

Nadar accuses auto industry of negligence

WASHINGTON—Consumer crusader Ralph Nader accused the auto industry Monday of "criminal fraud or criminal negligence" by making unsafe cars, provoking Sen. Theodore Stevens, R-Alaska, into an angry, shouting rebuttal.

The outburst came at a Senate Commerce Committee hearing.

Nader said a bill designed to require Detroit to produce cars that are less damageable and more easily repaired was too weak in light of what he said was the industry's "criminal fraud or criminal negligence in the design of motor vehicles."

Stevens, slapping his desk, told Nader "I must take umbrage" at his testimony. "You look for the worst in people and not at what's good that's happening in this country," Stevens said.

Nader shot back: "Do you give credit to a burglar because he doesn't burglarize 99 per cent of the time? What kind of nonsense is this?"

Stevens said if Nader knew of "criminal" negligence on the part of the industry he should present his evidence to a grand jury, not at a Senate hearing. "Get the indictment!" he shouted at Nader.

Nader responded to Stevens to "find a district attorney with the guts" to indict an auto maker.

The pending bill was opposed by John J. Nevin, a vice president of the Ford Motor Co. He said it would raise car costs by several hundred dollars, do little to cut insurance costs and infringe on a customer's freedom of selection of a car.



Mitchell calls protestors organized 'lawbreakers'

SAN FRANCISCO—Attorney General John N. Mitchell Monday called last week's violent antiwar demonstrations in the nation's capital "an organized attempt by thousands of lawbreakers to deny other Americans their civil rights." He said the demonstration was an utter failure.

Mitchell said Washington police, in making some 12,000 arrests without firing a shot, "presented to the world a picture of police fairness and effectiveness."

He told the 51st conference of the California Peace Officers Association he hoped the Washington example would be followed by other cities.

If so, he said, "we will see an end to the extremist practice of running roughshod over the rights of others."

Mitchell said President Nixon fully shared his sentiments.

"I am proud of the Washington city police," he said. "I am proud that they stopped a repressive mob from robbing the rights of others."

Gov. Ronald Reagan of California, in a speech to the same peace officers meeting, strongly defended the best-known law enforcement officer in Mitchell's Justice Department, FBI

Director J. Edgar Hoover.

Reagan said current criticism implying that Hoover is trying to turn the FBI into a secret police "make a mockery of the facts."

Hoover's "whole career has been devoted to resisting the efforts to turn the FBI into a national police force," Reagan said.

Mitchell contrasted the violence in Washington with the orderly demonstration there April 24, when, he said, an estimated 175,000 marched with "virtually no destruction, little hostility to police and relatively few arrests."

Anti-Nixon

California congressman calls for Nixon's impeachment

WASHINGTON—Rep. Ronald V. Dellums, D-Calif., said Monday President Nixon should be removed from office because of his Vietnam War policy and that he was considering introducing impeachment charges in the House.

Dellums, who became the first congressman to say publicly he would vote for impeachment, said he expected to reach a decision "in the next week or so" on whether to try to oust Nixon from the White House.

The black liberal, serving his first term in the House, condemned the administration's Indochina policy as he stood on the House steps and accepted 405 signatures of Harvard law students urging that Congress initiate impeachment proceedings.

Dellums said he would hesitate "not at all" to vote for impeachment, but that introducing a resolution calling for impeachment was a more serious matter that deserved more consideration.

He noted that the American Action had urged Nixon be impeached and that Rep. Paul M. ... had proposed starting national

Cambridge, Mass., said the measures would restore "equilibrium" to European markets and should not be considered "an economic Pearl Harbor."

In West Germany, the crisis center, an expected immediate outflow of dollars failed to materialize on the first trading day since exchanges were closed Wednesday in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, the Netherlands and Belgium.

The problem began last week as traders and speculators flooded West German banks with dollars considered overvalued against the healthy and prosperous mark. By purchasing marks and holding them, the speculators could clear a profit when trading them back to receive more dollars than originally invested if the dollar slipped in value.

But throughout the capitals of Europe Monday, trading was cautious. Observers felt many speculators were hoping the mark would rise to as much as 5 per cent above the old parity of 3.66 to the dollar, or perhaps an official revaluation would be approved by the government.

To combat this and encourage an

outflow of dollars, the German government decreed that dollar accounts can draw interest only with the approval of the Central Bank. Certain stocks and bonds also can be purchased only with approval of the Central Bank.

The key to the solution was handed West Germany after a weekend meeting of European Common Market in Brussels.

The market gave permission for its six member nations to allow their currencies to float free of the dollar for a time to bridge the problem.

West Germany immediately set the mark afloat and Monday it climbed about 3.75 per cent to 3.525 marks for one U.S. dollar from the official parity of 3.66. But speculators felt the mark might increase as much as 5 per cent and force the government to backtrack on an earlier promise and revalue the official rate.

Zilkha, chairman of the Fidelity International Bank in New York, an international banking institution, said the crisis situation was over due to the emergency actions of the European governments.

debate over whether Nixon should be impeached.

Furthermore, Dellums said, "There are several congressmen who I think would be interested in impeachment."

He conceded, however, "I'm not sure it could win."

Under the Constitution, impeachment charges must be made by the House and tried before the Senate, which would sit as a jury with some member of the House acting as a prosecutor.

The most recent effort at impeachment was made by some 120 House members seeking to remove Justice William O. Douglas from the Supreme Court. In that case a House Judiciary subcommittee, which must act on impeachment resolutions, rejected the proposal on grounds that there first must be evidence the accused is guilty of "high crimes and misdemeanors."

Dellums, an ex-Marine and social worker whose district includes Berkeley, Calif., said he planned to talk to at least 20 House members before making up his mind about an impeachment resolution.

Rights leader calls for new commitment

WASHINGTON—The chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission said Monday America will degenerate into a "divided nation with all kinds of civil disorder" unless there is a new commitment to civil rights from everyone including President Nixon.

The Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh made the statement in making public a commission report accusing the Nixon administration of failure to make any major civil rights improvements in the eight months since the commission first accused the government of inertia and hostility that threatened to nullify civil rights laws.

The commission said the administration had frustrated the hopes of minority groups with "the mere palliative of tinkering and promises" instead of aggressive action. It said only "strong executive leadership" from the White House could help.

Hesburgh and other commissioners refused at a news conference to put all the blame on Nixon or any other of the past four Presidents because the "lack of moral commitment is with the American people, the government, and the total bureaucracy."

Summarizing the situation, Hesburgh said, "I see happening a divided nation. I see happening all kinds of civil disorder, hypocrisy because we say one thing and do another, frustration because the government doesn't follow the law."

Penal study gets funds

RALEIGH—The chairman of the State Penal Study Commission announced Monday the Smith Richardson Foundation had provided an additional \$35,000 to the commission to continue its work for the next two years.

Attorney Ralph Strayhorn said the funds would be used for continuing study of the North Carolina Correctional System, particularly in areas dealing with juveniles.

Strayhorn said all recommendations made by the committee earlier which could be implemented without legislative action had been put into effect and added, "We believe that the work of the

committee and the recommendations made thus far are progressing well on all fronts."

He noted the General Assembly had passed legislation aimed at eliminating the highway quota system and that legislation for consolidating the corrections, probation and parole units into a single department is now pending.

Gov. Bob Scott, in a written statement issued by Strayhorn, said that the consolidation of all correctional agencies is "one of the most significant steps North Carolina can take for prison reform this year."

Signalmen call strike

CHICAGO—The Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen Monday called a nationwide rail strike for next Monday at 6 a.m., unless agreement is reached on the union's wage and fringe benefits demands.

C.J. Chamberlain, president of the Signalmen, said the union has exhausted all procedures under the Railway Labor Act and was legally free to call a strike after May 14, 1971.

Unless the union and the rail carriers reach an agreement before May 17, only Congress could prevent a strike that could shut down the nation's railroads.

The union had previously voted to strike March 5, but did not when President Nixon appointed an emergency board to recommend a settlement in the 21-month old contract dispute.

"The recommendations of the Presidential Emergency Board appointed by the President of the United States to hear the dispute are wholly inadequate and do not meet the needs of the membership of the Signalmen's skilled craft union," Chamberlain said. "The last wage increase granted Signalmen was a 3 per cent raise on July 1, 1969."

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Dollar hits lowest mark

BONN—Emergency currency action by West European nations appeared Monday to have eased the international money crisis. The U.S. dollar steadied during the day on some markets and the wholesale selling of dollars by speculators ended for the time being.

Devaluation in Austria dropped the dollar to its lowest point since the end of World War II and the "floating" of the West German mark had the effect of devaluing the dollar 3.75 per cent. But the dollar was firm in London, Paris and some other money centers.

Money speculators were reported holding back in West Germany, betting the mark would be worth more in the next few days.

In Washington, the U.S. Treasury Department said it felt the international financial crisis was improving and "no immediate action" was planned. International banker Ezra Zilkha in New York said the emergency period was over although the "basic questions" remained unsolved. And Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul A. Samuelson in

World news in brief

but was reported during the Rogers talks to have expressed a willingness to permit an Egyptian "presence" on the occupied east bank of the canal.

Rogers, who met with President Nixon in Washington Monday to report on his weeklong five-nation Middle east peace seeking mission, had said there had been "some narrowing of the gap" between Egypt and Israel on the Suez issue.

B52's continue bombing trails

SAIGON—A new troop reduction that trimmed American forces in South Vietnam to 267,100 men—the lowest level in almost five years—was announced Monday by the U.S. command.

On the war front, about 2,000 South Vietnam troops were lifted by helicopter to the northeastern rim of the A Shau Valley Sunday and Monday as part of a task force sweeping jungle areas east of the Laotian border.

An American paratrooper was killed and four more wounded in the same area when Communists attacked a reconnaissance patrol. B52 bombers continued attacking supply trails in the northwestern corner of South Vietnam.

The President's target for Dec. 1, under his Phase VII program, is 184,000 troops in Vietnam. The command is now one-sixth toward meeting that figure and has more than seven months to send another 83,100 GI's home.

The command announced 920 men have ordered to stand down status with an element of the Americal Division, the last complete U.S. division remaining in Vietnam. But the division will remain the largest in Vietnam, since it now numbers some 24,000 men—about 8,000 above normal division strength.

China ready to open talks

BEIRUT—The Beirut newspaper Al Kifah said Monday Communist Chinese Premier Chou En-lai told visiting Arab newsmen in Peking he is ready to open negotiations with the United States on world problems.

He said the negotiations should begin with the question of Nationalist China. Publishing remarks made by Chou Sunday night to the newsmen, the newspaper said the premier warned the United States against getting involved in a war with Communist China.

"The United States will never be able to get out of China," Chou said. The paper said Chou predicted further improvement in relations between the "Chinese and American people" and said he was ready for negotiations with the United States on world problems beginning with Taiwan.

FBI to check wiretapping

WASHINGTON—As J. Edgar Hoover began his 48th year as FBI director, the Senate's best known criminal investigator said Monday that he had ordered an inquiry into federal and state wiretapping to calm "public uneasiness" about it.

Sen. John L. McClellan, D-Ark., said he had directed the staff of his subcommittee on criminal laws and procedures "to undertake a comprehensive examination" of how

government officials carry out wiretaps and of what legal controls limit them.

The senator sponsored the section of the 1968 Crime Control Act which authorizes wiretaps with prior court approval.

He said he saw "no evidence" to warrant fear but that "I am frank to admit that I sense a public uneasiness about wiretapping." For that reason, he said, "There is a need here for a public review of the facts—all of the facts."

Nasa delays Mariner launch

CAPE KENNEDY—The new administrator of the space agency said Monday the launch of a second Mariner spacecraft toward Mars could be delayed until the end of May if necessary to make sure it would work.

Engineers aimed toward a May 18 launch, but Dr. James C. Fletcher said that date was "uncertain" pending the results of an intensive investigation now underway into Saturday's launch failure of the first attempt to orbit Mars.

"I think we want to be sure that the second launch is going to be all right, or at least that we've done everything we can do to be sure it is all right before it goes," Fletcher said at a news conference in Washington. He said he personally will participate in the probe of the \$77 million failure.

"Although May 18 is the designated date, we do have until the end of the month, approximately, and if necessary, we will delay that long," he said in reply to questions.

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