ENVIRONMENT

President Nixon asked the Congress to lower the country's legal standards on clean air in the interests of getting more energy.

He wants the clean air act changed so that some power plants can switch from oil to coal, suspending requirements that protect the environment.

He wants the power to give some areas up to ten years more to meet air standards. And he wants to put off automobile standards by two years.

Russell Train who is in charge of the Environmental

Protection Agency says he is sorry it's not possible to move

as rapidly as the Clean Air Act ordered.

FOREIGN CAR

The three biggest carmakers say they are going ahead and laying off some forty-six thousand people - and Leonard Woodcock of the autoworkers union asked Congress to limit foreign car imports, saying his workers are being hurt badly by the rush to by small, cars that burn less gasoline that are made overseas.

Last month we were told the wholesale cost of beef, cattle, hogs and eggs went down. But the retail cost went up. Almost straight up. At a rate that - if it went on for a year, would raise the price of a typical basket of food by fifty-two dollars.

The secret grand jury report on what President

Nixon was doing during the Watergate coverup, went back

to the Federal court today, waiting to go to the House

impeachment committee on Monday. Five o'clock Monday

evening, unless attorneys for John Erlichmann and Gordon

Strachan decide to ask the Supreme court to hold itup. The

White House doesn't object.

VINYL CHLORIDE

The Labor Department put out strict new standards on the working conditions of people whose jobs expose them to vinyl chloride - saying there may be a connection between that chemical and a rare form of liver cancer. Vinyl chloride is used in the making of some plastics. The problem came out recently when several cases of liver cancer were reported among people who work at vinyl chloride plants in the south and east.

MIDEAST

Syria and Israel shot at each other across the Golan Heights again - for the eleventh day in a row. One Israeli commander saying its a Syrian war of attrition.

Secretary of State Kissinger is supposed to go to

Moscow tomorrow night and make arrangements for the

President to go there in June.

And in Tokyo, it came out that Prime Minister

Tanaka invited Russia's Leonid Brezhnev to visit Japan.

Peter Revson - the thirty-five-year-old American millionaire - was killed today at Johannesburg, South Africa, when his racing car crashed and burned during a practice run. He was a nephew of Charles Revson, who started the Revlon cosmetics empire.

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POPE JOHN

Has anyone forgotten Pope John the 23rd, the colorful much-loved head of the Church of Rome.

A peasant from a North Italian village, his name, Angelo Romcalli. Well, a book about him has just been written. Fascinating story of his career, and you marvel at his ever becoming Pope. But such was his charm, his wit, his wisdom, his way with people in all walks of life, that eventually, as you know, he did scale the heights, become a Cardinal. And then the Pope following his elevation to the Papacy, he delivered an appeal for peace that was broadcast in thirty-six languages. In it he said: Why should the resources of human ingenuity and the riches of nations turn so often to the production of arms - pernicious instruments of death and destruction - instead of improving the welfare of all classes of citizens particularly those who live in

The author of the book, Lawrence Elliott, and he's a protestant. He spent three years gathering material and writing this book. And this biography of Pope John is entitled "I will be called John." And it may turn out to be a classic. Don't miss it.

Lowell Thomas took the day off today and headed

north from New York - looking for snow and a place to ski.

Before leaving, he gave us this report on a new book:

TAPE RUNS: 1:10

OUTCUE: Don't miss it.

Note to John Hart: Lowell does not say "so long"

outcue is as shown above.

Hen 5.

In London some people who say they are the

Marxist-Leninist Activist Revolutionary movement sent a

letter to the Times of London claiming they are the ones who

tried to kidnap Princess Anne. And the letter said
"this is only the beginning of our campaign, you can expect

much more in the coming months and Revolution in October."

Scotland Yard is reading the letter, and says it doesn't

mean much.

Thomas. Goodnight.