

Gas price controls returned . . .

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pres. Carter on Monday rescinded his predecessor's order lifting price and allocation controls on gasoline. He said he wants to review Gerald Ford's claim that competition would restrain prices.

On the day before he left office, President Ford lifted the Federal Energy Administration controls on gasoline. His action would have been effective March 1 unless Congress objected.

"President Carter does not by this withdrawal intend to imply any position on the ultimate merits or demerits of gasoline decontrol," Jody Powell, White House press secretary, told reporters. "Instead, he intends to conduct a review of these controls as an integral part of the development of an over-all energy policy."

"Among other things, such a review will examine the prior administration's contention that competitive market forces would

restrain prices for motor gasoline below levels which would be permissible even if controls remained in effect."

Consumer groups have disputed this Ford administration contention, arguing that lifting the controls would increase the cost of gasoline for consumers beyond increases which the controls allowed.

Carter took the action during a day highlighted by his first business session with his Cabinet. The session lasted three hours and touched on subjects ranging from natural gas allocation proposals to avoiding harmful dissension among Cabinet members.

The President told the Cabinet: "My own desire is to run the affairs of the federal government through you. This has not been done consistently in the past . . . If there are suggestions that you would like to get to me I'm always available, either in person to you, or by

telephone or by written memoranda."

Powell told reporters at his regular briefing:

- The President received a telephone call from Vice President Walter F. Mondale in Brussels. The two discussed "progress" Mondale was making in his discussions with NATO and Common Market officials.

- The first foreign leaders to pay Carter official visits will be Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo on Feb. 14-15 and Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau of Canada on Feb. 21-22.

- Carter has ordered an end to the longtime practice of having top White House aides driven to and from work in limousines.

"Although it is not yet possible to determine total savings of tax dollars, at least a dozen Chrysler sedans and eight other vehicles will be eliminated and personnel will be reduced accordingly," Powell said.

He said the vehicles have been leased at \$600 a year each.

- The President is likely to choose a new CIA director before the end of the week. Carter's first nominee, former Kennedy aide Theodore C. Sorensen, withdrew one week ago in the face of Senate opposition. Carter has said Ret. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Gavin has been suggested as a substitute.

Deputy Press Secretary Rex Granum said the Cabinet also discussed dissension among members.

. . .but natural gas price lift eyed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pres. Carter likely will ask Congress on Tuesday to temporarily lift price controls on natural gas to ease severe shortages in the East and Middle West, congressional sources said Monday.

The disclosure came as the Federal Energy Administration took emergency action to increase supplies of fuel oil and natural gas to counteract layoffs of thousands of workers around the nation because of the energy shortage.

Congressional sources said many details remain to be worked out, but that the White House legislation is expected to include:

- The temporary removal of price controls on natural gas shipped in interstate pipelines, possibly for 180 days.
- Authority for gas pipeline

Foreign fishers total catch down

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than half the fish caught within the United States' new 200-mile offshore fishing zone this year will be netted by foreign fishermen, the director of the National Marine Fisheries Service said Monday.

Robert Schoning told the Senate Commerce Committee the foreign catch would nevertheless be sharply reduced from that of recent years.

Schoning and Rozanne L. Ridgway, deputy assistant secretary of state for oceans and fisheries affairs, defended recently negotiated agreements between the United States and foreign governments that permit foreign fishing for surplus fish within the 200-mile zone.

World at a glance

From Associated Press reports

Rhodesian settlement rejected

SALISBURY, Rhodesia — Britain's shuttle diplomacy to achieve a settlement between Rhodesia's white minority and the black majority failed on Monday.

Prime Minister Ian Smith rejected British proposals for a transition government leading to black rule in 14 months and told Rhodesians he did so because they allowed for immediate control of the country by a "Marxist indoctrinated minority."

Britain loaned \$1.5 billion

LONDON — Britain received another massive international loan on Monday to bolster its reserves of foreign currency. The move immediately strengthened the pound.

The \$1.5 billion loan was made by a group of major North American, German and British banks. Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey told the House of Commons. He added it would provide important medium-term strength to the nation's currency reserves.

More NATO money possible

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Pres. Carter is considering boosting U.S. spending for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), but other NATO members should be ready to increase their own contributions as well, Vice-Pres. Walter F. Mondale told the North Atlantic Alliance Monday.

Despite plans to reduce the Pentagon budget, "Pres. Carter told me he is prepared to consider increased U.S. investment in NATO's defense," Mondale told NATO ministers at the start of his 10-day world tour.

Senate confirms HEW head

WASHINGTON — The Senate today confirmed Joseph Califano to be Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare despite objections by several senators that he could not fairly administer laws on abortion.

The vote was 95-1. Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., said Califano's passionate description of his objection to abortion made him a poor choice to manage the agency which provides federal funds each year for 250,000 to 300,000 poor women to finance abortions.

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