

Sunny  
 Lows in 40s. Highs in mid to upper 60s. N winds 15 mph. Map, data 2-A.

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## Power firms ask Graham to allow use of high-polluting oil

# State utilities face fuel shortages

Florida experts predict some gas shortages, 1-B

By VIRGINIA ELLIS

St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer

**TALLAHASSEE** — Threatened with severe shortages of low-polluting fuels, Florida's electric utilities asked Gov. Bob Graham Monday to declare an energy emergency that would temporarily suspend air pollution regulations.

Three utilities — Miami-based Florida Power & Light Co., Tampa Electric Co. (TECO) and Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) — warned that blackouts could occur within weeks if pollution regulations were not relaxed.

ALL THREE utilities said they had been notified by their suppliers that the clean-burning fuels required by federal and state air pollution regulations are either unavailable or in short supply. They placed part of the blame for the sudden shortages on the suspension of oil exports ordered by the revolutionary government of Iran.

Representatives from all the state's utilities predicted a prolonged shortage in the low-polluting fuels that would soon affect all of them. Florida Power Corp., which serves St. Petersburg, did not claim to be facing an immediate shortage of low-sulfur fuel.

See SHORTAGES, 6-A

## Carter sends rationing plan to Congress

Compiled from AP, Washington Post wires

WASHINGTON — President Carter sent to Congress Monday a standing gasoline rationing plan. Both the President and Energy Secretary James R. Schlesinger repeatedly have said that rationing would be used only "as a last resort." It was, nonetheless, on the list of long-promised measures to deal with the Iranian oil squeeze that the White House sent to Capitol Hill Monday.

Aside from rationing, the President

also proposed mandatory conservation measures including ending Sunday gasoline sales, banning decorative lighting and imposing lower thermostat settings.

Either house of Congress can veto the President's conservation and rationing package within 60 days.

Department of Energy (DOE) officials say that banning weekend gasoline sales would save from 171,000 to 327,000 barrels of oil a day.

See FUEL, 6-A

## DOOMSDAY III

It was not until two weeks after the strikes that officials had some idea of the extent of the devastation caused by the nuclear exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union. Soviet dead numbered 85 million to 100 million. U.S. casualties were about 80 million. Large-scale relief operations had started and workers began going into the devastated areas, but the food and water situation was acute. The President had assumed rule of the country by decree. In Clearwater, Mrs. Wechek and her son died. Wechek and his daughter moved to a refugee camp in Tarpon Springs. The Braggs managed to get a ride to a camp outside Bradenton.

## A month later, the Suncoast struggles on

By NAN RANDALL AND WILLIAM KINCADE  
 Special to The St. Petersburg Times  
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A month after the attack, the former inhabitants of St. Petersburg and Tampa were in somewhat better shape than people in many parts of the country that had sustained nuclear blasts. The mild climate meant fewer deaths from exposure. Because they were surrounded by fishing areas and fruit trees, Floridians ate better than many. And, being near the seacoast, shipments of aid were quicker in arriving.

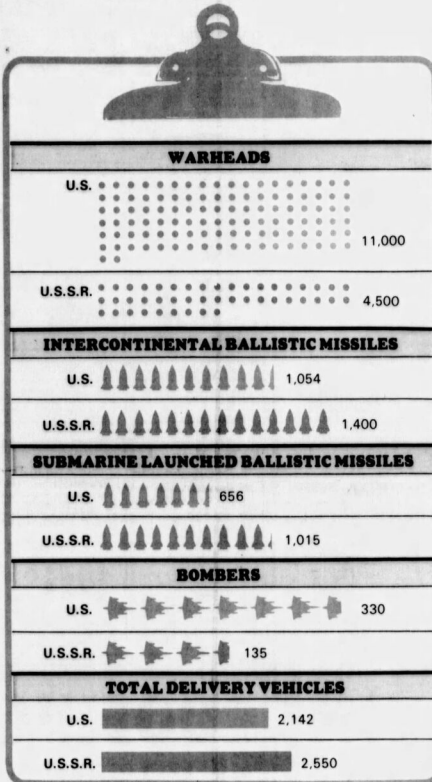
Rebuilding started on the perimeters of the devastation zones on those structures that had the least damage. The low, cinder-block buildings common to the area fared better than taller structures.

Even where not destroyed, the tall buildings, such as the high-rise condominiums, were presumed structurally unsound because of the stress on their steel or reinforced concrete skeletons. Although portions still stood, the Bayfront Tower and Bayfront Concourse (formerly the St. Petersburg Hilton) were condemned. Buildings like these were pulled down and salvageable materials taken from the rubble for new construction when the work crews could get to it.

AS THE FALLOUT lessened, teams pushed into the total devastation areas and completed the burial process. Proportionally more residents of St. Petersburg died in the attacks due to their age; blast and radiation effects dealt harshly with the elderly.

To the rebuilding teams, one of the most astonishing sights was the evidence left by the intense fires. Heavy steel and thick glass were melted into nightmare shapes. City blocks had been reduced to smoldering heaps of ash by fires that could not be controlled before they spread into stormy conflagrations, feeding on the trash and treasures of the city.

See DOOMSDAY, 7-A



Source: Institute for Strategic Studies, St. Petersburg Times — FRANK PETER

Comparison of U.S.-Russian nuclear arsenals.

## Mideast peace pact reported; U.S. denies it

United Press International

Egyptian press reports Monday said Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil reached a draft peace agreement with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan during their Camp David talks, but the State Department promptly denied the reports.

The Egyptian reports quoted Khalil in London as saying the Camp David talks, which were attended by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, "have produced satisfactory progress. If Israel responds to peace, then there will be no obstacles . . ."

"We have reached a draft agreement, after lengthy negotiations, that will be submitted to the governments in Egypt and Israel," Khalil said.

BUT THE report was quickly denied in Washington, where a State Department spokesman said, "For our part we deny that any agreement was reached."

The spokesman said, "We have been in direct touch with the prime minister (Khalil) and he confirms that he did not sign any agreement was reached."

In the press reports, Khalil said his negotiations with Dayan and Vance focused on a plan for Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip.

The conclusion was reached that the same rules could be applied to the Jordan West Bank, if those concerned wished it to be so," he said.

See MIDEAST, 7-A

## Report: Teng says conflict will end 'in a little while'

By JAY MATHEWS

Washington Post

HONG KONG — Chinese Vice Prime Minister Teng Hsiao-ping said Monday he hopes China's invasion of Vietnam will end sooner than China's 30-day war with India in 1962, but that China would probably attack Vietnam again if provoked, a Japanese news agency reported.

In the most specific discussion so far of China's timetable for the invasion, Teng told Kyodo news agency President Takeji Watanabe, "It's been nine days since Feb. 17 (when the war began). I think fighting will end in a little while."

The Japanese agency reported that Teng indicated the conflict might end in about 10 days, "or a few days more," because "Vietnam is stronger than India."

Hanoi radio and analysts here and in Bangkok said fighting was continuing near at least three important Vietnamese towns — Mong Cai, the capital of Quang Ninh province; Lang Son, an important rail center; and Lao Cai, a border city. Vietnam claimed the Chinese had suffered total casualties of about 180,000 through Sunday but said nothing of Vietnamese losses.

CHINESE TROOPS appeared to be as deep as 25 miles into Vietnam at one point, but there seemed to be no threat to Hanoi, at least 80 to 90 miles from the fighting.

See CHINA, 7-A



Senate confirms Leonard Woodcock as ambassador to China, 4-A

Southeast Asia's view of China-Vietnam conflict, 10-A

## Times DIGEST

### Senate approves Jim Williams nomination

The Senate Monday approved by voice vote the nomination of former Florida Lt. Gov. Jim Williams, 52, as the No. 2 official of the Agriculture Department.

Action by the full Senate followed by a few hours unanimous approval of the nomination by the Senate Agriculture Committee. Williams succeeds John White as deputy secretary. The Agriculture Department job has been vacant for more than a year following White's resignation to become chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

### Carter news conference

President Carter will hold a news conference at 4 p.m. today. The three major networks will televise it live.

### Mortgage rates, home prices expected to rise

The National Association of Home Builders Monday predicted mortgage

interest rates will rise steadily throughout 1979. The group released a forecast that projects the average national interest rate moving from the present 10.06 percent to 10.27 percent in the second quarter, 10.52 percent in the third quarter and 10.68 by the final quarter. In a separate announcement, the Mortgage Bankers Association said home prices are expected to increase 12 to 14 percent this year.

### A mistake made right — with interest

Bob Hecker, manager of the A&P store in Sharon, Pa., received the following note in the mail the other day. "Dear Sir: Several years ago, during the bottom of the Depression, one of your managers made a mistake of about 50 cents and I let it go. It has bothered me for a long time. I am enclosing \$5 which will cover any interest which might have accumulated. So sorry I didn't correct him at the time. Sincerely, A Customer." The \$5 bill was clipped to the letter.

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## Eclipse!

### An awesome sight for thousands of skywatchers

Eclipse triggers flooding, 2-A

Compiled from AP, UPI wires

Skywatchers by the thousands shared the awe of watching the sun suddenly go black on Monday in one of nature's spectacles that won't be repeated in North America until the 21st century.

Animals milled nervously, crows began to flock to nesting places, other birds in flight were confused and roosters crowed twice as day turned into night in a swath 175 miles wide across the northwestern United States and into Canada.

Wolves in the Washington Park Zoo in Portland, Ore. paced nervously as darkness began, then laid their ears back in submissiveness during the moments of total eclipse.

Street lights controlled by sensors flicked on in Spokane and Olympia, Wash. and elsewhere as the moon swept between the Earth and the bright orange disc of the sun in the last total eclipse to be visible on this continent until the year 2017.

ECLIPSE WATCHERS and solar groupies at Williston, N.D. gathered in snowdrifts and parks in 15-degree temperatures, which fell 6 degrees more when the sun blined.

"Hoory for the moon!" was the champagne toast among 24 eclipse-chasers high above the Columbia River gorge aboard a Boeing 727 jetliner chartered by the Pacific Science Center in Seattle.

See ECLIPSE, 8-A



Monday began as an ordinary day in Portland, Ore., above, but just about the time that many of its citizens were due on their jobs and its children at their schools, everything went dark, below, as the moon's shadow blotted out the sun and treated much of the northwestern United States to its last total solar eclipse of the 20th century.

