

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

---

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

---

**Collection:** News Summary Office, White House:  
News Summaries, 1981-1989

**Series:** II: WHITE HOUSE NEWS SUMMARY FINALS,  
1981-1989

**Folder Title:** 02/11/1986

**Box:** 386

---

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories>

Contact a reference archivist at: **reagan.library@nara.gov**

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>



# News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

## TODAY'S HEADLINES

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### Reagan Praises 2-Party System of Philippines

President Reagan reserved judgment today on reports of fraud by supporters of President Marcos in the Philippine election, and called on both sides to "work together to form a viable government." He expressed hope that Marcos and Aquino "can come together and make sure the government works." (New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

Arizona Governor Says U.S. Will Invade Nicaragua -- Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt says the United States is on the verge of invading Nicaragua, and people in the Reagan Administration hope U.S. National Guard troops will be killed during training missions in Central America to provide the pretext for an attack. (AP, UPI)

### NATIONAL NEWS

EEOC Drops Hiring Goals, Timetables -- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, without any vote or public announcement, has abandoned the use of hiring goals and timetables in settlements with private employers accused of race and sex discrimination. (Washington Post)

### NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

**PHILIPPINES** -- It's in the hands of the Philippine National Assembly to determine who was elected president last Friday.

**SHUTTLE** -- A new poll shows that public support for the shuttle program is still very high.

**HAITI** -- The interim military commander promised to hold democratic elections.

#### WHAT CONGRESS DID

In 1985, the Senate met for 1,252 hours and 31 minutes over 170 days. The House met for 965 hours and 16 minutes over 152 days. A total of 7,777 bills and resolutions were introduced. At the end of the legislative process just 240 measures had been passed by both houses and signed into law by the President.... Of those 240 laws, at least 107 were dedicated to such matters as naming federal office buildings, honoring worthy Americans and setting aside various days, weeks and months to herald achievement.... (Washington Times, 2/7)

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### REAGAN PLAYS DOWN PHILIPPINE VOTE FRAUD

President Reagan, breaking Administration silence on the Philippine presidential elections, yesterday played down reports of fraud there and said results so far prove that "there really is a two-party system, obviously good" in the Philippines. Once a government is chosen, "we would like to have the same relationship -- historic relationship -- we've had with the people of the Philippines and their government," Reagan told the Washington Post in an interview.

Reagan added, however, that he would reserve judgment on the degree of fraud until he hears the report today of a 20-member official observer delegation headed by Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind). "Whether there is enough evidence that you could really keep on pointing the finger or not, I don't know but I'm sure that, you know, even in elections in our own country there are some evidences of fraud in places and areas," Reagan said. (Joanne Omang & David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

### Philippine Vote Tally Swinging for Marcos

Faced with mounting evidence of a rigged violent presidential election in the Philippines, the best the Reagan Administration could do yesterday was congratulate the Filipino people for voting. President Reagan's cautious praise of the Philippines' "strong two-party system," echoed by Larry Speakes and the State Department, may change after they are briefed by Sen. Richard Lugar.

(James Morrison & Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

### Reagan Praises 2-Party System of Philippines

President Reagan reserved judgment today on reports of fraud by supporters of President Marcos in the Philippine election, and called on both sides to "work together to form a viable government." He expressed hope that Marcos and Aquino "can come together and make sure the government works."

There appeared to be confusion within the Administration after a briefing by Larry Speakes and a series of background statements by other White House officials. Mr. Speakes and other officials indicated that Mr. Marcos had won the election; they refrained from criticizing him and urged the two sides to work together.

The comments angered State Department officials who said election fraud seemed evident. One of them said the White House "whaffled back and forth" on the fraud issue, suggesting that it was up to Mrs. Aquino to "get on the team" even if she was found to have lost because of irregularities. (Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

### EXTRADITION TREATY ENDORSED BY ABA

BALTIMORE -- The American Bar Association endorsed a controversial extradition treaty with Britain today that Reagan Administration representatives said was a crucial weapon in the war against international terrorism but that critics charge will be used to target the Irish Republican Army. (Ruth Marcus, Washington Post, A11)

## REAGAN "OPTIMISTIC" ON EUROMISSILES PACT

President Reagan said yesterday that he is "optimistic" that the superpowers will reach an arms control agreement this year on U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe because Soviet leader Gorbachev is no longer requiring abandonment of a U.S. missile defense system as a condition. The President called the new Soviet position, conveyed in a Kremlin meeting with Sen. Edward Kennedy, "a hopeful sign" although there are "points that have to be worked out."

Addressing a wide range of issues in the Oval Office interview, Reagan said he would "go all out" in an effort to obtain military aid for the Nicaraguan rebels. He said the rebels have "to be able to protect themselves" against the ruling Sandinistas, who are receiving "extensive aid" from the Soviet Union and Cuba.

(Lou Cannon & David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

## U.S. PRODS SOVIET ON SUMMIT

The Reagan Administration, impatient with foot-dragging by Soviet leader Gorbachev, is prodding the Kremlin to agree on a date for the superpower summit. The State Department Monday called on the Soviets to "move ahead" on the issue, following a report from Sen. Edward Kennedy that Gorbachev is tying progress in arms control negotiations to the summit date.

Spokesman Charles Redman said the U.S. negotiators have "instructions to make rapid progress" in the Geneva arms control talks "wherever possible," including on intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

(Matthew Quinn, UPI)

## SOVIETS TOOLING UP NEW ANTI-SDI BLITZ

The Soviet Union will launch a "major" propaganda campaign against President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative this year, several top U.S. intelligence experts say. The Soviets also plan to use the "spirit" of the Geneva summit to obtain U.S. trade and technology, according to "Soviet Active Measures and Disinformation Forecast," a quarterly newsletter scheduled for release today.

(Bill Gertz, Washington Times, A1)

## NANCY/RAISA

Nancy Reagan says Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa should get a chance during the upcoming summit to see first-hand how Americans live -- and that might include a stop at the supermarket. Mrs. Reagan said she wants the Soviet leader and his wife to see "how our people live, the openness of it. I don't want them to think that we've set things up, pre-arranged things -- so you drop into a Safeway store," Mrs. Reagan suggested with a laugh.

(Susanne Schafer, AP)

### LATINS URGE U.S. TO HALT CONTRA AID

The foreign ministers of eight Latin American nations met with Secretary Shultz yesterday to urge that the Administration's push for aid to Nicaraguan rebels be replaced with a push for a regional peace treaty in Central America. In essence, it revolves around the concept of "simultaneity," in which the United States would halt its support for the contra rebels at the same time as Nicaragua begins liberalizing its political policies. Both Nicaragua and the United States have insisted that the other act first.

(Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A9)

### BABBITT: REAGAN ADMINISTRATION "ON THE BRINK" OF INVADING NICARAGUA

The Reagan Administration is "standing on the brink" of invading Nicaragua and seems to hope that Americans in the region will be killed to provide a pretext, Gov. Bruce Babbitt says. Babbitt declined Monday to say who in the Administration he believed might wish for American deaths.

But he said his belief was a conclusion that could be drawn based on the Reagan Administration's willingness to use U.S. National Guard troops in war games near Nicaragua. "When soldiers are sent to war, they get killed," Babbitt said. "The issue here is our soldiers being placed in a position where they may be killed in order to create a pretext for a war, that's different."

(Larry Lopez, AP)

### Arizona Governor Says U.S. Will Invade Nicaragua

PHOENIX -- Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt says the United States is on the verge of invading Nicaragua, and people in the Reagan Administration hope U.S. National Guard troops will be killed during training missions in Central America to provide the pretext for an attack.

"We're standing on the brink of an American invasion of Nicaragua," Babbitt, a Democrat said Monday. "I don't think the American people understand how close we're getting." Babbitt said the presence of U.S. troops in Central America is "saber rattling" and "those behind it hoped (the U.S. soldiers) would be exposed to fire and be killed. When you send soldiers into a war zone, that's an act of war." (Pat O'Brien, UPI)

### MANILA ANTI-U.S. BY TURNS

MANILA -- When a team of American election observers led by Sen. Richard Lugar left a hotel here this morning enroute to the airport for a flight home, about 50 demonstrators were waiting for them at the gate.

Despite the leftist appearance of the demonstration, it is a good bet that the group was brought to the government-owned Manila Hotel by a wing of President Marcos' ruling New Society Movement party. Men in charge of the group tried to block contact between reporters and demonstrators. But one woman said they were from Marcos' party.

(John Burgess, Washington Post, A10)



### CARTER CRITICIZES NICARAGUA FOLLOWING VISIT

MANAGUA, Nicaragua -- Jimmy Carter said at a press conference here yesterday that he had found evidence here of human rights violations and remains unsatisfied with the Sandinista government's performance. Today, in neighboring El Salvador, Carter met with President Duarte after Marine guards at the U.S. Embassy threw tear gas into a crowd to end a protest of his visit.

About 200 protesters gathered outside the residence of U.S. Ambassador Edwin Corr and burned effigies of Carter. They waved signs reading, "We Love Reagan, We Hate Carter," and "Carter, the blood of the people condemns you." Conservative newspapers in San Salvador said Carter's policies during his presidency had "delivered Nicaragua to communism."

(AP story, Washington Post, A10)

### U.S. WOOS AUSTRALIA

CANBERRA, Australia -- The United States is boosting diplomatic efforts to keep Australia on its side on the issue of visits by nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered ships as the New Zealand government prepares to write its controversial year-old ban into law. At stake is the continued existence of the 31-year-old ANZUS treaty.

(Peter Costigan, Washington Post, A20)

### U.S. AIDE CONFIRMS SWAP FOR SCHARANSKY SET FOR TODAY

WEST BERLIN -- Soviet dissident Anatoly Scharansky is among the prisoners jailed on espionage charges who will be traded by the East and West in Berlin Tuesday, a U.S. official said today. The official told reporters here that the exchange was to take place Tuesday morning at the Glienicke Bridge.

(UPI story, Washington Post, A21)

### U.S. TO RETURN CARRIERS NEAR LIBYAN COAST

The United States, again stepping up pressure on Libya, is positioning two aircraft carriers north of Libya for another series of air and sea maneuvers, the Pentagon said yesterday. The decision, which was disclosed last week, was formally issued through release of a "Notice of Intent" to conduct flight operations in an area supervised by the air traffic controllers in the Libyan capitol of Tripoli.

(AP story, Washington Post, A22)

### U.S. Military Resumes Flights Over Libya

Flight operations from two U.S. aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean will resume near Libya Wednesday in a renewed effort to assert U.S. rights to international airspace in the area, officials say.

Three F-14 fighters from the carrier Saratoga intercepted two Soviet-built Libyan MIG-25 fighters that came within 100 miles of the ship Sunday, Administration officials said Monday. There was no confrontation between the planes, they said. The MIG-25s planes peeled off as the F-14s approached and headed back toward Libya, the officials said.

(Richard Gross, UPI)

## NATIONAL NEWS

---

### EEOC DROPS HIRING GOALS, TIMETABLES

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, without any vote or public announcement, has abandoned the use of hiring goals and timetables in settlements with private employers accused of race and sex discrimination.

While the Reagan Administration is mired in a six-month-old debate over a Labor Department program that sets such goals and timetables for federal contractors, the EEOC has dropped the longstanding practice. Top EEOC officials have justified their switch with the same argument that Attorney General Meese has used to criticize the Labor Department's program, charging that numerical hiring goals amount to discriminatory quotas.  
(Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A1)

### STUDY OF ROCKETS BY AIR FORCE SAID RISKS WERE 1 IN 35

A report received by the space agency two years ago sharply criticized safety planning for the space shuttle, saying the chance of a catastrophic accident involving the solid-fuel booster rockets was 1 in 35. Among 14 possible major shuttle failures, the report said, booster failure was most likely. The Challenger crash came in the shuttle program's 25th flight. The principle author of the report was a consultant to NASA. The report was prepared for the Air Force, which relayed it to NASA.

(Stuart Diamond, New York Times, A1)

### NASA ADVISERS CAUTION AGAINST SHUTTLE DEPENDENCY

CAPE CANAVERAL -- The space agency's goal of total reliance on the shuttle for all space operations by 1988 is unsafe and must be abandoned if the nation is to have a reliable space program, several senior space agency safety advisers now say. In interviews over the past several days, seven of the outside advisers, who sit on the 13-member Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel, said NASA should turn to unmanned, disposable rockets to put many of its payloads in orbit and send spacecraft into deep space.

(Kevin Klose, Washington Post, A1)

### REAGAN TO HOLD 34th NEWS CONFERENCE TONIGHT

President Reagan holds his second news conference of the year tonight and the 34th of his presidency. The half-hour question-and-answer session with reporters will be broadcast by the major radio and television networks from the East Room of the White House beginning at 8 p.m. EST.  
(Michael Putzel, AP)

EDITOR'S NOTE: A transcript of President Reagan's interview with Lou Cannon and David Hoffman of the Washington Post appears on page A8 of the Washington Post.

## DEMOCRATS START TOUR FOR ATTACK ON BUDGET

CHICAGO -- Democrats from the House Budget Committee began a week-long, cross-country assault on President Reagan's budget priorities here today in one of the opening moves in an election-year battle over spending, taxes and the federal deficit. At the first of five scheduled hearings around the country, Reagan's fiscal 1987 budget was denounced by a parade of witnesses, including Chicago's Democratic mayor, Harold Washington, who accused the President of having "declared war" on his and other U.S. cities.

(Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A7)

## REAGAN: CUT THE "FAT"

President Reagan says his week-old fiscal 1987 budget is taking a lot of "abuse," but that most Americans know the answer to the deficit problem is simple: Cut the fat. On Capitol Hill, the detractors' blows kept coming. "Now don't tell me that there isn't any business or household budget or anything else that can't find 2 percent fat," Reagan said Monday of his proposed \$944 billion budget proposal, which calls for a 3 percent military spending increase and cuts of \$38 billion from almost all other programs. "Having signed it (the budget), I know how thick it is, and I have to believe that a lot of the people who are criticizing it haven't read it."

(Dana Walker, UPI)

## ASAT FUNDING TARGETED

The first shot in this year's battle in Congress over antisatellite (ASAT) weapons was fired yesterday by Rep. Les AuCoin (D-Ore.), who said he will attempt to delete from the budget all the money the Air Force wants to put the controversial weapons into production.

In a letter sent out yesterday signaling the reopening of the ASAT debate, AuCoin asked Secretary Weinberger to describe the Administration's "negotiating position" on ASAT and how it differs from one designed "to induce the Soviets to abandon all ASAT restraints and to deploy the maximum possible threat against essential U.S. satellites."

(George Wilson, Washington Post, A7)

## REAGAN ON THE POLITICS OF SUCCESSION

President Reagan yesterday expressed sympathy for the recent political travails of Vice President Bush and said the intensified contest for the 1988 Republican nomination is a good reason to repeal the 22nd Amendment, which limits a president to two terms.

Asked about the jockeying to succeed him between Bush and Rep. Jack Kemp, Reagan said, "See, that's what's wrong with having a 22nd Amendment. Everybody automatically, the minute the '84 election is over, everybody starts saying, 'What are we going to do in '88?' And focusing the spotlight on it. I think that it's almost forced on anyone if they are interested in that direction. But I don't know what we can do to change it."

(Washington Post, A9)



## *NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY*

---

(Monday Evening, February 10, 1986)

### PHILIPPINES

CBS's Dan Rather: It's in the hands of the Philippine National Assembly to determine who was elected president last Friday. But the Marcos-controlled assembly adjourned today, unable to agree even on how to count the votes. U.S. and other observers have charged that the election was so fraud-ridden that maybe no count can ever really be meaningful.

CBS's Bill Redeker reports from Manila. Cory Aquino is back on the stump, trying to claim what she says will be stolen.

(Aquino: "We are going to take power. The people have won this election.")

So Cory's people headed off to the national assembly, but on the way one of her supporters was shot to death. Another was wounded. Outside the assembly, Aquino supporters demonstrated and called for Marcos to step down. One poll shows Aquino ahead, a couple of others favor the president. But everyone knows Marcos controls the assembly, and that's what counts.

(Far East expert Robert Shaplen: "He'll steal the election, simple as that. He can control the levers of power.... He controls every single institution in this country.")

What's likely to happen first is the assembly will confirm a winner, and most believe it will be Marcos, but not by the margin he had predicted.

(Shaplen: "Let's assume he wins, remains president. He has lost something he's never lost before. He's lost not only the good will, the popular support. He's lost a mandate.")

Privately, some Aquino insiders say they're beginning to accept the reality of Philippine politics, though publicly they continue to maintain they've won.

CBS's Lesley Stahl: (TV Coverage: President speaking at press luncheon.)

The White House is operating on the assumption that Marcos will win the election, and that despite the charges of widespread fraud there should not be any cutoff of U.S. aid to his government. In fact, President Reagan praised the election, saying it shows there is now a two-party system in the Philippines.

(President: "We want to help in any way we can, that once the election is over, that the results of the election then go forward and that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works.")

At the White House the question of fraud was secondary. "The main thing," said an official, "is that we have a strong ally in the Pacific." And he urged Mrs. Aquino "not to have demonstrations in the streets just because you didn't like the election." Marcos was urged to work with the opposition to institute reforms.

Stahl continues: (TV Coverage: Graphics of White House admonitions to Marcos and Aquino against White House backdrop.)

Critics said the White House statements were a mistake.

(Former State Department official Richard Holbrooke: "Any suggestion by American government officials at this point that they are endorsing a Marcos victory before all the facts are in could well be misunderstood in Manila as a green light for Marcos to do whatever he wants next. And that could be a real tragedy.")

At lunch with out-of-town reporters, President Reagan was quoted as questioning some of the allegations of fraud against Marcos. Administration officials say the President does not want to abandon Marcos the way Jimmy Carter abandoned the Shah of Iran. Sen. Lugar and his team of election observers are returning to Washington and will report to the President tomorrow on the extent of fraud and vote manipulation.

(TV Coverage: Various shots of Sen. Lugar in the Philippines.)

Mr. Reagan is expected to issue an official statement when he holds a news conference tomorrow night. (CBS-2)

ABC's Peter Jennings: The Philippines parliament met today and didn't do a thing about the presidential election. Filipinos who voted four days ago still don't have a clue who has actually won the election. While very many people think it should be the opposition candidate, Cory Aquino, many more are afraid that President Marcos will never let it happen.

ABC's Jim Laurie reports from Manila. They converged on the national assembly, the partisans outside engaging in an almost playful duel of shouts and victory signs. Across town, after a rally where Corazon Aquino spoke, things took a much less playful turn as an unidentified gunman fired on a group of people holding "Marcos concede" signs, killing one Aquino supporter and wounding another. There were fears the continuing dispute over election results would lead to more violence. The independent NAMFREL tabulation showed Mrs. Aquino ahead by 700,000 votes with nearly 60% of the returns in. The slower government count shows Marcos 400,000 ahead with only 35% of the vote counted. President Marcos, under American pressure, is now urging that the two counts be completed. For Corazon Aquino, counting the votes in an assembly controlled by Marcos was nothing more than political trickery. At an outdoor mass for 2,000 supporters, Aquino served a warning.

(Aquino: "They must now act like the representatives of the people they claim to be. There will be no room for a dictator's puppet in the new Philippines.")

ABC's Sam Donaldson: (TV Coverage: The President speaking at the regional press luncheon.)

The Reagan Administration, suspecting that President Marcos intends to have himself declared the winner, fairly elected or not, prepared today to make the best of it.

(President: "In spite of all these charges, there is at the same time the evidence of a strong two-party system now in the islands. We want to help in any way we can that once the election is over, that the results of the election then go forward and that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works.")

Donaldson continues: The key to understanding the U.S. position, said Larry Speakes, is the line about urging both parties to come together to make the government work.

(TV Coverage: Speakes in briefing room. Stills of Aquino and Marcos, map of the Philippines, American flag.)

That seems to be a plea to Mrs. Aquino not to take to the streets with massive, daily demonstrations that could generate violence -- as she has suggested she would -- and to Marcos not to try to further suppress or ignore his opponents' demands for reform, as his past record suggests he intends. Sen. Lugar, who has been in the Philippines monitoring the election, will report to the President tomorrow. But no matter what evidence of fraud he presents, the policy of making the best of it has already been set.

(TV Coverage: Sen. Lugar. Government vote tally board.)

Administration officials seem a bit uncomfortable about putting forward this make-the-best-of-it policy, but they argue the U.S. can't force Marcos to be honest, and cutting off aid would only jeopardize retention of vital U.S. air and naval bases in the Philippines. So for now the Administration intends to simply keep the public pressure on Marcos to reform -- and hold its nose. (ABC-Lead)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: It's now been three full days since the presidential election in the Philippines and still no one is sure who is the winner. But the prospect of a bloody end to the bitter contest worries everyone. President Marcos, who has controlled that island nation for 20 years now, is not expected to let it slip away through the electoral process. And yet his challenger, Corazon Aquino, is equally determined to demonstrate that she has won.

NBC's Steve Mallory reports from Manila that Sen. Lugar and other American observers left for home, saying that in no way could this election be described as clean.

(Lugar: "Even within the last 24 hours, serious charges have been made in regard to the tabulation system.")

Lugar was talking about the government's unofficial vote-counting center. The results here have been tainted. Last night 30 computer operators walked off the job, claiming the count was rigged in favor of President Marcos. Mrs. Aquino was out again yesterday urging her backers to be vigilant, to counter attempts to cheat her out of the election.

(Aquino: "This woman of peace who stands before you today is claiming the people's due, the presidency." Cheering.)

An hour after she made her speech, one of her supporters at the site was shot dead, the 95th victim of election violence.

NBC's Chris Wallace: The Reagan Administration tried to end the growing controversy about the election, signalling that it now expects Marcos to win and will continue to back him regardless of any vote fraud. In public, the President said the U.S. would do nothing to interfere in the Philippines, stating his hopes in general terms.

(President at press luncheon: "And that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works and that we can retain the historic relationship that we've had.")

Wallace continues: But behind the scenes the White House is taking a much tougher line. A top official urged Mrs. Aquino "not to have demonstrations in the street just because you didn't like the election. Get on the team and work with the government." The message to Marcos just as blunt: "You've got a strong opposition. Bring them into the government."

(TV Coverage: Graphics of White House official's comments over backdrop of the White House.)

But no matter what Marcos does, the White House opposes cutting off U.S. aid to the Philippines for fear of strengthening the communist rebellion there. The Administration's chief concern is not to allow the election turmoil to jeopardize two U.S. military bases. But some critics fear that by minimizing the fraud charges, the White House may hurt itself in the long run.

(Former State Department official Richard Holbrooke: "It's very important not to mislead the Philippine people, and especially not to mislead President Marcos. The Administration has long stood for a free and credible election and it should continue to do so.")

The head of the House subcommittee that deals with the Philippines says the President must protect those bases, but adds the U.S. cannot give up its leverage to push reforms.

(Rep. Solarz: "I think we need to consider the possibility of putting our aid into an escrow account which would only be released after a legitimate and democratically elected government takes power in the Philippines.")

The President meets tomorrow morning with the U.S. team that observed the elections and found many cases of fraud. But indications are that Mr. Reagan has already made up his mind. He'll denounce the fraud and continue to back Marcos. (NBC-Lead)

## CHALLENGER/NASA

CBS's Dan Rather: A private, closed-to-the-public grilling of NASA officials today by President Reagan's shuttle catastrophe commission. A prime subject: documents indicating that some NASA officials knew for months about safety concerns that a re-used shuttle booster could crack open a seal in mid-flight, kill a crew, destroy a shuttle.

CBS's Bob Schieffer reports on the commission hearing. As the panel convened, sources told CBS several of its members had been outraged to learn this weekend that concerns about booster safety had been raised as early as nine months ago. Panel Chairman William Rogers didn't accuse NASA of a coverup, but emphasized he wants the information released to the public.

(TV Coverage of commission members arriving at OEOB.)

Sections of the shuttle booster rocket are sealed together with huge rubber rings and some of NASA's own analysts warned in reports last year that the rings were eroding in flight and that, if they gave way, could trigger a catastrophe. Unaware of the memos, the investigating panel did not get that information when it questioned NASA officials last week. Today, three NASA sources told CBS the warnings were never passed on to the NASA flight director or the crews who flew the shuttle. As the presidential panel tried to figure out today who in NASA did know of the memos and what, if anything, was done, a congressional committee promised an even broader inquiry this summer. A lot more about all of this should become known tomorrow. The panel is holding a public session and NASA has scheduled a news conference.

...MORE...

Rather recounts problems with previous shuttle flights. Not all are serious mishaps but, seen together, lots of questions about workmanship, leadership and scheduling. Was the program being pushed too far, too fast? If so, what was the hurry?

CBS's David Martin reports that a NASA advisory panel on safety warned there were perhaps too many demands, that an agency dedicated to research and development was "likely to fail" in its efforts to make the shuttle commercially competitive. Did NASA's determination to make man-in-space competitive with unmanned rockets drive it to run risks it shouldn't have?

(Space expert Marcia Smith: "NASA would like to be able to meet launch dates. But I am not aware that they would have ever considered sacrificing safety in order to meet launch dates. In fact, what you hear is the opposite. You hear complaints about NASA delaying too many times, either for weather considerations or some other factors.")

Most experts agree that NASA would never knowingly compromise the safety of its shuttle crews. The real question is whether in its drive to compete NASA simply failed to recognize a critical safety factor.

Rather: It's official today. NASA is scrubbing the next three civilian shuttle flights; all three put off indefinitely because of the Challenger tragedy....The Air Force, for the record, is continuing preparations for a military shuttle launch in July from its new spaceport in California. But on background, one official says: "You're not going to see us make the first launch of a shuttle after the Challenger's loss."  
(CBS-Lead)

ABC's Lynn Sherr reports on the presidential commission meeting today.

(TV Coverage: NASA officials arriving at OEOB.)

Commission Chairman William Rogers publicly tried to downplay any hard feelings toward the space agency.

(Rogers: "This story made it appear, possibly, that there was some lack of cooperation between NASA and the commission. That's not the case.")

But privately, members of the blue-ribbon panel were clearly annoyed that they had to read in the newspaper that NASA engineers had been concerned for some time about seals in the solid rocket boosters, a possible cause of the accident. In another development, the magazine Aviation Week and Space Technology said today that the explosion was caused by the rocket slamming into the external tank. Although the presidential commission held this session in private, tomorrow they'll take testimony from NASA officials at a public hearing and later in the week they're scheduled to travel to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida for their first on-site investigation.

(ABC-3)

NBC's Roger Bazell reports on the investigation into the shuttle accident.

Even before the accident, the company which manufactures the rocket had been trying to redesign the seem which may have leaked, according to sources familiar with the investigation. NASA and the company thought the seem could be a source of future problems, these sources say. NASA officials did not believe the problem serious enough to halt the shuttle program, so a new design was only under study. William Rogers has said there will be some answers at the public meeting of his panel tomorrow.  
(NBC-2)

## POLL

Brokaw: A new NBC News-Wall Street Journal poll shows that public support for the shuttle program is still very, very high. The poll of almost 1,600 adults shows that 73% still think the shuttle is a good investment. In 1981, that figure was 66%.

Our poll also found some disturbing news for President Reagan. He remains extremely popular, but 2/3 of the public think Congress would do a better job cutting federal programs to get the deficit down. Only 1/4 wanted President Reagan to make those cuts.

Last week a new tax on oil and gasoline was gaining momentum in Congress, but our survey found the public opposes an oil import fee-gas tax by 53-44%. However, there is some support for a national sales tax. It is favored by a slight margin, 52-47%. (NBC-3)

## SHCHARANSKY

Brokaw: Anatoly Shcharansky is expected to be the first to cross a Berlin bridge tomorrow in a major East-West prisoner exchange. Confirmation that he will be freed came from just about all sides today, and there was a report that Moscow yielded to American insistence that Shcharansky be released first and separately to avoid being linked to the others, who are all spies.

(CBS-8, ABC-13, NBC-4)

## LIBYA

Jennings reports the Pentagon says the Navy will stage another round of military maneuvers off the coast of Libya starting tomorrow night. Two U.S. aircraft carriers will be the base of flight operations that will continue through Friday. Meanwhile, Libya says it plans to conduct its own flight operations in the same area at the same time.

(NBC-6, CBS-2)

## BUDGET

Jennings: Now that the President has put his budget on the congressional table, the Democrats have decided to take it on the road. First stop: Chicago. Democrats from the House will hold hearings on the budget in five different cities before the week is over. The Democrats apparently believe if they can publicize the cuts which the President wants, they will reap support for protecting a number of domestic programs if they can't. Republicans claim it is all politics. (ABC-4)

## CAMARENA

Jennings says that correspondent Dennis Troute reports that U.S. marshals angered over apparent foot-dragging by Mexican authorities in the case of Enrique Camarena offered a no-questions-asked reward for a man thought to be a witness to the murder. And last month half-a-dozen Mexican police kidnapped the witness and turned him over to American authorities. Those Mexican police and their families have since been given sanctuary in this country. (ABC-9)



## BONNEVILLE POWER

ABC's Barry Serafin reports on the Administration's proposal to sell Bonneville Power, which runs Grand Coulee Dam.

(Secretary Herrington: "The federal government doesn't belong in the business of marketing power. The private sector can do the work a lot better than we can do it, and we ought to get out of this activity.")

That is not a popular idea in the Pacific Northwest. Despite sharp rate increases in recent years, the BPA's immense hydroelectric system provides relatively inexpensive power to 4.5 million people in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and portions of adjoining states. And there is considerable concern that if a private company bought BPA it would divert power to other regions, impose big new rate increases and put more stress on states already suffering economic troubles. The Administration's asking price for the BPA is \$8.85 billion. Lawmakers from the Northwest want their states to have a chance to buy the power system if it goes on the market, but most say they will try to keep things from going that far.

(Northwest legislator: "The President simply has not focused on the issue. It's come out of some of the gnomes in the Office of Management and Budget who themselves don't understand what its consequences are. It's the wrong thing to do and we don't care who we have to oppose. We're going to oppose it and we're going to beat them.") (ABC-5)

## HAITI

Rather: The interim military commander of Haiti promised to hold democratic elections. He pointedly left out any date when they might be held.

CBS's Jerry Bowen reports from Haiti that the new governing council was officially sworn into office, the country declared a democracy, a new constitution to be drawn up. The people were promised a free press. Foreign travellers had their first chance to flee today, a single jumbo jet to Canada. (CBS-3)

ABC's Jim Wooten reports from Haiti that in the joyful noise of Haiti these days, there is a remembrance of things past and an amorphous promise of things yet to come. Maybe the country has been born again, but the greater reality is that in the Haiti Jean Claude Duvalier has abandoned, there is not much more than a vague hope and a dim prayer that things will be better without him, though it is truly difficult to imagine much worse than this: the most overpopulated, underdeveloped, unemployed, illiterate, hungriest, poorest nation in the entire Western hemisphere.

(TV Coverage of living conditions for most Haitians.)

Despite the church's pleas for reconciliation, vengeance will probably continue, not because an organized revolution is afoot in Haiti, but rather because Duvalier's government of relatives, in-laws and cronies finally collapsed beneath the weight of its own graft and greed.

(TV Coverage of rioting, tearing up once-luxurious presidential properties.)

The country Duvalier left is the country he nearly destroyed with a dictatorship either sustained or ignored by the U.S. for years. It is now too far gone for any quick fix, political or economic. (ABC-8)

Brokaw: The interim government promised interim elections, possibly within three years, a new constitution and a real and working democracy, all of which won U.S. praise as a good start.

NBC's Dennis Murphy reports from Haiti. The government also pledged to respect human rights and support the development of political parties and a free press. But an equally important announcement was today's decree disbanding the Tonton Macoutes, the hated secret police. The Macoutes are being hunted down by the Haitians they treated so brutally for so many years. It is an ugly little war that has been raging since Friday. (NBC-5)

#### ABORTION

CBS's Karen Burnes reports from Minnesota on a challenge to a state law that parents must be notified before a minor can obtain an abortion. Supporters say the law was designed to increase communication between teenagers and their parents. But in the first year the law was on the books the rate of teenage abortion dropped by 40%. Opponents claim the law is nothing more than anti-abortion legislation and are today asking the court that it be overturned. (CBS-5)

#### SOUTH AMERICAN DEMOCRACIES

Brokaw, in the first of a week-long series on democracies emerging from dictatorships in South America, reports on the Alfonsin Administration in Argentina. (NBC-8)

#### STOCKS

Jennings reports there was another high for the Dow, up 13 more points in active trading. (ABC-6)

###

## EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

---

### FEDERAL BUDGET

Sound and Sensible -- "The fiscal 1987 budget, inaugurating the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit-reduction process, is a masterpiece of economic responsibility balanced by political common sense. It's a great way to open a painful debate.... No "deficit-closing" tax hike is acceptable. Period. On this one, let us hope Reagan sticks to his guns. And to his budget, insofar as circumstances and the veto power permit. Here at last is a budget worth fighting for." (Dallas Morning News, 2/7)

Amtrak can't escape federal budget cuts -- "If we derailed Amtrak tomorrow, it would cost more than it would save. Under law, if Congress eliminates Amtrak, the railroad would have to pay \$2 billion to laid-off workers. Still, it is unlikely that cross-country train service will ever be able to compete with air or bus service. Faced with \$200 billion deficits, we can't finance a first-rate rail service to hundreds of cities across the USA. But where Amtrak is heavily used and comes close to making a profit, it deserves federal aid. We can't afford to keep Amtrak at full throttle, but we have to give it enough money to keep chugging along." (USA Today, 2/10)

Aroused public opinion can alter Reagan's budget -- "President Reagan is counting on the law's pressures and the fall elections to enable him to prevail in this struggle over budget priorities. Majorities of both parties and houses of Congress hope to draft an alternative budget that balances the nation's needs while meeting Gramm-Rudman-Hollings' limit. What's obviously needed, all agree, is a grand compromise, imposing balanced cuts on both military and domestic programs and, unavoidably, including a tax increase. Unfortunately it also requires President Reagan's approval before it can fly.... As irresponsible as Gramm-Rudman-Hollings' blind budget cuts would be, at least they would force equal sacrifices on both military and civilian spending. The public and Congress must persuade Mr. Reagan that his budget is simply not an option." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 2/7)

### GRAMM-RUDMAN

Gramm-Rudman Will Work -- "The ultimate salvation from runaway federal budget deficits still lies in the Gramm-Rudman Hollings law, notwithstanding a federal court's finding that a key section of the laws unconstitutional. Even if the Supreme Court eventually agreed with the lower court, the law would still work because it contains a backup provision allowing Congress to make automatic cuts....In short, the Gramm-Rudman process is stacked against the President more than against Congress and White House aides know it. They will be faced with a choice: end Mr. Reagan's cherished military buildup, or raise taxes. We prefer an end to the buildup that has already resulted in the doubling of the military budget since Mr. Reagan assumed office."

(Hartford Courant, 2/9)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS (continued)

CONRAIL

On to the House -- "The issues involved in the sale are clear cut: Is the price tag of \$1.2 billion that Mrs. Dole attached to Conrail high enough? And would a merger of Norfolk Southern and Conrail be anti-competitive? The answers to these two questions remain no and yes and as long as they do, the Conrail bill has little chance of making its way through the House in its present form." (Journal of Commerce, 2/10)

PHILIPPINES ELECTION

Election on the Brink -- "It is fair to deduce that a key aim in these elections was to restore [Marcos'] legitimacy in the eyes of the American people. And he failed. Whatever the final result proclaimed by his puppet Commission on Elections, Mr. Marcos will stand repudiated. He can't win. He either will be the officially annointed loser, an eventuality difficult to imagine, or he will be a victor with a mandate tainted by violence, bribery and fraud." (Baltimore Sun, 2/10)

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER

A hard look at Challenger -- "Perhaps especially in the midst of grief, the human mind seeks some symmetry of cause for devastating effect. Thus, the establishment and first meeting of the investigatory body in themselves provide reassurance that matters are in hand. More important is the panel's potential to lift the shadow of doubt that Challenger's exploding has cast on the capacity of American technology to carry human beings safely into space. If the commission finds a need for extensive changes in the shuttle program, that could mean long delays. But the events of Jan. 28 proved that caution, as much as daring, is a requisite in the exploration of space." (Hartford Courant, 2/8)

ANGOLA

Historic opportunity -- "Mr. Savimbi has correctly concluded that communist imperialism is a far greater danger to the region than apartheid, which has no capacity to expand. Actually, a stable, democratic Angola might prompt South Africa to become less defensive and more likely to moderate its racial policies.... To be sure, Angola is remote, but it is of immense significance to the future of southern Africa. Here is a clear chance for the United States to make a difference in turning back communist expansion. Unlike the freedom fighters in Afghanistan, for example, UNITA has a decent chance at victory." (San Diego Union, 2/7)



# News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

## TODAY'S HEADLINES

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### Reagan Praises 2-Party System of Philippines

President Reagan reserved judgment today on reports of fraud by supporters of President Marcos in the Philippine election, and called on both sides to "work together to form a viable government." He expressed hope that Marcos and Aquino "can come together and make sure the government works." (New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

Arizona Governor Says U.S. Will Invade Nicaragua -- Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt says the United States is on the verge of invading Nicaragua, and people in the Reagan Administration hope U.S. National Guard troops will be killed during training missions in Central America to provide the pretext for an attack. (AP, UPI)

### NATIONAL NEWS

EEOC Drops Hiring Goals, Timetables -- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, without any vote or public announcement, has abandoned the use of hiring goals and timetables in settlements with private employers accused of race and sex discrimination. (Washington Post)

### NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

**PHILIPPINES** -- It's in the hands of the Philippine National Assembly to determine who was elected president last Friday.

**SHUTTLE** -- A new poll shows that public support for the shuttle program is still very high.

**HAITI** -- The interim military commander promised to hold democratic elections.

#### WHAT CONGRESS DID

In 1985, the Senate met for 1,252 hours and 31 minutes over 170 days. The House met for 965 hours and 16 minutes over 152 days. A total of 7,777 bills and resolutions were introduced. At the end of the legislative process just 240 measures had been passed by both houses and signed into law by the President.... Of those 240 laws, at least 107 were dedicated to such matters as naming federal office buildings, honoring worthy Americans and setting aside various days, weeks and months to herald achievement.... (Washington Times, 2/7)



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### REAGAN PLAYS DOWN PHILIPPINE VOTE FRAUD

President Reagan, breaking Administration silence on the Philippine presidential elections, yesterday played down reports of fraud there and said results so far prove that "there really is a two-party system, obviously good" in the Philippines. Once a government is chosen, "we would like to have the same relationship -- historic relationship -- we've had with the people of the Philippines and their government," Reagan told the Washington Post in an interview.

Reagan added, however, that he would reserve judgment on the degree of fraud until he hears the report today of a 20-member official observer delegation headed by Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind). "Whether there is enough evidence that you could really keep on pointing the finger or not, I don't know but I'm sure that, you know, even in elections in our own country there are some evidences of fraud in places and areas," Reagan said. (Joanne Omang & David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

### Philippine Vote Tally Swinging for Marcos

Faced with mounting evidence of a rigged violent presidential election in the Philippines, the best the Reagan Administration could do yesterday was congratulate the Filipino people for voting. President Reagan's cautious praise of the Philippines' "strong two-party system," echoed by Larry Speakes and the State Department, may change after they are briefed by Sen. Richard Lugar.

(James Morrison & Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

### Reagan Praises 2-Party System of Philippines

President Reagan reserved judgment today on reports of fraud by supporters of President Marcos in the Philippine election, and called on both sides to "work together to form a viable government." He expressed hope that Marcos and Aquino "can come together and make sure the government works."

There appeared to be confusion within the Administration after a briefing by Larry Speakes and a series of background statements by other White House officials. Mr. Speakes and other officials indicated that Mr. Marcos had won the election; they refrained from criticizing him and urged the two sides to work together.

The comments angered State Department officials who said election fraud seemed evident. One of them said the White House "whaffled back and forth" on the fraud issue, suggesting that it was up to Mrs. Aquino to "get on the team" even if she was found to have lost because of irregularities.

(Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

### EXTRADITION TREATY ENDORSED BY ABA

BALTIMORE -- The American Bar Association endorsed a controversial extradition treaty with Britain today that Reagan Administration representatives said was a crucial weapon in the war against international terrorism but that critics charge will be used to target the Irish Republican Army.

(Ruth Marcus, Washington Post, A11)



### REAGAN "OPTIMISTIC" ON EUROMISSILES PACT

President Reagan said yesterday that he is "optimistic" that the superpowers will reach an arms control agreement this year on U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe because Soviet leader Gorbachev is no longer requiring abandonment of a U.S. missile defense system as a condition. The President called the new Soviet position, conveyed in a Kremlin meeting with Sen. Edward Kennedy, "a hopeful sign" although there are "points that have to be worked out."

Addressing a wide range of issues in the Oval Office interview, Reagan said he would "go all out" in an effort to obtain military aid for the Nicaraguan rebels. He said the rebels have "to be able to protect themselves" against the ruling Sandinistas, who are receiving "extensive aid" from the Soviet Union and Cuba.

(Lou Cannon & David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

### U.S. PRODS SOVIET ON SUMMIT

The Reagan Administration, impatient with foot-dragging by Soviet leader Gorbachev, is prodding the Kremlin to agree on a date for the superpower summit. The State Department Monday called on the Soviets to "move ahead" on the issue, following a report from Sen. Edward Kennedy that Gorbachev is tying progress in arms control negotiations to the summit date.

Spokesman Charles Redman said the U.S. negotiators have "instructions to make rapid progress" in the Geneva arms control talks "wherever possible," including on intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

(Matthew Quinn, UPI)

### SOVIETS TOOLING UP NEW ANTI-SDI BLITZ

The Soviet Union will launch a "major" propaganda campaign against President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative this year, several top U.S. intelligence experts say. The Soviets also plan to use the "spirit" of the Geneva summit to obtain U.S. trade and technology, according to "Soviet Active Measures and Disinformation Forecast," a quarterly newsletter scheduled for release today.

(Bill Gertz, Washington Times, A1)

### NANCY/RAISA

Nancy Reagan says Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa should get a chance during the upcoming summit to see first-hand how Americans live -- and that might include a stop at the supermarket. Mrs. Reagan said she wants the Soviet leader and his wife to see "how our people live, the openness of it. I don't want them to think that we've set things up, pre-arranged things -- so you drop into a Safeway store," Mrs. Reagan suggested with a laugh.

(Susanne Schafer, AP)

## LATINS URGE U.S. TO HALT CONTRA AID

The foreign ministers of eight Latin American nations met with Secretary Shultz yesterday to urge that the Administration's push for aid to Nicaraguan rebels be replaced with a push for a regional peace treaty in Central America. In essence, it revolves around the concept of "simultaneity," in which the United States would halt its support for the contra rebels at the same time as Nicaragua begins liberalizing its political policies. Both Nicaragua and the United States have insisted that the other act first.

(Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A9)

## BABBITT: REAGAN ADMINISTRATION "ON THE BRINK" OF INVADING NICARAGUA

The Reagan Administration is "standing on the brink" of invading Nicaragua and seems to hope that Americans in the region will be killed to provide a pretext, Gov. Bruce Babbitt says. Babbitt declined Monday to say who in the Administration he believed might wish for American deaths.

But he said his belief was a conclusion that could be drawn based on the Reagan Administration's willingness to use U.S. National Guard troops in war games near Nicaragua. "When soldiers are sent to war, they get killed," Babbitt said. "The issue here is our soldiers being placed in a position where they may be killed in order to create a pretext for a war, that's different."

(Larry Lopez, AP)

## Arizona Governor Says U.S. Will Invade Nicaragua

PHOENIX -- Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt says the United States is on the verge of invading Nicaragua, and people in the Reagan Administration hope U.S. National Guard troops will be killed during training missions in Central America to provide the pretext for an attack.

"We're standing on the brink of an American invasion of Nicaragua," Babbitt, a Democrat said Monday. "I don't think the American people understand how close we're getting." Babbitt said the presence of U.S. troops in Central America is "saber rattling" and "those behind it hoped (the U.S. soldiers) would be exposed to fire and be killed. When you send soldiers into a war zone, that's an act of war." (Pat O'Brien, UPI)

## MANILA ANTI-U.S. BY TURNS

MANILA -- When a team of American election observers led by Sen. Richard Lugar left a hotel here this morning enroute to the airport for a flight home, about 50 demonstrators were waiting for them at the gate.

Despite the leftist appearance of the demonstration, it is a good bet that the group was brought to the government-owned Manila Hotel by a wing of President Marcos' ruling New Society Movement party. Men in charge of the group tried to block contact between reporters and demonstrators. But one woman said they were from Marcos' party.

(John Burgess, Washington Post, A10)

### CARTER CRITICIZES NICARAGUA FOLLOWING VISIT

MANAGUA, Nicaragua -- Jimmy Carter said at a press conference here yesterday that he had found evidence here of human rights violations and remains unsatisfied with the Sandinista government's performance. Today, in neighboring El Salvador, Carter met with President Duarte after Marine guards at the U.S. Embassy threw tear gas into a crowd to end a protest of his visit.

About 200 protesters gathered outside the residence of U.S. Ambassador Edwin Corr and burned effigies of Carter. They waved signs reading, "We Love Reagan, We Hate Carter," and "Carter, the blood of the people condemns you." Conservative newspapers in San Salvador said Carter's policies during his presidency had "delivered Nicaragua to communism."

(AP story, Washington Post, A10)

### U.S. WOOS AUSTRALIA

CANBERRA, Australia -- The United States is boosting diplomatic efforts to keep Australia on its side on the issue of visits by nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered ships as the New Zealand government prepares to write its controversial year-old ban into law. At stake is the continued existence of the 31-year-old ANZUS treaty.

(Peter Costigan, Washington Post, A20)

### U.S. AIDE CONFIRMS SWAP FOR SCHARANSKY SET FOR TODAY

WEST BERLIN -- Soviet dissident Anatoly Scharansky is among the prisoners jailed on espionage charges who will be traded by the East and West in Berlin Tuesday, a U.S. official said today. The official told reporters here that the exchange was to take place Tuesday morning at the Glienicke Bridge.

(UPI story, Washington Post, A21)

### U.S. TO RETURN CARRIERS NEAR LIBYAN COAST

The United States, again stepping up pressure on Libya, is positioning two aircraft carriers north of Libya for another series of air and sea maneuvers, the Pentagon said yesterday. The decision, which was disclosed last week, was formally issued through release of a "Notice of Intent" to conduct flight operations in an area supervised by the air traffic controllers in the Libyan capitol of Tripoli.

(AP story, Washington Post, A22)

### U.S. Military Resumes Flights Over Libya

Flight operations from two U.S. aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean will resume near Libya Wednesday in a renewed effort to assert U.S. rights to international airspace in the area, officials say.

Three F-14 fighters from the carrier Saratoga intercepted two Soviet-built Libyan MIG-25 fighters that came within 100 miles of the ship Sunday, Administration officials said Monday. There was no confrontation between the planes, they said. The MIG-25s planes peeled off as the F-14s approached and headed back toward Libya, the officials said.

(Richard Gross, UPI)

## ***NATIONAL NEWS***

---

### **EEOC DROPS HIRING GOALS, TIMETABLES**

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, without any vote or public announcement, has abandoned the use of hiring goals and timetables in settlements with private employers accused of race and sex discrimination.

While the Reagan Administration is mired in a six-month-old debate over a Labor Department program that sets such goals and timetables for federal contractors, the EEOC has dropped the longstanding practice. Top EEOC officials have justified their switch with the same argument that Attorney General Meese has used to criticize the Labor Department's program, charging that numerical hiring goals amount to discriminatory quotas.  
(Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A1)

### **STUDY OF ROCKETS BY AIR FORCE SAID RISKS WERE 1 IN 35**

A report received by the space agency two years ago sharply criticized safety planning for the space shuttle, saying the chance of a catastrophic accident involving the solid-fuel booster rockets was 1 in 35. Among 14 possible major shuttle failures, the report said, booster failure was most likely. The Challenger crash came in the shuttle program's 25th flight. The principle author of the report was a consultant to NASA. The report was prepared for the Air Force, which relayed it to NASA.  
(Stuart Diamond, New York Times, A1)

### **NASA ADVISERS CAUTION AGAINST SHUTTLE DEPENDENCY**

CAPE CANAVERAL -- The space agency's goal of total reliance on the shuttle for all space operations by 1988 is unsafe and must be abandoned if the nation is to have a reliable space program, several senior space agency safety advisers now say. In interviews over the past several days, seven of the outside advisers, who sit on the 13-member Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel, said NASA should turn to unmanned, disposable rockets to put many of its payloads in orbit and send spacecraft into deep space.  
(Kevin Klose, Washington Post, A1)

### **REAGAN TO HOLD 34th NEWS CONFERENCE TONIGHT**

President Reagan holds his second news conference of the year tonight and the 34th of his presidency. The half-hour question-and-answer session with reporters will be broadcast by the major radio and television networks from the East Room of the White House beginning at 8 p.m. EST.  
(Michael Putzel, AP)

EDITOR'S NOTE: A transcript of President Reagan's interview with Lou Cannon and David Hoffman of the Washington Post appears on page A8 of the Washington Post.

## DEMOCRATS START TOUR FOR ATTACK ON BUDGET

CHICAGO -- Democrats from the House Budget Committee began a week-long, cross-country assault on President Reagan's budget priorities here today in one of the opening moves in an election-year battle over spending, taxes and the federal deficit. At the first of five scheduled hearings around the country, Reagan's fiscal 1987 budget was denounced by a parade of witnesses, including Chicago's Democratic mayor, Harold Washington, who accused the President of having "declared war" on his and other U.S. cities. (Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A7)

## REAGAN: CUT THE "FAT"

President Reagan says his week-old fiscal 1987 budget is taking a lot of "abuse," but that most Americans know the answer to the deficit problem is simple: Cut the fat. On Capitol Hill, the detractors' blows kept coming. "Now don't tell me that there isn't any business or household budget or anything else that can't find 2 percent fat," Reagan said Monday of his proposed \$944 billion budget proposal, which calls for a 3 percent military spending increase and cuts of \$38 billion from almost all other programs. "Having signed it (the budget), I know how thick it is, and I have to believe that a lot of the people who are criticizing it haven't read it." (Dana Walker, UPI)

## ASAT FUNDING TARGETED

The first shot in this year's battle in Congress over antisatellite (ASAT) weapons was fired yesterday by Rep. Les AuCoin (D-Ore.), who said he will attempt to delete from the budget all the money the Air Force wants to put the controversial weapons into production.

In a letter sent out yesterday signaling the reopening of the ASAT debate, AuCoin asked Secretary Weinberger to describe the Administration's "negotiating position" on ASAT and how it differs from one designed "to induce the Soviets to abandon all ASAT restraints and to deploy the maximum possible threat against essential U.S. satellites."

(George Wilson, Washington Post, A7)

## REAGAN ON THE POLITICS OF SUCCESSION

President Reagan yesterday expressed sympathy for the recent political travails of Vice President Bush and said the intensified contest for the 1988 Republican nomination is a good reason to repeal the 22nd Amendment, which limits a president to two terms.

Asked about the jockeying to succeed him between Bush and Rep. Jack Kemp, Reagan said, "See, that's what's wrong with having a 22nd Amendment. Everybody automatically, the minute the '84 election is over, everybody starts saying, 'What are we going to do in '88?' And focusing the spotlight on it. I think that it's almost forced on anyone if they are interested in that direction. But I don't know what we can do to change it." (Washington Post, A9)

## NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

---

(Monday Evening, February 10, 1986)

### PHILIPPINES

CBS's Dan Rather: It's in the hands of the Philippine National Assembly to determine who was elected president last Friday. But the Marcos-controlled assembly adjourned today, unable to agree even on how to count the votes. U.S. and other observers have charged that the election was so fraud-ridden that maybe no count can ever really be meaningful.

CBS's Bill Redeker reports from Manila. Cory Aquino is back on the stump, trying to claim what she says will be stolen.

(Aquino: "We are going to take power. The people have won this election.")

So Cory's people headed off to the national assembly, but on the way one of her supporters was shot to death. Another was wounded. Outside the assembly, Aquino supporters demonstrated and called for Marcos to step down. One poll shows Aquino ahead, a couple of others favor the president. But everyone knows Marcos controls the assembly, and that's what counts.

(Far East expert Robert Shaplen: "He'll steal the election, simple as that. He can control the levers of power.... He controls every single institution in this country.")

What's likely to happen first is the assembly will confirm a winner, and most believe it will be Marcos, but not by the margin he had predicted.

(Shaplen: "Let's assume he wins, remains president. He has lost something he's never lost before. He's lost not only the good will, the popular support. He's lost a mandate.")

Privately, some Aquino insiders say they're beginning to accept the reality of Philippine politics, though publicly they continue to maintain they've won.

CBS's Lesley Stahl: (TV Coverage: President speaking at press luncheon.)

The White House is operating on the assumption that Marcos will win the election, and that despite the charges of widespread fraud there should not be any cutoff of U.S. aid to his government. In fact, President Reagan praised the election, saying it shows there is now a two-party system in the Philippines.

(President: "We want to help in any way we can, that once the election is over, that the results of the election then go forward and that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works.")

At the White House the question of fraud was secondary. "The main thing," said an official, "is that we have a strong ally in the Pacific." And he urged Mrs. Aquino "not to have demonstrations in the streets just because you didn't like the election." Marcos was urged to work with the opposition to institute reforms.

-more-



Stahl continues: (TV Coverage: Graphics of White House admonitions to Marcos and Aquino against White House backdrop.)

Critics said the White House statements were a mistake.

(Former State Department official Richard Holbrooke: "Any suggestion by American government officials at this point that they are endorsing a Marcos victory before all the facts are in could well be misunderstood in Manila as a green light for Marcos to do whatever he wants next. And that could be a real tragedy.")

At lunch with out-of-town reporters, President Reagan was quoted as questioning some of the allegations of fraud against Marcos. Administration officials say the President does not want to abandon Marcos the way Jimmy Carter abandoned the Shah of Iran. Sen. Lugar and his team of election observers are returning to Washington and will report to the President tomorrow on the extent of fraud and vote manipulation.

(TV Coverage: Various shots of Sen. Lugar in the Philippines.)

Mr. Reagan is expected to issue an official statement when he holds a news conference tomorrow night. (CBS-2)

ABC's Peter Jennings: The Philippines parliament met today and didn't do a thing about the presidential election. Filipinos who voted four days ago still don't have a clue who has actually won the election. While very many people think it should be the opposition candidate, Cory Aquino, many more are afraid that President Marcos will never let it happen.

ABC's Jim Laurie reports from Manila. They converged on the national assembly, the partisans outside engaging in an almost playful duel of shouts and victory signs. Across town, after a rally where Corazon Aquino spoke, things took a much less playful turn as an unidentified gunman fired on a group of people holding "Marcos concede" signs, killing one Aquino supporter and wounding another. There were fears the continuing dispute over election results would lead to more violence. The independent NAMFREL tabulation showed Mrs. Aquino ahead by 700,000 votes with nearly 60% of the returns in. The slower government count shows Marcos 400,000 ahead with only 35% of the vote counted. President Marcos, under American pressure, is now urging that the two counts be completed. For Corazon Aquino, counting the votes in an assembly controlled by Marcos was nothing more than political trickery. At an outdoor mass for 2,000 supporters, Aquino served a warning.

(Aquino: "They must now act like the representatives of the people they claim to be. There will be no room for a dictator's puppet in the new Philippines.")

ABC's Sam Donaldson: (TV Coverage: The President speaking at the regional press luncheon.)

The Reagan Administration, suspecting that President Marcos intends to have himself declared the winner, fairly elected or not, prepared today to make the best of it.

(President: "In spite of all these charges, there is at the same time the evidence of a strong two-party system now in the islands. We want to help in any way we can that once the election is over, that the results of the election then go forward and that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works.")

Donaldson continues: The key to understanding the U.S. position, said Larry Speakes, is the line about urging both parties to come together to make the government work.

(TV Coverage: Speakes in briefing room. Stills of Aquino and Marcos, map of the Philippines, American flag.)

That seems to be a plea to Mrs. Aquino not to take to the streets with massive, daily demonstrations that could generate violence -- as she has suggested she would -- and to Marcos not to try to further suppress or ignore his opponents' demands for reform, as his past record suggests he intends. Sen. Lugar, who has been in the Philippines monitoring the election, will report to the President tomorrow. But no matter what evidence of fraud he presents, the policy of making the best of it has already been set.

(TV Coverage: Sen. Lugar. Government vote tally board.)

Administration officials seem a bit uncomfortable about putting forward this make-the-best-of-it policy, but they argue the U.S. can't force Marcos to be honest, and cutting off aid would only jeopardize retention of vital U.S. air and naval bases in the Philippines. So for now the Administration intends to simply keep the public pressure on Marcos to reform -- and hold its nose. (ABC-Lead)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: It's now been three full days since the presidential election in the Philippines and still no one is sure who is the winner. But the prospect of a bloody end to the bitter contest worries everyone. President Marcos, who has controlled that island nation for 20 years now, is not expected to let it slip away through the electoral process. And yet his challenger, Corazon Aquino, is equally determined to demonstrate that she has won.

NBC's Steve Mallory reports from Manila that Sen. Lugar and other American observers left for home, saying that in no way could this election be described as clean.

(Lugar: "Even within the last 24 hours, serious charges have been made in regard to the tabulation system.")

Lugar was talking about the government's unofficial vote-counting center. The results here have been tainted. Last night 30 computer operators walked off the job, claiming the count was rigged in favor of President Marcos. Mrs. Aquino was out again yesterday urging her backers to be vigilant, to counter attempts to cheat her out of the election.

(Aquino: "This woman of peace who stands before you today is claiming the people's due, the presidency." Cheering.)

An hour after she made her speech, one of her supporters at the site was shot dead, the 95th victim of election violence.

NBC's Chris Wallace: The Reagan Administration tried to end the growing controversy about the election, signalling that it now expects Marcos to win and will continue to back him regardless of any vote fraud. In public, the President said the U.S. would do nothing to interfere in the Philippines, stating his hopes in general terms.

(President at press luncheon: "And that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works and that we can retain the historic relationship that we've had.")

Wallace continues: But behind the scenes the White House is taking a much tougher line. A top official urged Mrs. Aquino "not to have demonstrations in the street just because you didn't like the election. Get on the team and work with the government." The message to Marcos just as blunt: "You've got a strong opposition. Bring them into the government."

(TV Coverage: Graphics of White House official's comments over backdrop of the White House.)

But no matter what Marcos does, the White House opposes cutting off U.S. aid to the Philippines for fear of strengthening the communist rebellion there. The Administration's chief concern is not to allow the election turmoil to jeopardize two U.S. military bases. But some critics fear that by minimizing the fraud charges, the White House may hurt itself in the long run.

(Former State Department official Richard Holbrooke: "It's very important not to mislead the Philippine people, and especially not to mislead President Marcos. The Administration has long stood for a free and credible election and it should continue to do so.")

The head of the House subcommittee that deals with the Philippines says the President must protect those bases, but adds the U.S. cannot give up its leverage to push reforms.

(Rep. Solarz: "I think we need to consider the possibility of putting our aid into an escrow account which would only be released after a legitimate and democratically elected government takes power in the Philippines.")

The President meets tomorrow morning with the U.S. team that observed the elections and found many cases of fraud. But indications are that Mr. Reagan has already made up his mind. He'll denounce the fraud and continue to back Marcos. (NBC-Lead)

#### CHALLENGER/NASA

CBS's Dan Rather: A private, closed-to-the-public grilling of NASA officials today by President Reagan's shuttle catastrophe commission. A prime subject: documents indicating that some NASA officials knew for months about safety concerns that a re-used shuttle booster could crack open a seal in mid-flight, kill a crew, destroy a shuttle.

CBS's Bob Schieffer reports on the commission hearing. As the panel convened, sources told CBS several of its members had been outraged to learn this weekend that concerns about booster safety had been raised as early as nine months ago. Panel Chairman William Rogers didn't accuse NASA of a coverup, but emphasized he wants the information released to the public.

(TV Coverage of commission members arriving at OEOB.)

Sections of the shuttle booster rocket are sealed together with huge rubber rings and some of NASA's own analysts warned in reports last year that the rings were eroding in flight and that, if they gave way, could trigger a catastrophe. Unaware of the memos, the investigating panel did not get that information when it questioned NASA officials last week. Today, three NASA sources told CBS the warnings were never passed on to the NASA flight director or the crews who flew the shuttle. As the presidential panel tried to figure out today who in NASA did know of the memos and what, if anything, was done, a congressional committee promised an even broader inquiry this summer. A lot more about all of this should become known tomorrow. The panel is holding a public session and NASA has scheduled a news conference.

...MORE...

Rather recounts problems with previous shuttle flights. Not all are serious mishaps but, seen together, lots of questions about workmanship, leadership and scheduling. Was the program being pushed too far, too fast? If so, what was the hurry?

CBS's David Martin reports that a NASA advisory panel on safety warned there were perhaps too many demands, that an agency dedicated to research and development was "likely to fail" in its efforts to make the shuttle commercially competitive. Did NASA's determination to make man-in-space competitive with unmanned rockets drive it to run risks it shouldn't have?

(Space expert Marcia Smith: "NASA would like to be able to meet launch dates. But I am not aware that they would have ever considered sacrificing safety in order to meet launch dates. In fact, what you hear is the opposite. You hear complaints about NASA delaying too many times, either for weather considerations or some other factors.")

Most experts agree that NASA would never knowingly compromise the safety of its shuttle crews. The real question is whether in its drive to compete NASA simply failed to recognize a critical safety factor.

Rather: It's official today. NASA is scrubbing the next three civilian shuttle flights; all three put off indefinitely because of the Challenger tragedy....The Air Force, for the record, is continuing preparations for a military shuttle launch in July from its new spaceport in California. But on background, one official says: "You're not going to see us make the first launch of a shuttle after the Challenger's loss."  
(CBS-Lead)

ABC's Lynn Sherr reports on the presidential commission meeting today.

(TV Coverage: NASA officials arriving at OEOB.)

Commission Chairman William Rogers publicly tried to downplay any hard feelings toward the space agency.

(Rogers: "This story made it appear, possibly, that there was some lack of cooperation between NASA and the commission. That's not the case.")

But privately, members of the blue-ribbon panel were clearly annoyed that they had to read in the newspaper that NASA engineers had been concerned for some time about seals in the solid rocket boosters, a possible cause of the accident. In another development, the magazine Aviation Week and Space Technology said today that the explosion was caused by the rocket slamming into the external tank. Although the presidential commission held this session in private, tomorrow they'll take testimony from NASA officials at a public hearing and later in the week they're scheduled to travel to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida for their first on-site investigation.

(ABC-3)

NBC's Roger Bazell reports on the investigation into the shuttle accident.

Even before the accident, the company which manufactures the rocket had been trying to redesign the seem which may have leaked, according to sources familiar with the investigation. NASA and the company thought the seem could be a source of future problems, these sources say. NASA officials did not believe the problem serious enough to halt the shuttle program, so a new design was only under study. William Rogers has said there will be some answers at the public meeting of his panel tomorrow.  
(NBC-2)

-more-

## POLL

Brokaw: A new NBC News-Wall Street Journal poll shows that public support for the shuttle program is still very, very high. The poll of almost 1,600 adults shows that 73% still think the shuttle is a good investment. In 1981, that figure was 66%.

Our poll also found some disturbing news for President Reagan. He remains extremely popular, but 2/3 of the public think Congress would do a better job cutting federal programs to get the deficit down. Only 1/4 wanted President Reagan to make those cuts.

Last week a new tax on oil and gasoline was gaining momentum in Congress, but our survey found the public opposes an oil import fee-gas tax by 53-44%. However, there is some support for a national sales tax. It is favored by a slight margin, 52-47%. (NBC-3)

## SHCHARANSKY

Brokaw: Anatoly Shcharansky is expected to be the first to cross a Berlin bridge tomorrow in a major East-West prisoner exchange. Confirmation that he will be freed came from just about all sides today, and there was a report that Moscow yielded to American insistence that Shcharansky be released first and separately to avoid being linked to the others, who are all spies.

(CBS-8, ABC-13, NBC-4)

## LIBYA

Jennings reports the Pentagon says the Navy will stage another round of military maneuvers off the coast of Libya starting tomorrow night. Two U.S. aircraft carriers will be the base of flight operations that will continue through Friday. Meanwhile, Libya says it plans to conduct its own flight operations in the same area at the same time.

(NBC-6, CBS-2)

## BUDGET

Jennings: Now that the President has put his budget on the congressional table, the Democrats have decided to take it on the road. First stop: Chicago. Democrats from the House will hold hearings on the budget in five different cities before the week is over. The Democrats apparently believe if they can publicize the cuts which the President wants, they will reap support for protecting a number of domestic programs if they can't. Republicans claim it is all politics. (ABC-4)

## CAMARENA

Jennings says that correspondent Dennis Troute reports that U.S. marshals angered over apparent foot-dragging by Mexican authorities in the case of Enrique Camarena offered a no-questions-asked reward for a man thought to be a witness to the murder. And last month half-a-dozen Mexican police kidnapped the witness and turned him over to American authorities. Those Mexican police and their families have since been given sanctuary in this country. (ABC-9)

## BONNEVILLE POWER

ABC's Barry Serafin reports on the Administration's proposal to sell

Bonneville Power, which runs Grand Coulee Dam.

(Secretary Herrington: "The federal government doesn't belong in the business of marketing power. The private sector can do the work a lot better than we can do it, and we ought to get out of this activity.")

That is not a popular idea in the Pacific Northwest. Despite sharp rate increases in recent years, the BPA's immense hydroelectric system provides relatively inexpensive power to 4.5 million people in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and portions of adjoining states. And there is considerable concern that if a private company bought BPA it would divert power to other regions, impose big new rate increases and put more stress on states already suffering economic troubles. The Administration's asking price for the BPA is \$8.85 billion. Lawmakers from the Northwest want their states to have a chance to buy the power system if it goes on the market, but most say they will try to keep things from going that far.

(Northwest legislator: "The President simply has not focused on the issue. It's come out of some of the gnomes in the Office of Management and Budget who themselves don't understand what its consequences are. It's the wrong thing to do and we don't care who we have to oppose. We're going to oppose it and we're going to beat them.") (ABC-5)

## HAITI

Rather: The interim military commander of Haiti promised to hold democratic elections. He pointedly left out any date when they might be held.

CBS's Jerry Bowen reports from Haiti that the new governing council was officially sworn into office, the country declared a democracy, a new constitution to be drawn up. The people were promised a free press. Foreign travellers had their first chance to flee today, a single jumbo jet to Canada. (CBS-3)

ABC's Jim Wooten reports from Haiti that in the joyful noise of Haiti these days, there is a remembrance of things past and an amorphous promise of things yet to come. Maybe the country has been born again, but the greater reality is that in the Haiti Jean Claude Duvalier has abandoned, there is not much more than a vague hope and a dim prayer that things will be better without him, though it is truly difficult to imagine much worse than this: the most overpopulated, underdeveloped, unemployed, illiterate, hungriest, poorest nation in the entire Western hemisphere.

(TV Coverage of living conditions for most Haitians.)

Despite the church's pleas for reconciliation, vengeance will probably continue, not because an organized revolution is afoot in Haiti, but rather because Duvalier's government of relatives, in-laws and cronies finally collapsed beneath the weight of its own graft and greed.

(TV Coverage of rioting, tearing up once-luxurious presidential properties.)

The country Duvalier left is the country he nearly destroyed with a dictatorship either sustained or ignored by the U.S. for years. It is now too far gone for any quick fix, political or economic. (ABC-8)



Brokaw: The interim government promised interim elections, possibly within three years, a new constitution and a real and working democracy, all of which won U.S. praise as a good start.

NBC's Dennis Murphy reports from Haiti. The government also pledged to respect human rights and support the development of political parties and a free press. But an equally important announcement was today's decree disbanding the Tonton Macoutes, the hated secret police. The Macoutes are being hunted down by the Haitians they treated so brutally for so many years. It is an ugly little war that has been raging since Friday. (NBC-5)

#### ABORTION

CBS's Karen Burnes reports from Minnesota on a challenge to a state law that parents must be notified before a minor can obtain an abortion. Supporters say the law was designed to increase communication between teenagers and their parents. But in the first year the law was on the books the rate of teenage abortion dropped by 40%. Opponents claim the law is nothing more than anti-abortion legislation and are today asking the court that it be overturned. (CBS-5)

#### SOUTH AMERICAN DEMOCRACIES

Brokaw, in the first of a week-long series on democracies emerging from dictatorships in South America, reports on the Alfonsin Administration in Argentina. (NBC-8)

#### STOCKS

Jennings reports there was another high for the Dow, up 13 more points in active trading. (ABC-6)

###

## EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

---

### FEDERAL BUDGET

Sound and Sensible -- "The fiscal 1987 budget, inaugurating the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit-reduction process, is a masterpiece of economic responsibility balanced by political common sense. It's a great way to open a painful debate.... No "deficit-closing" tax hike is acceptable. Period. On this one, let us hope Reagan sticks to his guns. And to his budget, insofar as circumstances and the veto power permit. Here at last is a budget worth fighting for." (Dallas Morning News, 2/7)

Amtrak can't escape federal budget cuts -- "If we derailed Amtrak tomorrow, it would cost more than it would save. Under law, if Congress eliminates Amtrak, the railroad would have to pay \$2 billion to laid-off workers. Still, it is unlikely that cross-country train service will ever be able to compete with air or bus service. Faced with \$200 billion deficits, we can't finance a first-rate rail service to hundreds of cities across the USA. But where Amtrak is heavily used and comes close to making a profit, it deserves federal aid. We can't afford to keep Amtrak at full throttle, but we have to give it enough money to keep chugging along." (USA Today, 2/10)

Aroused public opinion can alter Reagan's budget -- "President Reagan is counting on the law's pressures and the fall elections to enable him to prevail in this struggle over budget priorities. Majorities of both parties and houses of Congress hope to draft an alternative budget that balances the nation's needs while meeting Gramm-Rudman-Hollings' limit. What's obviously needed, all agree, is a grand compromise, imposing balanced cuts on both military and domestic programs and, unavoidably, including a tax increase. Unfortunately it also requires President Reagan's approval before it can fly.... As irresponsible as Gramm-Rudman-Hollings' blind budget cuts would be, at least they would force equal sacrifices on both military and civilian spending. The public and Congress must persuade Mr. Reagan that his budget is simply not an option." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 2/7)

### GRAMM-RUDMAN

Gramm-Rudman Will Work -- "The ultimate salvation from runaway federal budget deficits still lies in the Gramm-Rudman Hollings law, notwithstanding a federal court's finding that a key section of the laws unconstitutional. Even if the Supreme Court eventually agreed with the lower court, the law would still work because it contains a backup provision allowing Congress to make automatic cuts....In short, the Gramm-Rudman process is stacked against the President more than against Congress and White House aides know it. They will be faced with a choice: end Mr. Reagan's cherished military buildup, or raise taxes. We prefer an end to the buildup that has already resulted in the doubling of the military budget since Mr. Reagan assumed office."

(Hartford Courant, 2/9)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS (continued)

CONRAIL

On to the House -- "The issues involved in the sale are clear cut: Is the price tag of \$1.2 billion that Mrs. Dole attached to Conrail high enough? And would a merger of Norfolk Southern and Conrail be anti-competitive? The answers to these two questions remain no and yes and as long as they do, the Conrail bill has little chance of making its way through the House in its present form." (Journal of Commerce, 2/10)

PHILIPPINES ELECTION

Election on the Brink -- "It is fair to deduce that a key aim in these elections was to restore [Marcos'] legitimacy in the eyes of the American people. And he failed. Whatever the final result proclaimed by his puppet Commission on Elections, Mr. Marcos will stand repudiated. He can't win. He either will be the officially annointed loser, an eventuality difficult to imagine, or he will be a victor with a mandate tainted by violence, bribery and fraud." (Baltimore Sun, 2/10)

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER

A hard look at Challenger -- "Perhaps especially in the midst of grief, the human mind seeks some symmetry of cause for devastating effect. Thus, the establishment and first meeting of the investigatory body in themselves provide reassurance that matters are in hand. More important is the panel's potential to lift the shadow of doubt that Challenger's exploding has cast on the capacity of American technology to carry human beings safely into space. If the commission finds a need for extensive changes in the shuttle program, that could mean long delays. But the events of Jan. 28 proved that caution, as much as daring, is a requisite in the exploration of space." (Hartford Courant, 2/8)

ANGOLA

Historic opportunity -- "Mr. Savimbi has correctly concluded that communist imperialism is a far greater danger to the region than apartheid, which has no capacity to expand. Actually, a stable, democratic Angola might prompt South Africa to become less defensive and more likely to moderate its racial policies.... To be sure, Angola is remote, but it is of immense significance to the future of southern Africa. Here is a clear chance for the United States to make a difference in turning back communist expansion. Unlike the freedom fighters in Afghanistan, for example, UNITA has a decent chance at victory." (San Diego Union, 2/7)



# News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

## TODAY'S HEADLINES

### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### Reagan Praises 2-Party System of Philippines

President Reagan reserved judgment today on reports of fraud by supporters of President Marcos in the Philippine election, and called on both sides to "work together to form a viable government." He expressed hope that Marcos and Aquino "can come together and make sure the government works." (New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

Arizona Governor Says U.S. Will Invade Nicaragua -- Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt says the United States is on the verge of invading Nicaragua, and people in the Reagan Administration hope U.S. National Guard troops will be killed during training missions in Central America to provide the pretext for an attack. (AP, UPI)

### NATIONAL NEWS

EEOC Drops Hiring Goals, Timetables -- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, without any vote or public announcement, has abandoned the use of hiring goals and timetables in settlements with private employers accused of race and sex discrimination. (Washington Post)

### NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

**PHILIPPINES** -- It's in the hands of the Philippine National Assembly to determine who was elected president last Friday.

**SHUTTLE** -- A new poll shows that public support for the shuttle program is still very high.

**HAITI** -- The interim military commander promised to hold democratic elections.

#### WHAT CONGRESS DID

In 1985, the Senate met for 1,252 hours and 31 minutes over 170 days. The House met for 965 hours and 16 minutes over 152 days. A total of 7,777 bills and resolutions were introduced. At the end of the legislative process just 240 measures had been passed by both houses and signed into law by the President.... Of those 240 laws, at least 107 were dedicated to such matters as naming federal office buildings, honoring worthy Americans and setting aside various days, weeks and months to herald achievement.... (Washington Times, 2/7)

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### REAGAN PLAYS DOWN PHILIPPINE VOTE FRAUD

President Reagan, breaking Administration silence on the Philippine presidential elections, yesterday played down reports of fraud there and said results so far prove that "there really is a two-party system, obviously good" in the Philippines. Once a government is chosen, "we would like to have the same relationship -- historic relationship -- we've had with the people of the Philippines and their government," Reagan told the Washington Post in an interview.

Reagan added, however, that he would reserve judgment on the degree of fraud until he hears the report today of a 20-member official observer delegation headed by Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind). "Whether there is enough evidence that you could really keep on pointing the finger or not, I don't know but I'm sure that, you know, even in elections in our own country there are some evidences of fraud in places and areas," Reagan said. (Joanne Omang & David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

#### Philippine Vote Tally Swinging for Marcos

Faced with mounting evidence of a rigged violent presidential election in the Philippines, the best the Reagan Administration could do yesterday was congratulate the Filipino people for voting. President Reagan's cautious praise of the Philippines' "strong two-party system," echoed by Larry Speakes and the State Department, may change after they are briefed by Sen. Richard Lugar.

(James Morrison & Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

#### Reagan Praises 2-Party System of Philippines

President Reagan reserved judgment today on reports of fraud by supporters of President Marcos in the Philippine election, and called on both sides to "work together to form a viable government." He expressed hope that Marcos and Aquino "can come together and make sure the government works."

There appeared to be confusion within the Administration after a briefing by Larry Speakes and a series of background statements by other White House officials. Mr. Speakes and other officials indicated that Mr. Marcos had won the election; they refrained from criticizing him and urged the two sides to work together.

The comments angered State Department officials who said election fraud seemed evident. One of them said the White House "whaffled back and forth" on the fraud issue, suggesting that it was up to Mrs. Aquino to "get on the team" even if she was found to have lost because of irregularities.

(Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

### EXTRADITION TREATY ENDORSED BY ABA

BALTIMORE -- The American Bar Association endorsed a controversial extradition treaty with Britain today that Reagan Administration representatives said was a crucial weapon in the war against international terrorism but that critics charge will be used to target the Irish Republican Army.

(Ruth Marcus, Washington Post, A11)



## REAGAN "OPTIMISTIC" ON EUROMISSILES PACT

President Reagan said yesterday that he is "optimistic" that the superpowers will reach an arms control agreement this year on U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe because Soviet leader Gorbachev is no longer requiring abandonment of a U.S. missile defense system as a condition. The President called the new Soviet position, conveyed in a Kremlin meeting with Sen. Edward Kennedy, "a hopeful sign" although there are "points that have to be worked out."

Addressing a wide range of issues in the Oval Office interview, Reagan said he would "go all out" in an effort to obtain military aid for the Nicaraguan rebels. He said the rebels have "to be able to protect themselves" against the ruling Sandinistas, who are receiving "extensive aid" from the Soviet Union and Cuba.

(Lou Cannon & David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

## U.S. PRODS SOVIET ON SUMMIT

The Reagan Administration, impatient with foot-dragging by Soviet leader Gorbachev, is prodding the Kremlin to agree on a date for the superpower summit. The State Department Monday called on the Soviets to "move ahead" on the issue, following a report from Sen. Edward Kennedy that Gorbachev is tying progress in arms control negotiations to the summit date.

Spokesman Charles Redman said the U.S. negotiators have "instructions to make rapid progress" in the Geneva arms control talks "wherever possible," including on intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

(Matthew Quinn, UPI)

## SOVIETS TOOLING UP NEW ANTI-SDI BLITZ

The Soviet Union will launch a "major" propaganda campaign against President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative this year, several top U.S. intelligence experts say. The Soviets also plan to use the "spirit" of the Geneva summit to obtain U.S. trade and technology, according to "Soviet Active Measures and Disinformation Forecast," a quarterly newsletter scheduled for release today.

(Bill Gertz, Washington Times, A1)

## NANCY/RAISA

Nancy Reagan says Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa should get a chance during the upcoming summit to see first-hand how Americans live -- and that might include a stop at the supermarket. Mrs. Reagan said she wants the Soviet leader and his wife to see "how our people live, the openness of it. I don't want them to think that we've set things up, pre-arranged things -- so you drop into a Safeway store," Mrs. Reagan suggested with a laugh.

(Susanne Schafer, AP)



## LATINS URGE U.S. TO HALT CONTRA AID

The foreign ministers of eight Latin American nations met with Secretary Shultz yesterday to urge that the Administration's push for aid to Nicaraguan rebels be replaced with a push for a regional peace treaty in Central America. In essence, it revolves around the concept of "simultaneity," in which the United States would halt its support for the contra rebels at the same time as Nicaragua begins liberalizing its political policies. Both Nicaragua and the United States have insisted that the other act first.

(Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A9)

## BABBITT: REAGAN ADMINISTRATION "ON THE BRINK" OF INVADING NICARAGUA

The Reagan Administration is "standing on the brink" of invading Nicaragua and seems to hope that Americans in the region will be killed to provide a pretext, Gov. Bruce Babbitt says. Babbitt declined Monday to say who in the Administration he believed might wish for American deaths.

But he said his belief was a conclusion that could be drawn based on the Reagan Administration's willingness to use U.S. National Guard troops in war games near Nicaragua. "When soldiers are sent to war, they get killed," Babbitt said. "The issue here is our soldiers being placed in a position where they may be killed in order to create a pretext for a war, that's different."

(Larry Lopez, AP)

## Arizona Governor Says U.S. Will Invade Nicaragua

PHOENIX -- Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt says the United States is on the verge of invading Nicaragua, and people in the Reagan Administration hope U.S. National Guard troops will be killed during training missions in Central America to provide the pretext for an attack.

"We're standing on the brink of an American invasion of Nicaragua," Babbitt, a Democrat said Monday. "I don't think the American people understand how close we're getting." Babbitt said the presence of U.S. troops in Central America is "saber rattling" and "those behind it hoped (the U.S. soldiers) would be exposed to fire and be killed. When you send soldiers into a war zone, that's an act of war." (Pat O'Brien, UPI)

## MANILA ANTI-U.S. BY TURNS

MANILA -- When a team of American election observers led by Sen. Richard Lugar left a hotel here this morning enroute to the airport for a flight home, about 50 demonstrators were waiting for them at the gate.

Despite the leftist appearance of the demonstration, it is a good bet that the group was brought to the government-owned Manila Hotel by a wing of President Marcos' ruling New Society Movement party. Men in charge of the group tried to block contact between reporters and demonstrators. But one woman said they were from Marcos' party.

(John Burgess, Washington Post, A10)

## CARTER CRITICIZES NICARAGUA FOLLOWING VISIT

MANAGUA, Nicaragua -- Jimmy Carter said at a press conference here yesterday that he had found evidence here of human rights violations and remains unsatisfied with the Sandinista government's performance. Today, in neighboring El Salvador, Carter met with President Duarte after Marine guards at the U.S. Embassy threw tear gas into a crowd to end a protest of his visit.

About 200 protesters gathered outside the residence of U.S. Ambassador Edwin Corr and burned effigies of Carter. They waved signs reading, "We Love Reagan, We Hate Carter," and "Carter, the blood of the people condemns you." Conservative newspapers in San Salvador said Carter's policies during his presidency had "delivered Nicaragua to communism."

(AP story, Washington Post, A10)

## U.S. WOOS AUSTRALIA

CANBERRA, Australia -- The United States is boosting diplomatic efforts to keep Australia on its side on the issue of visits by nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered ships as the New Zealand government prepares to write its controversial year-old ban into law. At stake is the continued existence of the 31-year-old ANZUS treaty.

(Peter Costigan, Washington Post, A20)

## U.S. AIDE CONFIRMS SWAP FOR SCHARANSKY SET FOR TODAY

WEST BERLIN -- Soviet dissident Anatoly Scharansky is among the prisoners jailed on espionage charges who will be traded by the East and West in Berlin Tuesday, a U.S. official said today. The official told reporters here that the exchange was to take place Tuesday morning at the Glienicke Bridge.

(UPI story, Washington Post, A21)

## U.S. TO RETURN CARRIERS NEAR LIBYAN COAST

The United States, again stepping up pressure on Libya, is positioning two aircraft carriers north of Libya for another series of air and sea maneuvers, the Pentagon said yesterday. The decision, which was disclosed last week, was formally issued through release of a "Notice of Intent" to conduct flight operations in an area supervised by the air traffic controllers in the Libyan capitol of Tripoli.

(AP story, Washington Post, A22)

## U.S. Military Resumes Flights Over Libya

Flight operations from two U.S. aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean will resume near Libya Wednesday in a renewed effort to assert U.S. rights to international airspace in the area, officials say.

Three F-14 fighters from the carrier Saratoga intercepted two Soviet-built Libyan MIG-25 fighters that came within 100 miles of the ship Sunday, Administration officials said Monday. There was no confrontation between the planes, they said. The MIG-25s planes peeled off as the F-14s approached and headed back toward Libya, the officials said.

(Richard Gross, UPI)

## NATIONAL NEWS

---

### EEOC DROPS HIRING GOALS, TIMETABLES

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, without any vote or public announcement, has abandoned the use of hiring goals and timetables in settlements with private employers accused of race and sex discrimination.

While the Reagan Administration is mired in a six-month-old debate over a Labor Department program that sets such goals and timetables for federal contractors, the EEOC has dropped the longstanding practice. Top EEOC officials have justified their switch with the same argument that Attorney General Meese has used to criticize the Labor Department's program, charging that numerical hiring goals amount to discriminatory quotas.  
(Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A1)

### STUDY OF ROCKETS BY AIR FORCE SAID RISKS WERE 1 IN 35

A report received by the space agency two years ago sharply criticized safety planning for the space shuttle, saying the chance of a catastrophic accident involving the solid-fuel booster rockets was 1 in 35. Among 14 possible major shuttle failures, the report said, booster failure was most likely. The Challenger crash came in the shuttle program's 25th flight. The principle author of the report was a consultant to NASA. The report was prepared for the Air Force, which relayed it to NASA.  
(Stuart Diamond, New York Times, A1)

### NASA ADVISERS CAUTION AGAINST SHUTTLE DEPENDENCY

CAPE CANAVERAL -- The space agency's goal of total reliance on the shuttle for all space operations by 1988 is unsafe and must be abandoned if the nation is to have a reliable space program, several senior space agency safety advisers now say. In interviews over the past several days, seven of the outside advisers, who sit on the 13-member Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel, said NASA should turn to unmanned, disposable rockets to put many of its payloads in orbit and send spacecraft into deep space.  
(Kevin Klose, Washington Post, A1)

### REAGAN TO HOLD 34th NEWS CONFERENCE TONIGHT

President Reagan holds his second news conference of the year tonight and the 34th of his presidency. The half-hour question-and-answer session with reporters will be broadcast by the major radio and television networks from the East Room of the White House beginning at 8 p.m. EST.  
(Michael Putzel, AP)

EDITOR'S NOTE: A transcript of President Reagan's interview with Lou Cannon and David Hoffman of the Washington Post appears on page A8 of the Washington Post.

### DEMOCRATS START TOUR FOR ATTACK ON BUDGET

CHICAGO -- Democrats from the House Budget Committee began a week-long, cross-country assault on President Reagan's budget priorities here today in one of the opening moves in an election-year battle over spending, taxes and the federal deficit. At the first of five scheduled hearings around the country, Reagan's fiscal 1987 budget was denounced by a parade of witnesses, including Chicago's Democratic mayor, Harold Washington, who accused the President of having "declared war" on his and other U.S. cities. (Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A7)

### REAGAN: CUT THE "FAT"

President Reagan says his week-old fiscal 1987 budget is taking a lot of "abuse," but that most Americans know the answer to the deficit problem is simple: Cut the fat. On Capitol Hill, the detractors' blows kept coming. "Now don't tell me that there isn't any business or household budget or anything else that can't find 2 percent fat," Reagan said Monday of his proposed \$944 billion budget proposal, which calls for a 3 percent military spending increase and cuts of \$38 billion from almost all other programs. "Having signed it (the budget), I know how thick it is, and I have to believe that a lot of the people who are criticizing it haven't read it." (Dana Walker, UPI)

### ASAT FUNDING TARGETED

The first shot in this year's battle in Congress over antisatellite (ASAT) weapons was fired yesterday by Rep. Les AuCoin (D-Ore.), who said he will attempt to delete from the budget all the money the Air Force wants to put the controversial weapons into production.

In a letter sent out yesterday signaling the reopening of the ASAT debate, AuCoin asked Secretary Weinberger to describe the Administration's "negotiating position" on ASAT and how it differs from one designed "to induce the Soviets to abandon all ASAT restraints and to deploy the maximum possible threat against essential U.S. satellites."

(George Wilson, Washington Post, A7)

### REAGAN ON THE POLITICS OF SUCCESSION

President Reagan yesterday expressed sympathy for the recent political travails of Vice President Bush and said the intensified contest for the 1988 Republican nomination is a good reason to repeal the 22nd Amendment, which limits a president to two terms.

Asked about the jockeying to succeed him between Bush and Rep. Jack Kemp, Reagan said, "See, that's what's wrong with having a 22nd Amendment. Everybody automatically, the minute the '84 election is over, everybody starts saying, 'What are we going to do in '88?' And focusing the spotlight on it. I think that it's almost forced on anyone if they are interested in that direction. But I don't know what we can do to change it." (Washington Post, A9)

## NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

---

(Monday Evening, February 10, 1986)

### PHILIPPINES

CBS's Dan Rather: It's in the hands of the Philippine National Assembly to determine who was elected president last Friday. But the Marcos-controlled assembly adjourned today, unable to agree even on how to count the votes. U.S. and other observers have charged that the election was so fraud-ridden that maybe no count can ever really be meaningful.

CBS's Bill Redeker reports from Manila. Cory Aquino is back on the stump, trying to claim what she says will be stolen.

(Aquino: "We are going to take power. The people have won this election.")

So Cory's people headed off to the national assembly, but on the way one of her supporters was shot to death. Another was wounded. Outside the assembly, Aquino supporters demonstrated and called for Marcos to step down. One poll shows Aquino ahead, a couple of others favor the president. But everyone knows Marcos controls the assembly, and that's what counts.

(Far East expert Robert Shaplen: "He'll steal the election, simple as that. He can control the levers of power.... He controls every single institution in this country.")

What's likely to happen first is the assembly will confirm a winner, and most believe it will be Marcos, but not by the margin he had predicted.

(Shaplen: "Let's assume he wins, remains president. He has lost something he's never lost before. He's lost not only the good will, the popular support. He's lost a mandate.")

Privately, some Aquino insiders say they're beginning to accept the reality of Philippine politics, though publicly they continue to maintain they've won.

CBS's Lesley Stahl: (TV Coverage: President speaking at press luncheon.)

The White House is operating on the assumption that Marcos will win the election, and that despite the charges of widespread fraud there should not be any cutoff of U.S. aid to his government. In fact, President Reagan praised the election, saying it shows there is now a two-party system in the Philippines.

(President: "We want to help in any way we can, that once the election is over, that the results of the election then go forward and that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works.")

At the White House the question of fraud was secondary. "The main thing," said an official, "is that we have a strong ally in the Pacific." And he urged Mrs. Aquino "not to have demonstrations in the streets just because you didn't like the election." Marcos was urged to work with the opposition to institute reforms.

-more-

Stahl continues: (TV Coverage: Graphics of White House admonitions to Marcos and Aquino against White House backdrop.)

Critics said the White House statements were a mistake.

(Former State Department official Richard Holbrooke: "Any suggestion by American government officials at this point that they are endorsing a Marcos victory before all the facts are in could well be misunderstood in Manila as a green light for Marcos to do whatever he wants next. And that could be a real tragedy.")

At lunch with out-of-town reporters, President Reagan was quoted as questioning some of the allegations of fraud against Marcos. Administration officials say the President does not want to abandon Marcos the way Jimmy Carter abandoned the Shah of Iran. Sen. Lugar and his team of election observers are returning to Washington and will report to the President tomorrow on the extent of fraud and vote manipulation.

(TV Coverage: Various shots of Sen. Lugar in the Philippines.)

Mr. Reagan is expected to issue an official statement when he holds a news conference tomorrow night. (CBS-2)

ABC's Peter Jennings: The Philippines parliament met today and didn't do a thing about the presidential election. Filipinos who voted four days ago still don't have a clue who has actually won the election. While very many people think it should be the opposition candidate, Cory Aquino, many more are afraid that President Marcos will never let it happen.

ABC's Jim Laurie reports from Manila. They converged on the national assembly, the partisans outside engaging in an almost playful duel of shouts and victory signs. Across town, after a rally where Corazon Aquino spoke, things took a much less playful turn as an unidentified gunman fired on a group of people holding "Marcos concede" signs, killing one Aquino supporter and wounding another. There were fears the continuing dispute over election results would lead to more violence. The independent NAMFREL tabulation showed Mrs. Aquino ahead by 700,000 votes with nearly 60% of the returns in. The slower government count shows Marcos 400,000 ahead with only 35% of the vote counted. President Marcos, under American pressure, is now urging that the two counts be completed. For Corazon Aquino, counting the votes in an assembly controlled by Marcos was nothing more than political trickery. At an outdoor mass for 2,000 supporters, Aquino served a warning.

(Aquino: "They must now act like the representatives of the people they claim to be. There will be no room for a dictator's puppet in the new Philippines.")

ABC's Sam Donaldson: (TV Coverage: The President speaking at the regional press luncheon.)

The Reagan Administration, suspecting that President Marcos intends to have himself declared the winner, fairly elected or not, prepared today to make the best of it.

(President: "In spite of all these charges, there is at the same time the evidence of a strong two-party system now in the islands. We want to help in any way we can that once the election is over, that the results of the election then go forward and that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works.")



Donaldson continues: The key to understanding the U.S. position, said Larry Speakes, is the line about urging both parties to come together to make the government work.

(TV Coverage: Speakes in briefing room. Stills of Aquino and Marcos, map of the Philippines, American flag.)

That seems to be a plea to Mrs. Aquino not to take to the streets with massive, daily demonstrations that could generate violence -- as she has suggested she would -- and to Marcos not to try to further suppress or ignore his opponents' demands for reform, as his past record suggests he intends. Sen. Lugar, who has been in the Philippines monitoring the election, will report to the President tomorrow. But no matter what evidence of fraud he presents, the policy of making the best of it has already been set.

(TV Coverage: Sen. Lugar. Government vote tally board.)

Administration officials seem a bit uncomfortable about putting forward this make-the-best-of-it policy, but they argue the U.S. can't force Marcos to be honest, and cutting off aid would only jeopardize retention of vital U.S. air and naval bases in the Philippines. So for now the Administration intends to simply keep the public pressure on Marcos to reform -- and hold its nose. (ABC-Lead)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: It's now been three full days since the presidential election in the Philippines and still no one is sure who is the winner. But the prospect of a bloody end to the bitter contest worries everyone. President Marcos, who has controlled that island nation for 20 years now, is not expected to let it slip away through the electoral process. And yet his challenger, Corazon Aquino, is equally determined to demonstrate that she has won.

NBC's Steve Mallory reports from Manila that Sen. Lugar and other American observers left for home, saying that in no way could this election be described as clean.

(Lugar: "Even within the last 24 hours, serious charges have been made in regard to the tabulation system.")

Lugar was talking about the government's unofficial vote-counting center. The results here have been tainted. Last night 30 computer operators walked off the job, claiming the count was rigged in favor of President Marcos. Mrs. Aquino was out again yesterday urging her backers to be vigilant, to counter attempts to cheat her out of the election.

(Aquino: "This woman of peace who stands before you today is claiming the people's due, the presidency." Cheering.)

An hour after she made her speech, one of her supporters at the site was shot dead, the 95th victim of election violence.

NBC's Chris Wallace: The Reagan Administration tried to end the growing controversy about the election, signalling that it now expects Marcos to win and will continue to back him regardless of any vote fraud. In public, the President said the U.S. would do nothing to interfere in the Philippines, stating his hopes in general terms.

(President at press luncheon: "And that the two parties can come together to make sure the government works and that we can retain the historic relationship that we've had.")

Wallace continues: But behind the scenes the White House is taking a much tougher line. A top official urged Mrs. Aquino "not to have demonstrations in the street just because you didn't like the election. Get on the team and work with the government." The message to Marcos just as blunt: "You've got a strong opposition. Bring them into the government."

(TV Coverage: Graphics of White House official's comments over backdrop of the White House.)

But no matter what Marcos does, the White House opposes cutting off U.S. aid to the Philippines for fear of strengthening the communist rebellion there. The Administration's chief concern is not to allow the election turmoil to jeopardize two U.S. military bases. But some critics fear that by minimizing the fraud charges, the White House may hurt itself in the long run.

(Former State Department official Richard Holbrooke: "It's very important not to mislead the Philippine people, and especially not to mislead President Marcos. The Administration has long stood for a free and credible election and it should continue to do so.")

The head of the House subcommittee that deals with the Philippines says the President must protect those bases, but adds the U.S. cannot give up its leverage to push reforms.

(Rep. Solarz: "I think we need to consider the possibility of putting our aid into an escrow account which would only be released after a legitimate and democratically elected government takes power in the Philippines.")

The President meets tomorrow morning with the U.S. team that observed the elections and found many cases of fraud. But indications are that Mr. Reagan has already made up his mind. He'll denounce the fraud and continue to back Marcos. (NBC-Lead)

## CHALLENGER/NASA

CBS's Dan Rather: A private, closed-to-the-public grilling of NASA officials today by President Reagan's shuttle catastrophe commission. A prime subject: documents indicating that some NASA officials knew for months about safety concerns that a re-used shuttle booster could crack open a seal in mid-flight, kill a crew, destroy a shuttle.

CBS's Bob Schieffer reports on the commission hearing. As the panel convened, sources told CBS several of its members had been outraged to learn this weekend that concerns about booster safety had been raised as early as nine months ago. Panel Chairman William Rogers didn't accuse NASA of a coverup, but emphasized he wants the information released to the public.

(TV Coverage of commission members arriving at OEOB.)

Sections of the shuttle booster rocket are sealed together with huge rubber rings and some of NASA's own analysts warned in reports last year that the rings were eroding in flight and that, if they gave way, could trigger a catastrophe. Unaware of the memos, the investigating panel did not get that information when it questioned NASA officials last week. Today, three NASA sources told CBS the warnings were never passed on to the NASA flight director or the crews who flew the shuttle. As the presidential panel tried to figure out today who in NASA did know of the memos and what, if anything, was done, a congressional committee promised an even broader inquiry this summer. A lot more about all of this should become known tomorrow. The panel is holding a public session and NASA has scheduled a news conference.

...MORE...

Rather recounts problems with previous shuttle flights. Not all are serious mishaps but, seen together, lots of questions about workmanship, leadership and scheduling. Was the program being pushed too far, too fast? If so, what was the hurry?

CBS's David Martin reports that a NASA advisory panel on safety warned there were perhaps too many demands, that an agency dedicated to research and development was "likely to fail" in its efforts to make the shuttle commercially competitive. Did NASA's determination to make man-in-space competitive with unmanned rockets drive it to run risks it shouldn't have?

(Space expert Marcia Smith: "NASA would like to be able to meet launch dates. But I am not aware that they would have ever considered sacrificing safety in order to meet launch dates. In fact, what you hear is the opposite. You hear complaints about NASA delaying too many times, either for weather considerations or some other factors.")

Most experts agree that NASA would never knowingly compromise the safety of its shuttle crews. The real question is whether in its drive to compete NASA simply failed to recognize a critical safety factor.

Rather: It's official today. NASA is scrubbing the next three civilian shuttle flights; all three put off indefinitely because of the Challenger tragedy....The Air Force, for the record, is continuing preparations for a military shuttle launch in July from its new spaceport in California. But on background, one official says: "You're not going to see us make the first launch of a shuttle after the Challenger's loss."  
(CBS-Lead)

ABC's Lynn Sherr reports on the presidential commission meeting today.

(TV Coverage: NASA officials arriving at OEOB.)

Commission Chairman William Rogers publicly tried to downplay any hard feelings toward the space agency.

(Rogers: "This story made it appear, possibly, that there was some lack of cooperation between NASA and the commission. That's not the case.")

But privately, members of the blue-ribbon panel were clearly annoyed that they had to read in the newspaper that NASA engineers had been concerned for some time about seals in the solid rocket boosters, a possible cause of the accident. In another development, the magazine Aviation Week and Space Technology said today that the explosion was caused by the rocket slamming into the external tank. Although the presidential commission held this session in private, tomorrow they'll take testimony from NASA officials at a public hearing and later in the week they're scheduled to travel to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida for their first on-site investigation.

(ABC-3)

NBC's Roger Bazell reports on the investigation into the shuttle accident.

Even before the accident, the company which manufactures the rocket had been trying to redesign the seem which may have leaked, according to sources familiar with the investigation. NASA and the company thought the seem could be a source of future problems, these sources say. NASA officials did not believe the problem serious enough to halt the shuttle program, so a new design was only under study. William Rogers has said there will be some answers at the public meeting of his panel tomorrow.  
(NBC-2)

-more-

## POLL

Brokaw: A new NBC News-Wall Street Journal poll shows that public support for the shuttle program is still very, very high. The poll of almost 1,600 adults shows that 73% still think the shuttle is a good investment. In 1981, that figure was 66%.

Our poll also found some disturbing news for President Reagan. He remains extremely popular, but 2/3 of the public think Congress would do a better job cutting federal programs to get the deficit down. Only 1/4 wanted President Reagan to make those cuts.

Last week a new tax on oil and gasoline was gaining momentum in Congress, but our survey found the public opposes an oil import fee-gas tax by 53-44%. However, there is some support for a national sales tax. It is favored by a slight margin, 52-47%. (NBC-3)

## SHCHARANSKY

Brokaw: Anatoly Shcharansky is expected to be the first to cross a Berlin bridge tomorrow in a major East-West prisoner exchange. Confirmation that he will be freed came from just about all sides today, and there was a report that Moscow yielded to American insistence that Shcharansky be released first and separately to avoid being linked to the others, who are all spies.

(CBS-8, ABC-13, NBC-4)

## LIBYA

Jennings reports the Pentagon says the Navy will stage another round of military maneuvers off the coast of Libya starting tomorrow night. Two U.S. aircraft carriers will be the base of flight operations that will continue through Friday. Meanwhile, Libya says it plans to conduct its own flight operations in the same area at the same time.

(NBC-6, CBS-2)

## BUDGET

Jennings: Now that the President has put his budget on the congressional table, the Democrats have decided to take it on the road. First stop: Chicago. Democrats from the House will hold hearings on the budget in five different cities before the week is over. The Democrats apparently believe if they can publicize the cuts which the President wants, they will reap support for protecting a number of domestic programs if they can't. Republicans claim it is all politics. (ABC-4)

## CAMARENA

Jennings says that correspondent Dennis Troute reports that U.S. marshals angered over apparent foot-dragging by Mexican authorities in the case of Enrique Camarena offered a no-questions-asked reward for a man thought to be a witness to the murder. And last month half-a-dozen Mexican police kidnapped the witness and turned him over to American authorities. Those Mexican police and their families have since been given sanctuary in this country. (ABC-9)

## BONNEVILLE POWER

ABC's Barry Serafin reports on the Administration's proposal to sell

Bonneville Power, which runs Grand Coulee Dam.

(Secretary Herrington: "The federal government doesn't belong in the business of marketing power. The private sector can do the work a lot better than we can do it, and we ought to get out of this activity.")

That is not a popular idea in the Pacific Northwest. Despite sharp rate increases in recent years, the BPA's immense hydroelectric system provides relatively inexpensive power to 4.5 million people in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and portions of adjoining states. And there is considerable concern that if a private company bought BPA it would divert power to other regions, impose big new rate increases and put more stress on states already suffering economic troubles. The Administration's asking price for the BPA is \$8.85 billion. Lawmakers from the Northwest want their states to have a chance to buy the power system if it goes on the market, but most say they will try to keep things from going that far.

(Northwest legislator: "The President simply has not focused on the issue. It's come out of some of the gnomes in the Office of Management and Budget who themselves don't understand what its consequences are. It's the wrong thing to do and we don't care who we have to oppose. We're going to oppose it and we're going to beat them.") (ABC-5)

## HAITI

Rather: The interim military commander of Haiti promised to hold

democratic elections. He pointedly left out any date when they might be held.

CBS's Jerry Bowen reports from Haiti that the new governing council was officially sworn into office, the country declared a democracy, a new constitution to be drawn up. The people were promised a free press. Foreign travellers had their first chance to flee today, a single jumbo jet to Canada. (CBS-3)

ABC's Jim Wooten reports from Haiti that in the joyful noise of Haiti these days, there is a remembrance of things past and an amorphous promise of things yet to come. Maybe the country has been born again, but the greater reality is that in the Haiti Jean Claude Duvalier has abandoned, there is not much more than a vague hope and a dim prayer that things will be better without him, though it is truly difficult to imagine much worse than this: the most overpopulated, underdeveloped, unemployed, illiterate, hungriest, poorest nation in the entire Western hemisphere.

(TV Coverage of living conditions for most Haitians.)

Despite the church's pleas for reconciliation, vengeance will probably continue, not because an organized revolution is afoot in Haiti, but rather because Duvalier's government of relatives, in-laws and cronies finally collapsed beneath the weight of its own graft and greed.

(TV Coverage of rioting, tearing up once-luxurious presidential properties.)

The country Duvalier left is the country he nearly destroyed with a dictatorship either sustained or ignored by the U.S. for years. It is now too far gone for any quick fix, political or economic. (ABC-8)

-more-

Brokaw: The interim government promised interim elections, possibly within three years, a new constitution and a real and working democracy, all of which won U.S. praise as a good start.

NBC's Dennis Murphy reports from Haiti. The government also pledged to respect human rights and support the development of political parties and a free press. But an equally important announcement was today's decree disbanding the Tonton Macoutes, the hated secret police. The Macoutes are being hunted down by the Haitians they treated so brutally for so many years. It is an ugly little war that has been raging since Friday. (NBC-5)

#### ABORTION

CBS's Karen Burnes reports from Minnesota on a challenge to a state law that parents must be notified before a minor can obtain an abortion. Supporters say the law was designed to increase communication between teenagers and their parents. But in the first year the law was on the books the rate of teenage abortion dropped by 40%. Opponents claim the law is nothing more than anti-abortion legislation and are today asking the court that it be overturned. (CBS-5)

#### SOUTH AMERICAN DEMOCRACIES

Brokaw, in the first of a week-long series on democracies emerging from dictatorships in South America, reports on the Alfonsin Administration in Argentina. (NBC-8)

#### STOCKS

Jennings reports there was another high for the Dow, up 13 more points in active trading. (ABC-6)

###



## EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

---

### FEDERAL BUDGET

Sound and Sensible -- "The fiscal 1987 budget, inaugurating the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit-reduction process, is a masterpiece of economic responsibility balanced by political common sense. It's a great way to open a painful debate.... No "deficit-closing" tax hike is acceptable. Period. On this one, let us hope Reagan sticks to his guns. And to his budget, insofar as circumstances and the veto power permit. Here at last is a budget worth fighting for." (Dallas Morning News, 2/7)

Amtrak can't escape federal budget cuts -- "If we derailed Amtrak tomorrow, it would cost more than it would save. Under law, if Congress eliminates Amtrak, the railroad would have to pay \$2 billion to laid-off workers. Still, it is unlikely that cross-country train service will ever be able to compete with air or bus service. Faced with \$200 billion deficits, we can't finance a first-rate rail service to hundreds of cities across the USA. But where Amtrak is heavily used and comes close to making a profit, it deserves federal aid. We can't afford to keep Amtrak at full throttle, but we have to give it enough money to keep chugging along." (USA Today, 2/10)

Aroused public opinion can alter Reagan's budget -- "President Reagan is counting on the law's pressures and the fall elections to enable him to prevail in this struggle over budget priorities. Majorities of both parties and houses of Congress hope to draft an alternative budget that balances the nation's needs while meeting Gramm-Rudman-Hollings' limit. What's obviously needed, all agree, is a grand compromise, imposing balanced cuts on both military and domestic programs and, unavoidably, including a tax increase. Unfortunately it also requires President Reagan's approval before it can fly.... As irresponsible as Gramm-Rudman-Hollings' blind budget cuts would be, at least they would force equal sacrifices on both military and civilian spending. The public and Congress must persuade Mr. Reagan that his budget is simply not an option." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 2/7)

### GRAMM-RUDMAN

Gramm-Rudman Will Work -- "The ultimate salvation from runaway federal budget deficits still lies in the Gramm-Rudman Hollings law, notwithstanding a federal court's finding that a key section of the laws unconstitutional. Even if the Supreme Court eventually agreed with the lower court, the law would still work because it contains a backup provision allowing Congress to make automatic cuts....In short, the Gramm-Rudman process is stacked against the President more than against Congress and White House aides know it. They will be faced with a choice: end Mr. Reagan's cherished military buildup, or raise taxes. We prefer an end to the buildup that has already resulted in the doubling of the military budget since Mr. Reagan assumed office."

(Hartford Courant, 2/9)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS (continued)

CONRAIL

On to the House -- "The issues involved in the sale are clear cut: Is the price tag of \$1.2 billion that Mrs. Dole attached to Conrail high enough? And would a merger of Norfolk Southern and Conrail be anti-competitive? The answers to these two questions remain no and yes and as long as they do, the Conrail bill has little chance of making its way through the House in its present form." (Journal of Commerce, 2/10)

PHILIPPINES ELECTION

Election on the Brink -- "It is fair to deduce that a key aim in these elections was to restore [Marcos'] legitimacy in the eyes of the American people. And he failed. Whatever the final result proclaimed by his puppet Commission on Elections, Mr. Marcos will stand repudiated. He can't win. He either will be the officially annointed loser, an eventuality difficult to imagine, or he will be a victor with a mandate tainted by violence, bribery and fraud." (Baltimore Sun, 2/10)

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER

A hard look at Challenger -- "Perhaps especially in the midst of grief, the human mind seeks some symmetry of cause for devastating effect. Thus, the establishment and first meeting of the investigatory body in themselves provide reassurance that matters are in hand. More important is the panel's potential to lift the shadow of doubt that Challenger's exploding has cast on the capacity of American technology to carry human beings safely into space. If the commission finds a need for extensive changes in the shuttle program, that could mean long delays. But the events of Jan. 28 proved that caution, as much as daring, is a requisite in the exploration of space." (Hartford Courant, 2/8)

ANGOLA

Historic opportunity -- "Mr. Savimbi has correctly concluded that communist imperialism is a far greater danger to the region than apartheid, which has no capacity to expand. Actually, a stable, democratic Angola might prompt South Africa to become less defensive and more likely to moderate its racial policies.... To be sure, Angola is remote, but it is of immense significance to the future of southern Africa. Here is a clear chance for the United States to make a difference in turning back communist expansion. Unlike the freedom fighters in Afghanistan, for example, UNITA has a decent chance at victory." (San Diego Union, 2/7)