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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN DENOUNCES WARNING BY QADDAFI ON RETALIATION -- President Reagan denounced "fellows who think it's all right to shoot 11-year-old girls."
(Washington Post, New York Times, Washington Times, Baltimore Sun, AP, UPI, Reuter)

REAGAN: SOVIETS BEHIND THREATS TO HEMISPHERE -- President Reagan, scheduled to fly to Mexico today, charged that Soviet-sponsored narcotics trafficking and terrorism represent "the most insidious and dangerous threats" to the Western Hemisphere." (Washington Post, New York Times, AP, UPI, Reuter)

NATIONAL NEWS

LAXALT PRESSES LAWSUIT OVER ARTICLE IMPLYING MOBSTER TIES -- Sen. Laxalt has sent his lawyers to Reno, Nev., to examine the rights of American journalists, the nature of guilt by association and the reach of organized crime.
(Washington Post)

UNDER PRESSURE, PENTAGON SCRAPS HIGHLY PERSONAL POLYGRAPH MANUAL -- Defense officials have pledged to restrict their screening to counterintelligence topics, not personal matters.
(Washington Post)

NETWORK NEWS (Thursday Evening)

LIBYA -- Matters went from bad worse as Quaddafi threatened war if the U.S. tries to retaliate for terrorist attacks.

ARAFAT -- Arafat called the President a robot and a parrot who repeats what is dictated to him, and said there is no point of comparison between Reagan Jimmy Carter. Arafat praised Carter as a man of principles.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS....A-2

NATIONAL NEWS.....A-6

NETWORK NEWS.....B-1

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN DENOUNCES WARNING BY QADDAFI ON RETALIATION

President Reagan, asked to comment yesterday on a threat by Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi to attack "Americans in their own streets" if the United States retaliates for last week's European airport killings, denounced "fellows who think it's all right to shoot 11-year-old girls."

Reagan's comment, in Los Angeles at the end of his New Year's holiday, came as his military advisers sifted through a Defense Department list of bombing targets in Libya ranging from a government facility to antiaircraft sites.
(George Wilson, Washington Post, A1)

U.S. PUTS PRESSURE ON ALLIES TO JOIN LIBYAN SANCTIONS

The United States imposed a ban on importation of Libyan oil and severed diplomatic relations with Libya five years ago. The Europeans have been reluctant to follow this lead because of close economic relations with Libya and dependence on Libyan oil.

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

REAGAN ASSAILS LIBYA

Since the airport raids last Friday, the Administration has accused Libya of sponsoring Aby Nidal, the reputed leader of the terrorists. The U.S. has also said that military retaliation is one of the responses under consideration.
(Baltimore Sun, A1)

U.S. URGES OTHER NATIONS TO CUT OFF QADDAFI REGIME
Reagan Weighs Options For A Military Response

The United States insisted Thursday that its sanctions are the strongest international actions being taken against Libya and urged other nations to join in the effort to isolate the regime of Muammar Qaddafi.

The call for increased measures against Libya came as the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea ended a holiday stop in Naples to cruise the Central Mediterranean close to the Gulf of Sidra and the Libyan Coast.
(Walter Andrews/James Morrison, Washington Times, A1)

REAGAN -- LIBYAN REPRISALS

ABC News, citing unidentified U.S. officials and military sources, said options under consideration by Washington ranged from supporting an Israeli strike to launching its own bombing raid on selected targets in Libya. CBS News, meanwhile, quoted informed sources as saying U.S. forces in the Mediterranean Sea are being built up in case President Reagan decides on a retaliatory strike.
(Reuter)

ADMINISTRATION WEIGHS FURTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST LIBYA

"We are looking at other things we could do," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said. "These measures, of course, would be more effective if they were undertaken more widely by the international community. There is no doubt about that." (Matthew Quinne, UPI)

U.S. WARNS AMERICANS LIVING IN LIBYA

WASHINGTON -- The State Department is warning 1,500 Americans living in Libya that they are endangered by that nation's leaders whom President Reagan calls "fellas who think it's all right to kill 11-year-old girls." Spokesman Charles Redman warned Americans against violating a four-year-old U.S. law against going to Libya. (Henry Gottlieb, AP)

LIBYA SAID TO PREPARE PROTESTS AGAINST U.S.

TRIPOLI -- Libya prepared today mass anti-American demonstrations following Col. Qaddafi's warning that the U.S. and Israel face retaliation if they avenge the two Palestinian terror attacks at two European airports. (UPI story, Washington Post, A24)

LIBYANS ORCHESTRATE ANTI-AMERICAN SHOW

Diplomats said they doubted the 1,500-strong American community in Libya would be harmed during the planned demonstration because of Libya's need for U.S. technical assistance. U.S. companies are deeply involved in Libya's oil industry. (UPI story, Washington Times, A1)

LIBYA LAUNCHES ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS

Organizers of the state-sanctioned demonstrations were reportedly alerting people in Tripoli to turn out for the protests. Small groups of young people gathered on the city's green square. (UPI)

LIBYA AND EUROPE: OUTRAGE BUT NO SANCTIONS

BONN -- The political influence of Libya in Western Europe has begun to weaken as a result of its purported sponsorship of terrorists and the collapse of oil prices, diplomatic and political sources in various capitals say. But these authorities say West Germany, Italy and several other Western European countries remain economically entangled with Libya and averse to suggestions of punitive measures for terrorist activity, most recently the attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports.

(James Markham, New York Times, A1)

WESTERN EUROPEANS INCREASE ANTITERRORIST EFFORTS

PARIS -- Governments and security services across Western Europe have stepped up their antiterrorist efforts in the wake of the recent spate of hijackings and bombings and have reported some successes. Yesterday, Belgian police announced the arrests of two Arabs suspected of planning an attack on the Brussels airport similar to last week's airport attacks by Palestinian terrorists in Rome and Vienna.

(Michael Dobbs, Washington Post, A1)

REAGAN: SOVIETS BEHIND THREATS TO HEMISPHERE

LOS ANGELES -- President Reagan charged Thursday that Soviet-sponsored narcotics trafficking and terrorism represent "the most insidious and dangerous threats" to the Western Hemisphere. In responses to a Mexican news agency on the eve of a meeting with Mexican President de la Madrid, Reagan employed his harshest anti-Soviet rhetoric since the November summit with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A9)

REAGAN ACCUSES SOVIET OF AIDING LATIN TERRORISTS

Mr. Reagan's remarks were contained in written responses to recent questions from a Mexican publication, Noticias de Mexico, which were released by the Western White House in Los Angeles Thursday.

(Gerald Boyd, New York Times, A1)

REAGAN: SOVIET-BACKED "TWIN EVILS" THREATEN WEST

LOS ANGELES -- President Reagan, heading for his fourth meeting with Mexican President de la Madrid, says Soviet-backed drug trafficking and terrorism pose today's "most insidious and dangerous threat to the West."

Reagan will be in Mexico for about four hours today to meet privately with de la Madrid in the border town of Mexicali, followed by a meeting with aides and a formal luncheon.

(Ira Allen, UPI)

REAGAN TO MEET WITH MEXICO PRESIDENT DE LA MADRID

LOS ANGELES -- As President Reagan prepared to fly to Mexico today for a meeting with President de la Madrid, U.S. officials expressed concern that Mexico's long history of political stability could be disrupted by its increasingly powerful drug chieftains. A senior U.S. official who briefed reporters Thursday said an estimated one-third of all cocaine shipments to the U.S. pass through Mexico.

(George Gedda, AP)

MEXICO, U.S TO SOUND VIEWS ON THORNY ISSUES

A senior U.S. official told reporters the two leaders would update each other's views but said he did not expect the meeting to produce any new agreements.

(Reuter)

SOVIET EMIGRATION RECORD ASSAILED

NEW YORK -- The Kremlin is playing a "cruel cat-and-mouse game" with the 400,000 Jews trying to leave the Soviet Union, Jewish human rights activists charged today. The leaders of the coalition to Free Soviet Jews and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry said that Soviet Jews have only been allowed to trickle to the West since 1969, when a record 51,320 Jews were permitted to emigrate. (Carol Rosenberg, Washington Post, A6)

GORBACHEV OFFERS DEAL TO SPARE BRITAIN IN WAR

LONDON -- Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a letter to the left-wing leader of the Greater London Council offering Britain to spare Britain from the threat of nuclear attack if it dismantles its nuclear weapons and American nuclear bases from its territory. Britain, said Gorbachev, could still be a member of NATO, and the Soviet Union would put these non-nuclear guarantees into a legal agreement. (Peter Almond, Washington Times, A6)

SOVIETS TAKE NEW TACK

Soviet leader Gorbachev has said his government is prepared formally to renounce the targeting for use of nuclear weapons against Great Britain or any other country that removes all nuclear armanents and foreign nuclear bases from its own soil. The offer to renounce nuclear use against specific countries was part of an ongoing Soviet effort to persuade Western governments that they can best assure their own security by eschewing nuclear weapons and distancing themselves from U.S. nuclear policy. (Karen DeYoung, Washington Post, A21)

NEW INDICTMENT LODGED AGAINST ALLEGED SPY

A federal grand jury in Alexandria issued a new indictment of accused spy Larry Wu-Tai Chin yesterday, charging the former CIA analyst with giving the Chinese classified American assessments of China's "strategic, military, economic, scientific and technical capabilities and intentions." (Ruth Marcus, Washington Post, A7)

CHIN INDICTED ON MORE ESPIONAGE

Former CIA analyst Larry Wu-Tai Chin, already in custody on an espionage charge, now faces 17 more counts of espionage, income tax violations and failure to report foreign bank accounts, the Washington Post said today. (UPI)

NATIONAL NEWS

LAXALT PRESSES LAWSUIT OVER ARTICLE IMPLYING MOBSTER TIES
Libel Bid Challenges Report On Hotel Loans

Last year, when Sen. Paul Laxalt (R-Nev.) was helping to guide his friend President Reagan toward a landslide reelection victory, Laxalt sued the McClatchy Newspapers, several editors and Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Denny Walsh for \$250 million, saying he was libeled in a story published the previous year. Laxalt appears to have suffered no political harm from the article. His supporters say he wants to fight the suit to the end because the story called into question his personal integrity.

(Jay Matthews, Washington Post, A1)

UNDER PRESSURE, PENTAGON SCRAPS HIGHLY PERSONAL
POLYGRAPH MANUAL

The Defense Department, under pressure from congressional investigators, has scrapped a training manual that instructed polygraph instructors to assess the sexual preferences and union, religious and racial associations of persons seeking security clearances.

(Michael Weisskopf, Washington Post, A4)

FAA INSISTS '85 WAS A SAFE AIR YEAR

Federal Aviation Administration chief Donald Engen said Thursday that 1985 was one of aviation's safest years, despite a record number of deaths because of plane crashes and terrorism.

"I have great confidence that 1986 will be better," Engen said on the "Today" program.

(UPI story, Washington Times, A1)

FARM DEBT DECLINES IN SOME CATEGORIES

Preliminary figures show that U.S. farm debt leveled off in 1985 and in some major categories may actually have declined, according to Agriculture Department officials. Not counting what families owe on homes, furnishings and other household items, total farm debt "was likely" to have been about \$198.9 billion at the end of 1985, the same as on Dec. 31, 1984, the department's Economic Research Service said in the January issue of "Agricultural Outlook" magazine.

(Don Kendall, AP)

ADMIRAL REPRIMANDED FOR ANTIQUE-CAR WORK

NORFOLK -- Rear Adm. Scott Ebert, under investigation for use of government personnel and funds at two military supply centers, has received a letter of reprimand and has retired, the Navy said today. Ebert was accused of having Navy personnel work on his antique 1926 Bugatti Type 35 race car when he was assigned in Norfolk, said Lt. Cmdr. Craig Quigley, an Atlantic Fleet spokesman.

(AP story, Washington Post, A12)

CONTRACTOR'S TRAVEL COSTS CHALLENGED

The Defense Department is challenging hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of bills submitted since 1982 by Edward J. Uhl, chairman of Fairchild Industries, to cover air commuting expenses from his house near Chesapeake Bay to corporate headquarters 100 miles away, it was disclosed Thursday.

(AP story, Washington Post, A16)

AGENCIES' AUTHORITY CHALLENGED

The Justice Department appeared in a brief filed this week to ally's itself with conservatives who argue that a host of federal regulatory agencies are operating unconstitutionally, legal experts said yesterday. Among the agencies are the General Accounting Office, the Federal Trade Commission, the Securities and Exchange Commission, Federal Communications Commission, Consumer Product Safety Commission and Interstate Commerce Commission.

(Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A17)

SEN. DOLE URGES CANCELLATION OF AIR FORCE'S T46

Sen. Dole urged the Air Force Thursday to cancel production of its new T46 trainer, saying it is obvious that the planes cannot be built on schedule or within budget.

(AP story, Washington Post, A16)

DOLE -- AIR FORCE TRAINER

Canceling the T-46, being produced by the Fairchild Republic Co., might produce new business for the Cessna Corp., of Wichita, Kansas, in the Republican leader's home state. Cessna has proposed an unsolicited plan to retool and refurbish the aging T-37 Air Force trainer, which Cessna originally built, as an alternative to the T-46.

(AP)

SCIENTIST ASSESSES S.D.I. AS A '90s REALITY

Major technical advances within the last two years should enable the United States to deploy the first phase of the Strategic Defense Initiative by the early or mid-1990s, President Reagan's outgoing science adviser says. "There have been monumental breakthroughs that have made us far more confident 2 1/2 years later than we projected even in the optimistic tone in the original S.D.I. speech," said George A. Keyworth II in an interview before he left his post last week.

(Roger Fontaine, Washington Times, A1)

U.S. FACTORY ORDERS RISE

Orders to U.S factories rose a modest 1 percent in November even though demand for durable goods fell for the third consecutive month, raising concern among economists about the strength of the economy heading into the new year.

(AP story, Washington Post, E1)

SEC CENSURES BACHE FOR TOLERATING FUND

The SEC said Thursday it censured Prudential-Bache Securities, Inc. for tolerating fraudulent behavior by six of its employees in two separate cases that led investigators -- some of them elderly and unsophisticated -- to put their money at risk. (Washington Post, E1)

AP, UPI MAKE IT OFFICIAL: OKLAHOMA'S No. # 1

In a vote devoid of drama because Oklahoma's three closest rivals all lost bowl games Wednesday, the Sooners were named the mythical national champion of college football yesterday in the two major news-service polls. (Washington Post, C1)

EDITOR'S NOTES: 'Commissioner's Time On Job Is Postwar Record,' page A17 of the Washington Post. 'Will Reaganism Outlast Reagan?,' page D1 of the Washington Times.

'Lobbyists' Spending Aimed At Tax And Textile Measures,' appears on page A2 of the Washington Post.

(Thursday Evening)

LIBYA

CBS's CHARLES KURALT: Matters went from bad to worse between the United States and Libya today. Yesterday Libyan strongman Muammar Quaddafi threatened war if the United States tries to retaliate for the terrorist attacks on the airports at Rome and Vienna. Today President Reagan had hard words for Quaddafi, but this is not only a war of words, it's beginning to have a military aspect.

CBS's DAVID MARTIN: Informed sources tell CBS News that American forces in the Mediterranean have been built up, part of what one Pentagon official called a prudent precaution in the event President Reagan orders a retaliatory strike against Libya. One source said he believes a Soviet intelligence ship has been relaying information about the build-up to Soviet advisors in Libya. One of the arguments against retaliating for last week's airport massacres has been the fear that Muammar Quaddafi would seize Americans working in Libya as hostages. Today the State Department warned the 1,500 Americans now in Libya to get out.

(TV coverage of Charles Redman: "All we can say is that given the nature of this particular regime that you are taking a risk by remaining in the country.")

President Reagan was asked what he thought about Quaddafi's threats of what he would do if the U.S. strikes.

(TV coverage of the President with graphics: "I don't answer to fellows who think it's alright to shoot 11-year-old girls.")

U.S. intelligence reports that Libyan armed forces have gone on full alert putting their Soviet-built air craft on runway alert, manning air defense radars around the clock, and sending their patrol craft out to sea. The Libyans are also rushing their new long-range Soviet-built anti-aircraft missiles into service. Some analysts estimate a makeshift air defense network could be operational in two weeks time. One U.S. official suggested the deployment of the Navy planes had been leaked deliberately in order to cover more sensitive preparations for an air-strike. All officials stress the build-up in the Mediterranean does not guarantee an air-strike will take place.

(CBS-7)

ABC's PETER JENNINGS: Is the United States going to go after Libya's Col. Quaddafi? Seven days after the terrorist attacks in Rome and Vienna airports which Quaddafi publically supported, the United States and Israel are still trying to make a case for retaliation. Quaddafi said yesterday that any violence against him will be answered with violence, and violence is one of the options which the Reagan Administration is considering.

ABC's JOHN McWETHY: President Reagan in California today set the tone for how the U.S. government would respond to Quaddafi's threats.

(TV coverage of the President: "I don't answer to fellows who think it's alright to shoot 11-year-old girls.")

The State Department also chose to ignore the Libyan leader's threats of violence against America.

(TV coverage of Charles Redman: "Quaddafi's statements are not worthy of being dignified by comment.")

(Thursday Evening)

McWETHY continues: The U.S. government, of course, is not ignoring Quaddafi. The Reagan Administration is urging other countries to impose stiff economic and political penalties. Further, U.S. officials say military action against Libya is now being very seriously considered. Military sources tell ABC News the options range from supporting an Israeli strike, to ordering American B-52s to hit selected targets in Libya, B-52s that would fly non-stop from the U.S. as they did in this exercise to Egypt several years ago. Tomorrow the aircraft carrier Coral Sea ends a holiday visit to Naples, Italy. Under consideration -- sending the ship and its escorts to conduct exercises in the disputed waters of the Gulf of Sidra off Libya's coast where four years ago American planes shot-down two Libyan fighters. The risk of flying over the Gulf of Sidra may soon go up, however. U.S. intelligence sources say the first of Libya's new Soviet-made long-range SA-5 anti-aircraft missiles, which analysts thought would take four to six months to install, could now be operational in just two weeks. Analysts also say another dozen of these missiles are on their way to Libya from the Soviet Union. U.S. officials say any military option against Libya has large potential risks, not only that American or Israeli planes would be shot-down, but also the risk of what might happen to the 1,500 to 2,000 Americans who live in Libya, as well as the risk that Quaddafi might just carry out his threat to send his terrorists to the streets of America. Analysts also worry that a military strike at Libya might do for Quaddafi what he has been unable to do for himself -- to make him a hero to much of the developing world by casting himself as a helpless victim of American military might instead of the vicious supporter of terrorism that the U.S. accuses him of being. (ABC-Lead)

NBC's TOM BROKAW: President Reagan had little time today for Libyan strongman Muammar Quaddafi. Yesterday, Quaddafi praised the attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports and said if Israel or the United States attacked his country, Libyans would assault Americans in their own streets. Anne Garrels reports tonight that the youngest victim of the Rome airport terror was on the President's mind today.

NBC's ANNE GARRELS: As he ended his vacation, President Reagan had one short comment on Quaddafi's threats: I don't answer to fellows, he said, who think it's alright to shoot 11-year-old girls.

(TV coverage of the President.)

The State Department took the same position.

(TV coverage of Charles Redman: "We particularly abhor Quaddafi's making excuses for the indiscriminate slaughter of innocent men, women and children and rejecting the fact that these were pure acts of terrorism. Beyond this we will not dignify his remarks.")

Officials are now adding new economic sanctions to their list of options. Since 1981, the U.S. has no diplomatic relations with Libya. Trade, particularly in sensitive technology, has been dramatically reduced, but nearly one-half of Libyan crude oil is still pumped by American companies. While it is not clear if the Administration can legally stop this, officials do hope to ban future contracts. A reward for information leading to the arrest of Abu Nidal is another option, though the legality of this is also in question. Rewards offered before in two terrorist cases including the Achille Lauro have brought no results. Best of all, say officials, would be joint economic sanctions by all the allies.

-more-

(Thursday Evening)

GARRELS continues: (Redman: "These measures, of course, would be more effective if they are undertaken more widely by the international community, there is not doubt about that.")

In the past, the European allies have rejected sanctions against Libya because they said they needed the trade. The U.S. hopes the airport attacks will change their minds. (NBC-2)

ARAFAT

KURALT: The Chairman of the PLO, Yasser Arafat, had no kind words for President Reagan today according to the Kuwaiti news agency. Arafat called Mr. Reagan a robot and a parrot who repeats what is dictated to him, and Arafat said there is no point of comparison between Mr. Reagan and former President Carter. Arafat praised Mr. Carter as a man of principles. (CBS-8)

TERRORISM

KURALT: A Greek woman wounded in the attack on the Rome airport last week died today in an Italian hospital. She was the 15th innocent person to perish. Most of the terrorists responsible were killed, others were captured. It is still not known for certain who backed them or where their weapons came from, but Derrick Blakely reports from Brussels there is more evidence tonight of a Belgian connection.

CBS's DERRICK BLAKELY reports CBS News obtained a harrowing new communique signed by the Abu Nidal Palestinian terrorist group. It calls for increased suicide attacks against Israel and her allies -- in especially the United States, and it says the most effective way to conduct revolutionary violence is the so-called sacrifice guerrilla tactic. The communique, dated yesterday, made no mention of Friday's airport attacks in Rome and Vienna. Italian authorities are now looking toward Belgium for new clues, sending the chief Italian investigator there following the arrest of two suspected Arab terrorists. The two men arrived in Brussels Saturday on a flight from Athens. A computer check at passport control raised the alarm. The computer showed that one of the two Arabs had what police later described as links to a terrorist organization. For two days police followed the two men.... The Arabs were met by the Belgian owner of this video shop, Daniel Engels. Police arrested all three and a search of Engels' home turned up a machine gun, 12 hand-grenades, and 24 pounds of TNT made in Eastern Europe.... (CBS-9)

AIRPORT STRIKE

KURALT: In the wake of the terror attacks the Italian government has promised to tighten security at the Rome airport, but not much has been done so far, so today 3,000 airport workers put the pressure on with a 3 hour work stoppage. Among other things, the workers want metal detectors at the airport's main entrance. Most morning flights out of Rome were delayed today, but there were no cancellations.

(NBC-3, ABC-2, CBS-10)