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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

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

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Sees Turnabout On Hill Over Contra Aid -- The congressional "tide is turning" in favor of his request for \$100 million for Nicaraguan resistance fighters, President Reagan said yesterday, as spokesman for the Administration continued to reject the notion of a compromise on the aid package. (Baltimore Sun, Washington Post, Washington Times, AP)

Tower -- John Tower has submitted his resignation as a U.S. arms control negotiator for "personal family reasons" and because the job lacked excitement, U.S. officials say. (Washington Post, AP, UPI)

NATIONAL NEWS

Justice Screens Homosexuals -- Nearly all prosecutors are being asked if they are homosexual under a new Justice Department policy that officials say is aimed at gauging their vulnerability to blackmail. (Washington Post)

Pentagon Pads Its Budget, Senators Say -- A bipartisan group of senators charged yesterday that the Pentagon padded its budget by \$7.5 billion the past six months and said the money should be returned to the Treasury Department. (Washington Post)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

CHALLENGER -- Searchers are fighting rough seas, trying to bring up more remains of the seven Challenger astronauts.

CONTRA AID -- President Reagan was still pressing ahead to get Congress to provide military aid to the contras.

ANOTHER SPY? -- The FBI is holding an enlisted man for investigation on charges he tried to sell classified documents.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PLAN LINKS CONTRA AID, DIPLOMACY

Administration strategists yesterday were promoting a plan that links congressional approval of military aid to the Nicaraguan contras with pledges of a last-ditch U.S. diplomatic effort to bring the Sandinista government and the contras to the bargaining table.

White House and congressional sources said the Administration favored a proposal they described as a "nonlegislative compromise" calling for President Reagan to send a concessionary letter to Congress before next week's votes on the Administration proposal to provide the rebels with \$100 million in aid, including \$70 million in military assistance.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

Congressional Lawmakers See Compromise On Nicaraguan Aid Plan

President Reagan still insists he wants Congress to approve his full package of \$100 million in aid to U.S.-backed guerrillas fighting Nicaragua, but congressional leaders say strong opposition to the proposal means a compromise plan could emerge next week.

Bob Dole said Monday that "it's going to be very, very difficult" to win approval in the Republican-controlled Senate for Reagan's plan to provide \$30 million in non-lethal aid and up to \$70 million in military help for the Contra guerrillas.

(Tim Ahern, AP)

Reagan Sees Turnabout On Hill Over Contra Aid

The congressional "tide is turning" in favor of his request for \$100 million for Nicaraguan resistance fighters, President Reagan said yesterday, as spokesman for the Administration continued to reject the notion of a compromise on the aid package.

"This is an uphill battle in which we are engaged, but we are making progress," Mr. Reagan told a group of his supporters at a White House meeting. "You can sense that the tide is turning in favor of the democratic resistance."

(Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A2)

"CONTRA" PLAN WOULD RELEASE SECRET FUNDS

White House Denies It Seeks Compromise

The White House said yesterday that President Reagan had no plans to compromise on his request for aid for Nicaraguan rebels despite indications a day earlier that the Administration was willing to listen to other proposals.

The comment yesterday by Larry Speakes came as the President intensified his drive for the \$100 million in aid for the "contras" by beginning one-on-one lobbying of congressmen and sending his new Central American envoy, Philip Habib, to Capitol Hill to plead his case.

(Robert Timberg & Nancy Schwerzler, Baltimore Sun, A1)

Aid Request Includes Freeing Of CIA Money

Congressional approval of President Reagan's request for aid to the Nicaraguan insurgents would permit the Administration to use a vast secret intelligence fund, on top of the \$100 million the President has formally proposed to spend, the House Intelligence Committee has been told.

Committee sources disclosed yesterday that a high Administration official had testified in a closed session that the aid request was intended to remove restrictions on the use of CIA contingency funds against the pro-Soviet government of Nicaragua.

(Stephens Broening, Baltimore Sun, A1)

A DEMANDING MARCOS ANNOYS REAGAN, SPURS
PLANS TO MOVE HIM FROM AIR BASE

President Reagan, described as increasingly irritated with the personal demands being made by Ferdinand Marcos, has requested that the ex-Philippine leader and his entourage of 89 people vacate Hickam Air Force Base this weekend, an Administration official disclosed.

"Things are underway to move Marcos," the U.S. policymaker said. "He's still there but he won't be for long."

(John Wallach, Washington Times, A6)

IMELDA MARCOS LINKED TO N.Y.
BANK ACCOUNTS UNDER ANOTHER NAME

MANILA -- Imelda Marcos used New York bank accounts under an apparently fictitious name to funnel hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the country and finance expensive shopping trips in the United States and Europe, according to documents found in the Malacanang presidential palace.

(William Branigin, Washington Post, A1)

MARCOS TRIES TO INFLUENCE OPPOSITION

Deposed president Marcos has made more than \$1,000 in telephone calls to the Philippines from his exile in Hawaii, attempting to prolong his influence in Philippine politics by directing those shaping the opposition party, State Department officials said yesterday.

(Dale Russakoff & Keith Richburg, Washington Post, A1)

EX-SENATOR TOWER PLANS TO QUIT ARMS POST

Former senator John Tower has decided to resign as U.S. negotiator in the strategic arms reduction talks in Geneva for "personal reasons," sources inside and outside the government said yesterday.

Although the resignation caught some White House officials by surprise, friends and colleagues of the former chairman of the Senate Arms Services Committee said they had been aware for some time that he was unhappy in Geneva and was preparing to leave the post he took 14 months ago.

(Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

Tower

John Tower has submitted his resignation as a U.S. arms control negotiator for "personal family reasons" and because the job lacked excitement, U.S. officials say.

At the White House, there was no formal confirmation of the report late Monday. But one source who insisted on anonymity said an announcement was expected soon. (Barry Schweid, AP)

Tower Stepping Out Of Arms Control Talks

An announcement was expected later this week to explain Tower's departure after one year as U.S. negotiator on strategic nuclear weapons. Tower's office said he was out of town until Wednesday and not available for comment.

White House and State Department spokesmen declined comment. But one State Department official who requested anonymity said Tower would not be returning to Geneva when the talks resume. The official said Ronald Lehman, formerly Tower's deputy, is "the most logical choice" to succeed Tower, who retired from the Senate in January 1985.

(Matthew Quinn, UPI)

U.S. DEPENDENCE ON JAPAN FOR PARTS WORRIES PENTAGON

America's most sophisticated weapons are rapidly becoming dependent on components imported from Japan -- a development that has touched off debate inside the Pentagon over what, if anything, should be done about it.

Defense industry sources are particularly concerned about SDI -- or "Star Wars" -- system, where Japanese high-technology companies now outstrip U.S. defense contractors in several key technologies vital to the development of such a system. (Michael Schrage, Washington Post, A1)

LEADERS OF SIX NATIONS URGE A-TEST BAN BEFORE SUMMIT

Leaders of six nations have asked President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev, in an appeal made public yesterday, to refrain from further nuclear tests until their summit meeting and offered to assist in seismic monitoring at test sites to remove doubts about possible cheating.

The declaration, made public in capitals of the leaders and in a news conference here by members of Congress endorsing the appeal, was the group's third presentation calling for nuclear disarmament and a halt to nuclear testing. (Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A7)

GORBACHEV'S DECK NOT FULLY STACKED

Mikhail Gorbachev begins his second year as Soviet leader today confident that the Kremlin hierarchy is stacked with his men. But analysts poring over the results of the 27th Communist Party Congress say there are limits to his personal supremacy.

(Martin Sieff, Washington Times, A1)

EX-U.S. EMPLOYE ALLEGES TORTURE

SAN SALVADOR -- The U.S. Embassy had considered her a model employee. But everything changed for Graciela Menendez de Iglesias on Sept. 16, when two embassy security agents appeared at her office to talk to her.

The embassy accused Igelsias of slipping information to left-wing guerrillas that could have helped them to track and assassinate U.S. military personnel. It handed her over to El Salvador's Treasury Police, just outside the embassy gate. That was the start of a 15-day ordeal that still gives her nightmares "every night."

(Robert McCartney, Washington Post, A16)

REAGAN PAVES WAY TO SELL SAUDIS ARMS

After getting pro-Israel lobbyists to downplay their opposition, the Reagan Administration hopes for smooth passage through Congress for its \$350 million arms-sales package to Saudi Arabia.

Complying with statutory regulations, the State Department will notify Congress today of its intention to sell the arms.

(Bill Kritzberg, Washington Times, A7)

U.S. Plans Sale Of New Missiles To Saudi Arabia

The Reagan Administration will notify Congress today that it intends to sell Saudi Arabia \$350 million worth of advanced missiles, White House officials said yesterday, in the face of heavy opposition on Capitol Hill.

White House and State Department officials said they expected a difficult battle to prevent Congress from blocking the transfer of the missiles.

(N.Y. Times Service, Baltimore Sun, A1)

U.S.-WEST GERMAN "STAR WARS" TALKS SNAGGED

BONN, West Germany -- West German negotiations on joining the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative research program have run into difficulty, and hopes of signing an agreement this month are fading, officials in Bonn said yesterday.

(Reuter story, Washington Times, A7)

SOVIETS: RUMORS OF YURCHENKO'S DEATH GREATLY EXAGGERATED

Vitaly Yurchenko is alive and well and working in Moscow, the Soviet Embassy says. The embassy issued a statement Monday strongly denying a report carried by National Public Radio last week quoting "Reagan Administration officials" that Yurchenko had been executed.

DPA, the West German news agency, reported Sunday that Yurchenko had been shot after a court-martial, and the news of the execution was brought to the United States by another KGB defector. State Department officials had no comment on the Soviet Embassy claim.

(Jim Anderson, UPI)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "The State Communicator: Soviet Journalist Vladimir Posner, Criticizing Reagan on American TV," by Gary Lee appears on page C1 of the Washington Post Style Section.

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NATIONAL NEWS

JUSTICE SCREENS HOMOSEXUALS

Nearly all prosecutors are being asked if they are homosexual under a new Justice Department policy that officials say is aimed at gauging their vulnerability to blackmail.

The inquiry is part of a standard questionnaire, put into effect last year, that examines such personal subjects as whether the applicant has used illegal drugs, had problems with alcohol or failed to file income tax returns. All U.S. attorneys must certify that those hired as prosecutors have been asked these questions. (Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A6)

FAA SAYS THE SKIES ARE BASICALLY SAFE

The FAA acknowledged yesterday that more fully trained air traffic controllers are needed, but insisted that its work force is keeping the skies safe and no further traffic restraints are required.

"I see a healthy [air traffic control] system out there," FAA Administrator Donald Engen told a group of senators.

(Josef Hebert, Washington Post, A7)

AFTER YEARS OF RELUCTANCE, SARAH BRADY STEPS INTO GUN CONTROL SPOTLIGHT

ARLINGTON, Va. -- Nearly five years after a bullet meant for Ronald Reagan crippled her husband, Sarah Brady has publicly parted ways with the President on the volatile issue of gun control.

The wife of White House news secretary Jim Brady knocks on congressional doors and attends hearings, lobbying for tougher gun laws. She writes letters to private citizens and appears on television talk shows, telling her story and seeking reform.

In doing so, Sarah Brady is bucking an Administration that has refused numerous calls to clamp down on handguns since the March 30, 1981, assassination attempt by a pistol-wielding and mentally deranged drifter named John Hinckley. (Thomas Ferraro, UPI)

PENTAGON PADS ITS BUDGET, SENATORS SAY

A bipartisan group of senators charged yesterday that the Pentagon padded its budget by \$7.5 billion the past six months and said the money should be returned to the Treasury Department.

The senators, citing a GAO report done at the request of several members of the group, said the extra money came in as the result of inflation estimates that were far higher than the actual rate. They asked the Senate Budget Committee to use the excess money to help cut the federal deficit, now running at more than \$180 billion a year, to its Gramm-Rudman-Hollings target of \$144 billion.

(UPI story, Washington Post, A11)

A SCHISM BETWEEN HERITAGE AND STATE

Detente between the State Department and the conservative Heritage Foundation has collapsed. The incident rupturing relations was a Feb. 26 letter sent on official stationery by Deputy Secretary of State Whitehead to Heritage trustees urging that they resign because of the foundation's criticism of department policies.

(Sidney Blumenthal, Washington Post, A17)

BUDGET AX COULD DENY VACCINES FOR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, LAWMAKER SAYS

About 400,000 children could be denied vaccinations for diseases such as polio and measles next year if President Reagan's 1987 budget is enacted, a House Democrat says.

Rep. Henry Waxman, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on health, said the proposed spending fails by a wide margin to keep pace with the rising cost of children's vaccines, so fewer doses can be purchased.

(William Kronholm, AP)

SPRINKEL'S BRIEFINGS ARE A HIT AT THE WHITE HOUSE BUT HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON REAGAN ECONOMIC POLICY

Listening to an economist pontificate doesn't sound like a promising source of amusement. But when Beryl Sprinkel discusses the money supply at the White House senior staff meeting, the gathering assumes an air of hilarity.

Every Friday morning, Mr. Sprinkel arrives armed with charts showing the latest gyrations in the weekly money-supply data. Top presidential aides snap up copies. Wisecracks fly. As Mr. Sprinkel launches into his analysis, staffers hold the charts sideways or upside down, furrowing their brows in mock studiousness. If Mr. Sprinkel neglects to hand out the charts, the group rebels. "Wait! Beryl! Where are the charts?"

(Paul Blustein, Wall Street Journal, A64)

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NEWS FROM THE STATES

JAVITS REMEMBERED AS FRIEND OF DOWNTRODDEN

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- President Reagan joined national and state politicians Saturday in remembering former Sen. Jacob Javits as an elder statesman who climbed from poverty in New York to champion the poor and elderly on Capitol Hill.

Javits, a liberal New York Republican who served in Congress 34 years, died Friday at 81 of respiratory failure in West Palm Beach, Fla.

In a statement from the White House, Reagan said, "Throughout his many years in the Senate, Jacob Javits was known for his intellect, for his integrity, for his dedication to the people of New York and the nation and for the sheer joy he took in every day of his work.

"Jacob Javits remained to the end a man in love with life, and from the streets of the great city he so cherished to the distant shores of California, he will be deeply missed."

CALIFORNIA SENATE CAMPAIGN HEATS UP

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (UPI) -- The 10 Republicans hoping to oust Sen. Alan Cranston put aside most of their differences Saturday, blasting the Democratic incumbent as a big-spending, soft-thinking liberal who must be defeated for the good of the country.

"There is no price too high to pay," television commentator Bruce Herschensohn insisted, "to ensure that no foreign government, no terrorist ever touches one hair of a U.S. citizen or one inch of U.S. territory."

Rep. Ed Zschau, a successful Silicon Valley entrepreneur who is expected to be the best-financed candidate in the race, complained of the incumbent, "Alan Cranston puts his faith in government programs instead of private enterprise."

Assemblyman Bob Naylor, who like Zschau represents the Santa Clara area, insisted that he is "the conservative Northern Californian" who has the best chance of beating Cranston.

"Ronald Reagan and George Deukmejian have shown us that we do not need to imitate our liberal Democratic opponents in order to win elections in California," he said.

"In fact, we're better off when we don't."

Economist Art Laffer, insisting that he is the candidate best qualified to promote and pursue Reagan's economic policies, charged that Cranston "professes to love the poor so much that he would even enact policies that would make us all poor."

WHITE HOUSE APPROVES MORE FLOOD DAMAGE FUNDS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI) -- The federal government Sunday agreed to shoulder most of the cost of repairing \$47 million worth of flood damage to roads, schools and other public property in Northern California, a spokesman for Gov. George Deukmejian announced.

Deukmejian Thursday asked the White House for help in repairing damage in 31 counties affected by the flood.

The Reagan Administration earlier approved funds to assist private owners of homes and businesses.

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Monday Evening, March 10, 1986)

CHALLENGER

CBS's Dan Rather: Even as new charges are being made about shuttle equipment and NASA decision-making not being up to standard, the shuttle story tonight takes on a new note of sadness. NASA still refuses official comment, but there is word today that searchers are fighting rough seas, trying to bring up more remains of the seven Challenger astronauts, after secretly returning some remains to shore this weekend. (All Nets Lead)

CBS's Bruce Hall reports it may take several days to lift the crew compartment wreckage from the ocean floor. Meanwhile, there may have been another significant discovery this afternoon. The ceiling subs spotted the booster part, but so far has not been able to determine if that is the crucial section that caused the shuttle disaster.

ABC's Ted Koppel reports that remains of the astronauts have not only been found, but have now been recovered from the floor of the Atlantic Ocean, and pathologists are reportedly examining those remains at an Air Force base in Florida.

NASA

NBC's Robert Hager reports that the concerns that chief astronaut John Young presents in his memo, what he calls an "awesome list of safety problems," and the fact that some astronauts are lucky to be alive, have already caused the Presidential Commission to broaden its investigation -- to include launch pressures and other mechanical problems. The memo comes two weeks after Young took his complaints to commission Chairman Rogers, and after Young handpicked fellow astronaut Brewster Shaw to work as a full-time investigator for the Rogers panel. But NASA officials took issue. Still, the Presidential Commission is concerned enough that it's now talking about the possibility of another public hearing, just to take testimony from the astronauts. (NBC-2)

CONTRA AID

Koppel: President Reagan was still pressing ahead today to get Congress to agree to provide military aid to the Nicaraguan contras. That, despite the fact that there is little hard evidence that Congress is about to agree. Today the President acknowledged that he still has a fight on his hands, but he sounded as though it's a fight he believes he may yet win.

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Koppel continues:

(President: "This is an uphill battle in which we're engaged, but we're making progress. You can sense that the tide is turning in favor of the democratic resistance. Farsighted Democrats and Republicans are coming together in a realization of the common danger.")

Our own ABC News poll showed three out of five Americans believe Congress should reject the President's request. (ABC-10)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: President Reagan today came up against two possible stumbling blocks to his congressional passage of a \$100 million aid proposal to the Nicaraguan contras, the rebels fighting the Sandinista government. In the Senate, majority leader Dole scheduled a surprise debate and vote for next Monday and Tuesday. That's a day before a House vote is scheduled. Apparently, that creates more pressure for a White House compromise. And, in the House itself, opponents of the contra aid have become alarmed by secret Intelligence Committee testimony last week that indicated that an additional \$50 million in CIA and Pentagon funds would be made available to the contras if the aid package is passed by Congress. (NBC-7)

CONTRA DEBATE

Koppel: Today ABC asked Rep. Coelho and George Will for their points of view on the question of should the U.S. give military aid for the contras.

Will: There's a war on; it's our backyard. One side or the other is going to win it, and if the contras lose it, we'll have a second Cuba in our hemisphere.

Coelho: The real question is, are we really using our money wisely? The American people know when we're wasting money. We're wasting money in this effort. The President talks about eventually using American troops. They know that we're getting into a situation that could lead to a Vietnam; they don't want another one.

Will: The contras will not need American troops, as long as we give them aid as a way to avoid another Vietnam.

Coelho: It isn't the contras asking for American troops; the Administration, just this past week, talked about sending American troops down in there. They're the ones who discussed the issue of American troops, and I really believe that they intend to put American troops in there, and lead to another Vietnam.

Will: Kill the contras -- by killing aid -- and you've killed the last chance for what you say you desire: negotiations. (ABC-11)

ATTORNEY GENERAL MEESE

Brokaw: On Special Segment tonight: The Meese Factor. What has Edwin Meese, the conservative Attorney General, accomplished in his first year on the job? His attempts to bring about major social change, in such areas as abortion and Affirmative Action have polarized many people. But are his efforts working?

NBC's Carl Stern: Edwin Meese spent his first year as Attorney General as a supersalesman for the Reagan Revolution.

(TV Coverage: Meese meeting with President Reagan; appearing on talk shows, giving speeches, etc.)

Tirelessly, he made the round of talk shows and dinners and Chamber of Commerce breakfasts. On the ground or in the air, he relentlessly traveled the road to sell the conservative agenda. The question is whether anyone is buying. A Democrat who prolonged Meese's confirmation hearings for more than a year says Meese has not succeeded.

(Sen. Biden: "I think he has scared the living devil out of everybody. I think he's put in sharp relief what the Radical Right agenda is. And people look at that and say, 'hooomph! That's not what I want!'")

Conservatives say Meese is achieving some successes.

(Howard Phillips: "What Ed Meese has done is assemble a team of young legal conservatives, who are extraordinarily able. Some of them he has named to the bench; others he has on the staff of the Justice Department, and they have re-set the agenda for debate concerning federal judicial policy.

(TV Coverage: Meese conducting staff meeting.)

Meese has brought his own people into the Justice Department; that has been given good grades by almost everyone for keeping up the pressure to catch drug traffickers and spies. What gets Meese in trouble is his tendency to see court decisions protecting civil liberties as an obstacle to law enforcement. He claims most suspects are guilty anyway, so why prohibit, under the Miranda rule, illegally obtained confessions?

(TV Coverage: file tape of 'The McLaughlin Group.'

Meese: "The exclusion of confessions means you're only helping the guilty."

John McLaughlin: "Well, that means that Miranda only helps guilty defendants."

Meese: "That's my feeling, yes.")

But neither in civil liberties, nor in civil rights, has Meese obtained major changes in the law. Civil rights groups have arrayed themselves against him.

(Jesse Jackson: "We're going to make the Justice Department this year an area of focus.")

And so far, he has been unable to win his battle inside the Administration to water down federal requirements for employing minorities; programs he regards as discrimination against whites. Last July, before the American Bar Association, Meese became the first Attorney General in memory to openly attack the Supreme Court, calling specific decisions bizarre and intellectually shakey. He defends what he did.

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Stern continues:

(Meese: "Some judges -- and some courts -- have, I think, rendered decisions which were not in accord with the generally accepted concept of the limited powers of the federal government, or which ran contrary with what I think is the original intent of the founding fathers.")

But Justice Brennan said Meese could only pretend to know what the founding fathers intended for the twentieth century. Opinion is divided as to whether Meese went too far. The Meese Justice Department asked the Supreme Court to let the states prohibit abortion again; a position considered so extreme that the department was denied time even to argue it before the court. In another blow, the Senate Judiciary Committee effectively blocked some of Meese's choices for federal judgeships, and refused to promote Brad Reynolds, his civil rights chief. None of that has diminished Meese's faith in the conservative cause.

(Meese: "Certainly I'm a conservative, but I think conservative thought is the mainstream political thinking in this country.")

Meese still plans to use the Justice Department to bring about a major change in America. He is undeterred by the fact that it hasn't happened yet. (NBC-10)

POLICE/MIRANDA

Koppel: The Supreme Court ruled today that a voluntary confession to police, even a murder confession, is valid, even if the suspect is not told that a lawyer is trying to get in touch with him. The justices said that once a suspect is given his so-called Miranda warnings to remain silent, or have a lawyer present, the police have fulfilled their duty. (ABC-12)

ANOTHER SPY?

Koppel: The FBI announced that the Navy is holding an enlisted man for investigation of charges that he tried to sell classified documents. Third Class Petty Officer Robert Hayward was arrested last week at Point Magu Naval Air Station in California, after undercover agents reportedly watched him sell part of a classified manual to an unidentified buyer. (ABC-9)

FARM SITUATION

Rather: reports that since CBS's farm series began, we've heard from people with additional views, and tonight we're following up. One place we visited: a pot-luck supper at a small South Dakota church. Many viewers told us how moved they were by these peoples' resolve to remain farmers, and their quiet desperation that events are making this impossible. But there was also anger.

(TV Coverage: farmer: "The man doesn't give a damn about farmers. Not the family farmers.")

The man is President Ronald Reagan. In the last election, he won 63 percent of the state's vote; four percent above the national average.

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Rather continues:

(TV Coverage: farm wife: "I didn't vote for him, but I can remember when he stood up and said the American farmers would not be forgotten if he were reelected. And I don't think he's kept that promise.")

(Farmer: "The farmer should have known that Ronald Reagan was committed to deregulation, and to attempting to reduce the size of government, and therefore, he should have known that Ronald Reagan would not respond sympathetically to a farm crisis.")

(Assistant Agriculture Secretary Naylor: "The policies of the fifty years or so that preceeded this Administration simply did not work. And did not allow our producers to compete in the world markets they have to be in.")

Mr. Reagan believes farmers and the country will be helped in the long run by a policy of survival of the fittest. But government intervention to help farmers under previous administrations hasn't saved family farmers, and programs to help the little guys often have reaped harvest only for the big boys. It's no surprise that two-thirds of all the federal farm subsidies go to the wealthiest 14 percent of farmers. Maybe it's right that March is not the time for Thanksgiving. The problem is November will be no better. (CBS-12)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

NICARAGUA

Latter-Day McCarthyism -- "Late in the game the White House is turning from a professional polemicist, Patrick J. Buchanan, to a disciplined diplomatist, Philip Habib, in trying to prop up its policy toward Nicaragua.... Bipartisan moderates will eventually have to resolve the issue. Aid should go to the contras as long as they can exert some pressure on the Sandinistas to move toward the democratic pluralism that is the betrayed goal of their revolution. But for the United States to lean so heavily on an insurance force of doubtful effectiveness is foolhardy...." (Baltimore Sun, 3/8)

Desperate, Divisive -- "Nowhere among (critics of Reagan's Nicaragua policies) is a vote for the communists. By even suggesting that such sympathies exist on Capitol Hill, Reagan needlessly impugns the honor of patriotic Americans whose only sin is that they view the world differently than he does. There have always been intellectual thugs on both the political right and left who seem to enjoy chastising their opponents beyond the bounds of political debate, but people have a right to expect a higher level of discourse from the White House."

(Los Angeles Times, 3/10)

Do You Want More Castros? -- "Just think, this issue might never have arisen if we had headed off Castro. What a bargain that would have been. Let's not watch Communism spread from Nicaragua to El Salvador to Panama to Honduras to Guatemala and even to Mexico. It's cheaper to solve it now than later, by aid to the contras." (Chattanooga News - Free Press, 3/6)

Making A Case For The Contras -- "A question arises about 'power-sharing,' where communists always take over. The President believes that in the Philippines, there can be no sharing of power with communists, and he's right; but in Nicaragua, the Reagan men talk of a 'return to democratic process,' which I take to mean we will arm the Contras until the Communists are ready to make a deal to share power. Now, that is inconsistent. If we are to get serious about supporting the Contras, Mr. Reagan should cut the pretense about power-sharing. Rather than help them not to lose, we should give them the means to win -- not to settle but to topple." (William Safire, Cincinnati Enquirer, 3/5)

Contras: A Victory In Manila Is No Reason To Make A Mistake In Nicaragua -- "We have no doubt that Mr. Reagan believes deeply in his argument about the stakes in Nicaragua. We certainly do not underestimate the capacity of the Soviet Union and of Cuba to fish in troubled waters. The history of our relations with Central Americans is such, though, that ham-handed interventionism to depose what our government perceives as a despot it doesn't like or to prop up dictators who suit our whims is a more dangerous policy than failing to intervene at all. There are risks to standing by while the Sandinistas consolidate their power. There are far greater risks to trying to depose them by support of the ill-conceived contras policy."

(Detroit Free Press, 3/7)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

NICARAGUA

"President Reagan's obstinate attempt to provide help to the contras in Nicaragua and to impose an agreement between them and the Government...is an obstacle in the path of the urgent drive for reviving and assuring peace in Central America."
(El Comercio, Ecuador)

"Although many observers doubt that Reagan can win over his Democratic opponents in Congress, we should remember that they had the same views last year, when Congress voted against the contra aid legislation twice, but finally passed it. The President has a formidable understanding of what the public wants, and there is no doubt that in this case, he is ready to assume the role of a star in the ferocious political fight that is approaching."
(El Nacional, Venezuela)

"The issue is not what it seems. Reagan can easily withdraw \$100 million from the Pentagon's contingency resources....His objective is to make official the war by proxy that the United States is launching against Nicaragua."
(Folha de Sao Paulo, Brazil)

"The U.S. Administration's attempts to draw a parallel between Nicaragua and the Philippines are doomed to failure....Filipinos wanted a change and placed their bodies in front of government tanks to prove it. No similar proof is now apparent in Managua....The United States cannot be faulted for its goal of wanting a more democratic country in its backyard....But Washington's way of achieving that change is all wrong....The United States and the rest of us must go all out to support the Contadora peace process."
(Ottawa Citizen, Canada)

"The rebels, according to the White House, are 20,000 strong and have become a skilled guerrilla army. But all of these contentions were contradicted...in a detailed dispatch from Central America published by The New York Times."
(Daily Telegraph, Britain)

"Under the pretext of combatting terrorism, Reagan intends to get guarantees from Congress for his own policy of terror. A month ago he welcomed Savimbi, the head of UNITA, which now holds 150 workers in Angola. And last Monday he rolled out the red carpet for the heads of the contra gangs who have already assassinated 12,000 people in Nicaragua."
(Humanite, France)

"Norwegian Foreign Minister Stray or someone else ought to tell the U.S. Government that it is moving beyond reason. The rhetoric conjured up by the American authorities about Nicaragua may only aim at increasing support for the contras. But the rhetoric is of such a nature that it is doomed to end in a military conflict with the United States totally involved."
(Arbeiderbladet, Norway)



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

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

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Sees Turnabout On Hill Over Contra Aid -- The congressional "tide is turning" in favor of his request for \$100 million for Nicaraguan resistance fighters, President Reagan said yesterday, as spokesman for the Administration continued to reject the notion of a compromise on the aid package. (Baltimore Sun, Washington Post, Washington Times, AP)

Tower -- John Tower has submitted his resignation as a U.S. arms control negotiator for "personal family reasons" and because the job lacked excitement, U.S. officials say. (Washington Post, AP, UPI)

NATIONAL NEWS

Justice Screens Homosexuals -- Nearly all prosecutors are being asked if they are homosexual under a new Justice Department policy that officials say is aimed at gauging their vulnerability to blackmail. (Washington Post)

Pentagon Pads Its Budget, Senators Say -- A bipartisan group of senators charged yesterday that the Pentagon padded its budget by \$7.5 billion the past six months and said the money should be returned to the Treasury Department. (Washington Post)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

CHALLENGER -- Searchers are fighting rough seas, trying to bring up more remains of the seven Challenger astronauts.

CONTRA AID -- President Reagan was still pressing ahead to get Congress to provide military aid to the contras.

ANOTHER SPY? -- The FBI is holding an enlisted man for investigation on charges he tried to sell classified documents.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PLAN LINKS CONTRA AID, DIPLOMACY

Administration strategists yesterday were promoting a plan that links congressional approval of military aid to the Nicaraguan contras with pledges of a last-ditch U.S. diplomatic effort to bring the Sandinista government and the contras to the bargaining table.

White House and congressional sources said the Administration favored a proposal they described as a "nonlegislative compromise" calling for President Reagan to send a concessionary letter to Congress before next week's votes on the Administration proposal to provide the rebels with \$100 million in aid, including \$70 million in military assistance.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

Congressional Lawmakers See Compromise On Nicaraguan Aid Plan

President Reagan still insists he wants Congress to approve his full package of \$100 million in aid to U.S.-backed guerrillas fighting Nicaragua, but congressional leaders say strong opposition to the proposal means a compromise plan could emerge next week.

Bob Dole said Monday that "it's going to be very, very difficult" to win approval in the Republican-controlled Senate for Reagan's plan to provide \$30 million in non-lethal aid and up to \$70 million in military help for the Contra guerrillas.

(Tim Ahern, AP)

Reagan Sees Turnabout On Hill Over Contra Aid

The congressional "tide is turning" in favor of his request for \$100 million for Nicaraguan resistance fighters, President Reagan said yesterday, as spokesman for the Administration continued to reject the notion of a compromise on the aid package.

"This is an uphill battle in which we are engaged, but we are making progress," Mr. Reagan told a group of his supporters at a White House meeting. "You can sense that the tide is turning in favor of the democratic resistance."

(Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A2)

"CONTRA" PLAN WOULD RELEASE SECRET FUNDS

White House Denies It Seeks Compromise

The White House said yesterday that President Reagan had no plans to compromise on his request for aid for Nicaraguan rebels despite indications a day earlier that the Administration was willing to listen to other proposals.

The comment yesterday by Larry Speakes came as the President intensified his drive for the \$100 million in aid for the "contras" by beginning one-on-one lobbying of congressmen and sending his new Central American envoy, Philip Habib, to Capitol Hill to plead his case.

(Robert Timberg & Nancy Schwerzler, Baltimore Sun, A1)

Aid Request Includes Freeing Of CIA Money

Congressional approval of President Reagan's request for aid to the Nicaraguan insurgents would permit the Administration to use a vast secret intelligence fund, on top of the \$100 million the President has formally proposed to spend, the House Intelligence Committee has been told.

Committee sources disclosed yesterday that a high Administration official had testified in a closed session that the aid request was intended to remove restrictions on the use of CIA contingency funds against the pro-Soviet government of Nicaragua.

(Stephens Broening, Baltimore Sun, A1)

A DEMANDING MARCOS ANNOYS REAGAN, SPURS PLANS TO MOVE HIM FROM AIR BASE

President Reagan, described as increasingly irritated with the personal demands being made by Ferdinand Marcos, has requested that the ex-Philippine leader and his entourage of 89 people vacate Hickam Air Force Base this weekend, an Administration official disclosed.

"Things are underway to move Marcos," the U.S. policymaker said. "He's still there but he won't be for long."

(John Wallach, Washington Times, A6)

IMELDA MARCOS LINKED TO N.Y. BANK ACCOUNTS UNDER ANOTHER NAME

MANILA -- Imelda Marcos used New York bank accounts under an apparently fictitious name to funnel hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the country and finance expensive shopping trips in the United States and Europe, according to documents found in the Malacanang presidential palace.

(William Branigin, Washington Post, A1)

MARCOS TRIES TO INFLUENCE OPPOSITION

Deposed president Marcos has made more than \$1,000 in telephone calls to the Philippines from his exile in Hawaii, attempting to prolong his influence in Philippine politics by directing those shaping the opposition party, State Department officials said yesterday.

(Dale Russakoff & Keith Richburg, Washington Post, A1)

EX-SENATOR TOWER PLANS TO QUIT ARMS POST

Former senator John Tower has decided to resign as U.S. negotiator in the strategic arms reduction talks in Geneva for "personal reasons," sources inside and outside the government said yesterday.

Although the resignation caught some White House officials by surprise, friends and colleagues of the former chairman of the Senate Arms Services Committee said they had been aware for some time that he was unhappy in Geneva and was preparing to leave the post he took 14 months ago.

(Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

Tower

John Tower has submitted his resignation as a U.S. arms control negotiator for "personal family reasons" and because the job lacked excitement, U.S. officials say.

At the White House, there was no formal confirmation of the report late Monday. But one source who insisted on anonymity said an announcement was expected soon. (Barry Schweid, AP)

Tower Stepping Out Of Arms Control Talks

An announcement was expected later this week to explain Tower's departure after one year as U.S. negotiator on strategic nuclear weapons. Tower's office said he was out of town until Wednesday and not available for comment.

White House and State Department spokesmen declined comment. But one State Department official who requested anonymity said Tower would not be returning to Geneva when the talks resume. The official said Ronald Lehman, formerly Tower's deputy, is "the most logical choice" to succeed Tower, who retired from the Senate in January 1985.

(Matthew Quinn, UPI)

U.S. DEPENDENCE ON JAPAN FOR PARTS WORRIES PENTAGON

America's most sophisticated weapons are rapidly becoming dependent on components imported from Japan -- a development that has touched off debate inside the Pentagon over what, if anything, should be done about it.

Defense industry sources are particularly concerned about SDI -- or "Star Wars" -- system, where Japanese high-technology companies now outstrip U.S. defense contractors in several key technologies vital to the development of such a system. (Michael Schrage, Washington Post, A1)

LEADERS OF SIX NATIONS URGE A-TEST BAN BEFORE SUMMIT

Leaders of six nations have asked President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev, in an appeal made public yesterday, to refrain from further nuclear tests until their summit meeting and offered to assist in seismic monitoring at test sites to remove doubts about possible cheating.

The declaration, made public in capitals of the leaders and in a news conference here by members of Congress endorsing the appeal, was the group's third presentation calling for nuclear disarmament and a halt to nuclear testing. (Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A7)

GORBACHEV'S DECK NOT FULLY STACKED

Mikhail Gorbachev begins his second year as Soviet leader today confident that the Kremlin hierarchy is stacked with his men. But analysts poring over the results of the 27th Communist Party Congress say there are limits to his personal supremacy.

(Martin Sieff, Washington Times, A1)

EX-U.S. EMPLOYE ALLEGES TORTURE

SAN SALVADOR -- The U.S. Embassy had considered her a model employee. But everything changed for Graciela Menendez de Iglesias on Sept. 16, when two embassy security agents appeared at her office to talk to her.

The embassy accused Iglesias of slipping information to left-wing guerrillas that could have helped them to track and assassinate U.S. military personnel. It handed her over to El Salvador's Treasury Police, just outside the embassy gate. That was the start of a 15-day ordeal that still gives her nightmares "every night."

(Robert McCartney, Washington Post, A16)

REAGAN PAVES WAY TO SELL SAUDIS ARMS

After getting pro-Israel lobbyists to downplay their opposition, the Reagan Administration hopes for smooth passage through Congress for its \$350 million arms-sales package to Saudi Arabia.

Complying with statutory regulations, the State Department will notify Congress today of its intention to sell the arms.

(Bill Kritzberg, Washington Times, A7)

U.S. Plans Sale Of New Missiles To Saudi Arabia

The Reagan Administration will notify Congress today that it intends to sell Saudi Arabia \$350 million worth of advanced missiles, White House officials said yesterday, in the face of heavy opposition on Capitol Hill.

White House and State Department officials said they expected a difficult battle to prevent Congress from blocking the transfer of the missiles.

(N.Y. Times Service, Baltimore Sun, A1)

U.S.-WEST GERMAN "STAR WARS" TALKS SNAGGED

BONN, West Germany -- West German negotiations on joining the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative research program have run into difficulty, and hopes of signing an agreement this month are fading, officials in Bonn said yesterday.

(Reuter story, Washington Times, A7)

SOVIETS: RUMORS OF YURCHENKO'S DEATH GREATLY EXAGGERATED

Vitaly Yurchenko is alive and well and working in Moscow, the Soviet Embassy says. The embassy issued a statement Monday strongly denying a report carried by National Public Radio last week quoting "Reagan Administration officials" that Yurchenko had been executed.

DPA, the West German news agency, reported Sunday that Yurchenko had been shot after a court-martial, and the news of the execution was brought to the United States by another KGB defector. State Department officials had no comment on the Soviet Embassy claim.

(Jim Anderson, UPI)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "The State Communicator: Soviet Journalist Vladimir Posner, Criticizing Reagan on American TV," by Gary Lee appears on page C1 of the Washington Post Style Section.

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NATIONAL NEWS

JUSTICE SCREENS HOMOSEXUALS

Nearly all prosecutors are being asked if they are homosexual under a new Justice Department policy that officials say is aimed at gauging their vulnerability to blackmail.

The inquiry is part of a standard questionnaire, put into effect last year, that examines such personal subjects as whether the applicant has used illegal drugs, had problems with alcohol or failed to file income tax returns. All U.S. attorneys must certify that those hired as prosecutors have been asked these questions. (Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A6)

FAA SAYS THE SKIES ARE BASICALLY SAFE

The FAA acknowledged yesterday that more fully trained air traffic controllers are needed, but insisted that its work force is keeping the skies safe and no further traffic restraints are required.

"I see a healthy [air traffic control] system out there," FAA Administrator Donald Engen told a group of senators.

(Josef Hebert, Washington Post, A7)

AFTER YEARS OF RELUCTANCE, SARAH BRADY STEPS INTO GUN CONTROL SPOTLIGHT

ARLINGTON, Va. -- Nearly five years after a bullet meant for Ronald Reagan crippled her husband, Sarah Brady has publicly parted ways with the President on the volatile issue of gun control.

The wife of White House news secretary Jim Brady knocks on congressional doors and attends hearings, lobbying for tougher gun laws. She writes letters to private citizens and appears on television talk shows, telling her story and seeking reform.

In doing so, Sarah Brady is bucking an Administration that has refused numerous calls to clamp down on handguns since the March 30, 1981, assassination attempt by a pistol-wielding and mentally deranged drifter named John Hinckley. (Thomas Ferraro, UPI)

PENTAGON PADS ITS BUDGET, SENATORS SAY

A bipartisan group of senators charged yesterday that the Pentagon padded its budget by \$7.5 billion the past six months and said the money should be returned to the Treasury Department.

The senators, citing a GAO report done at the request of several members of the group, said the extra money came in as the result of inflation estimates that were far higher than the actual rate. They asked the Senate Budget Committee to use the excess money to help cut the federal deficit, now running at more than \$180 billion a year, to its Gramm-Rudman-Hollings target of \$144 billion.

(UPI story, Washington Post, A11)

A SCHISM BETWEEN HERITAGE AND STATE

Detente between the State Department and the conservative Heritage Foundation has collapsed. The incident rupturing relations was a Feb. 26 letter sent on official stationery by Deputy Secretary of State Whitehead to Heritage trustees urging that they resign because of the foundation's criticism of department policies.

(Sidney Blumenthal, Washington Post, A17)

BUDGET AX COULD DENY VACCINES FOR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, LAWMAKER SAYS

About 400,000 children could be denied vaccinations for diseases such as polio and measles next year if President Reagan's 1987 budget is enacted, a House Democrat says.

Rep. Henry Waxman, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on health, said the proposed spending falls by a wide margin to keep pace with the rising cost of children's vaccines, so fewer doses can be purchased.

(William Kronholm, AP)

SPRINKEL'S BRIEFINGS ARE A HIT AT THE WHITE HOUSE BUT HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON REAGAN ECONOMIC POLICY

Listening to an economist pontificate doesn't sound like a promising source of amusement. But when Beryl Sprinkel discusses the money supply at the White House senior staff meeting, the gathering assumes an air of hilarity.

Every Friday morning, Mr. Sprinkel arrives armed with charts showing the latest gyrations in the weekly money-supply data. Top presidential aides snap up copies. Wisecracks fly. As Mr. Sprinkel launches into his analysis, staffers hold the charts sideways or upside down, frowning their brows in mock studiousness. If Mr. Sprinkel neglects to hand out the charts, the group rebels. "Wait! Beryl! Where are the charts?"

(Paul Blustein, Wall Street Journal, A64)

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NEWS FROM THE STATES

JAVITS REMEMBERED AS FRIEND OF DOWNTRODDEN

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- President Reagan joined national and state politicians Saturday in remembering former Sen. Jacob Javits as an elder statesman who climbed from poverty in New York to champion the poor and elderly on Capitol Hill.

Javits, a liberal New York Republican who served in Congress 34 years, died Friday at 81 of respiratory failure in West Palm Beach, Fla.

In a statement from the White House, Reagan said, "Throughout his many years in the Senate, Jacob Javits was known for his intellect, for his integrity, for his dedication to the people of New York and the nation and for the sheer joy he took in every day of his work.

"Jacob Javits remained to the end a man in love with life, and from the streets of the great city he so cherished to the distant shores of California, he will be deeply missed."

CALIFORNIA SENATE CAMPAIGN HEATS UP

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (UPI) -- The 10 Republicans hoping to oust Sen. Alan Cranston put aside most of their differences Saturday, blasting the Democratic incumbent as a big-spending, soft-thinking liberal who must be defeated for the good of the country.

"There is no price too high to pay," television commentator Bruce Herschensohn insisted, "to ensure that no foreign government, no terrorist ever touches one hair of a U.S. citizen or one inch of U.S. territory."

Rep. Ed Zschau, a successful Silicon Valley entrepreneur who is expected to be the best-financed candidate in the race, complained of the incumbent, "Alan Cranston puts his faith in government programs instead of private enterprise."

Assemblyman Bob Naylor, who like Zschau represents the Santa Clara area, insisted that he is "the conservative Northern Californian" who has the best chance of beating Cranston.

"Ronald Reagan and George Deukmejian have shown us that we do not need to imitate our liberal Democratic opponents in order to win elections in California," he said.

"In fact, we're better off when we don't."

Economist Art Laffer, insisting that he is the candidate best qualified to promote and pursue Reagan's economic policies, charged that Cranston "professes to love the poor so much that he would even enact policies that would make us all poor."

WHITE HOUSE APPROVES MORE FLOOD DAMAGE FUNDS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI) -- The federal government Sunday agreed to shoulder most of the cost of repairing \$47 million worth of flood damage to roads, schools and other public property in Northern California, a spokesman for Gov. George Deukmejian announced.

Deukmejian Thursday asked the White House for help in repairing damage in 31 counties affected by the flood.

The Reagan Administration earlier approved funds to assist private owners of homes and businesses.

-end of A-section-

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Monday Evening, March 10, 1986)

CHALLENGER

CBS's Dan Rather: Even as new charges are being made about shuttle equipment and NASA decision-making not being up to standard, the shuttle story tonight takes on a new note of sadness. NASA still refuses official comment, but there is word today that searchers are fighting rough seas, trying to bring up more remains of the seven Challenger astronauts, after secretly returning some remains to shore this weekend. (All Nets Lead)

CBS's Bruce Hall reports it may take several days to lift the crew compartment wreckage from the ocean floor. Meanwhile, there may have been another significant discovery this afternoon. The ceiling subs spotted the booster part, but so far has not been able to determine if that is the crucial section that caused the shuttle disaster.

ABC's Ted Koppel reports that remains of the astronauts have not only been found, but have now been recovered from the floor of the Atlantic Ocean, and pathologists are reportedly examining those remains at an Air Force base in Florida.

NASA

NBC's Robert Hager reports that the concerns that chief astronaut John Young presents in his memo, what he calls an "awesome list of safety problems," and the fact that some astronauts are lucky to be alive, have already caused the Presidential Commission to broaden its investigation -- to include launch pressures and other mechanical problems. The memo comes two weeks after Young took his complaints to commission Chairman Rogers, and after Young handpicked fellow astronaut Brewster Shaw to work as a full-time investigator for the Rogers panel. But NASA officials took issue. Still, the Presidential Commission is concerned enough that it's now talking about the possibility of another public hearing, just to take testimony from the astronauts. (NBC-2)

CONTRA AID

Koppel: President Reagan was still pressing ahead today to get Congress to agree to provide military aid to the Nicaraguan contras. That, despite the fact that there is little hard evidence that Congress is about to agree. Today the President acknowledged that he still has a fight on his hands, but he sounded as though it's a fight he believes he may yet win.

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Koppel continues:

(President: "This is an uphill battle in which we're engaged, but we're making progress. You can sense that the tide is turning in favor of the democratic resistance. Farsighted Democrats and Republicans are coming together in a realization of the common danger.")

Our own ABC News poll showed three out of five Americans believe Congress should reject the President's request. (ABC-10)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: President Reagan today came up against two possible stumbling blocks to his congressional passage of a \$100 million aid proposal to the Nicaraguan contras, the rebels fighting the Sandinista government. In the Senate, majority leader Dole scheduled a surprise debate and vote for next Monday and Tuesday. That's a day before a House vote is scheduled. Apparently, that creates more pressure for a White House compromise. And, in the House itself, opponents of the contra aid have become alarmed by secret Intelligence Committee testimony last week that indicated that an additional \$50 million in CIA and Pentagon funds would be made available to the contras if the aid package is passed by Congress. (NBC-7)

CONTRA DEBATE

Koppel: Today ABC asked Rep. Coelho and George Will for their points of view on the question of should the U.S. give military aid for the contras.

Will: There's a war on; it's our backyard. One side or the other is going to win it, and if the contras lose it, we'll have a second Cuba in our hemisphere.

Coelho: The real question is, are we really using our money wisely? The American people know when we're wasting money. We're wasting money in this effort. The President talks about eventually using American troops. They know that we're getting into a situation that could lead to a Vietnam; they don't want another one.

Will: The contras will not need American troops, as long as we give them aid as a way to avoid another Vietnam.

Coelho: It isn't the contras asking for American troops; the Administration, just this past week, talked about sending American troops down in there. They're the ones who discussed the issue of American troops, and I really believe that they intend to put American troops in there, and lead to another Vietnam.

Will: Kill the contras -- by killing aid -- and you've killed the last chance for what you say you desire: negotiations. (ABC-11)

ATTORNEY GENERAL MEESE

Brokaw: On Special Segment tonight: The Meese Factor. What has Edwin Meese, the conservative Attorney General, accomplished in his first year on the job? His attempts to bring about major social change, in such areas as abortion and Affirmative Action have polarized many people. But are his efforts working?

NBC's Carl Stern: Edwin Meese spent his first year as Attorney General as a supersalesman for the Reagan Revolution.

(TV Coverage: Meese meeting with President Reagan; appearing on talk shows, giving speeches, etc.)

Tirelessly, he made the round of talk shows and dinners and Chamber of Commerce breakfasts. On the ground or in the air, he relentlessly traveled the road to sell the conservative agenda. The question is whether anyone is buying. A Democrat who prolonged Meese's confirmation hearings for more than a year says Meese has not succeeded.

(Sen. Biden: "I think he has scared the living devil out of everybody. I think he's put in sharp relief what the Radical Right agenda is. And people look at that and say, 'hooomph! That's not what I want!'")

Conservatives say Meese is achieving some successes.

(Howard Phillips: "What Ed Meese has done is assemble a team of young legal conservatives, who are extraordinarily able. Some of them he has named to the bench; others he has on the staff of the Justice Department, and they have re-set the agenda for debate concerning federal judicial policy.

(TV Coverage: Meese conducting staff meeting.)

Meese has brought his own people into the Justice Department; that has been given good grades by almost everyone for keeping up the pressure to catch drug traffickers and spies. What gets Meese in trouble is his tendency to see court decisions protecting civil liberties as an obstacle to law enforcement. He claims most suspects are guilty anyway, so why prohibit, under the Miranda rule, illegally obtained confessions?

(TV Coverage: file tape of 'The McLaughlin Group.'

Meese: "The exclusion of confessions means you're only helping the guilty."

John McLaughlin: "Well, that means that Miranda only helps guilty defendants."

Meese: "That's my feeling, yes.")

But neither in civil liberties, nor in civil rights, has Meese obtained major changes in the law. Civil rights groups have arrayed themselves against him.

(Jesse Jackson: "We're going to make the Justice Department this year an area of focus.")

And so far, he has been unable to win his battle inside the Administration to water down federal requirements for employing minorities; programs he regards as discrimination against whites. Last July, before the American Bar Association, Meese became the first Attorney General in memory to openly attack the Supreme Court, calling specific decisions bizarre and intellectually shaky. He defends what he did.

Stern continues:

(Meese: "Some judges -- and some courts -- have, I think, rendered decisions which were not in accord with the generally accepted concept of the limited powers of the federal government, or which ran contrary with what I think is the original intent of the founding fathers.")

But Justice Brennan said Meese could only pretend to know what the founding fathers intended for the twentieth century. Opinion is divided as to whether Meese went too far. The Meese Justice Department asked the Supreme Court to let the states prohibit abortion again; a position considered so extreme that the department was denied time even to argue it before the court. In another blow, the Senate Judiciary Committee effectively blocked some of Meese's choices for federal judgeships, and refused to promote Brad Reynolds, his civil rights chief. None of that has diminished Meese's faith in the conservative cause.

(Meese: "Certainly I'm a conservative, but I think conservative thought is the mainstream political thinking in this country.")

Meese still plans to use the Justice Department to bring about a major change in America. He is undeterred by the fact that it hasn't happened yet. (NBC-10)

POLICE/MIRANDA

Koppel: The Supreme Court ruled today that a voluntary confession to police, even a murder confession, is valid, even if the suspect is not told that a lawyer is trying to get in touch with him. The justices said that once a suspect is given his so-called Miranda warnings to remain silent, or have a lawyer present, the police have fulfilled their duty. (ABC-12)

ANOTHER SPY?

Koppel: The FBI announced that the Navy is holding an enlisted man for investigation of charges that he tried to sell classified documents. Third Class Petty Officer Robert Hayward was arrested last week at Point Magu Naval Air Station in California, after undercover agents reportedly watched him sell part of a classified manual to an unidentified buyer. (ABC-9)

FARM SITUATION

Rather: reports that since CBS's farm series began, we've heard from people with additional views, and tonight we're following up. One place we visited: a pot-luck supper at a small South Dakota church. Many viewers told us how moved they were by these peoples' resolve to remain farmers, and their quiet desperation that events are making this impossible. But there was also anger.

(TV Coverage: farmer: "The man doesn't give a damn about farmers. Not the family farmers.")

The man is President Ronald Reagan. In the last election, he won 63 percent of the state's vote; four percent above the national average.

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Rather continues:

(TV Coverage: farm wife: "I didn't vote for him, but I can remember when he stood up and said the American farmers would not be forgotten if he were reelected. And I don't think he's kept that promise.")

(Farmer: "The farmer should have known that Ronald Reagan was committed to deregulation, and to attempting to reduce the size of government, and therefore, he should have known that Ronald Reagan would not respond sympathetically to a farm crisis.")

(Assistant Agriculture Secretary Naylor: "The policies of the fifty years or so that preceeded this Administration simply did not work. And did not allow our producers to compete in the world markets they have to be in.")

Mr. Reagan believes farmers and the country will be helped in the long run by a policy of survival of the fittest. But government intervention to help farmers under previous administrations hasn't saved family farmers, and programs to help the little guys often have reaped harvest only for the big boys. It's no surprise that two-thirds of all the federal farm subsidies go to the wealthiest 14 percent of farmers. Maybe it's right that March is not the time for Thanksgiving. The problem is November will be no better. (CBS-12)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

NICARAGUA

Latter-Day McCarthyism -- "Late in the game the White House is turning from a professional polemicist, Patrick J. Buchanan, to a disciplined diplomatist, Philip Habib, in trying to prop up its policy toward Nicaragua.... Bipartisan moderates will eventually have to resolve the issue. Aid should go to the contras as long as they can exert some pressure on the Sandinistas to move toward the democratic pluralism that is the betrayed goal of their revolution. But for the United States to lean so heavily on an insurance force of doubtful effectiveness is foolhardy...." (Baltimore Sun, 3/8)

Desperate, Divisive -- "Nowhere among (critics of Reagan's Nicaragua policies) is a vote for the communists. By even suggesting that such sympathies exist on Capitol Hill, Reagan needlessly impugns the honor of patriotic Americans whose only sin is that they view the world differently than he does. There have always been intellectual thugs on both the political right and left who seem to enjoy chastising their opponents beyond the bounds of political debate, but people have a right to expect a higher level of discourse from the White House."

(Los Angeles Times, 3/10)

Do You Want More Castros? -- "Just think, this issue might never have arisen if we had headed off Castro. What a bargain that would have been. Let's not watch Communism spread from Nicaragua to El Salvador to Panama to Honduras to Guatemala and even to Mexico. It's cheaper to solve it now than later, by aid to the contras." (Chattanooga News - Free Press, 3/6)

Making A Case For The Contras -- "A question arises about 'power-sharing,' where communists always take over. The President believes that in the Philippines, there can be no sharing of power with communists, and he's right; but in Nicaragua, the Reagan men talk of a 'return to democratic process,' which I take to mean we will arm the Contras until the Communists are ready to make a deal to share power. Now, that is inconsistent. If we are to get serious about supporting the Contras, Mr. Reagan should cut the pretense about power-sharing. Rather than help them not to lose, we should give them the means to win -- not to settle but to topple." (William Safire, Cincinnati Enquirer, 3/5)

Contras: A Victory In Manila Is No Reason To Make A Mistake In Nicaragua -- "We have no doubt that Mr. Reagan believes deeply in his argument about the stakes in Nicaragua. We certainly do not underestimate the capacity of the Soviet Union and of Cuba to fish in troubled waters. The history of our relations with Central Americans is such, though, that ham-handed interventionism to depose what our government perceives as a despot it doesn't like or to prop up dictators who suit our whims is a more dangerous policy than failing to intervene at all. There are risks to standing by while the Sandinistas consolidate their power. There are far greater risks to trying to depose them by support of the ill-conceived contras policy."

(Detroit Free Press, 3/7)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

NICARAGUA

"President Reagan's obstinate attempt to provide help to the contras in Nicaragua and to impose an agreement between them and the Government...is an obstacle in the path of the urgent drive for reviving and assuring peace in Central America."
(El Comercio, Ecuador)

"Although many observers doubt that Reagan can win over his Democratic opponents in Congress, we should remember that they had the same views last year, when Congress voted against the contra aid legislation twice, but finally passed it. The President has a formidable understanding of what the public wants, and there is no doubt that in this case, he is ready to assume the role of a star in the ferocious political fight that is approaching."
(El Nacional, Venezuela)

"The issue is not what it seems. Reagan can easily withdraw \$100 million from the Pentagon's contingency resources....His objective is to make official the war by proxy that the United States is launching against Nicaragua."
(Folha de Sao Paulo, Brazil)

"The U.S. Administration's attempts to draw a parallel between Nicaragua and the Philippines are doomed to failure....Filipinos wanted a change and placed their bodies in front of government tanks to prove it. No similar proof is now apparent in Managua....The United States cannot be faulted for its goal of wanting a more democratic country in its backyard....But Washington's way of achieving that change is all wrong....The United States and the rest of us must go all out to support the Contadora peace process."
(Ottawa Citizen, Canada)

"The rebels, according to the White House, are 20,000 strong and have become a skilled guerrilla army. But all of these contentions were contradicted...in a detailed dispatch from Central America published by The New York Times."
(Daily Telegraph, Britain)

"Under the pretext of combatting terrorism, Reagan intends to get guarantees from Congress for his own policy of terror. A month ago he welcomed Savimbi, the head of UNITA, which now holds 150 workers in Angola. And last Monday he rolled out the red carpet for the heads of the contra gangs who have already assassinated 12,000 people in Nicaragua."
(Humanite, France)

"Norwegian Foreign Minister Stray or someone else ought to tell the U.S. Government that it is moving beyond reason. The rhetoric conjured up by the American authorities about Nicaragua may only aim at increasing support for the contras. But the rhetoric is of such a nature that it is doomed to end in a military conflict with the United States totally involved."
(Arbeiderbladet, Norway)



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

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

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Sees Turnabout On Hill Over Contra Aid -- The congressional "tide is turning" in favor of his request for \$100 million for Nicaraguan resistance fighters, President Reagan said yesterday, as spokesman for the Administration continued to reject the notion of a compromise on the aid package. (Baltimore Sun, Washington Post, Washington Times, AP)

Tower -- John Tower has submitted his resignation as a U.S. arms control negotiator for "personal family reasons" and because the job lacked excitement, U.S. officials say. (Washington Post, AP, UPI)

NATIONAL NEWS

Justice Screens Homosexuals -- Nearly all prosecutors are being asked if they are homosexual under a new Justice Department policy that officials say is aimed at gauging their vulnerability to blackmail. (Washington Post)

Pentagon Pads Its Budget, Senators Say -- A bipartisan group of senators charged yesterday that the Pentagon padded its budget by \$7.5 billion the past six months and said the money should be returned to the Treasury Department. (Washington Post)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

CHALLENGER -- Searchers are fighting rough seas, trying to bring up more remains of the seven Challenger astronauts.

CONTRA AID -- President Reagan was still pressing ahead to get Congress to provide military aid to the contras.

ANOTHER SPY? -- The FBI is holding an enlisted man for investigation on charges he tried to sell classified documents.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PLAN LINKS CONTRA AID, DIPLOMACY

Administration strategists yesterday were promoting a plan that links congressional approval of military aid to the Nicaraguan contras with pledges of a last-ditch U.S. diplomatic effort to bring the Sandinista government and the contras to the bargaining table.

White House and congressional sources said the Administration favored a proposal they described as a "nonlegislative compromise" calling for President Reagan to send a concessionary letter to Congress before next week's votes on the Administration proposal to provide the rebels with \$100 million in aid, including \$70 million in military assistance.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

Congressional Lawmakers See Compromise On Nicaraguan Aid Plan

President Reagan still insists he wants Congress to approve his full package of \$100 million in aid to U.S.-backed guerrillas fighting Nicaragua, but congressional leaders say strong opposition to the proposal means a compromise plan could emerge next week.

Bob Dole said Monday that "it's going to be very, very difficult" to win approval in the Republican-controlled Senate for Reagan's plan to provide \$30 million in non-lethal aid and up to \$70 million in military help for the Contra guerrillas.

(Tim Ahern, AP)

Reagan Sees Turnabout On Hill Over Contra Aid

The congressional "tide is turning" in favor of his request for \$100 million for Nicaraguan resistance fighters, President Reagan said yesterday, as spokesman for the Administration continued to reject the notion of a compromise on the aid package.

"This is an uphill battle in which we are engaged, but we are making progress," Mr. Reagan told a group of his supporters at a White House meeting. "You can sense that the tide is turning in favor of the democratic resistance."

(Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A2)

"CONTRA" PLAN WOULD RELEASE SECRET FUNDS

White House Denies It Seeks Compromise

The White House said yesterday that President Reagan had no plans to compromise on his request for aid for Nicaraguan rebels despite indications a day earlier that the Administration was willing to listen to other proposals.

The comment yesterday by Larry Speakes came as the President intensified his drive for the \$100 million in aid for the "contras" by beginning one-on-one lobbying of congressmen and sending his new Central American envoy, Philip Habib, to Capitol Hill to plead his case.

(Robert Timberg & Nancy Schwerzler, Baltimore Sun, A1)

Aid Request Includes Freeing Of CIA Money

Congressional approval of President Reagan's request for aid to the Nicaraguan insurgents would permit the Administration to use a vast secret intelligence fund, on top of the \$100 million the President has formally proposed to spend, the House Intelligence Committee has been told.

Committee sources disclosed yesterday that a high Administration official had testified in a closed session that the aid request was intended to remove restrictions on the use of CIA contingency funds against the pro-Soviet government of Nicaragua.

(Stephens Broening, Baltimore Sun, A1)

A DEMANDING MARCOS ANNOYS REAGAN, SPURS PLANS TO MOVE HIM FROM AIR BASE

President Reagan, described as increasingly irritated with the personal demands being made by Ferdinand Marcos, has requested that the ex-Philippine leader and his entourage of 89 people vacate Hickam Air Force Base this weekend, an Administration official disclosed.

"Things are underway to move Marcos," the U.S. policymaker said. "He's still there but he won't be for long."

(John Wallach, Washington Times, A6)

IMELDA MARCOS LINKED TO N.Y. BANK ACCOUNTS UNDER ANOTHER NAME

MANILA -- Imelda Marcos used New York bank accounts under an apparently fictitious name to funnel hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the country and finance expensive shopping trips in the United States and Europe, according to documents found in the Malacanang presidential palace.

(William Branigin, Washington Post, A1)

MARCOS TRIES TO INFLUENCE OPPOSITION

Deposed president Marcos has made more than \$1,000 in telephone calls to the Philippines from his exile in Hawaii, attempting to prolong his influence in Philippine politics by directing those shaping the opposition party, State Department officials said yesterday.

(Dale Russakoff & Keith Richburg, Washington Post, A1)

EX-SENATOR TOWER PLANS TO QUIT ARMS POST

Former senator John Tower has decided to resign as U.S. negotiator in the strategic arms reduction talks in Geneva for "personal reasons," sources inside and outside the government said yesterday.

Although the resignation caught some White House officials by surprise, friends and colleagues of the former chairman of the Senate Arms Services Committee said they had been aware for some time that he was unhappy in Geneva and was preparing to leave the post he took 14 months ago.

(Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

Tower

John Tower has submitted his resignation as a U.S. arms control negotiator for "personal family reasons" and because the job lacked excitement, U.S. officials say.

At the White House, there was no formal confirmation of the report late Monday. But one source who insisted on anonymity said an announcement was expected soon. (Barry Schweid, AP)

Tower Stepping Out Of Arms Control Talks

An announcement was expected later this week to explain Tower's departure after one year as U.S. negotiator on strategic nuclear weapons. Tower's office said he was out of town until Wednesday and not available for comment.

White House and State Department spokesmen declined comment. But one State Department official who requested anonymity said Tower would not be returning to Geneva when the talks resume. The official said Ronald Lehman, formerly Tower's deputy, is "the most logical choice" to succeed Tower, who retired from the Senate in January 1985.

(Matthew Quinn, UPI)

U.S. DEPENDENCE ON JAPAN FOR PARTS WORRIES PENTAGON

America's most sophisticated weapons are rapidly becoming dependent on components imported from Japan -- a development that has touched off debate inside the Pentagon over what, if anything, should be done about it.

Defense industry sources are particularly concerned about SDI -- or "Star Wars" -- system, where Japanese high-technology companies now outstrip U.S. defense contractors in several key technologies vital to the development of such a system. (Michael Schrage, Washington Post, A1)

LEADERS OF SIX NATIONS URGE A-TEST BAN BEFORE SUMMIT

Leaders of six nations have asked President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev, in an appeal made public yesterday, to refrain from further nuclear tests until their summit meeting and offered to assist in seismic monitoring at test sites to remove doubts about possible cheating.

The declaration, made public in capitals of the leaders and in a news conference here by members of Congress endorsing the appeal, was the group's third presentation calling for nuclear disarmament and a halt to nuclear testing. (Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A7)

GORBACHEV'S DECK NOT FULLY STACKED

Mikhail Gorbachev begins his second year as Soviet leader today confident that the Kremlin hierarchy is stacked with his men. But analysts poring over the results of the 27th Communist Party Congress say there are limits to his personal supremacy.

(Martin Sieff, Washington Times, A1)

EX-U.S. EMPLOYE ALLEGES TORTURE

SAN SALVADOR -- The U.S. Embassy had considered her a model employee. But everything changed for Graciela Menendez de Iglesias on Sept. 16, when two embassy security agents appeared at her office to talk to her.

The embassy accused Iglesias of slipping information to left-wing guerrillas that could have helped them to track and assassinate U.S. military personnel. It handed her over to El Salvador's Treasury Police, just outside the embassy gate. That was the start of a 15-day ordeal that still gives her nightmares "every night."

(Robert McCartney, Washington Post, A16)

REAGAN PAVES WAY TO SELL SAUDIS ARMS

After getting pro-Israel lobbyists to downplay their opposition, the Reagan Administration hopes for smooth passage through Congress for its \$350 million arms-sales package to Saudi Arabia.

Complying with statutory regulations, the State Department will notify Congress today of its intention to sell the arms.

(Bill Kritzberg, Washington Times, A7)

U.S. Plans Sale Of New Missiles To Saudi Arabia

The Reagan Administration will notify Congress today that it intends to sell Saudi Arabia \$350 million worth of advanced missiles, White House officials said yesterday, in the face of heavy opposition on Capitol Hill.

White House and State Department officials said they expected a difficult battle to prevent Congress from blocking the transfer of the missiles.

(N.Y. Times Service, Baltimore Sun, A1)

U.S.-WEST GERMAN "STAR WARS" TALKS SNAGGED

BONN, West Germany -- West German negotiations on joining the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative research program have run into difficulty, and hopes of signing an agreement this month are fading, officials in Bonn said yesterday.

(Reuter story, Washington Times, A7)

SOVIETS: RUMORS OF YURCHENKO'S DEATH GREATLY EXAGGERATED

Vitaly Yurchenko is alive and well and working in Moscow, the Soviet Embassy says. The embassy issued a statement Monday strongly denying a report carried by National Public Radio last week quoting "Reagan Administration officials" that Yurchenko had been executed.

DPA, the West German news agency, reported Sunday that Yurchenko had been shot after a court-martial, and the news of the execution was brought to the United States by another KGB defector. State Department officials had no comment on the Soviet Embassy claim.

(Jim Anderson, UPI)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "The State Communicator: Soviet Journalist Vladimir Posner, Criticizing Reagan on American TV," by Gary Lee appears on page C1 of the Washington Post Style Section.

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NATIONAL NEWS

JUSTICE SCREENS HOMOSEXUALS

Nearly all prosecutors are being asked if they are homosexual under a new Justice Department policy that officials say is aimed at gauging their vulnerability to blackmail.

The inquiry is part of a standard questionnaire, put into effect last year, that examines such personal subjects as whether the applicant has used illegal drugs, had problems with alcohol or failed to file income tax returns. All U.S. attorneys must certify that those hired as prosecutors have been asked these questions. (Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A6)

FAA SAYS THE SKIES ARE BASICALLY SAFE

The FAA acknowledged yesterday that more fully trained air traffic controllers are needed, but insisted that its work force is keeping the skies safe and no further traffic restraints are required.

"I see a healthy [air traffic control] system out there," FAA Administrator Donald Engen told a group of senators.

(Josef Hebert, Washington Post, A7)

AFTER YEARS OF RELUCTANCE, SARAH BRADY STEPS INTO GUN CONTROL SPOTLIGHT

ARLINGTON, Va. -- Nearly five years after a bullet meant for Ronald Reagan crippled her husband, Sarah Brady has publicly parted ways with the President on the volatile issue of gun control.

The wife of White House news secretary Jim Brady knocks on congressional doors and attends hearings, lobbying for tougher gun laws. She writes letters to private citizens and appears on television talk shows, telling her story and seeking reform.

In doing so, Sarah Brady is bucking an Administration that has refused numerous calls to clamp down on handguns since the March 30, 1981, assassination attempt by a pistol-wielding and mentally deranged drifter named John Hinckley. (Thomas Ferraro, UPI)

PENTAGON PADS ITS BUDGET, SENATORS SAY

A bipartisan group of senators charged yesterday that the Pentagon padded its budget by \$7.5 billion the past six months and said the money should be returned to the Treasury Department.

The senators, citing a GAO report done at the request of several members of the group, said the extra money came in as the result of inflation estimates that were far higher than the actual rate. They asked the Senate Budget Committee to use the excess money to help cut the federal deficit, now running at more than \$180 billion a year, to its Gramm-Rudman-Hollings target of \$144 billion.

(UPI story, Washington Post, A11)

A SCHISM BETWEEN HERITAGE AND STATE

Detente between the State Department and the conservative Heritage Foundation has collapsed. The incident rupturing relations was a Feb. 26 letter sent on official stationery by Deputy Secretary of State Whitehead to Heritage trustees urging that they resign because of the foundation's criticism of department policies.

(Sidney Blumenthal, Washington Post, A17)

BUDGET AX COULD DENY VACCINES FOR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, LAWMAKER SAYS

About 400,000 children could be denied vaccinations for diseases such as polio and measles next year if President Reagan's 1987 budget is enacted, a House Democrat says.

Rep. Henry Waxman, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on health, said the proposed spending falls by a wide margin to keep pace with the rising cost of children's vaccines, so fewer doses can be purchased.

(William Kronholm, AP)

SPRINKEL'S BRIEFINGS ARE A HIT AT THE WHITE HOUSE BUT HAVE LITTLE EFFECT ON REAGAN ECONOMIC POLICY

Listening to an economist pontificate doesn't sound like a promising source of amusement. But when Beryl Sprinkel discusses the money supply at the White House senior staff meeting, the gathering assumes an air of hilarity.

Every Friday morning, Mr. Sprinkel arrives armed with charts showing the latest gyrations in the weekly money-supply data. Top presidential aides snap up copies. Wisecracks fly. As Mr. Sprinkel launches into his analysis, staffers hold the charts sideways or upside down, frowning their brows in mock studiousness. If Mr. Sprinkel neglects to hand out the charts, the group rebels. "Wait! Beryl! Where are the charts?"

(Paul Blustein, Wall Street Journal, A64)

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NEWS FROM THE STATES

JAVITS REMEMBERED AS FRIEND OF DOWNTRODDEN

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- President Reagan joined national and state politicians Saturday in remembering former Sen. Jacob Javits as an elder statesman who climbed from poverty in New York to champion the poor and elderly on Capitol Hill.

Javits, a liberal New York Republican who served in Congress 34 years, died Friday at 81 of respiratory failure in West Palm Beach, Fla.

In a statement from the White House, Reagan said, "Throughout his many years in the Senate, Jacob Javits was known for his intellect, for his integrity, for his dedication to the people of New York and the nation and for the sheer joy he took in every day of his work.

"Jacob Javits remained to the end a man in love with life, and from the streets of the great city he so cherished to the distant shores of California, he will be deeply missed."

CALIFORNIA SENATE CAMPAIGN HEATS UP

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (UPI) -- The 10 Republicans hoping to oust Sen. Alan Cranston put aside most of their differences Saturday, blasting the Democratic incumbent as a big-spending, soft-thinking liberal who must be defeated for the good of the country.

"There is no price too high to pay," television commentator Bruce Herschensohn insisted, "to ensure that no foreign government, no terrorist ever touches one hair of a U.S. citizen or one inch of U.S. territory."

Rep. Ed Zschau, a successful Silicon Valley entrepreneur who is expected to be the best-financed candidate in the race, complained of the incumbent, "Alan Cranston puts his faith in government programs instead of private enterprise."

Assemblyman Bob Naylor, who like Zschau represents the Santa Clara area, insisted that he is "the conservative Northern Californian" who has the best chance of beating Cranston.

"Ronald Reagan and George Deukmejian have shown us that we do not need to imitate our liberal Democratic opponents in order to win elections in California," he said.

"In fact, we're better off when we don't."

Economist Art Laffer, insisting that he is the candidate best qualified to promote and pursue Reagan's economic policies, charged that Cranston "professes to love the poor so much that he would even enact policies that would make us all poor."

WHITE HOUSE APPROVES MORE FLOOD DAMAGE FUNDS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI) -- The federal government Sunday agreed to shoulder most of the cost of repairing \$47 million worth of flood damage to roads, schools and other public property in Northern California, a spokesman for Gov. George Deukmejian announced.

Deukmejian Thursday asked the White House for help in repairing damage in 31 counties affected by the flood.

The Reagan Administration earlier approved funds to assist private owners of homes and businesses.

-end of A-section-

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Monday Evening, March 10, 1986)

CHALLENGER

CBS's Dan Rather: Even as new charges are being made about shuttle equipment and NASA decision-making not being up to standard, the shuttle story tonight takes on a new note of sadness. NASA still refuses official comment, but there is word today that searchers are fighting rough seas, trying to bring up more remains of the seven Challenger astronauts, after secretly returning some remains to shore this weekend. (All Nets Lead)

CBS's Bruce Hall reports it may take several days to lift the crew compartment wreckage from the ocean floor. Meanwhile, there may have been another significant discovery this afternoon. The ceiling subs spotted the booster part, but so far has not been able to determine if that is the crucial section that caused the shuttle disaster.

ABC's Ted Koppel reports that remains of the astronauts have not only been found, but have now been recovered from the floor of the Atlantic Ocean, and pathologists are reportedly examining those remains at an Air Force base in Florida.

NASA

NBC's Robert Hager reports that the concerns that chief astronaut John Young presents in his memo, what he calls an "awesome list of safety problems," and the fact that some astronauts are lucky to be alive, have already caused the Presidential Commission to broaden its investigation -- to include launch pressures and other mechanical problems. The memo comes two weeks after Young took his complaints to commission Chairman Rogers, and after Young handpicked fellow astronaut Brewster Shaw to work as a full-time investigator for the Rogers panel. But NASA officials took issue. Still, the Presidential Commission is concerned enough that it's now talking about the possibility of another public hearing, just to take testimony from the astronauts. (NBC-2)

CONTRA AID

Koppel: President Reagan was still pressing ahead today to get Congress to agree to provide military aid to the Nicaraguan contras. That, despite the fact that there is little hard evidence that Congress is about to agree. Today the President acknowledged that he still has a fight on his hands, but he sounded as though it's a fight he believes he may yet win.

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Koppel continues:

(President: "This is an uphill battle in which we're engaged, but we're making progress. You can sense that the tide is turning in favor of the democratic resistance. Farsighted Democrats and Republicans are coming together in a realization of the common danger.")

Our own ABC News poll showed three out of five Americans believe Congress should reject the President's request. (ABC-10)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: President Reagan today came up against two possible stumbling blocks to his congressional passage of a \$100 million aid proposal to the Nicaraguan contras, the rebels fighting the Sandinista government. In the Senate, majority leader Dole scheduled a surprise debate and vote for next Monday and Tuesday. That's a day before a House vote is scheduled. Apparently, that creates more pressure for a White House compromise. And, in the House itself, opponents of the contra aid have become alarmed by secret Intelligence Committee testimony last week that indicated that an additional \$50 million in CIA and Pentagon funds would be made available to the contras if the aid package is passed by Congress. (NBC-7)

CONTRA DEBATE

Koppel: Today ABC asked Rep. Coelho and George Will for their points of view on the question of should the U.S. give military aid for the contras.

Will: There's a war on; it's our backyard. One side or the other is going to win it, and if the contras lose it, we'll have a second Cuba in our hemisphere.

Coelho: The real question is, are we really using our money wisely? The American people know when we're wasting money. We're wasting money in this effort. The President talks about eventually using American troops. They know that we're getting into a situation that could lead to a Vietnam; they don't want another one.

Will: The contras will not need American troops, as long as we give them aid as a way to avoid another Vietnam.

Coelho: It isn't the contras asking for American troops; the Administration, just this past week, talked about sending American troops down in there. They're the ones who discussed the issue of American troops, and I really believe that they intend to put American troops in there, and lead to another Vietnam.

Will: Kill the contras -- by killing aid -- and you've killed the last chance for what you say you desire: negotiations. (ABC-11)

ATTORNEY GENERAL MEESE

Brokaw: On Special Segment tonight: The Meese Factor. What has Edwin Meese, the conservative Attorney General, accomplished in his first year on the job? His attempts to bring about major social change, in such areas as abortion and Affirmative Action have polarized many people. But are his efforts working?

NBC's Carl Stern: Edwin Meese spent his first year as Attorney General as a supersalesman for the Reagan Revolution.

(TV Coverage: Meese meeting with President Reagan; appearing on talk shows, giving speeches, etc.)

Tirelessly, he made the round of talk shows and dinners and Chamber of Commerce breakfasts. On the ground or in the air, he relentlessly traveled the road to sell the conservative agenda. The question is whether anyone is buying. A Democrat who prolonged Meese's confirmation hearings for more than a year says Meese has not succeeded.

(Sen. Biden: "I think he has scared the living devil out of everybody. I think he's put in sharp relief what the Radical Right agenda is. And people look at that and say, 'hooomph! That's not what I want!'")

Conservatives say Meese is achieving some successes.

(Howard Phillips: "What Ed Meese has done is assemble a team of young legal conservatives, who are extraordinarily able. Some of them he has named to the bench; others he has on the staff of the Justice Department, and they have re-set the agenda for debate concerning federal judicial policy.

(TV Coverage: Meese conducting staff meeting.)

Meese has brought his own people into the Justice Department; that has been given good grades by almost everyone for keeping up the pressure to catch drug traffickers and spies. What gets Meese in trouble is his tendency to see court decisions protecting civil liberties as an obstacle to law enforcement. He claims most suspects are guilty anyway, so why prohibit, under the Miranda rule, illegally obtained confessions?

(TV Coverage: file tape of 'The McLaughlin Group.'

Meese: "The exclusion of confessions means you're only helping the guilty."

John McLaughlin: "Well, that means that Miranda only helps guilty defendants."

Meese: "That's my feeling, yes.")

But neither in civil liberties, nor in civil rights, has Meese obtained major changes in the law. Civil rights groups have arrayed themselves against him.

(Jesse Jackson: "We're going to make the Justice Department this year an area of focus.")

And so far, he has been unable to win his battle inside the Administration to water down federal requirements for employing minorities; programs he regards as discrimination against whites. Last July, before the American Bar Association, Meese became the first Attorney General in memory to openly attack the Supreme Court, calling specific decisions bizarre and intellectually shaky. He defends what he did.

Stern continues:

(Meese: "Some judges -- and some courts -- have, I think, rendered decisions which were not in accord with the generally accepted concept of the limited powers of the federal government, or which ran contrary with what I think is the original intent of the founding fathers.")

But Justice Brennan said Meese could only pretend to know what the founding fathers intended for the twentieth century. Opinion is divided as to whether Meese went too far. The Meese Justice Department asked the Supreme Court to let the states prohibit abortion again; a position considered so extreme that the department was denied time even to argue it before the court. In another blow, the Senate Judiciary Committee effectively blocked some of Meese's choices for federal judgeships, and refused to promote Brad Reynolds, his civil rights chief. None of that has diminished Meese's faith in the conservative cause.

(Meese: "Certainly I'm a conservative, but I think conservative thought is the mainstream political thinking in this country.")

Meese still plans to use the Justice Department to bring about a major change in America. He is undeterred by the fact that it hasn't happened yet. (NBC-10)

POLICE/MIRANDA

Koppel: The Supreme Court ruled today that a voluntary confession to police, even a murder confession, is valid, even if the suspect is not told that a lawyer is trying to get in touch with him. The justices said that once a suspect is given his so-called Miranda warnings to remain silent, or have a lawyer present, the police have fulfilled their duty. (ABC-12)

ANOTHER SPY?

Koppel: The FBI announced that the Navy is holding an enlisted man for investigation of charges that he tried to sell classified documents. Third Class Petty Officer Robert Hayward was arrested last week at Point Magu Naval Air Station in California, after undercover agents reportedly watched him sell part of a classified manual to an unidentified buyer. (ABC-9)

FARM SITUATION

Rather: reports that since CBS's farm series began, we've heard from people with additional views, and tonight we're following up. One place we visited: a pot-luck supper at a small South Dakota church. Many viewers told us how moved they were by these peoples' resolve to remain farmers, and their quiet desperation that events are making this impossible. But there was also anger.

(TV Coverage: farmer: "The man doesn't give a damn about farmers. Not the family farmers.")

The man is President Ronald Reagan. In the last election, he won 63 percent of the state's vote; four percent above the national average.

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Rather continues:

(TV Coverage: farm wife: "I didn't vote for him, but I can remember when he stood up and said the American farmers would not be forgotten if he were reelected. And I don't think he's kept that promise.")

(Farmer: "The farmer should have known that Ronald Reagan was committed to deregulation, and to attempting to reduce the size of government, and therefore, he should have known that Ronald Reagan would not respond sympathetically to a farm crisis.")

(Assistant Agriculture Secretary Naylor: "The policies of the fifty years or so that preceded this Administration simply did not work. And did not allow our producers to compete in the world markets they have to be in.")

Mr. Reagan believes farmers and the country will be helped in the long run by a policy of survival of the fittest. But government intervention to help farmers under previous administrations hasn't saved family farmers, and programs to help the little guys often have reaped harvest only for the big boys. It's no surprise that two-thirds of all the federal farm subsidies go to the wealthiest 14 percent of farmers. Maybe it's right that March is not the time for Thanksgiving. The problem is November will be no better. (CBS-12)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

NICARAGUA

Latter-Day McCarthyism -- "Late in the game the White House is turning from a professional polemicist, Patrick J. Buchanan, to a disciplined diplomatist, Philip Habib, in trying to prop up its policy toward Nicaragua.... Bipartisan moderates will eventually have to resolve the issue. Aid should go to the contras as long as they can exert some pressure on the Sandinistas to move toward the democratic pluralism that is the betrayed goal of their revolution. But for the United States to lean so heavily on an insurance force of doubtful effectiveness is foolhardy...." (Baltimore Sun, 3/8)

Desperate, Divisive -- "Nowhere among (critics of Reagan's Nicaragua policies) is a vote for the communists. By even suggesting that such sympathies exist on Capitol Hill, Reagan needlessly impugns the honor of patriotic Americans whose only sin is that they view the world differently than he does. There have always been intellectual thugs on both the political right and left who seem to enjoy chastising their opponents beyond the bounds of political debate, but people have a right to expect a higher level of discourse from the White House."

(Los Angeles Times, 3/10)

Do You Want More Castros? -- "Just think, this issue might never have arisen if we had headed off Castro. What a bargain that would have been. Let's not watch Communism spread from Nicaragua to El Salvador to Panama to Honduras to Guatemala and even to Mexico. It's cheaper to solve it now than later, by aid to the contras." (Chattanooga News - Free Press, 3/6)

Making A Case For The Contras -- "A question arises about 'power-sharing,' where communists always take over. The President believes that in the Philippines, there can be no sharing of power with communists, and he's right; but in Nicaragua, the Reagan men talk of a 'return to democratic process,' which I take to mean we will arm the Contras until the Communists are ready to make a deal to share power. Now, that is inconsistent. If we are to get serious about supporting the Contras, Mr. Reagan should cut the pretense about power-sharing. Rather than help them not to lose, we should give them the means to win -- not to settle but to topple." (William Safire, Cincinnati Enquirer, 3/5)

Contras: A Victory In Manila Is No Reason To Make A Mistake In Nicaragua -- "We have no doubt that Mr. Reagan believes deeply in his argument about the stakes in Nicaragua. We certainly do not underestimate the capacity of the Soviet Union and of Cuba to fish in troubled waters. The history of our relations with Central Americans is such, though, that ham-handed interventionism to depose what our government perceives as a despot it doesn't like or to prop up dictators who suit our whims is a more dangerous policy than failing to intervene at all. There are risks to standing by while the Sandinistas consolidate their power. There are far greater risks to trying to depose them by support of the ill-conceived contras policy."

(Detroit Free Press, 3/7)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

NICARAGUA

"President Reagan's obstinate attempt to provide help to the contras in Nicaragua and to impose an agreement between them and the Government...is an obstacle in the path of the urgent drive for reviving and assuring peace in Central America." (El Comercio, Ecuador)

"Although many observers doubt that Reagan can win over his Democratic opponents in Congress, we should remember that they had the same views last year, when Congress voted against the contra aid legislation twice, but finally passed it. The President has a formidable understanding of what the public wants, and there is no doubt that in this case, he is ready to assume the role of a star in the ferocious political fight that is approaching." (El Nacional, Venezuela)

"The issue is not what it seems. Reagan can easily withdraw \$100 million from the Pentagon's contingency resources....His objective is to make official the war by proxy that the United States is launching against Nicaragua." (Folha de Sao Paulo, Brazil)

"The U.S. Administration's attempts to draw a parallel between Nicaragua and the Philippines are doomed to failure....Filipinos wanted a change and placed their bodies in front of government tanks to prove it. No similar proof is now apparent in Managua....The United States cannot be faulted for its goal of wanting a more democratic country in its backyard....But Washington's way of achieving that change is all wrong....The United States and the rest of us must go all out to support the Contadora peace process." (Ottawa Citizen, Canada)

"The rebels, according to the White House, are 20,000 strong and have become a skilled guerrilla army. But all of these contentions were contradicted...in a detailed dispatch from Central America published by The New York Times." (Daily Telegraph, Britain)

"Under the pretext of combatting terrorism, Reagan intends to get guarantees from Congress for his own policy of terror. A month ago he welcomed Savimbi, the head of UNITA, which now holds 150 workers in Angola. And last Monday he rolled out the red carpet for the heads of the contra gangs who have already assassinated 12,000 people in Nicaragua." (Humanite, France)

"Norwegian Foreign Minister Stray or someone else ought to tell the U.S. Government that it is moving beyond reason. The rhetoric conjured up by the American authorities about Nicaragua may only aim at increasing support for the contras. But the rhetoric is of such a nature that it is doomed to end in a military conflict with the United States totally involved." (Arbeiderbladet, Norway)