepared to risk the possibility of war on a small scale if it is to avoid the eventual certainty of war on a large scale.

In discussing Cuba, Mr. Nixon noted that some Americans now appeared to favor open intervention or a naval blockade that would require a declaration of

Continued on Page 2, Column 3

Turkey Arrests 80 In Plot on Regime

By The Associated Press.

ISTANBUL, Turkey, May 9—The Government announced tonight that it had smashed a plot against Gen. Cemal Gursel's regime by supporters of deposed Premier Adnan Menderes. About eighty persons were reported to have been arrested.

Officials said the plotters had planned an armed revolt and had been so "infamous as to request assistance from a power with a foreign ideology." The foreign power was not identified.

Sources close to the military junta that ousted the Menderes regime last year said the arrests had been carried out in Istanbul, Ankara and another unspecified area. Those rounded up were not identified.

The first arrests were announced in Istanbul, where

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U. S. AGAIN OFFERS POLARIS FLOTILLA TO BOLSTER NATO

Rusk, at Oslo Parley, Sets an Initial Goal of 5 Missile Submarines for Alliance

HERTER PLAN MODIFIED

Requirement on European Rocket Purchases Dropped—U.S. Control Foreseen

By RUSSELL BAKER
Special to The New York Times.

OSLO, Norway, May 9—The United States pledged today to commit Polaris nuclear missile submarines to forces assigned to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The immediate goal is to contribute five Polaris submarines to the naval forces committed to the treaty organization, but more will be added as they become available.

This decision, announced to the Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty powers by Secretary of State Dean Rusk, represented acceptance in part by the Kennedy Administration of a nuclear armaments plan for the treaty group advanced last December by Christian A. Herter, who was then Secretary of State.

Plan Said to Be Altered

However, the Herter plan was contingent upon agreement by the European members to purchase an additional 100 nuclear missiles for NATO. This part of the plan is understood to have been abandoned because the Europeans objected that the purchase costs would be too much for them.

United States sources here tonight were vague about who would control the Polaris submarine force assigned to the defense of the treaty area. It is understood, however, that present plans call for putting them under United States fleet commanders operating with the alliance's naval force.

This would provide a solution for the delicate problem of how long-range strategic nuclear weapons could be made available to the treaty organization without yielding of United States operational control.

U.S. GROUP LEAVES FOR TALK ON LAOS

First Aides Off to Geneva, but Washington Repeats Proviso on Cease-Fire

By WILLIAM J. JORDEN
Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 9—The United States delegation to the Geneva conference on Laos began leaving today, but the State Department reiterated that this country's participation depended on verification of a cease-fire.

Diplomatic sources indicated that United States participation was virtually assured despite repetition of this proviso. The consensus was that only a serious outbreak of fighting could halt the conference.

Officials acknowledged privately that refusal of the United States to take part in the four-nation conference in the absence of any widespread shooting in Laos could cause an awkward diplomatic situation. It was felt that this would permit the Communists to picture the United States as being opposed to peace in Laos.

Apparently in recognition of this, the Government is going ahead with preparations to take part. A total of sixty persons, mostly technicians and secretaries but including some diplomats, was scheduled to depart

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EAST BERLIN SHIFT BY SOVIET HINTED

General's Going May Foretell Transfer to German Reds

Special to The New York Times.

BERLIN, May 9—The departure of the Soviet commandant from East Berlin gave rise to speculation today that the move might be a first step by the Soviet Union in turning over control of East Berlin to East Germany.

A Soviet Embassy official in East Berlin said Col. I. Solovyev had assumed the duties of commanding the Soviet garrison in East Berlin as a successor to Maj. Gen. Nikolai F. Zakharov, who left the post recently.

Western Allied officials noted that in contrast to customary procedure General Zakharov did not pay farewell calls on his Western counterparts, the United States, British and French military commanders here.

It was also noted that the Russians had not immediately announced the shift in command and had disclosed it only after General Zakharov's absence had given rise to speculation.

The Russians have proclaimed turning over control of East Berlin to the East Germans as one of their aims in converting West Berlin into a so-called demilitarized free city.

General Zakharov, who had

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"All the News
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Weather: Partial clearing today; fair, cool tonight and tomorrow. Temp. range: today 62-53; Sunday 68-48. Full U. S. report on Page 90.

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NEW YORK, MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1968

10 CENTS

JOHNSON SAYS HE WON'T RUN; HALTS NORTH VIETNAM RAIDS; BIDS HANOI JOIN PEACE MOVES

ROCKEFELLER URGES ALBANY LEADERS TO SPEED BUDGET

Ready to Work With Them to Provide Funds as Fiscal Year Opens Today

By PETER KIHSS
Governor Rockefeller urged Republican and Democratic legislative leaders yesterday to agree quickly on a new budget as the state moved into the 1968-69 fiscal year today without a budget.

The Republican-controlled Senate has passed one version of the budget, but the Democratic-controlled Assembly is pondering a counter-version. The Governor said in a statement he was "ready to work with the leadership in both houses" for "a budget that meets the needs of the people of our state and provides the revenues necessary to finance it."

After the Legislature does act, the Governor will presumably seek a supplemental appropriation to restore some of the spending cuts that both parties' legislative fiscal committees make in his proposed school, urban, crime and construction programs. This is a traditional technique.

Assembly May Act Today
Fiscal aides to Assembly Speaker Anthony J. Travia analyzed the Senate proposals through the night. Mr. Travia himself said he was considering two interim moves. One would have the Assembly approve the budget appropriations and cuts already agreed on; the other would seek a temporary authorization for state spending at the rate for the last quarter of the fiscal year just ended.

Joseph Zaretzki, Senate Democratic minority leader, charged here yesterday that the budget bills rammed through the Senate early Saturday by the Republican leader, Earl Brydges, and his party followers aimed only "to get by next November's election."

Senator Zaretzki asserted that two of its key elements—

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Liberals Designate Javits; Nickerson Race Confused

Baron May Enter Race
By CLAYTON KNOWLES
The Liberal party State Committee designated Senator Jacob K. Javits for re-election yesterday, but under conditions that confronted him with the prospect of waging a primary fight to gain the extra line on the voting machines.

A bloc of unionists in the party, contending that an endorsement of Mr. Javits would aid Richard M. Nixon in his presidential bid, put up Murray Baron, a long-time Liberal leader. Although Mr. Baron lost, he rolled up enough votes to qualify to run in the June 18 primary.

The Liberals acted several hours before President Johnson's withdrawal. Mr. Baron came under heavy attack in the pre-emptive debate as "more

Continued on Page 50, Column 1

Johnson Causes Upset
The contest for the Democratic Senate nomination in New York was thrown into confusion last night by President Johnson's announcement that he would not seek the party's nomination for re-election.

Eugene H. Nickerson, the organization's candidate for the nomination and a supporter of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, said of the Johnson announcement: "I was very surprised. It just comes as such a complete surprise to me that I think we have to sleep on it."

Representative Joseph Y. Resnick of Ellenville, a Senate candidate who supports President Johnson, sent a telegram to the President urging the President to reconsider his decision.

"Mr. President," the Resnick

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3 Beachfront Hotels Destroyed by Fire in Rockaway Park

By LAWRENCE VAN GELDER
Flames spurred by howling ocean winds raged through the Rockaway Park section of Queens yesterday, destroying three beachfront hotels, damaging small stores and bungalows, charring police and fire equipment and forcing the evacuation of hundreds of residents.

As the number of alarms climbed swiftly to eight, more than 400 firemen and 60 pieces of equipment were pitted against the intense blaze, which sent up a column of gray smoke visible for more than a dozen miles in the afternoon sky.

Despite the fury of the fire and the menacing wind-whipped embers that flew through the neighborhood around Beach 116th Street and Ocean Promenade, no serious injuries were reported from the blaze, which was attributed by officials to three small children. Four firemen, however, were reported

Continued on Page 36, Column 4

HOUSE PLAN SPURS INVESTING ABROAD

Committee Asks Creation of Quasi-Public Corporation to Attract Private Capital

By FELIX BELAIR JR.
By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, March 31—The House Foreign Affairs Committee urged in a report today that the Federal Government consider creating a quasi-public corporation to promote private American investments in underdeveloped countries.

The report, originated by Representative Leonard Farbstein, Democrat of Manhattan, won the unanimous approval of the committee.

The gist of the report was that the investment guarantee program of the Agency for International Development was no longer able to attract sufficient private capital to spur economic growth in the poor countries of Latin America.

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TAX RISE PUSHED

Increase in War Costs Cited—No Specific Cuts Suggested

By EILEEN SHANAHAN
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 31—President Johnson called on Congress tonight to "move from debate to action, from talking to voting" on a tax increase.

He pledged himself to accept any appropriate reductions in Federal spending that Congress voted, but he proposed nothing specific in the way of economy moves.

He announced, in fact, that there would be an increase in Government outlays because of the war. These, he said, would amount to \$2.5-billion in the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, and \$2.6-billion in the next fiscal year.

What effect the President's decision not to run for re-election might have on the long fight over the tax increase and Government spending was not immediately clear. A lame duck President is usually considered to have greatly diminished power to influence Congress, but the President's removal of himself from the campaign could also remove some of the partisanship from the tax and spending issue.

Deficit to Increase

The increases the President announced in defense spending would raise the deficit for the current year to \$22.3-billion and for next year to \$20.5-billion, if the 10 per cent tax surcharge is not enacted, and assuming that there are no other changes in spending from the official January estimates.

If the tax increase is enacted, with April 1 the effective date for individuals and Jan. 1 for corporations, as the President has asked, this year's deficit would be \$20.4-billion and next year's, \$10.6-billion.

"Enactment of a tax increase now, together with expenditure control, is necessary to protect our security, continue our prosperity and meet the needs of our people," Mr. Johnson said.

He said he believed there

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DMZ IS EXEMPTED

Johnson Sets No Time Limit on Halting of Air and Sea Blows

By MAX FRANKEL
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 31—President Johnson announced tonight that he had ordered a halt in the air and naval bombardment of most of North Vietnam and invited the Hanoi Government to join him in a "series of mutual moves toward peace."

The President said: "Tonight, in the hope that this action will lead to early talks, I am taking the first step to de-escalate the conflict. We are reducing—substantially reducing—the present level of hostilities. And we are doing so unilaterally and at once."

The President said that attacks would continue only in the area just north of the demilitarized zone, which separates North Vietnam from South Vietnam, and where, he said, the "continuing enemy build-up directly threatens allied forward positions and where movements of troops and supplies are clearly related to that threat."

Hanoi's Stand Recalled

The President set no time limit for his restraint order. Until now, North Vietnam has demanded an "unconditional" halt in the bombing of all its territory and all other acts of war against it.

North Vietnam's restraint and other unspecified events, the President indicated, can make possible an early end of "even this limited bombing."

The areas to be spared, he said, include almost 90 per cent of North Vietnam's population and "most of its territory."

The White House refused to give a more specific geographical delineation.

[In Saigon, the United States command said that the order went into effect at 9 P.M. Sunday, New York time, when President Johnson began his address, The Associated Press reported. Page 15.]

At the same time, Mr. Johnson used a televised address to the nation to urge the Soviet Union and Britain to do everything possible to move from their "unilateral act of de-escalation" toward a genuine peace.

He designated Ambassador at Large W. Averell Harriman and the American Ambassador to Moscow, Llewellyn Thomp-

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ADDRESSES THE NATION: President Johnson last night

Political Chiefs Stunned; Kennedy Sets News Parley

By SYLVAN FOX

Political leaders across the country reacted with shock, surprise and—in some cases—admiration to President Johnson's announcement last night that he would not seek re-

election in November. Some political leaders immediately focused attention on Vice President Humphrey as a possible contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Others suggested that Mr. Johnson's withdrawal could alter the position of Governor Rockefeller, who pulled out of contention for the Republican Presidential nomination on March 21.

Neither Mr. Humphrey nor Mr. Rockefeller was commenting immediately on his political plans in the light of Mr. Johnson's withdrawal.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy, like many others, was left almost speechless by the President's announcement.

"I don't know quite what to say," Senator Kennedy commented when he got the word of the President's decision. The Senator, a leading contender for the Democratic Presidential nomination, scheduled a news conference for 10 A.M. today.

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WISCONSIN WEIGHS IMPACT ON VOTING

Primary Excitement Turns to Surprise—McCarthy and Nixon Wind Up Campaign

By DONALD JANSON
Special to The New York Times

MILWAUKEE, March 31—Excitement over a spirited contest between Senator Eugene J. McCarthy and President Johnson in the Wisconsin Democratic Presidential primary turned to surprise tonight with the President's announcement that he was not a candidate for re-election.

Thousands of Wisconsin voters, who had expected to choose between the two on Tuesday, saw and heard the President on television take himself out of the contest.

The announcement ended speculation that the Wisconsin primary, the first in the nation to have the President's name on the ballot, would produce a record vote.

It left only Senator McCarthy as an active candidate on the Democratic ballot and only former Vice President Richard M. Nixon as a major candidate on the Republican side. It eliminated the urgency that thousands of Republicans had felt to cross over to the Democratic contest to vote against the

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Top Saigon Officials Confused By Refusal of Johnson to Run

By GENE ROBERTS
Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Monday, April 1—President Johnson's refusal to seek re-election plunged the top level of the South Vietnamese Government into confusion today and touched off a meeting of key American officials.

It was apparent, according to Americans who were at the presidential palace at the time, that President Johnson's announcement caught the South Vietnamese by surprise.

"Top advisers and office-holders began rushing toward the Vice President's office in obvious states of agitation," said one American who was waiting for a conference with

Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky. "A few minutes later, Ky's military aide appeared and said all appointments had been canceled."

There was similar excitement at the United States Embassy. A receptionist said that no high officials were available for comment and explained that they were all in a top-level meeting.

There was also a rash of meetings at the headquarters of the military command here. While many military officers and virtually all South Vietnamese officials are op-

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SURPRISE DECISION

President Steps Aside in Unity Bid—Says 'House' Is Divided

Text of Johnson's address will be found on Page 26.

By TOM WICKER
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 31—Lyndon Baines Johnson announced tonight: "I shall not seek and I will not accept the nomination of my party as your President."

Later, at a White House news conference, he said his decision was "completely irrevocable."

The President told his nationwide television audience: "What we have won when all our people were united must not be lost in partisanship. I have concluded that I should not permit the Presidency to become involved in partisan decisions."

Mr. Johnson, acknowledging that there was "division in the American house," withdrew in the name of national unity, which he said was "the ultimate strength of our country."

"With American sons in the field far away," he said, "with the American future under challenge right here at home, with our hopes and the world's hopes for peace in the balance every day, I do not believe that I should devote an hour or a day of my time to any personal partisan causes or to any duties other than the awesome duties of this office, the Presidency of your country."

Humphrey Race Possible

Mr. Johnson left Senator Robert F. Kennedy of New York and Senator Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota as the only two declared candidates for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Vice President Humphrey, however, will be widely expected to seek the nomination now that his friend and political benefactor, Mr. Johnson, is out of the field. Mr. Humphrey indicated that he would have a statement on his plans tomorrow.

The President informed Mr. Humphrey of his decision during a conference at the latter's apartment in southwest Washington today before the Vice President flew to Mexico City. There, he will represent the United States at the signing of a treaty for a Latin-American nuclear-free zone.

Surprise to Aides

If Mr. Humphrey should become a candidate, he would find most of the primaries foreclosed to him. Only those in the District of Columbia, New Jersey and South Dakota remain open.

Therefore, he would have to rely on collecting delegates in states without primaries and on White House support if he were to head off Mr. Kennedy and Mr. McCarthy.

Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon is the only announced major candidate for the Republican nomination, although Governor Rockefeller has said that he would accept the nomination if drafted.

Mr. Johnson's announcement tonight came as a stunning surprise even to close associates. His main political strategists, James H. Rowe of Washington, White House Special Assistant Marvin W. Watson, and Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien, spent much of today conferring on campaign plans.

They were informed of what was coming just before Mr.

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AT ROCKAWAY PARK BLAZE: More than 400 firemen were called out to fight eight-alarm fire that raged on Beach 116th Street in the Rockaway Park section of Queens. Jamaica Bay is in rear. Four firemen were slightly hurt.

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