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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

O'Neill Refuses Reagan Request For House Floor -- President Reagan asked today to address the House of Representatives on Tuesday to make a final appeal for \$100 million in aid for the Nicaraguan rebels, and the Speaker of the House turned him down. (New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, AP, UPI)

Gorbachev Letter Presented To Reagan; No Summit Date -- New Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin yesterday presented President Reagan with a personal letter from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the White House said. (Washington Post, Washington Times)

NATIONAL NEWS

Senate Faces Tax Vote With Little Suspense -- The Senate, having clawed through a dozen days of grueling debate, is ending its tax reform drive with little suspense over what is certain to be easy approval of its radical bill to rewrite the tax code. (Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, AP, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

CONTRA AID -- House Speaker O'Neill said no to President Reagan's request to address the House on aid to the rebels.

AMBASSADOR DUBININ -- Yuri Dubinin presented his credentials and a letter from Mikhail Gorbachev to President Reagan.

AIDS -- The Justice Department says employers may fire workers who are AIDS victims.

A FISHY STORY

Soviet scientists have taken the uncertainty out of trout fishing -- they have trained the fish to be caught, the Tass news agency said.

The trained trout experiment using ultrasound, rather than flies and worms as bait, has been successfully carried out in the Baltic republic of Estonia, Tass said.

The technique of training the fish to be caught is cost efficient, Tass said.

(UPI: 6/19)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

O'NEILL REBUFFS REAGAN BID TO ADDRESS HOUSE ON CONTRAS

President Reagan asked House Speaker Thomas O'Neill yesterday for permission to address the House before its vote this week on an aid package for the Nicaraguan rebels, but O'Neill refused, saying such a speech would be "unprecedented."

O'Neill said he made a counter-offer that the President speak before a joint session of Congress, but White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan, speaking on the President's behalf, turned it down. O'Neill said "the only justification" possible for the "unorthodox procedure" of Reagan coming before the House alone would be if Reagan would take questions and answers.

Larry Speakes said the idea of a speech to a joint session of Congress was rejected because the Senate is occupied with the tax-overhaul legislation and the House is "who we want to talk to."

(David Hoffman & Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A1)

O'Neill Bars The House To Reagan

House Speaker Thomas O'Neill, in a stinging rebuff to the Administration, yesterday rejected President Reagan's last-minute request to address the House today on aiding the Nicaraguan resistance forces.

But Republicans said the speaker's startling rejection, which took aback Administration officials who had already prepared the President's speech, could backfire on Mr. O'Neill.

"This is just an incredible affront to the President," said Rep. Henry Hyde, Illinois Republican and a leading advocate of renewing aid to the anti-Sandinista rebels. "I think it will influence public opinion," he said, which could affect the House vote on the President's \$100 million rebel aid request. (Mary Belcher & Christopher Simpson, Washington Times, A1)

O'Neill Refuses Reagan Request For House Floor

President Reagan asked today to address the House of Representatives on Tuesday to make a final appeal for \$100 million in aid for the Nicaraguan rebels, and the Speaker of the House turned him down.

Speaker Thomas O'Neill said that Mr. Reagan was welcome to address a joint session of Congress, but that "having the President appear before only one house to lobby for a legislative proposal would be unprecedented."

A senior White House official said the President's advisers were "flabbergasted" by the refusal. (Linda Greenhouse, New York Times, A1)

Reagan Said Trailing In Battle Over Contra Aid

President Reagan is still trailing in his efforts to win House approval for military aid to Nicaraguan rebels in the wake of his bold move against Speaker Thomas O'Neill in the propaganda war between the two longtime political adversaries.

"We're not there yet," Larry Speakes said Monday, referring to Reagan's effort to sway enough legislators to provide \$100 million in aid to the U.S.-backed guerrillas fighting Nicaragua's leftist government. The House vote was scheduled for Wednesday. (Tim Ahern, AP)

Reagan Makes Last Push On Contra Aid

President Reagan, turned down by Speaker Thomas O'Neill on his request to make a personal appearance, is sending a written message to the House urging passage of a \$100 million aid package for the Nicaraguan rebels.

Larry Speakes said that Reagan was "deeply disappointed" that he could not make the speech in person and surprised that his request was rejected. He said Reagan would send a written message to Congress by mid-morning today. (Helen Thomas, UPI)

REAGAN MEETS NEW SOVIET ENVOY

President Reagan met for 40 minutes yesterday with new Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin, who presented him with a letter from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that a senior U.S. official described as "generally positive" on arms control issues.

The White House press office issued a terse statement after the meeting, describing it as "cordial and businesslike." Officials gave no details other than to say that Gorbachev's letter did not contain proposed dates for a summit that Reagan is seeking in the United States after the November elections. (Lou Cannon & Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

Gorbachev Letter Presented To Reagan; No Summit Date

New Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin yesterday presented President Reagan with a personal letter from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the White House said.

There was no discussion in Mr. Gorbachev's letter of a date for a summit meeting between the Soviet leader and the President, said a senior White House official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, a Soviet editorial yesterday accused Mr. Reagan of using "all means available" to block this year's proposed summit in the United States. (Washington Times, A5)

WEINBERGER SAYS BUDGET CUTS WOULD STRANGLE 'STAR WARS'

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, trying to stave off budget cuts for "Star Wars" research, says congressional critics of the anti-missile research program are using budget-balancing as an excuse to effectively strangle the project.

Critics have opposed "Star Wars" for a variety of reasons, Weinberger noted in a speech to the private Space Foundation. "We now hear simply that the funding levels for this program are too high and must be cut," he said.

"Let us be quite clear about what is going on here. The effort to slash our SDI budget request is nothing more or less than an attempt to strangle the program in its cradle," he added. (Tim Ahern, AP)

LUGAR TO URGE SPECIAL S. AFRICA ENVOY

Sen. Richard Lugar plans to urge President Reagan to send a high-ranking Administration envoy to South Africa this summer to explore whether the United States might host negotiations -- alone or with other western governments -- between black and white South African leaders, aides said yesterday.

Lugar and Sen. Nancy Kassebaum will suggest to Reagan in the next few days that an Administration envoy such as Vice President Bush or Secretary of State George Shultz go to South Africa "to see whether there is any chance of a negotiating process under the auspices of the United States acting alone or with the Germans and British," Mark Helmke, a Lugar aide, said. (David Ottaway, Washington Post, A15)

AID TO REBELS IN CAMBODIA IS DELAYED

More than six months after the Reagan Administration decided to aid Cambodia's noncommunist resistance fighters openly in a show of support, the money has yet to be delivered because of disagreements with Thailand, according to Administration and congressional officials.

The most recent delay was caused by last month's unexpected collapse of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanond's four-party coalition government in Bangkok, and the scheduling of new elections in July, one year ahead of schedule. "With a caretaker government in Bangkok, things get a little slow," one Administration official said.

(Keith Richburg, Washington Post, A8)

SHULTZ HOLDS TALKS IN SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE -- This Asian trading nation, which is suffering a serious and unaccustomed recession after 20 years of spectacular economic growth, received the sympathetic ear of Secretary of State George Shultz today and a promise that the U.S. Administration will continue to fight for an open trading system in which Singapore can thrive.

Shultz, in a long private meeting with Prime Minister Lee Kwan Tew and in public comments to reporters, spoke of a "real danger" that protectionist trends in the United States and elsewhere could set back economic growth and political stability.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A13)

U.S. AGENCIES VYING TO PARTICIPATE IN CHERNOBYL FOLLOW-UP

An unusual bureaucratic battle is under way inside the U.S. government over which agency will finance and supervise American participation in the Soviet medical and environmental follow-up to the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident, according to Reagan Administration officials.

Those vying for the role include the Department of Energy, the National Institutes of Health and the National Academy of Sciences, each of which has a different motive in wanting to study the most extensive radiation exposure in 41 years. (Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A8)

MANILA SHIFTS ON MARCOS' RESIDENCE

The Philippine government, increasingly concerned about demonstrations staged by supporters of ousted president Ferdinand Marcos, is no longer insisting that he remain in the United States, State Department officials said yesterday.

In the past week, there have been indications from Manila that Philippine government officials are "softening their position about his move to a third country," said one State Department official. The Reagan Administration has also stepped up its public criticisms of Marcos for using his Hawaiian exile to foment dissent against the Aquino government.

(Lena Sun, Washington Post, A13)

GEORGE SHULTZ, 9 OTHERS HONORED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

The nation's top diplomat and a Texas billionaire are among 10 public and private citizens being honored today by the American Institute for Public Affairs with Jefferson Awards for outstanding public service.

George Shultz is being honored for his "dedication and performance" as secretary of state and Texas billionaire H. Ross Perot, founder of Electronic Data Systems, is being cited for his "patriotic spirit" at ceremonies in the East Conference Room of the U.S. Supreme Court. (AP)

NATIONAL NEWS

SENATE VOTES TO RESTRICT USE OF TAX-BILL SURPLUS

The Senate voted yesterday to ensure that revenue surpluses generated by its tax-overhaul legislation will not be used to reduce the deficit.

The vote was aimed at pressuring Congress to deal with the 1987-88 deficits by separately raising taxes this year rather than by applying the roughly \$30 billion in excess revenue the bill would bring in by 1988.

The bill is expected to be approved overwhelmingly today, although not unanimously, as originally predicted by some Senate leaders. Sen. Carl Levin announced yesterday that he would vote against the package because it "takes unacceptably high casualties in its attempt to win the battle of tax reform."

(Anne Swardson & Dale Russakoff, Washington Post, A4)

Dole Expects Senate's Tax-Overhaul Bill To Pass By Near Unanimous Vote Today

Sen. Robert Dole predicted that the Senate will pass its sweeping tax-overhaul bill today by an "almost unanimous" vote.

The forecast came as Sen. Carl Levin became the first senator to announce plans to vote against the measure, saying it would benefit the wealthy at the expense of middle-income taxpayers.

(Jeffrey Birnbaum & Alan Murray, Wall Street Journal, A3)

Senate Struggles With Last Minute Amendments To Tax Bill

Legislators were scrambling to offer last-minute amendments benefiting narrow interests as the Senate prepared to approve a dramatic overhaul of the federal tax code.

"It's going to be a big, big win -- almost unanimous," Sen. Bob Dole said in predicting the outcome of the final Senate vote scheduled for late today, at the end of 13 days of debate.

As the Senate was wrapping up work on the legislation, amendments were pending to soften the impact on certain industries of the bill's minimum tax on corporations and preserve a capital gains break for farmers.

(Cliff Haas, AP)

Senate Faces Tax Vote With Little Suspense

The Senate, having clawed through a dozen days of grueling debate, is ending its tax reform drive with little suspense over what is certain to be easy approval of its radical bill to rewrite the tax code.

The Republican-led chamber, dealing with a handful of amendments to the bill on Monday, planned to tackle the remaining proposed changes today, most of which are minor, and take a final vote on the sweeping tax legislation by late afternoon.

(Joseph Mianowany, UPI)

TAX-EXEMPT GROUPS' SALE OF INSURANCE IS TAXABLE

The Supreme Court, acting in a case involving the 310,000-member American Bar Association, ruled yesterday that tax-exempt organizations must pay taxes on profits they earn from the sale of group insurance to their members and members may not deduct that part of their premiums as charitable deductions.

The court ruled 6 to 1 that organizations that undertake such fund-raising efforts, even when proceeds go to charitable purposes, are involved in a "trade or business" for purposes of federal tax laws.

(Al Kamen, Washington Post, A6)

REAGAN LIKELY TO DELAY SPACE PROGRAM DECISIONS

President Reagan's decisions on the future of the space program, including whether to build a new shuttle orbiter, probably will be postponed until after NASA begins implementing the Rogers Commission report on the Challenger accident, Administration sources said yesterday.

Although the White House had announced that Reagan might make a decision this week on the space program, the sources said it now appears that he will not act until next month at the earliest.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A7)

LAW SCHOOL DEANS PETITION AGAINST MANION NOMINATION

More than 40 law school deans, in a highly unusual move, have signed a letter to the Senate opposing President Reagan's nomination of Daniel Manion to be a federal appeals court judge, knowledgeable sources said yesterday.

Meanwhile, Senate Democrats have opened a new line of assault on Manion, accusing him in a report of "memory lapses and evasions" in testimony that they say was meant to hide his extreme views.

But Republican supporters charged in a separate report that the opposition to Manion "is rooted in ideology" and based on "an incomplete or distorted representation of the facts."

(Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A1)

REAGAN ADVISER POINDEXTER UNDER CRITICISM BY COLLEAGUES

Seven months after taking over as President Reagan's national security affairs adviser, Vice Adm. John Poindexter has become the object of intensifying criticism from White House colleagues for his management of arms control, the space program and Administration foreign policy initiatives in Congress.

Senior officials who have daily contact with Poindexter said in recent interviews that he is well versed in policy matters but complained that he is slow to resolve internal disputes, often overlooks important political considerations and has not mastered the art of explaining complex issues to a president accustomed to dealing in broad concepts rather than details.

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

REAGAN URGED TO BE AGGRESSIVE ON NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGIES

President Reagan must take the initiative and challenge the nation's military leaders to come up with a national defense strategy that will provide for America's protection into the next century, a presidential commission said in a report released yesterday.

The President's Blue Ribbon Commission on Defense Management also said Congress must streamline its budget review process and reduce the overlap and duplication of its many committees and subcommittees. The current one-year budget should be replaced by a two-year defense budget, the commission said. (Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A3)

NEW GAO REPORT FAULTS MILITARY SUPPLY SYSTEM

Thefts, faulty records and poor management of military supplies may be costing taxpayers billions of dollars, according to a new GAO report released yesterday by Sen. Pete Wilson.

Wilson, who announced July hearings to look into the \$130 billion-a-year supply system's problems, said the five-month GAO study "identified systemic problems in [the Pentagon's] methods of managing, reporting and protecting their massive supply system."

Glenn Flood, a Pentagon spokesman, said the Defense Department had not seen the report and would have no comment.

(UPI story, Washington Post, A4)

HOUSE VOTES TO REVISE WIRETAP LAW TO RESTRICT ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

The House approved a major revision of the nation's wiretap laws yesterday to extend the constitutional protection against unreasonable search and seizure to high-technology communications using computers, cellular telephones and satellites.

The legislation, which passed on a voice vote without opposition, had strong bipartisan backing as well as the support of industry and consumer groups, civil libertarians and the Reagan Administration.

(Mary Thornton, Washington Post, A4)

JUSTICE LIMITS JOB PROTECTION FOR AIDS VICTIMS

The Justice Department said yesterday that employers can discriminate against AIDS victims without necessarily violating federal civil rights laws intended to prevent discrimination against the handicapped.

In a legal opinion released yesterday, Justice Department attorneys drew a distinction between "the disabling effects of the disease on its victims" and "the ability of the victims to spread the disease to others." The former constitutes a handicap subject to protection under the law, while the latter does not, according to the opinion.

(Michael Abramowitz, Washington Post, A1)

LOOPHOLE LETS FARMERS GLEAN EXTRA SUBSIDIES

Many farmers are reorganizing their large farm operations into smaller units to qualify for extra federal subsidies, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture officials, who acknowledge that this year's program costs will soar beyond earlier estimates.

The reorganizations, all apparently legal under USDA regulations, allow farmers to skirt the \$50,000 limit on individual payments and collect additional tens of thousands of dollars, or more, in crop program benefits.

(Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A3)

DEMOCRATS SOUND FERVENT APPEAL FOR POLICY ON URBAN BLACK UNDERCLASS

NEW YORK -- A panel of national Democratic leaders, sounding angry moral appeals reminiscent of the social activist era of the 1960s, today said the federal government must mount a national effort to break the "self-destructive" behavior of the urban black underclass.

In a forum here hosted by New York Gov. Mario Cuomo and led by former Virginia governor Charles Robb, Sens. Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Sam Nunn, House Budget Committee Chairman William Gray and others, the Democrats were quick to concede that they are "grievously short of ideas," as Moynihan put it, on how to proceed.

(Paul Taylor, Washington Post, A5)

U.S. PLANS SIXTH NUKE TEST OF THE YEAR

PAHUTE MESA, Nev. -- The United States will conduct its sixth announced underground nuclear test of the year at the Nevada Test Site Wednesday, a Department of Energy spokesman said.

The weapons-related test, code-named "Darwin," is to be detonated at 6 a.m. PDT, 1,800 feet below the surface of Pahute Mesa, 107 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

(UPI)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Daniel Manion: Arguments Pro And Con," appears in The Washington Post, A17.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Monday Evening, June 23, 1986)

CONTRA AID

CBS's Dan Rather: A new turn tonight on President Reagan's campaign to get \$100 million more in military and other aid for the Contras fighting Nicaragua's government. The President wanted House Speaker Tip O'Neill to arrange for him, Mr. Reagan, to make a rare last minute pitch for the aid directly to the House tomorrow. O'Neill said no.

CBS's Bill Plante: The public relations battle for U.S. aid to the Contra forces in Nicaragua -- sometimes more heated than the actual fighting -- escalated to new heights. In an historic first, President Reagan asked to address the House of Representatives tomorrow on the eve of its vote on the \$100 million aid package.

(TV coverage: Still photo of the President and Mr. O'Neill.)

House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill declined. He did offer a joint session, but said, "Having the President appear before only one House to lobby for a legislative proposal would be unprecedented." The White House refused the offer of a joint session. Larry Speakes said the Speaker had declined the President's request because he didn't want to politicize the issue. Speakes characterized the President as deeply disappointed, adding, "We never anticipated that O'Neill would turn us down."

(TV coverage: Still photo of the President and Mr. Speakes.)

(Rep. Hyde: "What have the opponents of aid to the Contras got to lose. If they're so fearful that the President is going to hypnotize the members into voting, then they don't have a very strong case.") In the propaganda war that has raged over this issue on Capitol Hill, Democrats have charged the Contras with misuse of previous aid as well as drug dealing. Republicans and the Reagan Administration point to increased Soviet military support for the Sandinista government.

(TV coverage: The President at speech with picture of Soviet reconnaissance plane.)

To justify today's request, White House staffers circulated copies of Article II, Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution, which says in part, "The President may, on extraordinary occasions convene both Houses or either of them." But an expert on the constitution doesn't agree.

(Tom Krattenmaker, constitutional law expert: "That was presumably meant as a word of caution to presidents that this is not a blank check -- a power to be used indiscriminately.")

Both the President and the Speaker have made their point. Each feels the other side miscalculated. And the margin on the Contra aid vote Wednesday remains razor thin. (CBS-Lead)

NBC's Garrick Utley: It was a major political collision in Washington today. The issue was aid to the Contras fighting in Nicaragua. The President asked for permission to address the House tomorrow in support of the aid bill. The answer came back, no.

NBC's Chris Wallace: White House officials saw it as a master stroke: Send the President to address the House tomorrow on the eve of the Contra aid vote to make a final plea for funding.

(TV coverage: The President shaking hands with O'Neill in a joint session of Congress.)

But this time there will be no smiles and handshake because Speaker O'Neill turned Mr. Reagan down. Aides say the President was surprised and deeply disappointed. The issue: \$100 million in aid for the Contra rebels -- \$70 million in military aid. Last March O'Neill beat the President, defeating the Contra package by twelve votes. The vote on Wednesday is expected to be even closer. White House officials thought a last minute speech might tip the vote and cited historical precedents. Wilson addressed the Senate on women's suffrage in World War I; Nixon addressed both Houses separately on Vietnam. But O'Neill said those were presidential reports, not lobbying one House on a specific measure. He offered a speech to a joint session of House and Senate, or a regular session where House members could question Mr. Reagan. But the White House rejected those offers noting that the Senate will be busy tomorrow on tax reform. The result of all this jockeying was to make the bitter political battle over the Contras even angrier.

(Rep. Foley: "And this request, I think, takes the President very near to acting as a Prime Minister almost, by an appearance in one body of the Congress, not the joint session one body, and to literally address the Congress on a matter that's almost under consideration.")

Rep. Cheney: "I think most Republican members are outraged by the action the Speaker's taken. I really believe that he has brought considerable disgrace upon himself and upon the House by denying the President of the United States of an opportunity to come talk to us about a matter of major national importance.")

White House officials thought O'Neill might turn the President down, and believe the rejection may get more votes for the Contras -- which may be why Mr. Reagan isn't looking for another way to make his speech and plans to go ahead tomorrow with his vacation. (NBC-Lead)

ABC's Richard Threlkeld: The White House and the Congress got in an argument today over whether President Reagan can get the last word in support of his request for \$100 million more for the Nicaraguan rebels, the Contras, before the House votes on it later this week. Mr. Reagan let it be known he'd like to address the House of Representatives personally about that aid request, but House Speaker Tip O'Neill has refused him permission saying it is, "An unorthodox procedure virtually unprecedented in peacetime." Some serious new questions have been raised during that House debate over new funds for the Contras. The questions center around the way the Contras have used the millions of dollars already provided by the U.S.

ABC's Karen Burnes reports now some Contras are accusing their top leadership of misusing that money.... In documents obtained by ABC News, high-ranking military officers have charged several of their top commanders with misuse of funds, lack of leadership, professionalism or ethics, and wasted economic assistance extended by the U.S. The papers, signed by three quarters of the Contra's field commanders, expressed concerns spanning five years.... At the State Department today, Charles Redman called these charges old. He said they were made by people who were no longer with the Contras and therefore had no first-hand knowledge.

(ABC-4)

DUBININ

Rather: The Soviet Union's new ambassador to Washington, Yuri Dubinin, left the White House this evening. He was there to see President Reagan and officially present his diplomatic credentials. He also presented a letter from Soviet leader Gorbachev, but there is no indication yet whether it contained any response to the latest U.S. proposals on a Reagan-Gorbachev summit. (CBS-5)

Threlkeld: The new ambassador from the Soviet Union visited President Reagan today. Yuri Dubinin presented his credentials and a letter from Soviet leader Gorbachev. White House officials say it does not appear there's anything in that letter but a broad restatement of major themes in Soviet-American relations. Also, no sign of any proposal about a new summit. (ABC-3)

Utley: The Soviet Union responded today to President Reagan's speech last Thursday in which he expressed hope for a new superpower arms control agreement. The government newspaper Izvestia dismissed the speech as a hypocritical set of phrases. That's a quote. At the White House today, the new Soviet ambassador Yuri Dubinin presented his diplomatic credentials to the President. Dubinin spent a half hour with Mr. Reagan, much longer than usual for these routine presentations. He left without any word for reporters but senior officials told NBC News that Dubinin delivered a letter from Gorbachev that appeared to address a wide range of issues, but contained no specific date for a summit. (NBC-2)

AIDS

Rather reports that at the second international AIDS congress in Paris today, a researcher warned that the AIDS virus is no longer too confined to what are called, "traditional risk groups." He said AIDS, "can happen to everyone who has not retired from sexual life." And in Washington today, the Justice Department issued a startling decision about AIDS.

CBS's Jerry Bowen: Employers who believe they are preventing the spread of AIDS in the workplace may discriminate -- may fire workers who are AIDS victims -- even if there is no scientific support for their action. That's the bottom line of a Justice Department opinion which still defines AIDS as a handicap, but would limit the protection of AIDS victims under civil rights law.

(Charles Cooper, Assistant Attorney General: "The vast majority of people who can communicate the AIDS virus are not themselves affected at all by the disease. They are simply carriers of it, they are not handicapped, they don't have the disease.")

The opinion applies to workers for the federal government or any agency or business that receives federal dollars, a large part of the American workplace, and is already under attack across the country.

(Robert Holt, Dallas attorney: "It is an opinion of the Justice Department. It is not a judicially binding decision, and the courts often differ from the attorney general on a number of issues.")

Bowen continues: The opinion is especially bad news to AIDS victims already fighting job discrimination.

(Dale: "I wanted to continue working and I'm not allowed to because I have a disease.")

The Justice Department opinion ignores all available scientific evidence that indicates the AIDS infection can not be spread through casual contact. And for the nation's homosexuals, the population hardest hit by the disease, it represents yet another obstacle. In California, for example, enough petitions have been signed to put an initiative on the fall ballot that could subject AIDS victims to quarantine and isolation.

Rather reports that at the AIDS conference in Paris today, two groups announced successful experiments with genetically engineered products. Both are aimed at combating the deadly disease.... What is important in today's announcements is that the techniques do not use the entire virus, but only a substructure. That means it could not, in a vaccine, give anyone AIDS. Scientists caution that development of any such vaccine is a long way off.

(ABC-Lead, CBS-2, NBC-4)

SOUTH AFRICA

Rather reports African National Congress leader Oliver Thambo is in London today where he received an unexpected invitation to hold direct talks with top British officials. The Thatcher government opposes economic sanctions against South Africa and also has been declining formal meetings with ANC leaders.

(CBS-4)

ABC's Jim Hickey reports Newsweek's South Africa bureau chief, Rick Manning, has been given until Thursday to appeal his expulsion. The government gave no reason for the order other than his removal from South Africa is in the public interest. Last week's edition of Newsweek with its cover story on South Africa was blocked by a local distributor from coming into this country after a government warning the magazine could violate media restrictions. The article said, "President P.W. Botha has turned a racist regime into a police state." It's the kind of language Pretoria objects to as subversive. Manning replaced another Newsweek correspondent who was expelled last fall.

(ABC-2)

Utley reports Oliver Thambo, head of the main black guerilla group fighting South Africa's white rule, will meet with a British Cabinet Minister in London on Wednesday. This represents a sharp policy reversal for the British government which had shunned Thambo's African National Congress.

(NBC-3)

MILITARY CHARTERS

Utley reports that congressional investigators will report tomorrow that safety is still largely deficient at many airlines chartered by the military. Serious problems were found after one military charter crashed last December in Newfoundland. The Pentagon then promised aggressive action to assure charter safety. But the problems have not gone away.

(NBC-5)

TRW LAWSUIT

Rather reports the U.S. Justice Department today dropped price-fixing, anti-trust and conspiracy charges in a billion dollar civil suit against defense contractor TRW. TRW said it was gratified by the action, but U.S. attorney Patrick McLaughlin said the U.S. instead now is pursuing a criminal investigation of that company. (CBS-8)

JAPAN

Rather reports that one of the issues facing Prime Minister Nakasone in the upcoming elections is how to pay for the needs of a growing older population.

CBS's Barry Peterson reports that the millions who are growing old in Japan are a time-bomb that threatens one of the world's most successful economies.... It took 70 years for the aged population in the U.S. to climb from 5% to 10%. It took Japan half that long. By the year 2000 Japan will have the world's highest percentage of people over 65, while the number of children being born is on the way down. (CBS-9)

COMPUTERS/BIG BROTHER

Utley reports that computer were designed as tools to be used by people, and they do their job very well. But now computers are taking on a new role: To watch over people as they work -- to monitor how they do their jobs. The computer as supervisor. Ever-present, all-knowing, and hard to argue with. It is not science-fiction, it is fact.

NBC's Mike Jensen reports on how computers are being used to monitor everything from whether a truckdriver stays in first gear too long, to how many strawberry shortcakes a waiter sells in an hour. (NBC-9)

ROY COHN

Utley: Ever since the 1950s when he worked as an aide to Senator Joseph McCarthy, people have been calling lawyer Roy Cohn controversial and flamboyant. But today a New York court had the last word: Disbarred. It said that Cohn, who has been sidelined for year by a serious illness, was guilty of dishonesty, fraud, and deceit. He may appeal. (NBC-8)

LEN BIAS

Utley reports Len Bias, the Maryland basketball star, was buried today after a private funeral service, but investigators say many questions about why he died remain unanswered. There may have been a cover-up of what happened on the night of his death. (ABC-6, CBS-6, NBC-6)

STOCKS

Threlkeld reports that the Dow Jones average lost 15 points in light trading. (ABC-8)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

SUPREME COURT

Rehnquist, Scalia Nominations Apt To Reshape American Life -- "The point of view here is confessedly somber.... Unconditional political conservatives should be unrestrainedly joyous about the nominations of Rehnquist and Scalia. Ronald Reagan could not have done anything more pleasing to his loyal constituency. They now envision some of the Supreme Court's most celebrated and controversial decisions being overturned.... These rare appointments have enormous and lasting consequence, and the American people -- very few thinking about this issue -- shape that future on a single November day once every four years. What was announced Tuesday will project for decades the results of the 1984 electoral triumph of Ronald Reagan over Walter Mondale." (Lincoln Journal, Nebraska, 6/20)

Supreme Court Shift To The Right -- "Chief Justice Warren Burger's retirement and the shifts in the makeup of the U.S. Supreme Court that have followed appear on balance to be bad news for the republic.... Chief Justice Burger, in good health at the age of 78, notified Mr. Reagan last month of his intention to retire so that he could devote his full energies to organizing the nation's celebration of the Constitution's bicentennial, and the secret was well kept until this week. This in itself is no easy accomplishment in leaky Washington, but one may wonder whether he might better have served the nation's interests had he not given Mr. Reagan an opportunity to move another ideologue of the right into the ranks of the highest court in the land." (Arkansas Gazette, 6/19)

Conservative Court Will Be Reagan Legacy -- "The Scalia nomination in particular should test whether Senate liberals, who have fought two recent Reagan nominees to federal judgeships, are motivated by a legitimate concern for quality or by simple ideological bias. Scalia is indeed a conservative but he also is almost universally respected for his judicial scholarship and lucidly written opinions. Barring some unforeseen revelations, he appears a superb selection." (New York City Tribune, 6/20)

The Rehnquist Court -- "Both Scalia and Rehnquist are conservative judges -- too conservative, in our view. They advocate 'judicial restraint,' a concept that is most memorable for its shocking retreat from civil liberties.... Unless the confirmation hearings disclose some unthinkable violation of judicial ethics, both Rehnquist and Scalia will be at the bench to hear those arguments. That's what we expect, although we also hope that in those crucial debates, they view the Constitution as an ever-expanding umbrella rather than a stern, inert cornerstone." (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/19)

Reagan Nominates Two Gifted Jurists For Court -- "For now, we are satisfied that President Reagan has exercised his duty and his responsibility in selecting members of the Supreme Court in whom he has confidence of true and faithful service. We endorse both Rehnquist and Scalia as sound choices, and we urge their prompt approval by the Senate." (Denver Post, 6/19)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS (continued)

Burger And Beyond -- "The Senate must look beyond partisanship, beyond ideology, and insist that Supreme Court nominees possess qualities of mind suited to interpreting the Constitution that governs pluralistic America and its interwoven skeins of individual, state, and Federal rights. This pluralism, these relationships, do not wax and wane as Republicans or Democrats win the Oval Office or the Senate. They are permanent, vital. They are the heart and soul of what makes the U.S. Constitution, 200 years old next year, as vibrant and enduring a political document as man ever created."
(Miami Herald, 6/19)

And Now The Rehnquist Court -- "Democrats have vowed to examine Rehnquist's record carefully before deciding whether to endorse his nomination as chief justice. Senator Alan Cranston, for example, has expressed concern about whether Rehnquist, 'a man who has an extreme right-wing ideology,' can 'manage the court in a fair and balanced way.' The senator's concern is not misplaced -- about Rehnquist or any other Supreme Court nominee.... Sen. Cranston and his colleagues have an obligation to ensure that the choice is thoughtfully and carefully made."
(San Diego Tribune, 6/19)

Reagan Gives Court A Push To The Right -- "One reasonable criticism of President Reagan's choice of Antonin Scalia to the Supreme Court is that he didn't give him the chief justice job vacated by Warren Burger. The task of managing a group of strong-willed, independent and often quarrelsome personalities would be easy for any man who has raised nine children.... The President was elected to put his stamp on the Supreme Court, and Scalia will do that with grace, integrity and intellectual force. For better or worse, this is a big step toward a Reagan court."
(Stephen Chapman, Chicago Tribune, 6/20)

Now, The Reagan Court -- "William Rehnquist, President Reagan's staunchest conservative ally on the court and his nominee for chief justice, leaves no doubt which way he would like the court to go.... The Senate cannot be expected to reject his elevation, given the President's traditional prerogative to name qualified justices of his choosing. But it is still a sad choice. A good chief justice is a liberal -- not in the sense of being a Democrat or an advocate of more social spending, but in the sense of being broad-minded, ready to question his own assumptions and open to new ideas.... Judge Scalia is regarded as a brilliant legal scholar, but his decisions betray an insensitivity to the Bill of Rights that is simply inappropriate in a Supreme Court justice. The Senate should reject his nomination out of hand."
(Bergen Record, New Jersey, 6/18)

A Victory For True Conservatism -- "The rise of Rehnquist to the pinnacle of his profession, with the last ascent achieved from the hand of Ronald Reagan, illustrates the geology of our politics. Rehnquist, an Arizonan, was pulled toward public life by the conservative movement energized by another Arizonan, Barry Goldwater, whose 1964 campaign brought political prominence to Ronald Reagan. Rehnquist serves now with another Arizonan, a law-school classmate who was active in state politics, Sandra Day O'Connor. As Barry Goldwater takes his leave of Washington, he sees around him abundant evidence that the significance of 1964 is not that he lost 45 states, but that he won the Republican Party and, doing so, seeded the future."
(George Will, Boston Globe, 6/21)