

Thurs. Feb 26 - '76

In a special message to Congress - President Ford today urged speedy approval of his existing energy program; also, calling for additional legislation -- to speed the development of Alaska's vast natural gas resources.

The President calling natural gas - our "most critical energy problem" therefore, asking for power ^{for himself} _^ to determine ~~himself~~ the best of two competing routes - for moving Alaskan gas from the North Slope down here to the lower forty-eight. This to be subject to ~~congress~~ congressional approval - but the President specifying that "judicial review would be limited."

The President further urging a ceiling - on imports of liquified natural gas; to keep Americans from growing dependant on - quote, " another insecure foreign fuel. "

And now -

RIYADH

For Egypt's President Sadat - a bonanza today at the first stop on his current tour of oil rich Arab nations. ~~Amx~~ Saudi Arabia's King Khaled agreeing to provide Egypt with an immediate cash grant of three ~~mxx~~ hundred million; also, urging his fellow Arab rulers - to "extend speedy aid to sister ~~no~~ Egypt and cooperate among themselves in bolstering ~~up~~ the Egyptian economy - at this critical stage" in mid-East affairs.

CHURCH

Although officially a non-candidate up to now -
Senator Church of Idaho was declared eligible today
- for federal ~~now~~ matching presidential campaign funds.
The federal election commission moving early -
apparently in an attempt to beat its expected demise
this coming Monday.

WASHINGTON

Washington again - a full scale investigation of blue shield medical insurance was ordered today by the Federal Trade Commission. This in response to alleged conflicts of interest - in that doctors are deeply involved, and in some places, actually ~~control~~ control blue shield operations.

KWELEIN

Today's stop for touring Richard Nixon
in ^{China} ~~Chicago~~ - the city of Kwelein in southern Kwangsi
Province. Of which he said: There is none more
beautiful anywhere in the world. The former President -
then exploring Kwelein's historic caves; followed by
a banquet ~~there~~ where he expressed hope that Sino-
American friendship - will "last for generations to
come."

Here at home - President Ford ^{was} saying
he thinks Mr. Nixon's trip to China - probably was
harmful to his campaign in New Hampshire. But adding
as of yet - "we haven't been able to analyze ~~it~~ that
with any definiteness."

CONCORDE

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British Airways and Air France today disclosed ~~permanent~~ plans for daily Concorde supersonic jet flights to New York - starting April tenth; and soon thereafter - to Dulles airport near Washington.

This in a response to a court challenge ~~to~~ to the Concorde filed by U S conservationists.

PARIS

Volume three of Alexander Solzhenitsyn

epic Gulag Archipelago was published today in Paris.

Like volumes one and two - a stinging attack on the

Soviet system. The exiled Russian author saying at

one point: "There has never been on this planet - and

in entire history - a regime more cruel, more blood

thirsty - and at the same time, diabolically more

skillful."

MOSCOW

The President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences - one of the main speakers today at the World Communist Party Congress in Moscow. Anatoly Alexandrov criticizing those in the West - who call Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov "the father of the Soviet atomic bomb." Alexandrov saying: "There was no father - thousands and thousands of people worked on the ~~project~~ project. Alexandrov also saying Russia is rapidly catching up to the West - in "practical applications of science." Whereupon he was interrupted by ~~Russia's Brezhnev~~, a recent flu victim who asked "how about a flu vaccine?" Alexandrov replying: "Yes, we already have one - but it is very expensive."

TIRANA

The peoples republic of Albania - recently renamed the Peoples Socialist Republic of Albania - and now, comes word that about a third of Albania's two and a half ~~million~~ million citizens - will ~~be~~ also be forced to change their names. The new order from Tirana to ~~be~~ apply to all Albanian citizens whose names are found to be at variance - with Albania's political, ideological and moral standards.

A case in point - we are told - that of a woman named Hitler. A spokesman saying: "We have no many nice Albanian names such as Alban, Ilyr - or Mimosa. Adding: "They are certainly nicer than Hitler."

and now

EXETER

The Reverend Stephen Care, Anglican Vicar of St. Chad's Church at Exeter, England sentenced today to seven years in prison; on charges of robbing a bank, swindling insurance companies - stealing cash from his church's collection plate - and walking off with vestments and relics from a nearby abbey.

Why? The prosecutor saying Reverend Care simply developed - expensive tastes and decided to satisfy his wants, another way of saying perhaps - "the devil made him do it."

And now for CBS -