THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Nixon clamps lid on food prices

By NORMAN KEMPSTER

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Nixon, Thursday night ordered an indefinite ceiling on beef, pork and lamb prices from the slaughterhouse to the supermarket, not to exceed the highest prices charged in the past 30 days.

With a cross-country housewives' meat boycott scheduled to begin on Sunday, the President declared that "meat prices must not go higher. With the help of the housewife and the farmer, they can and should go down."

In a nationwide broadcast address from the White House coinciding with the end of the United States' 12-year military involvement in Vietnam, Nixon said he had ordered the Cost of Living Council Thursday afternoon to impose a price ceiling on meat processors, wholesalers and grocers "for as long as necessary to do the job."

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His move was not a price freeze — as demanded by such administration critics as AFL-CIO president, George Meany — and the ceiling will not affect farm-level meat prices, which Nixon has consistently refused to place under government controls.

Under Nixon's order, all meat retailers must display signs listing permissible ceiling prices on all cuts of beef, pork and lamb no later than April 9.

The Internal Revenue Service will be in charge of enforcement, but Treasury Secretary George P. Shultz told reporters that "the mood of the country is that this must be solved, and I expect there will be cooperation all around."

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The administration's reasoning, as outlined by Shultz, was that the ceilings would discourage holding back supplies in anticipation of even higher future prices, that they were high enough to increase farm production and — combined with a "housewives' rebellion" — should help force meat prices down.

At the same time, Shultz announced that Nixon would ask Congress for immediate authority to suspend import tariffs and quotas on goods beef, lamb and plywood which are rising rapidly in price and still not meeting domestic demand.

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In his 20-minute speech, the President also declared that the nation has achieved its goal of "peace with honor" in Vietnam, though he repeated his warning to North Vietnam against infiltration of men and equipment into the south.

Nixon also called for public support in his pending battles with Congress over expected vetoes of spending increases for domestic programs.

He said if he approved the spending bills now moving through Congress, it would either mean higher taxes or further aggravate current inflation.

Shultz said the combined action of the price ceiling, increased farm production and what he termed a "housewives' rebellion" would together help to bring meat prices down.

Shultz stopped short of an outright endorsement of a proposed meat boycott which some consumer groups are calling beginning Sunday. It's not so much the boycott but the clear fact that housewives are darned smart people," Shultz said.

He added that he expects some prices to be below the ceiling level.

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The announcement of the meat ceilings accounted for only two paragraphs in the speech which Nixon intentionally timed to coincide with the withdrawal of the final American troops from Vietnam and the release of the last of the U.S. war prisoners.

Besides Vietnam, the President touched on his budget and scheduled negotiations for mutual arms limitations. But he made no mention of the Watergate scandal or the continued U.S. bombing of targets in Cambodia.

Nixon said if he approved every budget increase proposed in Congress "It would mean a 15 per cent increase in your taxes or an increase in prices for every American."

"If you are willing to pay the higher taxes or prices that will result if we increase federal spending over my budget you should ask your senators and your congressmen to override my vetoes," Nixon said.

But he urged his listeners to take the opposite course and urge their lawmakers "to vote against more spending so that you won't have to pay higher prices or taxes."

DEADLINE — Hundreds of Baltimore citizens stood in line in front of the Department of Motor Vehicles Wednesday to purchase tags before the March 31 deadline. Mrs. Meriam Archer, (far left), of 300 N. Carey, was the last person in a lengthy line (center) when the AFRO snapped this picture. "I just got here," she said, "and the way things look, I'll be here for a couple hours!" In direct contrast, Mrs. Deborah Chester, (far right), of the 1100 block of Wicklow, was all smiles as she emerged from the purchasing window. "I've been waiting for about an hour. I got here at about 10 o'clock this morning and I'm finally finished. Bye!!"

—Murdered

(FROM PAGE ONE)

containing blood.

When she was told her aunt had not been to work she went to the apartment where she found a dried patch of blood on the floor of the locked front door.

"The yellow curtains to the left of Mrs. Johnson's body had been torn at the bottom and dried blood contained on same and the closed vinyl blinds covering the front door," police reports reveal.

Investigators state Mrs. Johnson's killer entered the room by forcing open the southside door from the frame. The door was left lying on the living room floor.

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Police quoted Mrs. Hilda Marie Brandon, 39, 1600 block Clifford Ave. as saying she became worried about her aunt after not seeing her for a while.

She said she sought the help of the Waverly apartments maintenance supervisor who opened the door to find Mrs. Johnson dead.

Funeral services for Mrs. Johnson were held this morning (Friday) at the Isaiah L. Brown Funeral Home with burial in Maryland National Park.

She is survived by her son Charles Stanfield; one sister, Mrs. Lizzie Harris, Bel Vernon, Pa.; five brothers, Slemmie L. Johnson, Washington, Jack and Frank Johnson, Roxboro, N.C.; Jeff Johnson, Long Island, N.Y. and Paul Johnson, Durham, N.C.

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BEFORE HOURS AND AFTER HOURS—Before he comes to his office each weekday, Comptroller Hyman Pressman gets behind the wheel of a Metropolitan Transit bus and motors commuters to their jobs. But School Superintendent Dr. Roland Patterson moonlights after hours with a brush and palette. His paintings are known to art collectors up and down the East Coast. (See other Moonlighters photos on this page)

MOONLIGHTERS—Among the prominent city people who work odd jobs on the side are Mrs. Marguerite Campbell, the Mayor's assistant; the Rev. Marion Bascom, pastor of the Douglas Memorial Community Church; and Mrs. Victorine Adams, City Council member. Mrs. Campbell slips out of her City Hall office each noon and sells fruits from a horse-drawn cart on Lexington St. The Rev. Mr. Bascom pumps gas, checks oil and changes tires at a neighborhood service station. Councilwoman Adams sees the cost of living first hand when she works as a check-out lady at a food store. If this seems unlikely, there is a reason. April Fool

Model Cities in trouble? Can't prove it by kids!

BILL RHODEN

If you happened to observe the group of over 100 happy youngsters participating in the Poets Inner City All Sports Day Event at the Druid Hill YMCA, Wednesday and Thursday, you'd have to continuously remind yourself that the Model Cities Agency was in severe financial trouble.

"Right now," says Jackie White, recreation specialist of area F, we're short of staff, we had to cut down from 24 to 12 people."

The Poets Athletic Club was formed in 1969 by a group of Dunbar High School graduates who sought to afford inner city youth an opportunity to participate in all forms of recreation.

In August of 1972, the club was officially funded by Model Cities, and according to Kenneth D. Chapman, director of the Poet Athletic Club, it has been a tremendous success.

"Originally," says Chatman, "the program was only intended for the summer, but due to overwhelming support by community leaders in Model Cities, we were able to continue."

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The all sports day is a seasonal affair which is held each summer, winter, spring and fall. It is the end result of daily clinics in which youngsters are taught skills in various sports by Poet staff members.

"The program," explains Miss White, "gives each of the kids an opportunity to demonstrate the skills they've learned in the clinics."

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Nachaniel Williams, recreation specialist for area G, said the response of the participants has been, "beautiful just beautiful."

"We do need help, though," he added. "As it now stands, our program won't be able to get adequate equipment until July."

The Poets Club is one of the few federally funded organizations to survive the recent government budget cuts-a fact which Chatman attributes to the club's relevance.

"We survived the cuts because we were getting across with the community's youth, we were reaching them, he says.

The next day long sports program will be held sometime in August. "I just hope they don't cut the staff anymore," says Miss White.

MR. AND MRS. RAYMOND HAYSBERT

—Ski mask bandits

(FROM PAGE ONE)

terious Forest Park Ave. robbers posed as collectors for a college fund.

Mr. Robinson said he told them he was getting ready for a shower but when faced with a revolver, let the men in. He said one gun-toter said, "Step back or I'll blow your brains out."

As the masked gunmen went through the house, they referred to themselves by numbers "one through five." Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Haysbert, and their husbands were herded into a rear bedroom, police said.

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The $2,000 cash was on a night stool in the bedroom. The five men left the house through the dining room door. Mr. Haysbert's wallet, $116 cash and several credit cards were taken.

Mr. Robinson told police he could possibly identify one of the suspects, age 20-35, 5 ft. 8 in. tall, 160 pounds, wearing a black overcoat. The weapons were an automatic rifle and 38 caliber revolvers.

—POW Rander

(FROM PAGE ONE)

every three minutes. Friends and neighbors wanted to hear the latest word and wanted to know when they could see him on TV.

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Lysa, a 7th grader at Pikesville Junior High School stated, "I told my teacher we had talked to him. The school made a special announcement Sgt. Rander had arrived. Everyone in school heard it. All of a sudden James Hodges stood up in the classroom and started to sing "Daddy's Home." The children at school would just walk up to me and say congratulations."

Mrs. Rander received a four page letter from her husband dated Feb. 23, 1972. Sgt. Rander sent the letter home by a POW. It was delivered to Mrs. Rander this week by a colonel.

Excerpts from her letter said "First, let me say that I am well and sitting on pins and needles because I will be home soon. I have prepared myself for almost any event because five years is a long time and I know a lot can happen in five years, even with you.

"It seems to me that many times I have heard your voice so clearly that it was almost real. I have only been able to live on my hopes for these last five years and I must admit

"I have been able to exist on hope and my dream and plans for our future. You should be able to see from this letter that my mental facilities are still intact and I personally would like to think, though I lost some weight, I am still the same Donald.

"I do have some changes in mind which I hope will make me a better father, a better husband and in turn a better man."

The letter was signed "I love you and will, twice as long as forever, Donald."

Sgt. Bogan of Morgan gets promotion

Sergeant Edward L. Bogan, the chief administrative clerk with the department of Military science at Morgan State College, has been promoted to the rank of sergeatn first class.

SFC Bogan's promotion was announced by Lt. Col. John H Branch, Jr., head of the College's department of military science.

SFC Bogan, who has been with the military science department at Morgan since 1970, has among his awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, The Army Commendaion Medal, The Good Conduct Medal, The National Defense Service Medal, The Vietnam Campaign Medal, The Vietnamese Staff Service Medal, and The Vietnam Service Medal.

Col. Hurtt home from second tour in Vietnam

Col. Clarence M. (Mel) Hurtt, arrived in Baltimore last night (Thursday), from duty in Vietnam.

His wife, Mrs. Virginia Hurtt, and an AFRO reporter and photographer met him at Friendship Airport. He had flown from San Francisco.

An Army career man who formerly headed the ROTC and military science department at Morgan State College, Col. Hurtt has had two tours of duty in Vietnam.

His main assignment the second time was an advisor. He was headquartered in Saigon, but spent most of his time in the field.

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Col. Hurtt was one of the first American officers on duty in Vietnam. His initial tour was in 1957. He went over the second time in July 1972.

Col. and Mrs. Hurtt, who will mark their 25th wedding anniversary in May, plan a trip to Nassau next week.

He will then go on leave for 60 days after which he and Mrs. Hurtt will report for his new assignment in Heidelberg, Germany. It will be his third assignment in Germany.

The Hurtt children include daughter, Patricia, wife of Robert Anderson, an Air Force vet and Morgan State student; and Susan, wife of Albert Tucker, N.Y. social worker.

SPRING CLEANING — Painters put finishing touches on the "Seclusion Room", an exhibit in the Spring Grove Museum. The museum was opened in conjunction with the hospital's 175th anniversary celebration which will continue through this May. Pictured standing from left are: James Carter and Tom Sharp. Kneeling is Woodrow Kirkconnell.

Teen center announces Spelling bee winners

The St. James Community Teen Center has announced the winners of a spelling bee it recently sponsored for teens between the ages 13-15 and 16-19.

In the younger division, the winners were Frank Henderson, Anita Jackson, and Victoria Venable.

In the older division the winners were Jeff Paige, Sheila Lockman and Kevin Livingston.

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Sheila Lockman was the overall winner, taking home a $25 war bond as first prize. Jeff Paige finished runner-up and won a $5 gift certificate. The bond was donated by 30 Flat Inc. and the gift certificate by Lieberman Cleaners.

KAPS conference here

By BLAINE TAYLOR

ToJay (Friday) marks the close of the three-day conference of Project KAPS (Keeping All Pupils in School) at Baltimore's Lord Baltimore and Hilton Hotels.

The city hosted directors and community representatives from 19 dropout prevention target cities from across the nation here to pool experiences and solutions to the problem of school dropouts

The conference was opened Wednesday with early morning addresses by Mayor Schaefer and Dr. Roland N. Patterson, city school superintendent, and these were followed by a series of workshops, tours of Baltimore's KAPS schools and private gatherings.

Earl R. Jones, acting director of the local Project KAPS and conference chairman, told the AFRO that a handbook was being developed out of what the conferees thought to be the best solutions to prevent dropouts and this would be distributed nationally.

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Dr. Evecett W. Abney, KAPS director for [illegible] Fla., stated he felt the program was a success in [illegible] his locale and in Baltimore. Under present funding, KAPS is scheduled for renewal in 1975, but Miss Mary Pat Justice, language coordinator, and others are skeptical about the Nixon Administration's reviving the program, due to the President's recent budget cuts.

Mrs. Gertrude Brooks, community assistants coordinator, also felt the program was making a dent in Baltimore's dropout rate, and hopes it will be refunded.

Jobs open

Open competitive examinations have been announced for the following civil service jobs by Thomas J. Murphy, personnel director.

Applications should be filed in the commission's office at 10 South St. no later than April 6.

All the jobs require graduation from high school and at least two years paid experience, in some cases more.

The jobs openings are for a Medical laboratory technician salaried at $7,039; food delivery supervisor, salaried at $7,682 per annum; and a pumping operations technician, also salaried at $7,682 a year.

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