

From the Press Office

SUMMARY OF ABC'S "A.M."

Today, on the second anniversary of his peace trip to Jerusalem, Egypt's President Sadat formally laid claim to Mt. Sinai.

The problems of refugees in East Timor and South East Asia have been gaining increased attention in the United States. It has resulted in a special Congressional hearing on East Timor being called for next month. Freelance journalist, Jeremy Mark, has made a special study of the refugee crisis: interviewed. Said there is a growing interest in Washington these days in East Timor, particularly in the last two weeks and with considerable press interest in the subject.

Timor: Ken Pottinger reports from Lisbon that a new organisation has been formed to fight for the independence of the former Portuguese territory of East Timor. At a press conference announcing the start of a campaign for independence for the Pacific Ocean territory, a former resident of Timor said the movement had no political ideology and welcomed support from all willing to fight for independence. The movement's first objective is to get the Portuguese Government and the U.N. behind a campaign to oust the Indonesians who formally annexed Timor in July 1976. The group wants the Portuguese Government to take over administrative responsibility for Timor in the interim period before full independence was granted. The movement seeks to retain independent Timor's links with Portugal in a country run by a Christian government with freedom of worship and political association.

Three Americans from among the 80 hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran have been freed by their Muslim captives and are now in hospital in West Germany. 10 others later told foreign reporters that they too would be released later tonight. In Washington, the suggestion of placing the other American diplomatic hostages on trial has created a sense of outrage. Report from Peter Barnett in Washington.

Union officials and industry leaders rubbed shoulders last night with a common purpose; to farewell the strong-man of N.S.W. Labor politics, John Ducker, at a \$25 a head dinner. Report from Graham Ramsey.

The former South Australian Premier, Don Dunstan, has dismissed allegations about him contained in a new book called "It's Grossly Improper" as a distorted fantasy. It is claimed that Mr. Dunstan gave special favours to Mr. John Ceruto because of their close friendship. Ceruto maintains the allegations are correct and adds that he may back them up. Report from Peter Rapp in Adelaide. Interview with Don Dunstan.

The nation's share markets have experienced their sharpest fall since June 1974, as interest rates rise overseas and gloom settles over the international economic world. Interview with Allan Wood, Chief Economic of the Syntec group of management consultants.

The man that most of Britain is waiting to hear from is the self-confessed Russian spy and former member of the Royal household, Professor Anthony Blunt. According to his solicitor, Blunt will give a press conference shortly and the whole affair will be debated in the House of Commons tomorrow. Report from Richard Palfreyman in London.

As mentioned earlier, ten hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran were allowed to hold a press conference earlier this morning, in which they told journalists that they expected to be released later tonight. Warwick Adderly contacted the Embassy: interview with one of the students.

A new book comes out today concerning the ABC's multilingual access station in Melbourne, 3ZZ, which was closed amid great controversy in June 1977 when the Federal Government felt it was having a dangerously divisive effect on the ethnic community. The book, "Radio Power", was written by a former staff member of 3ZZ, Joan Dougdale: Interviewed. (Transcript attached).