

Gas relief predicted

WASHINGTON—Federal energy czar William E. Simon said Sunday he was certain the government's new gasoline allocation program would shorten lines at service stations and fuel rationing would not be needed, even when families take their summer vacations.

Simon said the allocation Friday of an extra 240 million gallons of gasoline to hard hit states plus a 2-cent a gallon increase in retail prices announced Saturday would "reduce the sufferings, hardships and inconveniences" being faced by the American people.

Although gasoline stations were reported closed in many states for lack of gasoline, spokesman for independent retail dealers in at least seven states indicated they were satisfied by the 2-cent a gallon increase, effective March 1, and had abandoned plans for a massive "pumpout" to protest their declining profits.

Simon said the allocation program was only three weeks old and should not yet be judged as a failure. He said the available gasoline was distributed poorly within each state and efforts would be made to equalize intrastate delivery systems.

"But in the interim, we are going to make certain we put supplies out to reduce lines in the critical areas where they are suffering hardships," Simon said.

He was interviewed on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Simon said demand for gasoline normally would increase as vacation time approaches. But he added, conservation efforts by the American people combined with a perfected allocation system "will greatly alleviate" greater shortages.

Another Federal Energy Office (FEO) official, Joseph LaSala, regional administrator in Philadelphia, predicted in a television interview Saturday increasing

gasoline shortages possibly would rule out traditional vacation trips for many Americans this summer.

Admitting his answer was "flip," LaSala said when he is asked how families should plan their summer vacations, he usually replies: "You should plan it so that the round trip does not use more than a tankful of gas."

Simon said the full impact of the new allocations will not be felt for several days and the effect of the 2-cent price hike on shutdowns was unclear because nearly all stations are closed on Sunday in line with President Nixon's request last November.

But James R. Cox, president of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Retailers Association said Sunday his group was "overjoyed about the increase."

Nixon aide for impeachment

WASHINGTON—John K. Andrews, Jr., a former White House aide and speechwriter, said Sunday President Nixon should be impeached.

Andrews, who resigned last December, said the question of Nixon's impeachment is one that I approach with terrible reluctance.

"And it's the saddest subject I've ever had to consider as a citizen of this country," Andrews said. "But I'd have to say yes..."

Andrews called for the president's impeachment in an interview on the National Public Affairs Center for Television show "Washington Straight Talk." He is the first former White House aide to do so publicly.

Andrews said, he still saw a chance for Nixon to recoup, but added "there are no outward signs that he's going to be moving this way."

"As painful as it would be for the country, I think to preserve our self-respect as a democracy... the public trust must not be abused, whether by omission as he has done it, or by overt commission," he said.

Andrews said he did not think that Nixon would resign "because he believes sincerely that he has done no wrong, that he is a man persecuted."

But he added "I'm afraid that the President's own worst enemy in this

Ford says defense budget is 'realistic'

NEW YORK—Vice President Gerald R. Ford Sunday defended President Nixon's record defense budget request as necessary to deter aggression and reduce the threat of war in the world.

In remarks prepared for delivery to the B'Nai Zion America-Israel Friendship Dinner, where Ford received the 1974 America-Israel Friendship gold medal, the vice president said to have peace the United States "must have strong enough defenses to deter aggression."

He described Nixon's proposal to spend \$85.5 billion on defense in fiscal year 1975 as "realistic" and said it will reinforce the credibility of American power.

Ford said he hoped negotiations toward strategic arms limitation and mutually balanced force reductions will be successful in preserving the present balance of power and reducing the threat of war.

Declaration signed in Mexico

MEXICO CITY—The United States and 24 other countries in the western hemisphere issued a declaration Sunday calling for "renunciation of coercion and respect for the right of each country to choose its own political, economic and social systems."

The 12-page document summed up three days of talks between U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and 24 other American and Caribbean foreign ministers. It was dubbed the "Declaration of Talatepec" after a Mexico City housing development where the Mexican foreign office, site of the conference is located.

The meeting ended Saturday but distribution of the declaration was not completed until Sunday. Kissinger was back in Washington Sunday preparing for



William Simon

Kidnappers silent on new Hearst offer

SAN FRANCISCO—Tension mounted Sunday as Patricia Hearst's family for the second day awaited word from the girl's kidnappers on whether they would agree to exchange her for a \$6 million free food program for the needy.

Two days after a final offer was made to the terrorist Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA), there still was no response from the kidnappers who dragged the 20-year-old girl from her Berkeley apartment 20 days ago.

Nor did the family have any assurance that a further communication would come. In making its most recent demand, for an additional \$4 million personal pledge by the Hearst family, the SLA said if its terms were not met within 24 hours, it would break off communications and hold Patty indefinitely as a hostage for two SLA members in San Quentin Prison on murder charges.

The SLA demanded that the additional

money be provided immediately by the Hearst family personally and offered no assurance that Patty would be released as a result.

The counteroffer, made by the Hearst Corp. after Hearst said he was unable to meet the demand himself, would provide \$2 million to the program immediately upon Patty's safe release and another \$2 million in January, 1975. Hearst executive Charles Gould said no additional funds would be contributed under any circumstances.

As the family anxiously waited in the Hillsborough mansion of Patty's father, Randolph A. Hearst, the FBI said it had no new information to report in its investigation of the kidnaping.

In San Francisco the Hearst-sponsored "People in Need" program gathered food and volunteers for the second scheduled day of free distribution next Tuesday.

Balloon missing off Africa

WASHINGTON—Spanish and American military units searched the waters off northwest Africa Sunday for Thomas L. Gatch, an army reserve colonel attempting the first manned trans-Atlantic balloon flight.

Pentagon spokesman, Cmdr. Robert Hartian, said a message had been cabled to units in the area to be on the lookout for Gatch. For the second day, small Spanish planes and helicopters combed a large part of northern Spanish Sahara below the border with Morocco, a Spanish military spokesman said.

Gatch, in a balloon named "Light Heart," took off Monday evening from Harrisburg, Pa., and was last seen Thursday by the Liberian freighter Meridian. Armstrong said a check Saturday with the same ship

confirmed that the eight helium balloons and attached gondola had been spotted at an altitude of about 1,000 feet.

Armstrong said the Pentagon assured him "They are utilizing air and sea craft in their operations."

Armstrong said it was possible the loss of the second of his original ten helium-filled balloons forced Gatch into a sea landing. Gatch lost one balloon 76 minutes into the flight Monday night and the second balloon apparently ruptured Wednesday night.

Gatch has about ten days of food rations "comparable to those eaten by U.S. astronauts," Armstrong said.

In addition the "Light Heart" is equipped with styrofoam floating devices and a portable life raft.



The Daily Tar Heel

On The Outside

from the wires of United Press International

Compiled by Tom Sawyer
Wire Editor

AFL-CIO seeks minimum wage hike

MIAMI BEACH—The AFL-CIO renewed its call Sunday for Congress to pass a minimum wage increase without the special lower rate for teen-agers demanded by President Nixon.

Congress approved a bill last year to raise the minimum wage from its present rate of \$1.60 an hour to \$2.20 but Nixon vetoed it because it did not include the lowered youth minimum.

"The Congress must act now," the AFL-CIO Executive Council said at its winter meeting here.

English polls show close political race

LONDON—Most public opinion polls published Sunday placed the ruling Conservative and opposition Labor parties in a neck-and-neck race in the campaign for Thursday's general election, political analysts said.

The polls also showed significant gains for the small Liberal party, raising the prospect that the Liberals could win enough seats in the House of Commons to hold the balance of power between the two major parties.

Three major polls gave the Conservatives respective percentage leads of 1, 2 and 4 over Labor.

Kissinger set for Mideast trip

WASHINGTON—Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger conferred Sunday with President Nixon and Egypt's foreign minister on the eve of his toughest Middle East mediation assignment.

Kissinger was scheduled to depart at 9 a.m. (EDT) Monday for Damascus and Israel, with a stopover in London.

White House officials said Kissinger conferred Sunday morning with Nixon, briefing him on the Western Hemisphere foreign ministers conference from which he returned Saturday.

Woman psychiatrist seeks Ervin seat

CHARLOTTE—Dr. Mildred T. Keene, a 46-year-old woman psychiatrist with no political background, has announced her candidacy for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate in North Carolina.

In announcing her candidacy over the weekend, she joined a field of six other democrats and three Republicans who have declared their candidacy for the seat being vacated by Sen. Sam Ervin (D-N.C.).

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Pentax SMC Takumar 1:3.5 35 mm wide-angle lens. New condition. List \$144. Must sell. Now \$90. Call Ted at 967-4678.

For sale: Raleigh Sprint five-speed bicycle. In very good condition. \$60. Call 929-9729 around 10-11 p.m.

Pioneer 625 receiver—perfect condition, with warranty. Best offer. Also, Bang & Olufson Sp-12 cartridge. 1 year old. \$45.00. 942-8422.

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