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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

President 'Grateful,' Aides Cautious On Soviet Arms Control Proposal
-- The sudden presentation of the Gorbachev proposal took the White House by surprise.

(Washington Post, New York Times, Washington Times, AP, Gannett)

Shultz And Weinberger Disagree On Using Force Against Libyans -- The development came as Washington moved to deal with a new public threat from el-Qaddafi.

(New York Times, Gannett)

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan To Ask Hill For Broad War Powers -- Leading Cabinet officials are becoming impatient with legislative restrictions on deployment of U.S. troops.

(Washington Times)

White House Looks Into Clemency By Cuomo -- "I think Mario Cuomo would love to make it an issue between himself and the White House so he can play the poor underdog," the Republican chairman added.

(New York Times, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Thursday Evening)

ARMS TALKS -- Mikhail Gorbachev's plan to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the end of the century was the big subject in Geneva.

REAGAN/CORETTA KING -- President Reagan met with the widow of Martin Luther King, Jr. at the White House Thursday.

MARCOOS -- A subcommittee of the U.S. House is investigating reports that the Philippines President has made himself rich by plundering his country.

ACCEPTABLE SPELLINGS :



MOHAMMAR KADDAFI
MUHAMMAR KHADAFI
COLONEL GADDAFI
GERNAL QADDAFI
KHADAFY
KHADAFER
KHADAFY
KHADAFY DUCK
KERNAL KAZOO
KAPTAIN KABBAGE
KHAPTAIN KHANGAROO
KENNEL KHADODODOO
KLEM KADIDDLEHOPPER
KITTIM KABOODLE
MOREMORE IN KUSPIDOR
MORTUARY KOMPOST
MORNING SICKNESS
KOMMANDER KODPECE
SYRUP OF IPEKAC
COLONEL KURTADO

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT 'GRATEFUL' AIDES CAUTIOUS ON SOVIET ARMS-CONTROL PROPOSAL

President Reagan said Thursday "we're very grateful" for the latest arms-control proposals from Soviet leader Gorbachev. But Administration officials, while acknowledging that Gorbachev appeared to offer concessions, cautioned that he also repeated long-held Soviet positions that would -- unless altered -- block agreement.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan 'Grateful' For Soviet Plan On Nuclear Arms

WASHINGTON -- The President's comments came as American and Soviet negotiators resumed arms talks in Geneva, where the Russians formally introduced Mr. Gorbachev's proposal. He said the plan was "different from the things that we have heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union."

(Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

U.S. Dubious Of Moscow's No-Nuke Plan

The Reagan Administration Thursday rejected again a Soviet demand that the United States abandon its space-based missile defense system. However, the White House extended a polite welcome to what the Soviet Union characterized as an offer to ban nuclear weapons.

"It's just about the first time that anyone on the Soviet side has proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons," Mr. Reagan said.

(Jeremiah O'Leary/Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A1)

Soviet Arms Proposal Presented To Gain Maximum Effect

Moscow's official press quickly followed up by asserting on Thursday that the next move was up to the United States. The three-stage plan repackaged Kremlin arms reduction proposals, offered a step-by-step timetable and reiterated that the U.S. must abandon 'Star Wars' research before arms cuts can start.

(News Analysis by Carol Williams, AP)

Soviet Plan

Spokesman Larry Speakes called it "another step in what we hope will be an increasingly positive process." But Secretary Weinberger simultaneously rejected a new Soviet call for a halt in nuclear weapons testing.

(Gannett)

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ARMS TALKS OPEN IN GENEVA WITH NEW OPTIMISM

GENEVA -- The U.S. and the Soviet Union resumed their elusive search for a nuclear arms agreement here Thursday, meeting for more than two hours in a session dominated by Gorbachev's proposal to eliminate nuclear weapons by the end of the century.

The mood was noticeably upbeat inside the Soviet mission where the meeting was held and Moscow's chief negotiator, Victor Karpov, greeted the leader of the U.S. delegation, Max Kampelman, at the door with a broad smile.

(Los Angeles Times story, Washington Post, A20)

SHULTZ AND WEINBERGER DISAGREE ON USING FORCE AGAINST LIBYANS

Secretary Shultz and Secretary Weinberger continued to disagree publicly Thursday on using force against terrorist provocations in general and Libya in particular. Shultz, urging firm action against the Qaddafi government, said Thursday that "when we identify the source" of terrorism, "such as Qaddafi, who is clearly identified, then we have to go after it." Later yesterday, Weinberger, reiterating his view that caution was needed in using force against terrorists, criticized those who seek "instant gratification from some kind of bombing attack without being too worried about the details." (Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

Weinberger/Shultz Remarks

WASHINGTON -- Military retaliation isn't always the best way to reduce terrorism, Secretary Weinberger warned Thursday.

"There have been a lot of attacks made from time to time, and those have not ended terrorism," he said at a Pentagon press conference when asked about the widespread public support for a military strike against terrorist bases in Libya.

Secretary Shultz, in a speech Wednesday, had said that a "policy filled with so many qualifications and conditions that they all could never be met would amount to a policy of paralysis." (Gannett)

GORBACHEV SETS BROAD AGENDA

MOSCOW -- Soviet leader Gorbachev has established an agenda for tangible progress on U.S.-Soviet security issues, outside the area of strategic and space weapons, that Soviet officials clearly consider attainable by the time he and President Reagan meet again later this year.

Along with the wide-ranging arms proposals Gorbachev put forward last night, the Soviet leader also gave fresh incentive to the Vienna-based talks on troop reductions, to the international conference on security in Stockholm and to superpower talks on a chemical weapons ban, according to various Western analysts here.

(News Analysis by Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

GORBACHEV'S IMAGE AS PROTECTOR OF ARAB WORLD GETS LIFT

Gorbachev boosted his image as a protector of the Arab world in Libya's confrontation with the U.S. The Reagan Administration appeared weak and vacillating. That's the verdict of some U.S. government analysts on a week of strike and parry, threat, bluster and retreat on the part of the Soviet Union, Libya and the United States.

(News Analysis by Roger Fontaine/James Morrison, Washington Times, A1)

U.S. SAYS QADDAFI'S REMARKS PROVE HIS ROLE IN TERRORISM

The Reagan Administration said yesterday that Qaddafi's declaration that he will train and equip Arab guerrillas for "suicide missions" is proof of U.S. charges that "he has, in fact, been training terrorists for years." "Qaddafi is his own smoking gun," Secretary Shultz was quoted as saying in reaction to Qaddafi's threats against Israel and the United States during a long, rambling speech in Tripoli Wednesday night.

(John Goshko/George Wilson, Washington Post, A15)

SOVIET SHIPS SEEN AS WARNING SCREEN

TEL AVIV -- By deploying warships in the Mediterranean, the Soviet Union has created a "warning screen" against any Israeli aircraft and Naval vessels that may move West from Israel, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday.

(Washington Post, A16)

Israelis Say Soviet Spy Net Readies An Early Warning

"There are three ships, one intelligence, the others, something like destroyers, no doubt capable of detecting either naval units or airplanes that might take off from Israel," Rabin told a briefing for foreign correspondents in Tel Aviv.

(Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A1)

STATE DEPARTMENT MIDEAST CHIEF PLANS NEW PEACE EFFORT

A Reagan Administration effort to bring about Arab-Israeli peace talks, initially through a Middle East peace conference, is to begin this weekend as Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy travels to several countries in the region, State Department officials said Thursday.

(Don Oberdorfer/John Goshko, Washington Post, A23)

ACCUSED SPY'S STATEMENT IS CALLED INADMISSABLE

BALTIMORE -- Lawyers for accused spy Ronald Pelton argued Thursday that their client's alleged confession to FBI agents should not be admitted as trial evidence because the agents used "improper direct and indirect promises" to get Pelton to talk to them.

(Washington Post, A30)

U.S. SEEKS ANOTHER SOUTH AFRICAN CONSULATE

The Reagan Administration, in an apparent effort to improve relationships with blacks in South Africa, has asked permission to re-establish a consulate in the stronghold of the anti-apartheid movement.

The U.S. should be represented in an "industrialized area where there is a great amount of labor and political activity," said a State Department official familiar with South African affairs.

(Rita McWilliams, Washington Times, A5)

JAPAN'S TRADE SURPLUS WITH U.S. A RECORD

Japan's trade surplus with the United States hit a record \$39.5 billion in 1985 as its exports to the U.S. rose nearly 9 percent and imports of American goods fell 4 percent, the Finance Ministry said Thursday in a preliminary report. The surplus figure, however, is much lower than the already released U.S. estimate of \$50 billion for the year.

(Washington Post, D1)

UNITED STATES OPTIMISTIC ON TRADE TALKS

CORONADO, Calif. -- U.S. Assistant Trade Representative Charles Blum said he was optimistic the U.S. and its big trading partners would work out a unified position for world trade talks set for Geneva next Autumn. Blum said the meetings were vital because "if we disagree on the fundamental issues, other issues could not be resolved." (Reuter)

U.S. IS RAPIDLY REDUCING STOCKPILE OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR ARMS IN EUROPE Action Comes Two Years After Agreement With NATO Allies

The existing stockpile of older nuclear nuclear bombs, artillery shells, missile warheads and nuclear land mines, which grew to 7,000 during the 1970s, will drop to 4,550 within a year, according to Defense Department officials.

The reductions are being made under a plan drawn up by Gen. Bernard W. Rogers, supreme commander of NATO forces, after a disagreement with civilian officials in the Pentagon.

(Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A9)

U.S. INCREASES SUPPORT FOR OPPOSITION IN CHILE

SANTIAGO, Chile -- Departing from the quiet diplomacy of the past, which has failed to gain desired political liberalization in Chile, U.S. officials have begun to show more open support for the country's democratic opposition in its efforts to unseat one of Latin America's last remaining military dictators. The new U.S. stance has drawn criticism from Gen. Augusto Pinochet, who last month rebuked the new, activist U.S. ambassador, Harry Barnes, for breaking "the minimum norms of diplomatic relations." Barnes has made a point since his arrival in November of contacting leading opposition figures and human rights activists, even before meeting all four members the ruling military junta.

In another indication of his irritation with changing U.S. policy, Pinochet refused to receive visiting Sen. Kennedy, long a critic of human rights violations by the Pinochet government.

(Bradley Graham, Washington Post, A15)

EDITOR'S NOTES: 'Profit, Patriotism Produce A Ubiquitous Alliance,' page A8 of the Washington Post. 'Navy Looks For A Reason To Stay On Antigua,' Washington Post, A11,

-more-

NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN TO ASK HILL FOR BROAD WAR POWERS

President Reagan will ask Congress for a broad resolution, similar to that passed in 1964 following the Gulf of Tonkin incident, to empower the executive branch to use "whatever military force is required" to deal swiftly and effectively with the terrorist threat, a senior Administration official said. One option Mr. Reagan was said to be considering is a direct appeal to Congress through his Jan. 28 State of the Union address.

(John Wallach, King Features Syndicate story, Washington Times, A2)

WHITE HOUSE LOOKS INTO CLEMENCY BY CUOMO

ALBANY -- The White House acknowledged Thursday that it had raised the idea with the New York State Republican chairman of making a campaign issue of Governor Cuomo's granting of clemency to a convicted murderer. But Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., a senior political strategist for the Reagan Administration, denied that he told Anthony J. Colavita, the state's Republican chairman, to "jump" on the issue.

"The White House reached out to a chairman of the Republican Party in this state and said, 'Jump on this issue of life and death, jump on this issue of clemency, get in there and try to influence the Parole Board,' the Governor said at a news conference in his Manhattan office.

"I asked him, 'Is it an issue? Is anyone raising it as an issue?' " Mr. Daniels said. "I was trying to find out if it was going to be a real issue or not, whether it was something somebody was going to raise. It was their decision what to do."

Mr. Daniel's comments, in an interview Thursday, came only a day after the executive director of the State Republican Committee denied that Colavita or any other state Republican leader had talked with the Reagan Administration about the clemency.

(Jeffrey Schmalz, New York Times, A1)

White House -- Cuomo

NEW YORK -- Gov. Mario Cuomo said Thursday the White House has ordered state Republican leaders to make a political issue of his decision to commute the murder sentence of Gary McGivern to hurt Cuomo politically.

"This is a Republican political game that they're trying to play," Cuomo said. "It is distasteful, to put it mildly."

Mitchell Daniels, assistant to President Reagan, denied the White House has directed state Republican leaders to make a political issue of Cuomo's clemency decision.

"I really don't know anything about this. It's a New York matter. We don't have any involvement," Daniels said. (UPI)

SOME U.S FURLOUGHS EXPECTED

White House officials said Thursday that the \$11.7 billion spending cut expected March 1 under the new balanced-budget law would probably result in some furloughs for federal workers, although the full impact had not yet been determined.

At the same time, officials said it was almost certain that the first round of spending cuts would bring "few if any" reductions in force (rifs), or layoffs, among federal employees, as agencies attempt to save money in the last seven months of this 1986 fiscal year.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

JUSTICE TO FEEL BUDGET CUTS LESS THAN OTHERS

While other federal agencies have been eliminating programs because of a lack of funding, finances allocated for the Justice Department -- considered a priority agency by the Reagan Administration -- have soared. Since President Reagan took office, the department's budget has increased by some 0 percent.

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A5)

KING HOLIDAY

Coretta Scott King, after meeting Thursday with President Reagan, said there is "a contradiction between the rhetoric of Mr. Reagan and the policies that come from the White House." The widow of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who met with Reagan four days before the first National holiday honoring the slain civil rights leader, called the 35-minute session "constructive."

But she said serious problems remain for minorities. (Gannett)

HUD CHIEF: KING'S DREAM HASN'T COME TRUE

WASHINGTON -- Housing Secretary Samuel Pierce said Thursday that Martin Luther King, Jr. would have been honored by the national tribute to him but would have realized his dream has not yet come true.

"There's still too much prejudice in this country," he said. "And basically it's the white people that must meet that goal. That's what it's all about." (UPI)

WEATHER PREVENTS SHUTTLE FROM LANDING IN FLORIDA

Fog and rain prevented the space shuttle Columbia from landing in Florida yesterday, the latest setback in a trouble-plagued mission whose launch was postponed a record seven times, and one that could delay Columbia's next flight, scheduled for March 6.

(Washington Post, A4)

LYNG APPARENT FRONT-RUNNER FOR BLOCK'S JOB

Richard Lyng, who has had close political ties to President Reagan for about 20 years, apparently has emerged as the front-runner among candidates to succeed John Block as secretary of agriculture.

Asked if he would accept an Administration offer, Lyng said, "The fact is, I think almost anyone would accept it if the President asked."

(Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A11)

Lyng Appears Top Choice For Agriculture Post

Mr. Lyng, who started his public career as California director of agriculture under then-Governor Reagan in 1966, said Thursday in a telephone interview that he is maintaining a cautious attitude about the possibility of returning to government work.

"No deal has been cut," Lyng, 67, said. "It's inappropriate for me to comment on that. I don't want to give any signals on that right now."

(Myron Struck, Washington Times, A10)

VIRGINIA ON LIST OF POSSIBLE ATOM WASTE SITES

The Energy Department selected seven states as possible sites for a second vault to store highly radioactive nuclear waste for 10,000 years, drawing protests from Governors and other officials there and expressions of relief from those not picked.

(AP story, Washington Post, A5)

Government Narrows Nuclear Waste Dump List To Seven States

The Energy Department on Thursday chose 12 potential sites in Georgia, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Virginia and Wisconsin. Another eight backup sites were chosen in Minnesota, Georgia, Wisconsin and New Hampshire in case any of the front-runners are dropped, which the department considers unlikely.

(AP)

U.S.W. BLASTS REAGAN STEEL IMPORT PLAN: GIVES RANK-AND-FILE CONTRACT VOTE

WASHINGTON -- The United Steelworkers has given new power to its rank-and-file to ratify contracts, while adopting a policy statement blasting President Reagan's steel import program and vowing to make trade an issue in the 1986 congressional elections.

The statement labeled a "dismal failure" President Reagan's program of negotiating restraint agreements with leading steel-exporting countries to try to give domestic producers breathing space from foreign competition.

(Jeff Barker, AP)

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION RISES 0.7%

The nation's industries increased production by a strong 0.7 percent last month, the strongest showing since August, the government reported yesterday. The November performance, originally reported as a 0.4 percent advance, was revised upward to show stronger growth of 0.6 percent.

(Washington Post, D3)

REAGAN -- PHYSICAL EXAM

WASHINGTON -- President Reagan will receive a "mild sedative and painkiller" when he goes to Bethesda Naval Hospital Friday for a colon exam six months after his cancer surgery -- and there are no plans to transfer power to Vice President George Bush.

"We think the that the President will be fully capable of performing his duties should the need arise during the course of this procedure," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said. (Gannett)

ANNUAL PUSH FOR TEEN-AGE WAGE DUE

The fifth annual offensive by the Reagan Administration to pass the Youth Employment Opportunity Wage act -- otherwise known as the "subminimum wage" for teenagers -- is being prepared for Congress' return next week.

Congress has consistently sidestepped the subminimum wage issue, largely because it has been preoccupied with the federal budget deficit and is not prepared to spend considerable time on an inevitable bitter and lengthy wrangle over YEOW. (Peter Perl, Washington Post, A11)

NOMINEE SAYS HE APPROVES OF FED POLICY

Federal Reserve Board nominee Manuel Johnson said Thursday he is in general agreement with current Fed policy and indicated he sees no need for the central bank to try to lower interest rates aggressively. (Washington Post, D1)

DEA SEEKS TO EXPAND HERBICIDE USE

The Drug Enforcement Administration wants to use herbicides to eradicate marijuana plants on non-federal lands as it currently does on U.S. property, the agency said in a report. (AP story, Washington Post, A11)

A KENNEDY EARNED SOUTH AFRICA PROFITS

Ah, the joys of public service, and disclosure. Financial reports by Joseph P. Kennedy II, who is running for the seat of retiring House Speaker Tip O'Neill, show that he and his wife got between \$335,000 and \$835,000 in interest and dividends over the past two years from firms doing business in South Africa. (Washington Post, A28)

EDITOR'S NOTE: '4 Quit Treasury As Tax Campaign Resumes,' page A11 of the Washington Post.

'Heckler's Fine Farewells,' Washington Times page C2.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Thursday Evening)

U.S./U.S.S.R. ARMS TALKS

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Mikhail Gorbachev's surprising plan to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the end of the century was the big subject today when the new round of arms talks began in Geneva. The Gorbachev plan also continued to get attention from President Reagan.

(TV coverage of the President: "We are very grateful for the offer. We are studying it with great care. It is going to depend now on what takes place in Geneva." Reporter: "Are you encouraged by that letter?" The President: "Yes, it's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union.")

And as the two sides got together once again today in Geneva, even the Soviet negotiators were caught off guard by the last minute timing of their new leader's proposal.

NBC's Jim Bittermann: Surprisingly, it appears that the Soviet arms negotiators were sent back to Geneva two days ago without full knowledge of what their leader was going to say last night. According to sources close to the negotiations, they, like their American counterparts, had to work late into the evening to catch-up on the news. As the talks began this morning, several on the Soviet side seemed noticeably tired and the negotiators from Moscow could not always agree on what Secretary Gorbachev had said. Still, the leader of the delegation made clear to journalists the most important part of his boss' peace plan.

(Viktor Karpov: "That we as part of the third stage of delivering the world from nuclear weapons agree that we can get rid of American and Soviet missiles in Europe.")

Moscow is now no longer insisting that French and British nuclear forces be dismantled as the U.S. and U.S.S.R. reduce their nuclear stockpiles. That has been a key stumbling block from the beginning. And Moscow has come around to the proposal President Reagan first made more than four years ago, that both sides reduce the number of their medium range nuclear missiles in Europe to zero. But there is still a major problem for Washington, the U.S. says the Soviets cannot reduce the numbers of their highly mobile SS-20 missiles in Europe by simply moving them to Asian locations in the Soviet Union. American negotiators will insist that the numbers of missiles in Soviet Asia be part of any deal. After less than two hours of talks today, the arms delegations parted with the Soviets promising to come up with more details on their leader's grandiose peace plan as soon as they can get them from Moscow. No one, not even the negotiators, had expected much progress during this round of the arms talks. Now though, more than before, it appears that an agreement limiting medium-range nuclear missiles could be ready for signature before the superpower leaders meet for their next summit. (NBC-2)

ABC's Peter Jennings: In Washington and in Geneva today, American arms control experts and other Administration officials have been looking very closely at the Soviet leader's proposal to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the year 2000. The reaction so far is best described as cautious, and yet positive. We have reports from Geneva and Washington.

ABC's Sheilah Kast: Today the President himself responded to the Soviet proposal. He said he was grateful and encouraged.

(TV coverage of the President: "It's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union. It's just about the first time that anyone has ever proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons.")

But the President and his staff were cautious.

(TV coverage of Larry Speakes: "It remains to be seen how serious the Soviets are with a proposal that appears to be a sweeping proposal.")

The U.S. has reservations about several parts of the Soviet proposal, not the least of which is their call to abandon Star Wars.

(TV coverage of Secretary Weinberger: "The President's commitment and the priority that we attach to the strategic defense initiative is widely known and is totally unchanged.")

What may be changing are some nuances. For example, in publicizing their proposal, the Soviets used a word that could mean no research on Star Wars or could mean no development. What is the Soviet position?

(Speakes: "Certainly if it was one that would permit research and then discussion on deployment, that is the U.S. position.")

That's one type of question U.S. negotiators will pursue in Geneva. As long as such uncertainty remains unresolved, U.S. officials are willing to call the Soviet proposal a hopeful sign.

ABC's Rick Inderfurth: What a difference a day makes. Yesterday American officials thought the Soviets would be responding to the latest U.S. offer. Today the Soviets were talking about a new plan of their own.

(Viktor Karpov: "This agreement that we propose now which means we get rid of all Soviet and American missiles in Europe is a new proposal.")

U.S. officials tell ABC News that they intend to look closely at Gorbachev's latest proposal, especially his ideas on cutting missiles in Europe, but few officials expect much progress during this round of the talks, in large part because they believe Gorbachev will be preoccupied with consolidating his power at the upcoming party congress in Moscow. Despite this, U.S. officials say last November's summit did set a new tone for U.S.-Soviet relations, and the next summit, perhaps as early as this summer, will provide the two leaders with yet another opportunity to resolve their differences face to face. But as for now, this summit diplomacy has yielded few concrete results. And as one observer has put it, cordiality helps, but it is no substitute for arms control. (ABC-4)

CBS's Dan Rather: President Reagan today called Moscow's new no-nukes proposal, what the Soviets say could end nuclear arsenals by the end of this century, "different," and the President said he was grateful for the offer. Some other top U.S. officials were less upbeat. Moscow today was beating the drum for it long and loud. In Geneva it was the main talking point as a new round of U.S.-Soviet arms control talks began.

CBS's Tom Fenton: American negotiator Max Kampelman arrived in an upbeat mood despite the fact that the American side was surprised and upstaged by Gorbachev's sweeping proposals. Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov urged they be given careful consideration.

(Karpov: "I think that people in Washington should analyze them thoroughly before jumping to conclusions.")

The British Prime Minister's office confirmed today it received a copy of Gorbachev's proposals as did the French government. Britain said they contained new elements which should be investigated carefully.

(Eric Grove: "If the Americans do not take these up, this will have a very serious effect, I think, on European opinion, both governmental and popular. And the Soviet Union will then have succeeded in driving a wedge between the Europeans and the United States.")

The proposals put to the American side cover almost every major aspect of arms control from reduction of conventional weapons to the total elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. The negotiators met in the same room used by President Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev for their summit. The Soviets said they hoped it was a good omen, the Americans said they were ready to listen.

(Max Kampelman: "The American delegation is here in a constructive spirit.")

After hearing details of the Gorbachev proposal, one American negotiator said they were breathtaking in their scope. With the leaders of the two countries due to meet later this year, there's a deadline hanging over these negotiations. Both sides will now have seven or eight months, a relatively short time, to show some progress in arms control. The world will be expecting something more than just smiles and handshakes at the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

CBS's Lesley Stahl: The President said he was grateful for the Soviet offer and encouraged.

(TV coverage of the President: "It's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders of the Soviet Union. It's just about the first time that anyone has ever proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons.")

But other government officials were discouraged that Gorbachev went public before going to the negotiating table.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "It's a bid for public opinion and of course the seriousness of it would have been highlighted if it had been tabled first in Geneva.")

A major objection, Gorbachev's linking his proposal to a renunciation of space weapons.

(TV coverage of Secretary Weinberger: "The President's commitment and the priority that we attach to the strategic defense initiative is widely known and is totally unchanged.")

Stahl continues: Two areas described here as constructive, Gorbachev's statement on verification that included on site inspections long sought by the U.S., and his proposal for complete liquidation of U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe without the usual demand that British and French weapons be counted. But even here the White House complained that Soviet missiles based in Asia were excluded since they are mobile and could be quickly transported to the European theater in a crisis. Finally, the President's spokesman said the Administration is suspicious of the Soviet's new three month ban on nuclear testing.

(TV coverage of Larry Speakes: "We feel that the Soviets have an advantage and for the moment don't need to test. The United States feels that for our own national security it is important that we do test.")

Still, officials here say there is hope the new offer means the Soviets have decided to strike a deal on missiles in Europe that could be announced at the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit. (CBS-Lead)

CANADIAN TERRORISM ALERT

Jennings reports we begin tonight with a terrorist alert that is closer to home. In three Canadian cities tonight police are on alert because of an unconfirmed report that a Libyan was going to place a bomb on board an airliner bound for the United States. In the Canadian capital, Ottawa, tonight one man is in custody in connection with the investigation. His nationality is not known.

(ABC-Lead)

MARCOS

Brokaw reports as the emotional presidential campaign in the Philippines moves toward a climax, one the persistent charges against President Marcos is that he has made himself one of the richest men in the world by plundering his country. It's long been rumored that President Marcos and his wife have built a real estate empire in the United States and elsewhere. Now a subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives is investigating those reports. (NBC-Lead)

MLK, JR.

Jennings: reports finally this evening the commemoration of Martin Luther King's birthday. Yesterday would have been his real birthday, next Monday is the official holiday. His widow, Coretta Scott King, met with President Reagan at the White House this afternoon. (ABC-13)

Rather: reports President Reagan today met briefly at the White House with the widow of assassinated civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. Coretta Scott King was there to accept the proclamation President Reagan signed declaring Dr. King's birthday an official federal holiday for the first time next Monday. (CBS-4)

NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP

Rather reports a federal announcement today of the top seven states in a lottery almost no one wants to win. The list of what would be a very dirty dozen, 12 proposed sites in 7 states, one of which would be chosen to be the second underground storage site for highly radioactive nuclear wastes for thousands of years. The "not in my backyard you don't" protests began even before today's announcement was official, and even though a final site won't be picked until 1994.
(CBS-10, NBC-8)

ASBESTOS SUITS

Rather reports Conrail, the states of Florida, Idaho, and Washington State, school groups in New Jersey and Iowa, these are among the defendants in cases filed today by the Justice Department and the Environmental Protection Agency. The charges are that they violated safety rules on cancer causing asbestos during demolition or renovation of buildings.
(CBS-11, NBC-7)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

STAR WARS

New Star Wars Problem -- "However wrong we think President Reagan has been in pushing his Strategic Defense Initiative, popularly known as 'Star Wars,' he was at least trying to find a way to defend the United States against nuclear missiles that might be launched in anger or by accident. It is all the more disturbing, therefore, to hear that technology that is being developed for a defense system could easily be turned on its head to become a horrendous offensive weapon." (Dallas Times Herald, 1/15)

Thinking It Through Here... -- "The White House plans to spend less money buying new weapons and maintaining old weapons so that it can salt away extra billions for 'Star Wars.' It is like the settlers around Plymouth Rock in the 1600s rationing powder and ball for their muskets to save up for a nuclear submarine.... Defense readiness is not the only victim of the Star Wars project. It also hinders progress in arms-control talks at Geneva. By declining to discuss so much as an amendment to the anti-ballistic missile treaty that would set out rules under which both superpowers would investigate defense systems, the Administration virtually guarantees that nothing will be done to reduce offensive weapons. The White House needs to start over and think that through." (Los Angeles Times, 1/16)

ACID RAIN

Acid rain: diversion or action? -- "The acid rain problem needs more than study. It needs action. To the extent that the joint report embodies a new awareness that there is a problem with airborne pollutants, it is a welcome development. To the extent that the recommendation program could prove a diversion to get the U.S. off the hook, it is not." (Christian Science Monitor, 1/16)

Curtailing acid rain -- "Credit for the administration's about-face goes to former Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis, who spent the last year representing the President in talks with the Canadian government over the issue. Refusing to reaffirm the administration's shortsighted policy of procrastination, Mr. Lewis agreed with the Canadians that the issue doesn't need to be studied to death before the United States acts. As he put it, to say that sulfur emissions do not cause acid rain is the same as saying that smoking does not cause lung cancer." (Dallas Times Herald, 1/15)

JOHN BLOCK

John Block's Sad Legacy -- "When the story of the Block era at the Department of Agriculture is written, historians certainly won't say the secretary was a friend of all farmers. Some may argue that John Block did farming a lot of good, but they won't be able to say that about the farmers themselves, the people who produce the crops and livestock year after year. It simply wouldn't be true." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 1/10)

MIAs

Disclosing all evidence essential in MIA mystery -- "The United States has no proof of claims that there are still American prisoners being held in Vietnam. But two Reagan administration officials said last weekend that they assume that some are being held against their will. Yet the Vietnamese told the two officials there were no Americans under their government's control, while pledging to investigate reports to the contrary. The time has come for these disparities to be resolved, along with the ugly charges made by some veterans, that the Reagan administration deliberately has covered up information about surviving POWs." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 1/16)

VAT TAX

Let's try new value-added tax -- "Sen. William Roth proposes a tax of 10 percent on all net receipts of domestic businesses and an equal tax on imported goods. This would be joined with an equal reduction in the income tax rate. Taxpayers would end up paying less in income taxes and more in consumer tax. Why bother? Because the value-added tax would shift the burden of taxation away from the income tax and to a tax on consumption. The government would, in the future, be able to raise revenues without raising the tax on income. Tax cheating, which is rife in the current system, would be reduced by a value-added tax, which could be collected simply, without enormous paperwork." (San Diego Tribune, 1/14)

ORGANIZED CRIME

Where the War on the Mob Must Start -- "President Reagan asked for it and now he's got it, from his own Commission on Organized Crime. He boasted only a few days ago about his effective war against the underworld. Now the commission rises to remind him how the Administration's dealings with Jackie Presser of the Teamsters undermine that campaign. Those 'contacts,' the commission asserts, 'can lead to an erosion of public confidence and dampen the desire to end racketeering.' ... The appearance of impropriety in such cases can be as damaging as the real thing. As the commission asks, what are union members and the public to think when they see union leaders suspected of criminal ties 'joining hands and breaking bread with the important political candidates and leaders of the country'? Let the President finally acknowledge error." (New York Times, 1/16)

SALT II

Why U.S. should continue to adhere to SALT II -- "Sticking with SALT II serves U.S. interests, as the current debate demonstrates. Without SALT II, we are likely to experience an accelerated arms race, greater uncertainty about Soviet intentions, and an escalation of tensions between the superpowers. We will be less secure. With SALT II, we will be able to preserve important constraints on Soviet weapons, improve our ability to resolve questions about Soviet compliance, and increase prospects for future arms agreements at Geneva. Few choices are so clear cut."

(Lee Hamilton, Christian Science Monitor, 1/16)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

GORBACHEV ARMS CONTROL PROPOSAL

"The announcement was seen in diplomatic circles as another skillful attempt by the Kremlin to steal the propaganda initiative from the U.S. in advance of today's opening of the fourth round of the deadlocked Geneva talks."
(Times, Great Britain)

"As with all proposals, there is the precondition of giving up SDI. To reach their goal, the Soviets have offered arms reductions. Reagan's amiable answer shows that the United States is not insensitive..."
(France-Inter Radio)

"The ball is now in Reagan's court. It's up to him to answer."
(Antenne-2 TV, France)

"It is an important peace offensive and, at the same time, an offensive against Reagan's space defense project....Gorbachev's plan is undoubtedly impressive, but one must wait to see whether it will serve propaganda purposes or represent a concrete desire for peace."
(Il Giornale, Italy)

"However, this goodwill offensive launched by the Kremlin should not mislead those to whom it is addressed. One should keep in mind that Mr. Gorbachev -- just like his predecessors -- has adopted the unfortunate habit of formulating his proposals publicly, instead of presenting them at the negotiating table."
(La Libre Belgique, Belgium)

"The basic principles of the proposal, submitted in connection with the resumption of the USSR-U.S. talks in Geneva, are so attractive for the entire world public that the White House simply cannot ignore them or reject them openly."
(Prague radio, Czechoslovakia)

"These clear and constructive proposals emerge as an effective instrument of countering the attempts by the archreactionary circles of U.S. imperialism to gain military superiority and to destabilize the situation in the world by their Star Wars plans."
(BTA News Agency, Bulgaria)

"And so today the world has witnessed yet another peace-loving initiative by the Soviet leadership. Moscow has again stated its desire for peace; Moscow has again proposed a specific program for the elimination of the threat of thermonuclear self-destruction that hangs over the planet... Now it is up to the West. We shall wait to see how the West as a whole, and Washington in particular, reacts to the statement of the General Assembly."
(Moscow TV)

"If the U.S. Administration, as it has repeatedly affirmed, is dedicated to the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere, it now has a practical possibility really to engage in it."
(Analysis by Tass)



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

President 'Grateful,' Aides Cautious On Soviet Arms Control Proposal

-- The sudden presentation of the Gorbachev proposal took the White House by surprise.

(Washington Post, New York Times, Washington Times, AP, Gannett)

Shultz And Weinberger Disagree On Using Force Against Libyans -- The development came as Washington moved to deal with a new public threat from el-Qaddafi.

(New York Times, Gannett)

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan To Ask Hill For Broad War Powers -- Leading Cabinet officials are becoming impatient with legislative restrictions on deployment of U.S. troops.

(Washington Times)

White House Looks Into Clemency By Cuomo -- "I think Mario Cuomo would love to make it an issue between himself and the White House so he can play the poor underdog," the Republican chairman added.

(New York Times, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Thursday Evening)

ARMS TALKS -- Mikhail Gorbachev's plan to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the end of the century was the big subject in Geneva.

REAGAN/CORETTA KING -- President Reagan met with the widow of Martin Luther King, Jr. at the White House Thursday.

MARCOS -- A subcommittee of the U.S. House is investigating reports that the Philippines President has made himself rich by plundering his country.

ACCEPTABLE SPELLINGS :



MOHAMMAR KADDAFI
MUHAMMAR KHADAFI
COLONEL GADDAFI
QERNAL QADDAFI
KHADAFY
KHADAFER
KHADAFY
KHADAFY DUCK
KERNAL KAZOO
KAPTAIN KABBAGE
KHAPTAIN KHANSADOO
KENNEL KHADODODOO
KLEM KADIDOLEHOPPER
KITTAN KABOODLE
MOREHORE IN KUSPIDOR
MORTUARY KOMPOST
MORNING SICKNESS
KOMMANDER KODPIECE
SYRUP OF IPEKAC
COLONEL KUETARD

*This Summary is prepared Monday through Friday by the White House News Summary Staff.
For complete stories or information, please call 456-2950.*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT 'GRATEFUL' AIDES CAUTIOUS ON SOVIET ARMS-CONTROL PROPOSAL

President Reagan said Thursday "we're very grateful" for the latest arms-control proposals from Soviet leader Gorbachev. But Administration officials, while acknowledging that Gorbachev appeared to offer concessions, cautioned that he also repeated long-held Soviet positions that would -- unless altered -- block agreement.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan 'Grateful' For Soviet Plan On Nuclear Arms

WASHINGTON -- The President's comments came as American and Soviet negotiators resumed arms talks in Geneva, where the Russians formally introduced Mr. Gorbachev's proposal. He said the plan was "different from the things that we have heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union."

(Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

U.S. Dubious Of Moscow's No-Nuke Plan

The Reagan Administration Thursday rejected again a Soviet demand that the United States abandon its space-based missile defense system. However, the White House extended a polite welcome to what the Soviet Union characterized as an offer to ban nuclear weapons.

"It's just about the first time that anyone on the Soviet side has proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons," Mr. Reagan said.

(Jeremiah O'Leary/Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A1)

Soviet Arms Proposal Presented To Gain Maximum Effect

Moscow's official press quickly followed up by asserting on Thursday that the next move was up to the United States. The three-stage plan repackaged Kremlin arms reduction proposals, offered a step-by-step timetable and reiterated that the U.S. must abandon 'Star Wars' research before arms cuts can start.

(News Analysis by Carol Williams, AP)

Soviet Plan

Spokesman Larry Speakes called it "another step in what we hope will be an increasingly positive process." But Secretary Weinberger simultaneously rejected a new Soviet call for a halt in nuclear weapons testing.

(Gannett)

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ARMS TALKS OPEN IN GENEVA WITH NEW OPTIMISM

GENEVA -- The U.S. and the Soviet Union resumed their elusive search for a nuclear arms agreement here Thursday, meeting for more than two hours in a session dominated by Gorbachev's proposal to eliminate nuclear weapons by the end of the century.

The mood was noticeably upbeat inside the Soviet mission where the meeting was held and Moscow's chief negotiator, Victor Karpov, greeted the leader of the U.S. delegation, Max Kampelman, at the door with a broad smile.
(Los Angeles Times story, Washington Post, A20)

SHULTZ AND WEINBERGER DISAGREE ON USING FORCE AGAINST LIBYANS

Secretary Shultz and Secretary Weinberger continued to disagree publicly Thursday on using force against terrorist provocations in general and Libya in particular. Shultz, urging firm action against the Qaddafi government, said Thursday that "when we identify the source" of terrorism, "such as Qaddafi, who is clearly identified, then we have to go after it." Later yesterday, Weinberger, reiterating his view that caution was needed in using force against terrorists, criticized those who seek "instant gratification from some kind of bombing attack without being too worried about the details." (Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

Weinberger/Shultz Remarks

WASHINGTON -- Military retaliation isn't always the best way to reduce terrorism, Secretary Weinberger warned Thursday.

"There have been a lot of attacks made from time to time, and those have not ended terrorism," he said at a Pentagon press conference when asked about the widespread public support for a military strike against terrorist bases in Libya.

Secretary Shultz, in a speech Wednesday, had said that a "policy filled with so many qualifications and conditions that they all could never be met would amount to a policy of paralysis." (Gannett)

GORBACHEV SETS BROAD AGENDA

MOSCOW -- Soviet leader Gorbachev has established an agenda for tangible progress on U.S.-Soviet security issues, outside the area of strategic and space weapons, that Soviet officials clearly consider attainable by the time he and President Reagan meet again later this year.

Along with the wide-ranging arms proposals Gorbachev put forward last night, the Soviet leader also gave fresh incentive to the Vienna-based talks on troop reductions, to the international conference on security in Stockholm and to superpower talks on a chemical weapons ban, according to various Western analysts here.

(News Analysis by Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

GORBACHEV'S IMAGE AS PROTECTOR OF ARAB WORLD GETS LIFT

Gorbachev boosted his image as a protector of the Arab world in Libya's confrontation with the U.S. The Reagan Administration appeared weak and vacillating. That's the verdict of some U.S. government analysts on a week of strike and parry, threat, bluster and retreat on the part of the Soviet Union, Libya and the United States.

(News Analysis by Roger Fontaine/James Morrison, Washington Times, A1)

U.S. SAYS QADDAFI'S REMARKS PROVE HIS ROLE IN TERRORISM

The Reagan Administration said yesterday that Qaddafi's declaration that he will train and equip Arab guerrillas for "suicide missions" is proof of U.S. charges that "he has, in fact, been training terrorists for years." "Qaddafi is his own smoking gun," Secretary Shultz was quoted as saying in reaction to Qaddafi's threats against Israel and the United States during a long, rambling speech in Tripoli Wednesday night.

(John Goshko/George Wilson, Washington Post, A15)

SOVIET SHIPS SEEN AS WARNING SCREEN

TEL AVIV -- By deploying warships in the Mediterranean, the Soviet Union has created a "warning screen" against any Israeli aircraft and Naval vessels that may move West from Israel, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday.

(Washington Post, A16)

Israelis Say Soviet Spy Net Readies An Early Warning

"There are three ships, one intelligence, the others, something like destroyers, no doubt capable of detecting either naval units or airplanes that might take off from Israel," Rabin told a briefing for foreign correspondents in Tel Aviv.

(Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A1)

STATE DEPARTMENT MIDEAST CHIEF PLANS NEW PEACE EFFORT

A Reagan Administration effort to bring about Arab-Israeli peace talks, initially through a Middle East peace conference, is to begin this weekend as Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy travels to several countries in the region, State Department officials said Thursday.

(Don Oberdorfer/John Goshko, Washington Post, A23)

ACCUSED SPY'S STATEMENT IS CALLED INADMISSABLE

BALTIMORE -- Lawyers for accused spy Ronald Pelton argued Thursday that their client's alleged confession to FBI agents should not be admitted as trial evidence because the agents used "improper direct and indirect promises" to get Pelton to talk to them.

(Washington Post, A30)

U.S. SEEKS ANOTHER SOUTH AFRICAN CONSULATE

The Reagan Administration, in an apparent effort to improve relationships with blacks in South Africa, has asked permission to re-establish a consulate in the stronghold of the anti-apartheid movement.

The U.S. should be represented in an "industrialized area where there is a great amount of labor and political activity," said a State Department official familiar with South African affairs.

(Rita McWilliams, Washington Times, A5)

JAPAN'S TRADE SURPLUS WITH U.S. A RECORD

Japan's trade surplus with the United States hit a record \$39.5 billion in 1985 as its exports to the U.S. rose nearly 9 percent and imports of American goods fell 4 percent, the Finance Ministry said Thursday in a preliminary report. The surplus figure, however, is much lower than the already released U.S. estimate of \$50 billion for the year.

(Washington Post, D1)

UNITED STATES OPTIMISTIC ON TRADE TALKS

CORONADO, Calif. -- U.S. Assistant Trade Representative Charles Blum said he was optimistic the U.S. and its big trading partners would work out a unified position for world trade talks set for Geneva next Autumn. Blum said the meetings were vital because "if we disagree on the fundamental issues, other issues could not be resolved." (Reuter)

U.S. IS RAPIDLY REDUCING STOCKPILE OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR ARMS IN EUROPE

Action Comes Two Years After Agreement With NATO Allies

The existing stockpile of older nuclear nuclear bombs, artillery shells, missile warheads and nuclear land mines, which grew to 7,000 during the 1970s, will drop to 4,550 within a year, according to Defense Department officials.

The reductions are being made under a plan drawn up by Gen. Bernard W. Rogers, supreme commander of NATO forces, after a disagreement with civilian officials in the Pentagon.

(Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A9)

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U.S. INCREASES SUPPORT FOR OPPOSITION IN CHILE

SANTIAGO, Chile -- Departing from the quiet diplomacy of the past, which has failed to gain desired political liberalization in Chile, U.S. officials have begun to show more open support for the country's democratic opposition in its efforts to unseat one of Latin America's last remaining military dictators. The new U.S. stance has drawn criticism from Gen. Augusto Pinochet, who last month rebuked the new, activist U.S. ambassador, Harry Barnes, for breaking "the minimum norms of diplomatic relations." Barnes has made a point since his arrival in November of contacting leading opposition figures and human rights activists, even before meeting all four members the ruling military junta.

In another indication of his irritation with changing U.S. policy, Pinochet refused to receive visiting Sen. Kennedy, long a critic of human rights violations by the Pinochet government.

(Bradley Graham, Washington Post, A15)

EDITOR'S NOTES: 'Profit, Patriotism Produce A Ubiquitous Alliance,' page A8 of the Washington Post. 'Navy Looks For A Reason To Stay On Antigua,' Washington Post, A11,

-more-

NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN TO ASK HILL FOR BROAD WAR POWERS

President Reagan will ask Congress for a broad resolution, similar to that passed in 1964 following the Gulf of Tonkin incident, to empower the executive branch to use "whatever military force is required" to deal swiftly and effectively with the terrorist threat, a senior Administration official said. One option Mr. Reagan was said to be considering is a direct appeal to Congress through his Jan. 28 State of the Union address.

(John Wallach, King Features Syndicate story, Washington Times, A2)

WHITE HOUSE LOOKS INTO CLEMENCY BY CUOMO

ALBANY -- The White House acknowledged Thursday that it had raised the idea with the New York State Republican chairman of making a campaign issue of Governor Cuomo's granting of clemency to a convicted murderer. But Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., a senior political strategist for the Reagan Administration, denied that he told Anthony J. Colavita, the state's Republican chairman, to "jump" on the issue.

"The White House reached out to a chairman of the Republican Party in this state and said, 'Jump on this issue of life and death, jump on this issue of clemency, get in there and try to influence the Parole Board,' the Governor said at a news conference in his Manhattan office.

"I asked him, 'Is it an issue? Is anyone raising it as an issue?' " Mr. Daniels said. "I was trying to find out if it was going to be a real issue or not, whether it was something somebody was going to raise. It was their decision what to do."

Mr. Daniel's comments, in an interview Thursday, came only a day after the executive director of the State Republican Committee denied that Colavita or any other state Republican leader had talked with the Reagan Administration about the clemency.

(Jeffrey Schmalz, New York Times, A1)

White House -- Cuomo

NEW YORK -- Gov. Mario Cuomo said Thursday the White House has ordered state Republican leaders to make a political issue of his decision to commute the murder sentence of Gary McGivern to hurt Cuomo politically.

"This is a Republican political game that they're trying to play," Cuomo said. "It is distasteful, to put it mildly."

Mitchell Daniels, assistant to President Reagan, denied the White House has directed state Republican leaders to make a political issue of Cuomo's clemency decision.

"I really don't know anything about this. It's a New York matter. We don't have any involvement," Daniels said. (UPI)

SOME U.S FURLOUGHS EXPECTED

White House officials said Thursday that the \$11.7 billion spending cut expected March 1 under the new balanced-budget law would probably result in some furloughs for federal workers, although the full impact had not yet been determined.

At the same time, officials said it was almost certain that the first round of spending cuts would bring "few if any" reductions in force (rifs), or layoffs, among federal employees, as agencies attempt to save money in the last seven months of this 1986 fiscal year.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

JUSTICE TO FEEL BUDGET CUTS LESS THAN OTHERS

While other federal agencies have been eliminating programs because of a lack of funding, finances allocated for the Justice Department -- considered a priority agency by the Reagan Administration -- have soared. Since President Reagan took office, the department's budget has increased by some 0 percent.

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A5)

KING HOLIDAY

Coretta Scott King, after meeting Thursday with President Reagan, said there is "a contradiction between the rhetoric of Mr. Reagan and the policies that come from the White House." The widow of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who met with Reagan four days before the first National holiday honoring the slain civil rights leader, called the 35-minute session "constructive."

But she said serious problems remain for minorities. (Gannett)

HUD CHIEF: KING'S DREAM HASN'T COME TRUE

WASHINGTON -- Housing Secretary Samuel Pierce said Thursday that Martin Luther King, Jr. would have been honored by the national tribute to him but would have realized his dream has not yet come true.

"There's still too much prejudice in this country," he said. "And basically it's the white people that must meet that goal. That's what it's all about." (UPI)

WEATHER PREVENTS SHUTTLE FROM LANDING IN FLORIDA

Fog and rain prevented the space shuttle Columbia from landing in Florida yesterday, the latest setback in a trouble-plagued mission whose launch was postponed a record seven times, and one that could delay Columbia's next flight, scheduled for March 6.

(Washington Post, A4)

LYNG APPARENT FRONT-RUNNER FOR BLOCK'S JOB

Richard Lyng, who has had close political ties to President Reagan for about 20 years, apparently has emerged as the front-runner among candidates to succeed John Block as secretary of agriculture.

Asked if he would accept an Administration offer, Lyng said, "The fact is, I think almost anyone would accept it if the President asked."

(Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A11)

Lyng Appears Top Choice For Agriculture Post

Mr. Lyng, who started his public career as California director of agriculture under then-Governor Reagan in 1966, said Thursday in a telephone interview that he is maintaining a cautious attitude about the possibility of returning to government work.

"No deal has been cut," Lyng, 67, said. "It's inappropriate for me to comment on that. I don't want to give any signals on that right now."

(Myron Struck, Washington Times, A10)

VIRGINIA ON LIST OF POSSIBLE ATOM WASTE SITES

The Energy Department selected seven states as possible sites for a second vault to store highly radioactive nuclear waste for 10,000 years, drawing protests from Governors and other officials there and expressions of relief from those not picked.

(AP story, Washington Post, A5)

Government Narrows Nuclear Waste Dump List To Seven States

The Energy Department on Thursday chose 12 potential sites in Georgia, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Virginia and Wisconsin. Another eight backup sites were chosen in Minnesota, Georgia, Wisconsin and New Hampshire in case any of the front-runners are dropped, which the department considers unlikely.

(AP)

U.S.W. BLASTS REAGAN STEEL IMPORT PLAN: GIVES RANK-AND-FILE CONTRACT VOTE

WASHINGTON -- The United Steelworkers has given new power to its rank-and-file to ratify contracts, while adopting a policy statement blasting President Reagan's steel import program and vowing to make trade an issue in the 1986 congressional elections.

The statement labeled a "dismal failure" President Reagan's program of negotiating restraint agreements with leading steel-exporting countries to try to give domestic producers breathing space from foreign competition.

(Jeff Barker, AP)

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION RISES 0.7%

The nation's industries increased production by a strong 0.7 percent last month, the strongest showing since August, the government reported yesterday. The November performance, originally reported as a 0.4 percent advance, was revised upward to show stronger growth of 0.6 percent.

(Washington Post, D3)

REAGAN -- PHYSICAL EXAM

WASHINGTON -- President Reagan will receive a "mild sedative and painkiller" when he goes to Bethesda Naval Hospital Friday for a colon exam six months after his cancer surgery -- and there are no plans to transfer power to Vice President George Bush.

"We think the that the President will be fully capable of performing his duties should the need arise during the course of this procedure," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said. (Gannett)

ANNUAL PUSH FOR TEEN-AGE WAGE DUE

The fifth annual offensive by the Reagan Administration to pass the Youth Employment Opportunity Wage act -- otherwise known as the "subminimum wage" for teenagers -- is being prepared for Congress' return next week.

Congress has consistently sidestepped the subminimum wage issue, largely because it has been preoccupied with the federal budget deficit and is not prepared to spend considerable time on an inevitable bitter and lengthy wrangle over YEOW. (Peter Perl, Washington Post, A11)

NOMINEE SAYS HE APPROVES OF FED POLICY

Federal Reserve Board nominee Manuel Johnson said Thursday he is in general agreement with current Fed policy and indicated he sees no need for the central bank to try to lower interest rates aggressively.

(Washington Post, D1)

DEA SEEKS TO EXPAND HERBICIDE USE

The Drug Enforcement Administration wants to use herbicides to eradicate marijuana plants on non-federal lands as it currently does on U.S. property, the agency said in a report.

(AP story, Washington Post, A11)

A KENNEDY EARNED SOUTH AFRICA PROFITS

Ah, the joys of public service, and disclosure. Financial reports by Joseph P. Kennedy II, who is running for the seat of retiring House Speaker Tip O'Neill, show that he and his wife got between \$335,000 and \$835,000 in interest and dividends over the past two years from firms doing business in South Africa.

(Washington Post, A28)

EDITOR'S NOTE: '4 Quit Treasury As Tax Campaign Resumes,' page A11 of the Washington Post.

'Heckler's Fine Farewells,' Washington Times page C2.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Thursday Evening)

U.S./U.S.S.R. ARMS TALKS

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Mikhail Gorbachev's surprising plan to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the end of the century was the big subject today when the new round of arms talks began in Geneva. The Gorbachev plan also continued to get attention from President Reagan.

(TV coverage of the President: "We are very grateful for the offer. We are studying it with great care. It is going to depend now on what takes place in Geneva." Reporter: "Are you encouraged by that letter?" The President: "Yes, it's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union.")

And as the two sides got together once again today in Geneva, even the Soviet negotiators were caught off guard by the last minute timing of their new leader's proposal.

NBC's Jim Bittermann: Surprisingly, it appears that the Soviet arms negotiators were sent back to Geneva two days ago without full knowledge of what their leader was going to say last night. According to sources close to the negotiations, they, like their American counterparts, had to work late into the evening to catch-up on the news. As the talks began this morning, several on the Soviet side seemed noticeably tired and the negotiators from Moscow could not always agree on what Secretary Gorbachev had said. Still, the leader of the delegation made clear to journalists the most important part of his boss' peace plan.

(Viktor Karpov: "That we as part of the third stage of delivering the world from nuclear weapons agree that we can get rid of American and Soviet missiles in Europe.")

Moscow is now no longer insisting that French and British nuclear forces be dismantled as the U.S. and U.S.S.R. reduce their nuclear stockpiles. That has been a key stumbling block from the beginning. And Moscow has come around to the proposal President Reagan first made more than four years ago, that both sides reduce the number of their medium range nuclear missiles in Europe to zero. But there is still a major problem for Washington, the U.S. says the Soviets cannot reduce the numbers of their highly mobile SS-20 missiles in Europe by simply moving them to Asian locations in the Soviet Union. American negotiators will insist that the numbers of missiles in Soviet Asia be part of any deal. After less than two hours of talks today, the arms delegations parted with the Soviets promising to come up with more details on their leader's grandiose peace plan as soon as they can get them from Moscow. No one, not even the negotiators, had expected much progress during this round of the arms talks. Now though, more than before, it appears that an agreement limiting medium-range nuclear missiles could be ready for signature before the superpower leaders meet for their next summit. (NBC-2)

ABC's Peter Jennings: In Washington and in Geneva today, American arms control experts and other Administration officials have been looking very closely at the Soviet leader's proposal to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the year 2000. The reaction so far is best described as cautious, and yet positive. We have reports from Geneva and Washington.

ABC's Sheilah Kast: Today the President himself responded to the Soviet proposal. He said he was grateful and encouraged.

(TV coverage of the President: "It's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union. It's just about the first time that anyone has ever proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons.")

But the President and his staff were cautious.

(TV coverage of Larry Speakes: "It remains to be seen how serious the Soviets are with a proposal that appears to be a sweeping proposal.")

The U.S. has reservations about several parts of the Soviet proposal, not the least of which is their call to abandon Star Wars.

(TV coverage of Secretary Weinberger: "The President's commitment and the priority that we attach to the strategic defense initiative is widely known and is totally unchanged.")

What may be changing are some nuances. For example, in publicizing their proposal, the Soviets used a word that could mean no research on Star Wars or could mean no development. What is the Soviet position?

(Speakes: "Certainly if it was one that would permit research and then discussion on deployment, that is the U.S. position.")

That's one type of question U.S. negotiators will pursue in Geneva. As long as such uncertainty remains unresolved, U.S. officials are willing to call the Soviet proposal a hopeful sign.

ABC's Rick Inderfurth: What a difference a day makes. Yesterday American officials thought the Soviets would be responding to the latest U.S. offer. Today the Soviets were talking about a new plan of their own.

(Viktor Karpov: "This agreement that we propose now which means we get rid of all Soviet and American missiles in Europe is a new proposal.")

U.S. officials tell ABC News that they intend to look closely at Gorbachev's latest proposal, especially his ideas on cutting missiles in Europe, but few officials expect much progress during this round of the talks, in large part because they believe Gorbachev will be preoccupied with consolidating his power at the upcoming party congress in Moscow. Despite this, U.S. officials say last November's summit did set a new tone for U.S.-Soviet relations, and the next summit, perhaps as early as this summer, will provide the two leaders with yet another opportunity to resolve their differences face to face. But as for now, this summit diplomacy has yielded few concrete results. And as one observer has put it, cordiality helps, but it is no substitute for arms control. (ABC-4)

CBS's Dan Rather: President Reagan today called Moscow's new no-nukes proposal, what the Soviets say could end nuclear arsenals by the end of this century, "different," and the President said he was grateful for the offer. Some other top U.S. officials were less upbeat. Moscow today was beating the drum for it long and loud. In Geneva it was the main talking point as a new round of U.S.-Soviet arms control talks began.

CBS's Tom Fenton: American negotiator Max Kampelman arrived in an upbeat mood despite the fact that the American side was surprised and upstaged by Gorbachev's sweeping proposals. Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov urged they be given careful consideration.

(Karpov: "I think that people in Washington should analyze them thoroughly before jumping to conclusions.")

The British Prime Minister's office confirmed today it received a copy of Gorbachev's proposals as did the French government. Britain said they contained new elements which should be investigated carefully.

(Eric Grove: "If the Americans do not take these up, this will have a very serious effect, I think, on European opinion, both governmental and popular. And the Soviet Union will then have succeeded in driving a wedge between the Europeans and the United States.")

The proposals put to the American side cover almost every major aspect of arms control from reduction of conventional weapons to the total elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. The negotiators met in the same room used by President Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev for their summit. The Soviets said they hoped it was a good omen, the Americans said they were ready to listen.

(Max Kampelman: "The American delegation is here in a constructive spirit.")

After hearing details of the Gorbachev proposal, one American negotiator said they were breathtaking in their scope. With the leaders of the two countries due to meet later this year, there's a deadline hanging over these negotiations. Both sides will now have seven or eight months, a relatively short time, to show some progress in arms control. The world will be expecting something more than just smiles and handshakes at the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

CBS's Lesley Stahl: The President said he was grateful for the Soviet offer and encouraged.

(TV coverage of the President: "It's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders of the Soviet Union. It's just about the first time that anyone has ever proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons.")

But other government officials were discouraged that Gorbachev went public before going to the negotiating table.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "It's a bid for public opinion and of course the seriousness of it would have been highlighted if it had been tabled first in Geneva.")

A major objection, Gorbachev's linking his proposal to a renunciation of space weapons.

(TV coverage of Secretary Weinberger: "The President's commitment and the priority that we attach to the strategic defense initiative is widely known and is totally unchanged.")

Stahl continues: Two areas described here as constructive, Gorbachev's statement on verification that included on site inspections long sought by the U.S., and his proposal for complete liquidation of U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe without the usual demand that British and French weapons be counted. But even here the White House complained that Soviet missiles based in Asia were excluded since they are mobile and could be quickly transported to the European theater in a crisis. Finally, the President's spokesman said the Administration is suspicious of the Soviet's new three month ban on nuclear testing.

(TV coverage of Larry Speakes: "We feel that the Soviets have an advantage and for the moment don't need to test. The United States feels that for our own national security it is important that we do test.")

Still, officials here say there is hope the new offer means the Soviets have decided to strike a deal on missiles in Europe that could be announced at the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit. (CBS-Lead)

CANADIAN TERRORISM ALERT

Jennings reports we begin tonight with a terrorist alert that is closer to home. In three Canadian cities tonight police are on alert because of an unconfirmed report that a Libyan was going to place a bomb on board an airliner bound for the United States. In the Canadian capital, Ottawa, tonight one man is in custody in connection with the investigation. His nationality is not known.

(ABC-Lead)

MARCOS

Brokaw reports as the emotional presidential campaign in the Philippines moves toward a climax, one the persistent charges against President Marcos is that he has made himself one of the richest men in the world by plundering his country. It's long been rumored that President Marcos and his wife have built a real estate empire in the United States and elsewhere. Now a subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives is investigating those reports. (NBC-Lead)

MLK, JR.

Jennings: reports finally this evening the commemoration of Martin Luther King's birthday. Yesterday would have been his real birthday, next Monday is the official holiday. His widow, Coretta Scott King, met with President Reagan at the White House this afternoon. (ABC-13)

Rather: reports President Reagan today met briefly at the White House with the widow of assassinated civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. Coretta Scott King was there to accept the proclamation President Reagan signed declaring Dr. King's birthday an official federal holiday for the first time next Monday. (CBS-4)

NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP

Rather reports a federal announcement today of the top seven states in a lottery almost no one wants to win. The list of what would be a very dirty dozen, 12 proposed sites in 7 states, one of which would be chosen to be the second underground storage site for highly radioactive nuclear wastes for thousands of years. The "not in my backyard you don't" protests began even before today's announcement was official, and even though a final site won't be picked until 1994.
(CBS-10, NBC-8)

ASBESTOS SUITS

Rather reports Conrail, the states of Florida, Idaho, and Washington State, school groups in New Jersey and Iowa, these are among the defendants in cases filed today by the Justice Department and the Environmental Protection Agency. The charges are that they violated safety rules on cancer causing asbestos during demolition or renovation of buildings.
(CBS-11, NBC-7)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

STAR WARS

New Star Wars Problem -- "However wrong we think President Reagan has been in pushing his Strategic Defense Initiative, popularly known as 'Star Wars,' he was at least trying to find a way to defend the United States against nuclear missiles that might be launched in anger or by accident. It is all the more disturbing, therefore, to hear that technology that is being developed for a defense system could easily be turned on its head to become a horrendous offensive weapon." (Dallas Times Herald, 1/15)

Thinking It Through Here... -- "The White House plans to spend less money buying new weapons and maintaining old weapons so that it can salt away extra billions for 'Star Wars.' It is like the settlers around Plymouth Rock in the 1600s rationing powder and ball for their muskets to save up for a nuclear submarine.... Defense readiness is not the only victim of the Star Wars project. It also hinders progress in arms-control talks at Geneva. By declining to discuss so much as an amendment to the anti-ballistic missile treaty that would set out rules under which both superpowers would investigate defense systems, the Administration virtually guarantees that nothing will be done to reduce offensive weapons. The White House needs to start over and think that through."

(Los Angeles Times, 1/16)

ACID RAIN

Acid rain: diversion or action? -- "The acid rain problem needs more than study. It needs action. To the extent that the joint report embodies a new awareness that there is a problem with airborne pollutants, it is a welcome development. To the extent that the recommendation program could prove a diversion to get the U.S. off the hook, it is not."

(Christian Science Monitor, 1/16)

Curtailing acid rain -- "Credit for the administration's about-face goes to former Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis, who spent the last year representing the President in talks with the Canadian government over the issue. Refusing to reaffirm the administration's shortsighted policy of procrastination, Mr. Lewis agreed with the Canadians that the issue doesn't need to be studied to death before the United States acts. As he put it, to say that sulfur emissions do not cause acid rain is the same as saying that smoking does not cause lung cancer."

(Dallas Times Herald, 1/15)

JOHN BLOCK

John Block's Sad Legacy -- "When the story of the Block era at the Department of Agriculture is written, historians certainly won't say the secretary was a friend of all farmers. Some may argue that John Block did farming a lot of good, but they won't be able to say that about the farmers themselves, the people who produce the crops and livestock year after year. It simply wouldn't be true." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 1/10)

MIAs

Disclosing all evidence essential in MIA mystery -- "The United States has no proof of claims that there are still American prisoners being held in Vietnam. But two Reagan administration officials said last weekend that they assume that some are being held against their will. Yet the Vietnamese told the two officials there were no Americans under their government's control, while pledging to investigate reports to the contrary. The time has come for these disparities to be resolved, along with the ugly charges made by some veterans, that the Reagan administration deliberately has covered up information about surviving POWs." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 1/16)

VAT TAX

Let's try new value-added tax -- "Sen. William Roth proposes a tax of 10 percent on all net receipts of domestic businesses and an equal tax on imported goods. This would be joined with an equal reduction in the income tax rate. Taxpayers would end up paying less in income taxes and more in consumer tax. Why bother? Because the value-added tax would shift the burden of taxation away from the income tax and to a tax on consumption. The government would, in the future, be able to raise revenues without raising the tax on income. Tax cheating, which is rife in the current system, would be reduced by a value-added tax, which could be collected simply, without enormous paperwork." (San Diego Tribune, 1/14)

ORGANIZED CRIME

Where the War on the Mob Must Start -- "President Reagan asked for it and now he's got it, from his own Commission on Organized Crime. He boasted only a few days ago about his effective war against the underworld. Now the commission rises to remind him how the Administration's dealings with Jackie Presser of the Teamsters undermine that campaign. Those 'contacts,' the commission asserts, 'can lead to an erosion of public confidence and dampen the desire to end racketeering.' ... The appearance of impropriety in such cases can be as damaging as the real thing. As the commission asks, what are union members and the public to think when they see union leaders suspected of criminal ties 'joining hands and breaking bread with the important political candidates and leaders of the country'? Let the President finally acknowledge error." (New York Times, 1/16)

SALT II

Why U.S. should continue to adhere to SALT II -- "Sticking with SALT II serves U.S. interests, as the current debate demonstrates. Without SALT II, we are likely to experience an accelerated arms race, greater uncertainty about Soviet intentions, and an escalation of tensions between the superpowers. We will be less secure. With SALT II, we will be able to preserve important constraints on Soviet weapons, improve our ability to resolve questions about Soviet compliance, and increase prospects for future arms agreements at Geneva. Few choices are so clear cut."

(Lee Hamilton, Christian Science Monitor, 1/16)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

GORBACHEV ARMS CONTROL PROPOSAL

"The announcement was seen in diplomatic circles as another skillful attempt by the Kremlin to steal the propaganda initiative from the U.S. in advance of today's opening of the fourth round of the deadlocked Geneva talks."
(Times, Great Britain)

"As with all proposals, there is the precondition of giving up SDI. To reach their goal, the Soviets have offered arms reductions. Reagan's amiable answer shows that the United States is not insensitive..."
(France-Inter Radio)

"The ball is now in Reagan's court. It's up to him to answer."
(Antenne-2 TV, France)

"It is an important peace offensive and, at the same time, an offensive against Reagan's space defense project....Gorbachev's plan is undoubtedly impressive, but one must wait to see whether it will serve propaganda purposes or represent a concrete desire for peace."
(Il Giornale, Italy)

"However, this goodwill offensive launched by the Kremlin should not mislead those to whom it is addressed. One should keep in mind that Mr. Gorbachev -- just like his predecessors -- has adopted the unfortunate habit of formulating his proposals publicly, instead of presenting them at the negotiating table."
(La Libre Belgique, Belgium)

"The basic principles of the proposal, submitted in connection with the resumption of the USSR-U.S. talks in Geneva, are so attractive for the entire world public that the White House simply cannot ignore them or reject them openly."
(Prague radio, Czechoslovakia)

"These clear and constructive proposals emerge as an effective instrument of countering the attempts by the archreactionary circles of U.S. imperialism to gain military superiority and to destabilize the situation in the world by their Star Wars plans."
(BTA News Agency, Bulgaria)

"And so today the world has witnessed yet another peace-loving initiative by the Soviet leadership. Moscow has again stated its desire for peace; Moscow has again proposed a specific program for the elimination of the threat of thermonuclear self-destruction that hangs over the planet... Now it is up to the West. We shall wait to see how the West as a whole, and Washington in particular, reacts to the statement of the General Assembly."
(Moscow TV)

"If the U.S. Administration, as it has repeatedly affirmed, is dedicated to the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere, it now has a practical possibility really to engage in it."
(Analysis by Tass)



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

President 'Grateful,' Aides Cautious On Soviet Arms Control Proposal
-- The sudden presentation of the Gorbachev proposal took the White House by surprise.

(Washington Post, New York Times, Washington Times, AP, Gannett)

Shultz And Weinberger Disagree On Using Force Against Libyans -- The development came as Washington moved to deal with a new public threat from el-Qaddafi.

(New York Times, Gannett)

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan To Ask Hill For Broad War Powers -- Leading Cabinet officials are becoming impatient with legislative restrictions on deployment of U.S. troops.

(Washington Times)

White House Looks Into Clemency By Cuomo -- "I think Mario Cuomo would love to make it an issue between himself and the White House so he can play the poor underdog," the Republican chairman added.

(New York Times, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Thursday Evening)

ARMS TALKS -- Mikhail Gorbachev's plan to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the end of the century was the big subject in Geneva.

REAGAN/CORETTA KING -- President Reagan met with the widow of Martin Luther King, Jr. at the White House Thursday.

MARCOS -- A subcommittee of the U.S. House is investigating reports that the Philippines President has made himself rich by plundering his country.

ACCEPTABLE SPELLINGS :



*This Summary is prepared Monday through Friday by the White House News Summary Staff.
For complete stories or information, please call 456-2950.*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT 'GRATEFUL' AIDES CAUTIOUS ON SOVIET ARMS-CONTROL PROPOSAL

President Reagan said Thursday "we're very grateful" for the latest arms-control proposals from Soviet leader Gorbachev. But Administration officials, while acknowledging that Gorbachev appeared to offer concessions, cautioned that he also repeated long-held Soviet positions that would -- unless altered -- block agreement.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan 'Grateful' For Soviet Plan On Nuclear Arms

WASHINGTON -- The President's comments came as American and Soviet negotiators resumed arms talks in Geneva, where the Russians formally introduced Mr. Gorbachev's proposal. He said the plan was "different from the things that we have heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union."

(Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

U.S. Dubious Of Moscow's No-Nuke Plan

The Reagan Administration Thursday rejected again a Soviet demand that the United States abandon its space-based missile defense system. However, the White House extended a polite welcome to what the Soviet Union characterized as an offer to ban nuclear weapons.

"It's just about the first time that anyone on the Soviet side has proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons," Mr. Reagan said.

(Jeremiah O'Leary/Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A1)

Soviet Arms Proposal Presented To Gain Maximum Effect

Moscow's official press quickly followed up by asserting on Thursday that the next move was up to the United States. The three-stage plan repackaged Kremlin arms reduction proposals, offered a step-by-step timetable and reiterated that the U.S. must abandon 'Star Wars' research before arms cuts can start.

(News Analysis by Carol Williams, AP)

Soviet Plan

Spokesman Larry Speakes called it "another step in what we hope will be an increasingly positive process." But Secretary Weinberger simultaneously rejected a new Soviet call for a halt in nuclear weapons testing.

(Gannett)

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ARMS TALKS OPEN IN GENEVA WITH NEW OPTIMISM

GENEVA -- The U.S. and the Soviet Union resumed their elusive search for a nuclear arms agreement here Thursday, meeting for more than two hours in a session dominated by Gorbachev's proposal to eliminate nuclear weapons by the end of the century.

The mood was noticeably upbeat inside the Soviet mission where the meeting was held and Moscow's chief negotiator, Victor Karpov, greeted the leader of the U.S. delegation, Max Kampelman, at the door with a broad smile.

(Los Angeles Times story, Washington Post, A20)

SHULTZ AND WEINBERGER DISAGREE ON USING FORCE AGAINST LIBYANS

Secretary Shultz and Secretary Weinberger continued to disagree publicly Thursday on using force against terrorist provocations in general and Libya in particular. Shultz, urging firm action against the Qaddafi government, said Thursday that "when we identify the source" of terrorism, "such as Qaddafi, who is clearly identified, then we have to go after it." Later yesterday, Weinberger, reiterating his view that caution was needed in using force against terrorists, criticized those who seek "instant gratification from some kind of bombing attack without being too worried about the details."

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

Weinberger/Shultz Remarks

WASHINGTON -- Military retaliation isn't always the best way to reduce terrorism, Secretary Weinberger warned Thursday.

"There have been a lot of attacks made from time to time, and those have not ended terrorism," he said at a Pentagon press conference when asked about the widespread public support for a military strike against terrorist bases in Libya.

Secretary Shultz, in a speech Wednesday, had said that a "policy filled with so many qualifications and conditions that they all could never be met would amount to a policy of paralysis."

(Gannett)

GORBACHEV SETS BROAD AGENDA

MOSCOW -- Soviet leader Gorbachev has established an agenda for tangible progress on U.S.-Soviet security issues, outside the area of strategic and space weapons, that Soviet officials clearly consider attainable by the time he and President Reagan meet again later this year.

Along with the wide-ranging arms proposals Gorbachev put forward last night, the Soviet leader also gave fresh incentive to the Vienna-based talks on troop reductions, to the international conference on security in Stockholm and to superpower talks on a chemical weapons ban, according to various Western analysts here.

(News Analysis by Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

GORBACHEV'S IMAGE AS PROTECTOR OF ARAB WORLD GETS LIFT

Gorbachev boosted his image as a protector of the Arab world in Libya's confrontation with the U.S. The Reagan Administration appeared weak and vacillating. That's the verdict of some U.S. government analysts on a week of strike and parry, threat, bluster and retreat on the part of the Soviet Union, Libya and the United States.

(News Analysis by Roger Fontaine/James Morrison, Washington Times, A1)

U.S. SAYS QADDAFI'S REMARKS PROVE HIS ROLE IN TERRORISM

The Reagan Administration said yesterday that Qaddafi's declaration that he will train and equip Arab guerrillas for "suicide missions" is proof of U.S. charges that "he has, in fact, been training terrorists for years." "Qaddafi is his own smoking gun," Secretary Shultz was quoted as saying in reaction to Qaddafi's threats against Israel and the United States during a long, rambling speech in Tripoli Wednesday night.

(John Goshko/George Wilson, Washington Post, A15)

SOVIET SHIPS SEEN AS WARNING SCREEN

TEL AVIV -- By deploying warships in the Mediterranean, the Soviet Union has created a "warning screen" against any Israeli aircraft and Naval vessels that may move West from Israel, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday.

(Washington Post, A16)

Israelis Say Soviet Spy Net Readies An Early Warning

"There are three ships, one intelligence, the others, something like destroyers, no doubt capable of detecting either naval units or airplanes that might take off from Israel," Rabin told a briefing for foreign correspondents in Tel Aviv.

(Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A1)

STATE DEPARTMENT MIDEAST CHIEF PLANS NEW PEACE EFFORT

A Reagan Administration effort to bring about Arab-Israeli peace talks, initially through a Middle East peace conference, is to begin this weekend as Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy travels to several countries in the region, State Department officials said Thursday.

(Don Oberdorfer/John Goshko, Washington Post, A23)

ACCUSED SPY'S STATEMENT IS CALLED INADMISSABLE

BALTIMORE -- Lawyers for accused spy Ronald Pelton argued Thursday that their client's alleged confession to FBI agents should not be admitted as trial evidence because the agents used "improper direct and indirect promises" to get Pelton to talk to them.

(Washington Post, A30)

U.S. SEEKS ANOTHER SOUTH AFRICAN CONSULATE

The Reagan Administration, in an apparent effort to improve relationships with blacks in South Africa, has asked permission to re-establish a consulate in the stronghold of the anti-apartheid movement.

The U.S. should be represented in an "industrialized area where there is a great amount of labor and political activity," said a State Department official familiar with South African affairs.

(Rita McWilliams, Washington Times, A5)

JAPAN'S TRADE SURPLUS WITH U.S. A RECORD

Japan's trade surplus with the United States hit a record \$39.5 billion in 1985 as its exports to the U.S. rose nearly 9 percent and imports of American goods fell 4 percent, the Finance Ministry said Thursday in a preliminary report. The surplus figure, however, is much lower than the already released U.S. estimate of \$50 billion for the year.

(Washington Post, D1)

UNITED STATES OPTIMISTIC ON TRADE TALKS

CORONADO, Calif. -- U.S. Assistant Trade Representative Charles Blum said he was optimistic the U.S. and its big trading partners would work out a unified position for world trade talks set for Geneva next Autumn. Blum said the meetings were vital because "if we disagree on the fundamental issues, other issues could not be resolved."

(Reuter)

U.S. IS RAPIDLY REDUCING STOCKPILE OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR ARMS IN EUROPE Action Comes Two Years After Agreement With NATO Allies

The existing stockpile of older nuclear nuclear bombs, artillery shells, missile warheads and nuclear land mines, which grew to 7,000 during the 1970s, will drop to 4,550 within a year, according to Defense Department officials.

The reductions are being made under a plan drawn up by Gen. Bernard W. Rogers, supreme commander of NATO forces, after a disagreement with civilian officials in the Pentagon.

(Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A9)

U.S. INCREASES SUPPORT FOR OPPOSITION IN CHILE

SANTIAGO, Chile -- Departing from the quiet diplomacy of the past, which has failed to gain desired political liberalization in Chile, U.S. officials have begun to show more open support for the country's democratic opposition in its efforts to unseat one of Latin America's last remaining military dictators. The new U.S. stance has drawn criticism from Gen. Augusto Pinochet, who last month rebuked the new, activist U.S. ambassador, Harry Barnes, for breaking "the minimum norms of diplomatic relations." Barnes has made a point since his arrival in November of contacting leading opposition figures and human rights activists, even before meeting all four members the ruling military junta.

In another indication of his irritation with changing U.S. policy, Pinochet refused to receive visiting Sen. Kennedy, long a critic of human rights violations by the Pinochet government.

(Bradley Graham, Washington Post, A15)

EDITOR'S NOTES: 'Profit, Patriotism Produce A Ubiquitous Alliance,' page A8 of the Washington Post. 'Navy Looks For A Reason To Stay On Antigua,' Washington Post, A11,

-more-

NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN TO ASK HILL FOR BROAD WAR POWERS

President Reagan will ask Congress for a broad resolution, similar to that passed in 1964 following the Gulf of Tonkin incident, to empower the executive branch to use "whatever military force is required" to deal swiftly and effectively with the terrorist threat, a senior Administration official said. One option Mr. Reagan was said to be considering is a direct appeal to Congress through his Jan. 28 State of the Union address.

(John Wallach, King Features Syndicate story, Washington Times, A2)

WHITE HOUSE LOOKS INTO CLEMENCY BY CUOMO

ALBANY -- The White House acknowledged Thursday that it had raised the idea with the New York State Republican chairman of making a campaign issue of Governor Cuomo's granting of clemency to a convicted murderer. But Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., a senior political strategist for the Reagan Administration, denied that he told Anthony J. Colavita, the state's Republican chairman, to "jump" on the issue.

"The White House reached out to a chairman of the Republican Party in this state and said, 'Jump on this issue of life and death, jump on this issue of clemency, get in there and try to influence the Parole Board,' the Governor said at a news conference in his Manhattan office.

"I asked him, 'Is it an issue? Is anyone raising it as an issue?' " Mr. Daniels said. "I was trying to find out if it was going to be a real issue or not, whether it was something somebody was going to raise. It was their decision what to do."

Mr. Daniel's comments, in an interview Thursday, came only a day after the executive director of the State Republican Committee denied that Colavita or any other state Republican leader had talked with the Reagan Administration about the clemency.

(Jeffrey Schmalz, New York Times, A1)

White House -- Cuomo

NEW YORK -- Gov. Mario Cuomo said Thursday the White House has ordered state Republican leaders to make a political issue of his decision to commute the murder sentence of Gary McGivern to hurt Cuomo politically.

"This is a Republican political game that they're trying to play," Cuomo said. "It is distasteful, to put it mildly."

Mitchell Daniels, assistant to President Reagan, denied the White House has directed state Republican leaders to make a political issue of Cuomo's clemency decision.

"I really don't know anything about this. It's a New York matter. We don't have any involvement," Daniels said. (UPI)

SOME U.S FURLOUGHS EXPECTED

White House officials said Thursday that the \$11.7 billion spending cut expected March 1 under the new balanced-budget law would probably result in some furloughs for federal workers, although the full impact had not yet been determined.

At the same time, officials said it was almost certain that the first round of spending cuts would bring "few if any" reductions in force (rifs), or layoffs, among federal employees, as agencies attempt to save money in the last seven months of this 1986 fiscal year.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

JUSTICE TO FEEL BUDGET CUTS LESS THAN OTHERS

While other federal agencies have been eliminating programs because of a lack of funding, finances allocated for the Justice Department -- considered a priority agency by the Reagan Administration -- have soared. Since President Reagan took office, the department's budget has increased by some 0 percent.

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A5)

KING HOLIDAY

Coretta Scott King, after meeting Thursday with President Reagan, said there is "a contradiction between the rhetoric of Mr. Reagan and the policies that come from the White House." The widow of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who met with Reagan four days before the first National holiday honoring the slain civil rights leader, called the 35-minute session "constructive."

But she said serious problems remain for minorities. (Gannett)

HUD CHIEF: KING'S DREAM HASN'T COME TRUE

WASHINGTON -- Housing Secretary Samuel Pierce said Thursday that Martin Luther King, Jr. would have been honored by the national tribute to him but would have realized his dream has not yet come true.

"There's still too much prejudice in this country," he said. "And basically it's the white people that must meet that goal. That's what it's all about." (UPI)

WEATHER PREVENTS SHUTTLE FROM LANDING IN FLORIDA

Fog and rain prevented the space shuttle Columbia from landing in Florida yesterday, the latest setback in a trouble-plagued mission whose launch was postponed a record seven times, and one that could delay Columbia's next flight, scheduled for March 6.

(Washington Post, A4)

LYNG APPARENT FRONT-RUNNER FOR BLOCK'S JOB

Richard Lyng, who has had close political ties to President Reagan for about 20 years, apparently has emerged as the front-runner among candidates to succeed John Block as secretary of agriculture.

Asked if he would accept an Administration offer, Lyng said, "The fact is, I think almost anyone would accept it if the President asked."

(Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A11)

Lyng Appears Top Choice For Agriculture Post

Mr. Lyng, who started his public career as California director of agriculture under then-Governor Reagan in 1966, said Thursday in a telephone interview that he is maintaining a cautious attitude about the possibility of returning to government work.

"No deal has been cut," Lyng, 67, said. "It's inappropriate for me to comment on that. I don't want to give any signals on that right now."

(Myron Struck, Washington Times, A10)

VIRGINIA ON LIST OF POSSIBLE ATOM WASTE SITES

The Energy Department selected seven states as possible sites for a second vault to store highly radioactive nuclear waste for 10,000 years, drawing protests from Governors and other officials there and expressions of relief from those not picked.

(AP story, Washington Post, A5)

Government Narrows Nuclear Waste Dump List To Seven States

The Energy Department on Thursday chose 12 potential sites in Georgia, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Virginia and Wisconsin. Another eight backup sites were chosen in Minnesota, Georgia, Wisconsin and New Hampshire in case any of the front-runners are dropped, which the department considers unlikely.

(AP)

U.S.W. BLASTS REAGAN STEEL IMPORT PLAN: GIVES RANK-AND-FILE CONTRACT VOTE

WASHINGTON -- The United Steelworkers has given new power to its rank-and-file to ratify contracts, while adopting a policy statement blasting President Reagan's steel import program and vowing to make trade an issue in the 1986 congressional elections.

The statement labeled a "dismal failure" President Reagan's program of negotiating restraint agreements with leading steel-exporting countries to try to give domestic producers breathing space from foreign competition.

(Jeff Barker, AP)

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION RISES 0.7%

The nation's industries increased production by a strong 0.7 percent last month, the strongest showing since August, the government reported yesterday. The November performance, originally reported as a 0.4 percent advance, was revised upward to show stronger growth of 0.6 percent.

(Washington Post, D3)

REAGAN -- PHYSICAL EXAM

WASHINGTON -- President Reagan will receive a "mild sedative and painkiller" when he goes to Bethesda Naval Hospital Friday for a colon exam six months after his cancer surgery -- and there are no plans to transfer power to Vice President George Bush.

"We think the that the President will be fully capable of performing his duties should the need arise during the course of this procedure," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said. (Gannett)

ANNUAL PUSH FOR TEEN-AGE WAGE DUE

The fifth annual offensive by the Reagan Administration to pass the Youth Employment Opportunity Wage act -- otherwise known as the "subminimum wage" for teenagers -- is being prepared for Congress' return next week.

Congress has consistently sidestepped the subminimum wage issue, largely because it has been preoccupied with the federal budget deficit and is not prepared to spend considerable time on an inevitable bitter and lengthy wrangle over YEOW. (Peter Perl, Washington Post, A11)

NOMINEE SAYS HE APPROVES OF FED POLICY

Federal Reserve Board nominee Manuel Johnson said Thursday he is in general agreement with current Fed policy and indicated he sees no need for the central bank to try to lower interest rates aggressively.

(Washington Post, D1)

DEA SEEKS TO EXPAND HERBICIDE USE

The Drug Enforcement Administration wants to use herbicides to eradicate marijuana plants on non-federal lands as it currently does on U.S. property, the agency said in a report.

(AP story, Washington Post, A11)

A KENNEDY EARNED SOUTH AFRICA PROFITS

Ah, the joys of public service, and disclosure. Financial reports by Joseph P. Kennedy II, who is running for the seat of retiring House Speaker Tip O'Neill, show that he and his wife got between \$335,000 and \$835,000 in interest and dividends over the past two years from firms doing business in South Africa.

(Washington Post, A28)

EDITOR'S NOTE: '4 Quit Treasury As Tax Campaign Resumes,' page A11 of the Washington Post.

'Heckler's Fine Farewells,' Washington Times page C2.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Thursday Evening)

U.S./U.S.S.R. ARMS TALKS

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Mikhail Gorbachev's surprising plan to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the end of the century was the big subject today when the new round of arms talks began in Geneva. The Gorbachev plan also continued to get attention from President Reagan.

(TV coverage of the President: "We are very grateful for the offer. We are studying it with great care. It is going to depend now on what takes place in Geneva." Reporter: "Are you encouraged by that letter?" The President: "Yes, it's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union.")

And as the two sides got together once again today in Geneva, even the Soviet negotiators were caught off guard by the last minute timing of their new leader's proposal.

NBC's Jim Bittermann: Surprisingly, it appears that the Soviet arms negotiators were sent back to Geneva two days ago without full knowledge of what their leader was going to say last night. According to sources close to the negotiations, they, like their American counterparts, had to work late into the evening to catch-up on the news. As the talks began this morning, several on the Soviet side seemed noticeably tired and the negotiators from Moscow could not always agree on what Secretary Gorbachev had said. Still, the leader of the delegation made clear to journalists the most important part of his boss' peace plan.

(Viktor Karpov: "That we as part of the third stage of delivering the world from nuclear weapons agree that we can get rid of American and Soviet missiles in Europe.")

Moscow is now no longer insisting that French and British nuclear forces be dismantled as the U.S. and U.S.S.R. reduce their nuclear stockpiles. That has been a key stumbling block from the beginning. And Moscow has come around to the proposal President Reagan first made more than four years ago, that both sides reduce the number of their medium range nuclear missiles in Europe to zero. But there is still a major problem for Washington, the U.S. says the Soviets cannot reduce the numbers of their highly mobile SS-20 missiles in Europe by simply moving them to Asian locations in the Soviet Union. American negotiators will insist that the numbers of missiles in Soviet Asia be part of any deal. After less than two hours of talks today, the arms delegations parted with the Soviets promising to come up with more details on their leader's grandiose peace plan as soon as they can get them from Moscow. No one, not even the negotiators, had expected much progress during this round of the arms talks. Now though, more than before, it appears that an agreement limiting medium-range nuclear missiles could be ready for signature before the superpower leaders meet for their next summit. (NBC-2)

ABC's Peter Jennings: In Washington and in Geneva today, American arms control experts and other Administration officials have been looking very closely at the Soviet leader's proposal to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the year 2000. The reaction so far is best described as cautious, and yet positive. We have reports from Geneva and Washington.

ABC's Sheilah Kast: Today the President himself responded to the Soviet proposal. He said he was grateful and encouraged.

(TV coverage of the President: "It's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders in the Soviet Union. It's just about the first time that anyone has ever proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons.")

But the President and his staff were cautious.

(TV coverage of Larry Speakes: "It remains to be seen how serious the Soviets are with a proposal that appears to be a sweeping proposal.")

The U.S. has reservations about several parts of the Soviet proposal, not the least of which is their call to abandon Star Wars.

(TV coverage of Secretary Weinberger: "The President's commitment and the priority that we attach to the strategic defense initiative is widely known and is totally unchanged.")

What may be changing are some nuances. For example, in publicizing their proposal, the Soviets used a word that could mean no research on Star Wars or could mean no development. What is the Soviet position?

(Speakes: "Certainly if it was one that would permit research and then discussion on deployment, that is the U.S. position.")

That's one type of question U.S. negotiators will pursue in Geneva. As long as such uncertainty remains unresolved, U.S. officials are willing to call the Soviet proposal a hopeful sign.

ABC's Rick Inderfurth: What a difference a day makes. Yesterday American officials thought the Soviets would be responding to the latest U.S. offer. Today the Soviets were talking about a new plan of their own.

(Viktor Karpov: "This agreement that we propose now which means we get rid of all Soviet and American missiles in Europe is a new proposal.")

U.S. officials tell ABC News that they intend to look closely at Gorbachev's latest proposal, especially his ideas on cutting missiles in Europe, but few officials expect much progress during this round of the talks, in large part because they believe Gorbachev will be preoccupied with consolidating his power at the upcoming party congress in Moscow. Despite this, U.S. officials say last November's summit did set a new tone for U.S.-Soviet relations, and the next summit, perhaps as early as this summer, will provide the two leaders with yet another opportunity to resolve their differences face to face. But as for now, this summit diplomacy has yielded few concrete results. And as one observer has put it, cordiality helps, but it is no substitute for arms control. (ABC-4)

CBS's Dan Rather: President Reagan today called Moscow's new no-nukes proposal, what the Soviets say could end nuclear arsenals by the end of this century, "different," and the President said he was grateful for the offer. Some other top U.S. officials were less upbeat. Moscow today was beating the drum for it long and loud. In Geneva it was the main talking point as a new round of U.S.-Soviet arms control talks began.

CBS's Tom Fenton: American negotiator Max Kampelman arrived in an upbeat mood despite the fact that the American side was surprised and upstaged by Gorbachev's sweeping proposals. Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov urged they be given careful consideration.

(Karpov: "I think that people in Washington should analyze them thoroughly before jumping to conclusions.")

The British Prime Minister's office confirmed today it received a copy of Gorbachev's proposals as did the French government. Britain said they contained new elements which should be investigated carefully.

(Eric Grove: "If the Americans do not take these up, this will have a very serious effect, I think, on European opinion, both governmental and popular. And the Soviet Union will then have succeeded in driving a wedge between the Europeans and the United States.")

The proposals put to the American side cover almost every major aspect of arms control from reduction of conventional weapons to the total elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. The negotiators met in the same room used by President Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev for their summit. The Soviets said they hoped it was a good omen, the Americans said they were ready to listen.

(Max Kampelman: "The American delegation is here in a constructive spirit.")

After hearing details of the Gorbachev proposal, one American negotiator said they were breathtaking in their scope. With the leaders of the two countries due to meet later this year, there's a deadline hanging over these negotiations. Both sides will now have seven or eight months, a relatively short time, to show some progress in arms control. The world will be expecting something more than just smiles and handshakes at the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

CBS's Lesley Stahl: The President said he was grateful for the Soviet offer and encouraged.

(TV coverage of the President: "It's different than things that we've heard in the past from leaders of the Soviet Union. It's just about the first time that anyone has ever proposed actually eliminating nuclear weapons.")

But other government officials were discouraged that Gorbachev went public before going to the negotiating table.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "It's a bid for public opinion and of course the seriousness of it would have been highlighted if it had been tabled first in Geneva.")

A major objection, Gorbachev's linking his proposal to a renunciation of space weapons.

(TV coverage of Secretary Weinberger: "The President's commitment and the priority that we attach to the strategic defense initiative is widely known and is totally unchanged.")

Stahl continues: Two areas described here as constructive, Gorbachev's statement on verification that included on site inspections long sought by the U.S., and his proposal for complete liquidation of U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe without the usual demand that British and French weapons be counted. But even here the White House complained that Soviet missiles based in Asia were excluded since they are mobile and could be quickly transported to the European theater in a crisis. Finally, the President's spokesman said the Administration is suspicious of the Soviet's new three month ban on nuclear testing.

(TV coverage of Larry Speakes: "We feel that the Soviets have an advantage and for the moment don't need to test. The United States feels that for our own national security it is important that we do test.")

Still, officials here say there is hope the new offer means the Soviets have decided to strike a deal on missiles in Europe that could be announced at the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit. (CBS-Lead)

CANADIAN TERRORISM ALERT

Jennings reports we begin tonight with a terrorist alert that is closer to home. In three Canadian cities tonight police are on alert because of an unconfirmed report that a Libyan was going to place a bomb on board an airliner bound for the United States. In the Canadian capital, Ottawa, tonight one man is in custody in connection with the investigation. His nationality is not known.

(ABC-Lead)

MARCOS

Brokaw reports as the emotional presidential campaign in the Philippines moves toward a climax, one the persistent charges against President Marcos is that he has made himself one of the richest men in the world by plundering his country. It's long been rumored that President Marcos and his wife have built a real estate empire in the United States and elsewhere. Now a subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives is investigating those reports. (NBC-Lead)

MLK, JR.

Jennings: reports finally this evening the commemoration of Martin Luther King's birthday. Yesterday would have been his real birthday, next Monday is the official holiday. His widow, Coretta Scott King, met with President Reagan at the White House this afternoon. (ABC-13)

Rather: reports President Reagan today met briefly at the White House with the widow of assassinated civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. Coretta Scott King was there to accept the proclamation President Reagan signed declaring Dr. King's birthday an official federal holiday for the first time next Monday. (CBS-4)

NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP

Rather reports a federal announcement today of the top seven states in a lottery almost no one wants to win. The list of what would be a very dirty dozen, 12 proposed sites in 7 states, one of which would be chosen to be the second underground storage site for highly radioactive nuclear wastes for thousands of years. The "not in my backyard you don't" protests began even before today's announcement was official, and even though a final site won't be picked until 1994.
(CBS-10, NBC-8)

ASBESTOS SUITS

Rather reports Conrail, the states of Florida, Idaho, and Washington State, school groups in New Jersey and Iowa, these are among the defendants in cases filed today by the Justice Department and the Environmental Protection Agency. The charges are that they violated safety rules on cancer causing asbestos during demolition or renovation of buildings.
(CBS-11, NBC-7)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

STAR WARS

New Star Wars Problem -- "However wrong we think President Reagan has been in pushing his Strategic Defense Initiative, popularly known as 'Star Wars,' he was at least trying to find a way to defend the United States against nuclear missiles that might be launched in anger or by accident. It is all the more disturbing, therefore, to hear that technology that is being developed for a defense system could easily be turned on its head to become a horrendous offensive weapon." (Dallas Times Herald, 1/15)

Thinking It Through Here... -- "The White House plans to spend less money buying new weapons and maintaining old weapons so that it can salt away extra billions for 'Star Wars.' It is like the settlers around Plymouth Rock in the 1600s rationing powder and ball for their muskets to save up for a nuclear submarine.... Defense readiness is not the only victim of the Star Wars project. It also hinders progress in arms-control talks at Geneva. By declining to discuss so much as an amendment to the anti-ballistic missile treaty that would set out rules under which both superpowers would investigate defense systems, the Administration virtually guarantees that nothing will be done to reduce offensive weapons. The White House needs to start over and think that through."

(Los Angeles Times, 1/16)

ACID RAIN

Acid rain: diversion or action? -- "The acid rain problem needs more than study. It needs action. To the extent that the joint report embodies a new awareness that there is a problem with airborne pollutants, it is a welcome development. To the extent that the recommendation program could prove a diversion to get the U.S. off the hook, it is not."

(Christian Science Monitor, 1/16)

Curtailing acid rain -- "Credit for the administration's about-face goes to former Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis, who spent the last year representing the President in talks with the Canadian government over the issue. Refusing to reaffirm the administration's shortsighted policy of procrastination, Mr. Lewis agreed with the Canadians that the issue doesn't need to be studied to death before the United States acts. As he put it, to say that sulfur emissions do not cause acid rain is the same as saying that smoking does not cause lung cancer."

(Dallas Times Herald, 1/15)

JOHN BLOCK

John Block's Sad Legacy -- "When the story of the Block era at the Department of Agriculture is written, historians certainly won't say the secretary was a friend of all farmers. Some may argue that John Block did farming a lot of good, but they won't be able to say that about the farmers themselves, the people who produce the crops and livestock year after year. It simply wouldn't be true." (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 1/10)

MIAs

Disclosing all evidence essential in MIA mystery -- "The United States has no proof of claims that there are still American prisoners being held in Vietnam. But two Reagan administration officials said last weekend that they assume that some are being held against their will. Yet the Vietnamese told the two officials there were no Americans under their government's control, while pledging to investigate reports to the contrary. The time has come for these disparities to be resolved, along with the ugly charges made by some veterans, that the Reagan administration deliberately has covered up information about surviving POWs." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 1/16)

VAT TAX

Let's try new value-added tax -- "Sen. William Roth proposes a tax of 10 percent on all net receipts of domestic businesses and an equal tax on imported goods. This would be joined with an equal reduction in the income tax rate. Taxpayers would end up paying less in income taxes and more in consumer tax. Why bother? Because the value-added tax would shift the burden of taxation away from the income tax and to a tax on consumption. The government would, in the future, be able to raise revenues without raising the tax on income. Tax cheating, which is rife in the current system, would be reduced by a value-added tax, which could be collected simply, without enormous paperwork."

(San Diego Tribune, 1/14)

ORGANIZED CRIME

Where the War on the Mob Must Start -- "President Reagan asked for it and now he's got it, from his own Commission on Organized Crime. He boasted only a few days ago about his effective war against the underworld. Now the commission rises to remind him how the Administration's dealings with Jackie Presser of the Teamsters undermine that campaign. Those 'contacts,' the commission asserts, 'can lead to an erosion of public confidence and dampen the desire to end racketeering.' ... The appearance of impropriety in such cases can be as damaging as the real thing. As the commission asks, what are union members and the public to think when they see union leaders suspected of criminal ties 'joining hands and breaking bread with the important political candidates and leaders of the country'? Let the President finally acknowledge error."

(New York Times, 1/16)

SALT II

Why U.S. should continue to adhere to SALT II -- "Sticking with SALT II serves U.S. interests, as the current debate demonstrates. Without SALT II, we are likely to experience an accelerated arms race, greater uncertainty about Soviet intentions, and an escalation of tensions between the superpowers. We will be less secure. With SALT II, we will be able to preserve important constraints on Soviet weapons, improve our ability to resolve questions about Soviet compliance, and increase prospects for future arms agreements at Geneva. Few choices are so clear cut."

(Lee Hamilton, Christian Science Monitor, 1/16)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

GORBACHEV ARMS CONTROL PROPOSAL

"The announcement was seen in diplomatic circles as another skillful attempt by the Kremlin to steal the propaganda initiative from the U.S. in advance of today's opening of the fourth round of the deadlocked Geneva talks."
(Times, Great Britain)

"As with all proposals, there is the precondition of giving up SDI. To reach their goal, the Soviets have offered arms reductions. Reagan's amiable answer shows that the United States is not insensitive..."
(France-Inter Radio)

"The ball is now in Reagan's court. It's up to him to answer."
(Antenne-2 TV, France)

"It is an important peace offensive and, at the same time, an offensive against Reagan's space defense project....Gorbachev's plan is undoubtedly impressive, but one must wait to see whether it will serve propaganda purposes or represent a concrete desire for peace."
(Il Giornale, Italy)

"However, this goodwill offensive launched by the Kremlin should not mislead those to whom it is addressed. One should keep in mind that Mr. Gorbachev -- just like his predecessors -- has adopted the unfortunate habit of formulating his proposals publicly, instead of presenting them at the negotiating table."
(La Libre Belgique, Belgium)

"The basic principles of the proposal, submitted in connection with the resumption of the USSR-U.S. talks in Geneva, are so attractive for the entire world public that the White House simply cannot ignore them or reject them openly."
(Prague radio, Czechoslovakia)

"These clear and constructive proposals emerge as an effective instrument of countering the attempts by the archreactionary circles of U.S. imperialism to gain military superiority and to destabilize the situation in the world by their Star Wars plans."
(BTA News Agency, Bulgaria)

"And so today the world has witnessed yet another peace-loving initiative by the Soviet leadership. Moscow has again stated its desire for peace; Moscow has again proposed a specific program for the elimination of the threat of thermonuclear self-destruction that hangs over the planet... Now it is up to the West. We shall wait to see how the West as a whole, and Washington in particular, reacts to the statement of the General Assembly."
(Moscow TV)

"If the U.S. Administration, as it has repeatedly affirmed, is dedicated to the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere, it now has a practical possibility really to engage in it."
(Analysis by Tass)

