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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, JULY 22, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

TRIP NEWS

Reagan Rally Passes Snapped Up -- Nearly 7,000 free tickets to Wednesday's rally in Miami featuring President Reagan were snapped up on Friday, only hours after they were made available through several Spanish-language radio stations and GOP lawmakers. (Miami Herald)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Reagan To Repeat Need To Work With Pretoria -- President Reagan hopes to stave off growing congressional pressure for more aggressive action in South Africa by stressing in a speech today that the United States can be more influential in Pretoria working with leaders for racial reform.

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

NATIONAL NEWS

Tax Overhaul Negotiators Taking Break Before Working On Major Issues -- Congressional bargainers drafting sweeping tax-overhaul legislation are taking a two-day break before moving to serious negotiations on critical issues, including whether to keep a top individual tax rate of 27 percent approved by the Senate. (Washington Post, AP)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

SOUTH AFRICA -- President Reagan's South African policy is under fire from members of his own party.

ARMS CONTROL -- President Reagan's reply to Mikhail Gorbachev will be positive in tone and indicate American willingness to negotiate on nuclear weapons.

BOLIVIAN DRUG OPERATION -- The Bolivian government said cocaine production is now at a standstill.

"If we can get them to understand that saying 'no' to drugs is rebelling against their parents, we'd make it an enormous success."

*California Attorney General JOHN VAN DE KAMP,
on an antidrug campaign using rock videos*

"We don't bother them none, so we don't want them bothering us. Some woman come out here not too long ago, barking and woofing and demanding that we get off the street. Like she was crazy or something. I flashed her some heat [showed his gun] and she chilled."

*A Manhattan crack dealer called IDEAL
("What I deal is ideal, get it?") on community relations*

NEWSWEEK: JULY 28, 1986

TRIP NEWS

REAGAN TO CAMPAIGN FOR GOP CANDIDATES IN KEY SENATE RACES

WASHINGTON -- Intent on keeping control of the Senate, President Reagan will spend much of his time this fall stumping the nation in behalf of Republican candidates -- with special attention going to four states that GOP strategists are counting on to offset expected losses in other races.

"Nothing is more important for the last two years of this presidency than the Senate," said White House political counselor Mitchell Daniels.... As the campaign wears on, Daniels said, Reagan will shift from fund-raising to theme-raising, arguing that he needs a Republican-controlled Senate to advance his economic and national defense objectives.

(David Hess, Miami Herald, 7/20)

REAGAN RALLY PASSES SNAPPED UP

MIAMI -- Nearly 7,000 free tickets to Wednesday's rally in Miami featuring President Reagan were snapped up on Friday, only hours after they were made available through several Spanish-language radio stations and GOP lawmakers.

The tickets allow entry into a "Salute to the President" rally to be held inside the cavernous lobby of Miami's Inter-Continental Hotel. The early evening event precedes President Reagan's appearance as the guest of honor at a \$1,000-per-person fund-raising reception for Sen. Paula Hawkins.

Dade Republican Party Chairman Jeb Bush, a co-host, said the lobby rally evolved from a shared desire by the White House and many in the community to find a way to allow "ordinary" people as well as GOP contributors to participate in the presidential visit.

(Tom Fiedler, Miami Herald, 7/19)

GRAHAM MAINTAINS SOLID LEAD OVER HAWKINS

MIAMI -- Gov. Bob Graham retains a comfortable lead over incumbent Republican Sen. Paula Hawkins, but has been unable to capitalize on her two-month absence from the campaign, a new poll has found.

The survey also suggests that even if President Reagan becomes a key player on behalf of Hawkins' reelection campaign -- a major underpinning of her strategy -- she might close the gap on Graham by only about two to seven percentage points, not enough by itself to win.

The survey, conducted July 12-14 by The Miami Herald in conjunction with WTVJ-Channel 4 and three other news organizations, showed that 49% of the respondents back Graham, while 38% say they support Hawkins....

The results show that a Reagan push for Hawkins would dramatically solidify Hawkins' support, bringing half-hearted backers further into the camp.... Significantly, however, Reagan's participation would do little to erode Graham's support. Nor would it move a substantial chunk of the undecided voters into Hawkins' camp.

(Tom Fiedler and Richard Morin, Miami Herald, 7/20)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SANCTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA ARE LIKELY UNLESS REAGAN ACTS, SENATORS WARN

Senate Republican leaders bluntly warned President Reagan yesterday that Congress is on the verge of approving legislation to impose sanctions against South Africa unless he moves forcefully to pressure Pretoria to begin negotiations aimed at ending apartheid.

Sen. Richard Lugar urged Reagan in an Oval Office meeting never to use the term "constructive engagement" again, a Lugar aide said. The term refers to Reagan's embattled policy of seeking to end South Africa's policies of racial segregation through diplomatic persuasion rather than sanctions.

Sen. Robert Dole predicted that if Reagan did not come up with a "credible new initiative" on South Africa, efforts may be made in the Senate to take up sanctions legislation this week. "We want to avoid that," Dole said. (David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

GOP Leaders Pushing Tough S. Africa Policy

Senate Republican leaders yesterday openly warned President Reagan that he could lose control of U.S. policy toward South Africa unless he offers new options in a speech today.

"I think the President understands the bipartisan concern in Congress," Sen. Robert Dole said after emerging from the Oval Office. "I indicated unless something is forthcoming there will be an amendment on the debt-ceiling bill this week" calling for sanctions against Pretoria's white-minority government. (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan, Under Congressional Pressure, Defending South Africa Policy

President Reagan is struggling to retain control of U.S. policy toward South Africa without bowing to growing pressure from Congress for tougher action to punish the white-ruled government in Pretoria.

"I think the President understands he really has to address the fact that the South African government hasn't moved very much in the last year," since Reagan -- under congressional pressure -- imposed limited sanctions to encourage change, Sen. Richard Lugar told reporters after a 45-minute meeting with the President Monday. "The President will have to do some things that will cause that movement." (Michael Putzel, AP)

Reagan To Repeat Need To Work With Pretoria

President Reagan hopes to stave off growing congressional pressure for more aggressive action in South Africa by stressing in a speech today that the United States can be more influential in Pretoria working with leaders for racial reform.

Aides said Monday the President would deliver a "comprehensive statement to lay out his views and convictions with regard to his South African policy" before a gathering of foreign policy leaders in the East Room.

Reagan planned to reaffirm his opposition to economic sanctions he describes as "punitive," the aides said. (Helen Thomas, UPI)

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Brown Drops Out As Possible Envoy

At the urging of the White House, Robert Brown today officially removed his name from consideration as the next United States ambassador to South Africa because of difficulties he was expected to face in winning confirmation by the Senate.

Mr. Brown withdrew as Mr. Reagan prepared for a major policy address in which White House aides said they expected him to call for the release of Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned leader of the African National Congress.

(Gerald Boyd, New York Times, A1)

BOTHA REJECTS TUTU'S APPEALS

JOHANNESBURG -- President Pieter Botha met with Bishop Desmond Tutu but rejected his argument that South Africa's crisis was worsening, saying the 5-week-old state of emergency has helped stabilize the country.

During the meeting Monday, Botha refused Tutu's requests to lift the state of emergency and release jailed black activists.

"The state president did not agree with me that the situation was deteriorating," Tutu, archbishop-elect of the country's 2 million Anglicans and a leading opponent of Pretoria's racial policies, told reporters after the meeting with Botha.

(Brendan Boyle, UPI)

U.S.-SOVIET UNION TO OPEN FRESH TALKS ON SALT II PACT

GENEVA -- U.S. and Soviet arms delegations hold a special session today to discuss the 1979 SALT II treaty limiting strategic nuclear missiles, an unratified pact which President Ronald Reagan has threatened to abandon.

In accepting a Soviet request for the special session, Reagan said American officials would "respond to questions or concerns" over his decision that he would no longer be bound by the limits of the treaty.

(Stephen Weeks, Reuter)

REAGAN READY TO EXTEND ABM TO SALVAGE SUMMIT

President Reagan has overruled Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger by apparently agreeing to offer the Soviet Union major concessions on arms control, Administration officials said yesterday.

"The State Department has sold the President on the view that he must make massive concessions in order to get a summit meeting," one Administration source said.

(Bill Gertz, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan Is Termed Ready To Discuss ABM Pact Change

President Reagan is willing to negotiate on disputed issues in the 1972 Antiballistic Missile Treaty as a way of bridging differences with the Soviet Union over space-based missile defenses, Administration officials said today.

The officials said this was one of the positive signals in a draft response to a letter last month from Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader.

Meanwhile, a White House spokesman, Edward Djerejian, confirmed that Mr. Reagan had approved the basic thrust of the answer to Mr. Gorbachev's letter of June 23 and that American envoys were about to consult the allies on it.

(Leslie Gelb, New York Times, A1)

WEINBERGER WARNS AGAINST SDI TRADE-OFF

Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger said yesterday that it would be a mistake for the Reagan Administration to rush into a new arms control agreement and that limiting SDI in exchange for Soviet cuts in offensive nuclear weapons would be a "bad bargain."

Weinberger said he believes "that the Soviets want and need an arms reduction agreement." He said the Reagan Administration should not behave as if "speed or just signing a piece of paper is the important thing. It's more important than ever that we pay attention to the content of the agreement rather than just having the process drive an agreement."

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A15)

CHIRAC BACKS FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN 'STAR WARS' RESEARCH

PARIS -- Prime Minister Jacques Chirac said Monday he supports participation of French firms in the "Star Wars" program but said his government should not give official backing because it could jeopardize national interests.

Chirac, in his first news conference since taking office as head of a conservative government elected March 16, said he and President Francois Mitterrand held virtually the same position on President Reagan's SDI, the space-based missile defense system known as "Star Wars."

(Marie Colvin, UPI)

BOLIVIA CLAIMS JOINT DRUG CRACKDOWN BRINGS COCAINE TRAFFIC TO A STANDSTILL

LA PAZ, Bolivia -- A joint Bolivian-U.S. anti-drug operation in the jungles of northeastern Bolivia has brought production of cocaine to a halt and driven traffickers into hiding, Information Minister Herman Antelo said yesterday.

"At the moment, there is no production," he told a press conference in La Paz. "There is no cocaine either. The traffickers are in hiding."

(Reuter story, Washington Times, A6)

NANCY REAGAN'S LOWER PROFILE WEDDING TRIP

Don't expect her to bring you bring you back a piece of the wedding cake, but do expect to pick up the tab for Nancy Reagan's trip to the royal wedding tomorrow in London.

"Mrs. Reagan is not there as a representative of the government, but in the role of First Lady she does represent the American people," said Betsy Koons, her deputy press secretary. "As First Lady she doesn't travel anywhere strictly privately."

Perhaps to avoid the excesses reported from the other royal wedding, Mrs. Reagan jetted off to London Sunday aboard an Air Force Boeing 707 without a press corps.

(Donnie Radcliffe, Washington Post, C2)

NATIONAL NEWS

NO PROGRESS IN TAX BILL TALKS

House and Senate negotiators took no action again yesterday in their third day of meetings to write a compromise tax-overhaul bill.

They postponed consideration of a list of provisions that are identical or similar in both bills on grounds that Senate conferees had not had time to look over the staff-drafted list of 106 items ranging from repeal of income averaging to life insurance company deductions.

"We're ready," Rep. Dan Rostenkowski said when asked how soon the conference would start voting on the provisions. "Evidently there is a hang-up in the Senate...with respect to what we intend to do."

(Anne Swardson, Washington Post, A10)

Tax Overhaul Negotiators Taking Break Before Working On Major Issues

Congressional bargainers drafting sweeping tax-overhaul legislation are taking a two-day break before moving to serious negotiations on critical issues, including whether to keep a top individual tax rate of 27 percent approved by the Senate.

Rep. Dan Rostenkowski said he wanted to move the sessions to a smaller room when the legislators resume work on Thursday, making it easier for the group to conduct their bargaining.

They are devoting today and Wednesday to budget matters and legislative issues unrelated to the tax bill. (Cliff Haas, AP)

BUDGET PROVISION FACES DEBATE IN SENATE

The Senate tomorrow will attempt to restore the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction law's automatic budget-cutting ax -- a provision the Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional earlier this month.

Gramm-Rudman-Hollings II, sponsored by the law's three original authors, will be offered on the Senate floor as an amendment to a separate bill raising the federal debt ceiling, Sen. Robert Dole said yesterday.

(Jennifer Spevacek, Washington Times, A3)

PENTAGON MAY DISCARD ASAT SYSTEM

The Defense Department is likely to scrap its controversial, F15-launched antisatellite (ASAT) system if Congress votes to continue a ban on tests of the weapon against a target in space, Pentagon and congressional sources said yesterday.

Pentagon officials, who now describe the troubled system as only the "first phase" of a broader ASAT program, said they will focus more on promising antisatellite technologies that are being developed as part of President Reagan's SDI research. (Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

WHITE HOUSE AIDED TEAMSTERS

The Army, at the request of the White House, intervened to assist the Teamsters union in winning a hotly contested union election last October among civilian employees at the Fort Sill military base, according to Army documents and federal labor officials.

The intervention, arranged through President Reagan's political director and the office of Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, violated a law requiring the government to remain neutral in such union contests, according to a complaint issued Feb. 19 by the general counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority. The Army is contesting the charge.

(Peter Perl, Washington Post, A1)

MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FLOW INTO MOST HOTLY CONTESTED SENATE RACES

The 1986 campaign cash spigot has been turned wide open in the 17 most contested Senate races, with an average of over \$1 million channeled into each race during the past three months alone.

The flow of money reached the highest levels in California, where incumbent Sen. Alan Cranston raised \$914,578 and his challenger, Rep. Edwin Zschau, \$1.02 million in just 1½ months.

Florida is running a close second to California, as Gov. Bob Graham raised \$1.3 million during the past three months in his bid to oust Sen. Paula Hawkins, who pulled \$731,740. Graham and Hawkins have both raised just over \$3.5 million, although Graham had \$1.6 million in the bank as of June 30, while Hawkins had \$828,887.

(Thomas Edsall, Washington Post, A6)

TRANSFER OF EXCESS FUNDS TO NASA PROPOSED

The Senate Commerce Committee, which numbers among its wards both Conrail and NASA, is considering a plan to shift \$460 million in excess Conrail dollars to NASA, which could use the money.

"It has a good chance of passing the committee," a staff member said, "but I don't think you should describe the support as bipartisan."

In the House, space programs and Conrail are handled by different committees and "we don't think the House is very enthusiastic about this," a Senate staff member said.

(Douglas Feaver, Washington Post, A10)

COST OF FARM LAW MIGHT BE DOUBLE OF ORIGINAL ESTIMATE

Agriculture Department analysts said today that the new farm law, which represented an abrupt policy shift, might cost the government twice what economists estimated last December.

Their official cost estimate for farm programs under the law passed late last year is now \$26 billion for the fiscal year 1986, but analysts acknowledged today that it could exceed \$31 billion and might soar to \$35 billion.

(Keith Schneider, New York Times, A1)

U.S. MEASURE OF UNEMPLOYMENT RAISES
DOUBTS OVER ITS ACCURACY

Many economists and workplace experts are dissatisfied with the way the federal government measures workplace trends.

The unemployment rate, determined in a monthly survey of households by the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, once was the pivotal measurement of job needs and social distress. Now, some experts say, the bureau's other major monthly survey, a survey of businesses based on payroll records, provides a more useful measurement of employment trends.
(William Serrin, New York Times, A1)

REHNQUIST SAID BACKER OF '50s RACIAL TENET

A lawyer who clerked with William Rehnquist at the Supreme Court in the 1950s said yesterday that Rehnquist strongly defended the old separate-but-equal doctrine underpinning racial segregation in conversations among the clerks.

The former clerk, Donald Cronson, indicated that Rehnquist often argued that the doctrine, enunciated by the court in an 1896 case called Plessy v. Ferguson, was correct at luncheon meetings of the clerks in the days before the 1954 decision declaring it unconstitutional.

Cronson added, however, that "I think the whole issue is a silly issue." He said he regarded it as completely irrelevant to Rehnquist's qualifications, more than 30 years later, to become chief justice of the United States.
(George Lardner, Washington Post, A8)

EDITOR'S NOTES: "Fund-Hungry Candidates Depend On 'Technocrats,'" by Bill Peterson, appears in The Washington Post, A1.

"The South Could Rise Again If Democrats Win The Senate," by Helen Dewar, appears in The Washington Post, A17.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Monday Evening, July 21, 1986)

SOUTH AFRICA

ABC's Peter Jennings: President Reagan's South Africa policy is under fire again. The man he wanted as the new American Ambassador in South Africa, Robert Brown, has been forced to remove himself from consideration. Members of the President's own party have been telling him to put greater pressure on South Africa to change its racial policies or Congress could do it for him. The heat is being turned up just as the President is planning to make what the White House has billed as a major speech on the subject.

ABC's Sam Donaldson: Top Senate Republicans saw the President for 45 minutes today to deliver the message that his South African policy has to toughen substantially or Congress is likely to toughen it for him.

(Sen. Dole: "I think the President does understand that. I indicated to the President that unless there was something forthcoming there'd be an amendment on the debt ceiling this week on South Africa.")

Sen. Kassebaum: "I think we all agree the status quo isn't acceptable. And I think there was certainly general agreement there by everyone."

Sen. Lugar: "We've got to be more persuasive. We can do so through diplomacy, and I would hold open the thought we might need to do so through sanctions.")

In his speech tomorrow the President will strongly denounce apartheid and call on the South African government to eliminate it quickly. He will call for the release from prison of Nelson Mandela and other black leaders, and will urge the South African government to negotiate with them. That means negotiating with the now outlawed African National Congress which Mandela heads. He will say the U.S. intends to step up its own contacts with the ANC and other black resistance groups. But Mr. Reagan will not endorse any new economic sanctions and of course he will make no announcement about a new U.S. Ambassador to South Africa. North Carolina black businessman Robert Brown was dropped from consideration last Friday, although for appearance's sake Brown put it the other way around today.

(Mr. Brown: "Today I have asked the White House to withdraw my name from further consideration. It's just been hectic and it's been painful for myself and my family.")

The President was asked whether he was looking for another black ambassador.

(The President: The man that I will name will be the best one available for the job.")

"And I'm not going to look at what color he is," the President added. White House officials will argue that all this represents a substantial toughening of the South African policy. But in fact, on the one issue critics of that policy care about the most -- sanctions -- the President will not have budged. And congressional leaders of his own party are predicting tonight that congressional action cannot be forestalled.

Jennings: Will the President's speech be seen as a change by black South Africans? This afternoon we talked to Bishop Tutu.

Jennings: President Reagan is going to make a speech on South Africa tomorrow and it is widely expected he's going to say that he is still opposed to sanctions because they bring the burden down on black South Africans. What sort of a message will that send?

Tutu: I don't actually expect a great deal from your President. I have to say, I gave up on him, I think, a long while ago.

Jennings: The Reagan Administration seems quite determined to send a black American to be the next ambassador there. Does that make any difference to those of you who are black South Africans?

Tutu: What is he coming to say. If he comes along, a black voice saying constructive engagement and a white voice saying constructive engagement, they're all their master's voices. It echoes off that. We're not interested in the complexion of the envoy, we're interested in the content of the message. And if he's coming to tell us that constructive engagement, he could just as well stay at home. Let him stay in North Carolina. We would not accept him. America's name is mud in South Africa in the black community, and it is due to the policies of your government who claim that they care about the lot of black people in this country. It's all baloney. (ABC-Lead)

CBS's Dan Rather: President Reagan has a much publicized speech about South Africa scheduled for tomorrow. His aides are emphasizing there'll be no change in Reagan Administration policy and the President's choice for a new ambassador -- a black ambassador -- to South Africa suddenly is out of the running. So the questions tonight are: What will President Reagan say? And will it matter?

CBS's Lesley Stahl: After the White House determined that questions about his business practices would cause a bruising confirmation fight, Robert Brown withdrew his name as candidate for ambassador to South Africa.

(Mr. Brown: "Oh, no, I don't feel like I was used. I have not done anything wrong.")

The naming of Brown was to have been the only major announcement in President Reagan's speech on South Africa tomorrow.

(Reporter: "Mr. President, are you committed to appointing a black to be our ambassador to South Africa?")

The President: "The man that I will name will be the best one available for the job.")

But the White House is still hoping the President can name a new ambassador tomorrow. According to one official here there is a desperate intense search on for a credible black. Under consideration: three blacks who have already gone through the confirmation process and therefore could be named immediately. Assistant Secretary of State, Alan Keyes; Terrence Todman, U.S. Ambassador to Denmark; and George Moose, Ambassador to Benin. But black leaders said today that such a move by President Reagan would be meaningless.

(Randall Robinson, TransAfrica: "And our policy ought to be consistent with our national ideals. He is looking for ways to camouflage what has become an awful policy.")

Republican leaders warn the President that if he didn't announce a new policy in his speech, a vote to impose sanctions against South Africa could be held later this week.

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Stahl continues:

(Sen. Dole: "There's just a genuine concern among members of Congress on both sides that we need to be either more aggressive or have more resolve.")

Sen. Kassebaum: "I think we all agree the status quo isn't acceptable.")

But White House officials say the President's speech will be a ringing argument against sanctions. One top official says he does not expect the remarks to be enough to forestall action in the Senate, and that means President Reagan could lose control of U.S. policy towards South Africa. (CBS-3)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Robert Brown, a black businessman who was being considered as the new U.S. Ambassador to South Africa, said today he did not want to be a candidate for that position. Brown called his decision painful. This development came just a day before President Reagan is scheduled to make a speech on South Africa, and Brown's withdrawal puts a new wrinkle on the policy controversy.

NBC's Chris Wallace: Brown ended his week in the spotlight this morning saying he wanted to avoid all the controversy about his past business dealings.

(Robert Brown: "There's nothing in my background. I haven't done anything illegal. I pay my taxes, I'm not going to jail for anything.") The North Carolina businessman said it was his decision, but the White House had already decided to dump Brown, increasingly doubtful the Senate would confirm him. The White House was deeply embarrassed and aides said the President is interested in finding another black. Mr. Reagan denied race will be a factor.

(The President: "The man that I will name will be the best one available for the job.")

But a list of black candidates is already circulating in the White House, including Terrence Todman, U.S. Ambassador to Denmark. The President has a more immediate problem though: what to say in a major speech on South Africa tomorrow now that he's lost the drama of naming a black ambassador. Today three top Republican senators told Mr. Reagan he must get tough with South Africa or Congress will force him.

(Sen. Dole: "I indicated to the President that unless there was something forthcoming there'd be an amendment on the debt ceiling this week on South Africa and we want to avoid that.")

But aides said the President will announce no major steps tomorrow, no new sanctions, no ambassador or special envoy. Instead, they say, Mr. Reagan will call for negotiations which would include the outlawed African National Congress, and he will stand by his policy of constructive engagement. On Capitol Hill that seemed likely only to inflame the situation.

(Sen. Cranston: "Just as the American people would not have constructive engagement with Hitler's Nazi Germany, we must end the tragic farce of constructive engagement with the racists of Pretoria.") Officials here are still counting on a strong speech tomorrow to buy more time for the President's policy, but a senator who met with Mr. Reagan today came away disappointed saying, "The President doesn't understand how much things have changed in South Africa and in Congress." (NBC-3)

Brokaw interviewed Winnie Mandela.

(NBC-5)

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TUTU-BOTHA MEETING

Brokaw: In South Africa today a meeting between President Botha and Bishop Tutu, two leaders at opposite ends of this apartheid issue. This was their second meeting in five weeks. Botha again rejected Tutu's call for an end to the state of emergency. Tutu described the meeting as a very friendly exchange adding Botha did not mince his words. (ABC-2, CBS-4, ABC-2)

ARMS CONTROL

Jennings: President Reagan today signed a proclamation declaring that this is captive nations week. It is something the President does every year and it usually gives him a chance to lay into the Soviets. But this year the President's rhetoric about the Soviets has been considerably more modest.

ABC's John McWethy: Today President Reagan again cast his remarks about the Kremlin in generally positive terms. Officials say it's another indication the Administration wants to keep the door open for movement toward a summit. The President was speaking about those countries under Soviet control, so-called captive nations.

(The President: "Meaningful progress can be realized by facing our differences, not glossing them over. I believe the Soviet Union wants better relations.")

Meanwhile U.S. arms control advisors Paul Nitze, Edward Rowney, and State Department official Alan Holmes began a world-wide effort to consult with the allies about how the U.S. should respond to the Kremlin's recent initiatives. Officials say disagreements within the Administration over exactly how to respond continue, with Secretary of State Shultz wanting to offer small concessions and Defense Secretary Weinberger resisting. Weinberger said today he saw no need to rush into a new agreement. Nonetheless he said a letter from President Reagan would be on its way to Soviet leader Gorbachev within 10 days -- a letter that could pave the way toward setting a date for a summit.

(Michael Krepon, arms control expert: "This is all pre-summit tango dancing. A deal is waiting to be cut. The Soviets are falling all over themselves in order to make it easy for the Administration to cut a deal.")

But Administration officials say that is not so, not in arms control anyway. Setting a date for a summit is another matter, however. That's a deal that can be cut with neither side giving up much of anything. (ABC-7)

Brokaw: Administration sources said today that President Reagan has decided to reject Soviet proposals for a ban on star wars deployment. The President is drafting a reply to a letter from Soviet leader Gorbachev. Aides say that the letter will be positive in tone and indicate American willingness to negotiate on nuclear weapons. (NBC-11)

BOLIVIA DRUG OPERATION

Rather: Bolivian drug agents and U.S. troops are emphasizing the positive about what is supposed to be their big new drug crackdown.

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Rather continues: The Bolivian government said today that cocaine production is now at a standstill. But the evidence is the drug raids have caused more trouble in the political arena than in the cocaine labs.

CBS's David Martin: ...The number of American servicemen in Bolivia climbed to 190, but Pentagon officials acknowledge they have not done any lasting damage to the Bolivian drug trade.... U.S. officials say Bolivia's President kept the operation secret from most of his Cabinet Ministers because he feared they would tip off the drug rings. In fact, U.S. intelligence now believes that even before these news accounts appeared, corrupt Bolivian officials warned the drug rings about the operation.... The FBI has been called in to investigate the leak of "Operation Blast Furnace" to American news organizations, but Pentagon officials acknowledge the arrival of the giant C-5A Transport carrying the Black Hawk helicopters was all the warning the drug rings needed. (CBS-9, NBC-9)

ISRAEL/MOROCCO

Rather: It was seen as so significant and so sensitive a development that Israeli military censors held up the announcement for six hours -- that Prime Minister Shimon Peres had flown to Morocco for talks with King Hassan. It's the most important face to face Arab-Israeli contact in years.

CBS's Bill McLaughlin: Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres flew to Morocco tonight in a dramatic effort to revive the stalled Middle East peace process. Technically Israel and Morocco are in a state of war, but Morocco's King Hassan has long tried to play the role of middle-man.... There are reports today that Hassan is trying to arrange a dialogue between Israel and Jordan's King Hussein. (ABC-9, CBS-7, NBC-6)

ISRAEL/NEW WARPLANE

Jennings: There was another reminder today about the tension between the United States and Israel. The Israelis unveiled for public viewing the controversial prototype of a new weapon for its already formidable military arsenal. This fighter plane is called the Lavi, or Lion. It has already cost a billion dollars to develop and the money has come from the American taxpayer. Just how much more it will cost is the reason for the Israeli-American friction.

ABC's Bob Zelnick: An increasingly bitter dispute with the United States which is funding the entire project through military aid, may kill the Lavi long before production of the 250 planned aircraft begins in 1990. A Pentagon team recently concluded that each Lavi will cost \$22 million instead of the \$15 million the Israelis claim. A total cost overrun of more than a billion dollars. Secretary Weinberger and Secretary Shultz have both told Israel that if they proceed with the Lavi there'll be little U.S. aid left for anything else.

(Mr. Zackheim, Deputy Secretary of Defense: "What we told them was they have to face up to the fact that they cannot get the Lavi at the cost that they anticipate 'cause we just think it's wrong, and everything else they want.") (ABC-8, CBS-8)

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ISRAEL/MODAI RESIGNATION

Brokaw: The government was hit by a new crisis today: the resignation of Justice Minister of Itzhak Modai. It followed a series of public disagreements with Prime Minister Perez, most of them concerning that scandal over the 1984 beating deaths of suspected Palestinian terrorists while they were in government custody. (NBC-7)

SOVIET ECONOMY

Brokaw: One of the many unanswered questions about the Soviet leader Gorbachev is whether he'll be able to get the reforms needed to solve his country's serious economic difficulties. Is he a man still building his power base in that secretive society. NBC's Steve Hurst has seen an unusual document that will add to the speculation. It is a frank analysis of that country's troubles and it offers some solutions that are radical by Soviet standards.

NBC's Steve Hurst: A secret document, perhaps authored by some people in the Party Congress, shows that debate over the future course of the Soviet Union goes much deeper than anyone thought.... The report paints a picture of the Soviet Union as being in a blind alley -- on the brink of falling far behind the West economically, technologically, and militarily. It was signed, "The Movement for Socialist Renewal", but there were no names on the document and no indication of who may have seen it. The authors appear to be scientists and economists familiar with the state of Soviet society.... The document says the Soviet Bloc is falling apart. It claims that East Germany, Poland, and Hungary are kept in line only by the presence of Soviet troops. More surprising than the paper's findings are the revolutionary solutions it puts forward. The writers go back to Lenin...to support their recommendations. They call for a free press; freedom of speech; an end to persecution for political and religious beliefs; a multi-party political system; a return to private enterprise in the consumer and service sectors.... In this society they are heretical. They would shake the very foundations of the Soviet Union and challenge the Communist Party's monopoly hold on power. (NBC-12)

MEXICAN ECONOMY

Rather: Various sources tell CBS News tonight that Mexico and the International Monetary Fund will sign a new agreement tomorrow. The main feature: Mexico will get \$1.5 billion in new IMF credits. That could help Mexico get new loans to help pay off its huge foreign debt. That would have bankers breathing easier because much of the money is owed to American banks. Mexico must adopt severe austerity measures that could cause new political unrest. (CBS-5)

CHINA/U.S. REPORTER

Rather: In China, the bizarre case of New York Times correspondent John Burns. He was finally allowed visitors today. This was the fifth day of his detention in a Peking security police cell. The Chinese say they suspect him of spying. The Times says that's ridiculous. No one knows when or if he'll be let go. (CBS-10)

TERRORISM

Rather: More apparent Basque Separatist terror attacks today in Madrid.... Today as many as twelve rocket grenades were fired at the Spanish Defense Ministry building. The rockets were fired from a car a quarter of a mile away. The automobile carrying the rockets then caught fire and exploded. Moments later a bomb in another car nearby exploded. In all at least nine people were hurt.
(CBS-6, NBC-8)

EARTHQUAKE

CBS's Dan Rather: What is happening with all these California earthquakes? Once again California residents today measured the damage following a powerful earthquake and aftershock. This time the concern is whether these shocks are a cluster, a threat of more to come, or simply random events. (ABC-3, CBS-Lead, NBC-Lead)

HEAT WAVE

Jennings: Federal officials toured the south today to look in person at some of the damage caused by the worst drought to hit the region in a century. The crop losses alone are estimated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. There is some help coming from farmers in other parts of the country. But for many, too little too late.
(ABC-5, CBS-2)

ROYAL WEDDING/PRESIDENT REAGAN

Brokaw: Final preparations are under way in Great Britain for another fairy tale wedding: the royal wedding of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson. "Fergie Fever" has swept the nation.

NBC's John Cochran reports Sarah's romances would have disqualified her as a bride for Prince Charles. But Andrew is merely fourth in line for the throne so Sarah got the approval of Queen Elizabeth despite the reported misgivings of the Queen's European relatives. And as for those who don't like Sarah's ancestral background it turns out that she is the twelfth cousin, three times removed, of a very successful American: Ronald Reagan.
(NBC-10)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

SOUTH AFRICA

Hit South Africa? -- "Because many people find the inequities in the complex racial situation inherited by modern South Africa to be contrary to their liking, they are saying the United States and other countries should 'hit South Africa' with sanctions and almost every other punitive weapon short of actual military force. The intentions of idealists urging such things may be good but their understanding of the situation is very bad.... There are serious problems in South Africa. But South Africa with its inequities offers more for its black citizens than do most of the black countries of Africa. Our goal ought to be to encourage reasonable and just improvement of South Africa's difficult situation, not to help create ruin for South Africa and the rest of the continent."

(Chattanooga News-Free Press, 7/13)

BOLIVIA

Drug Crackdown: Sending troops to help Bolivia was right move -- "The decision by the United States to provide military support for the drug raids in Bolivia serves notice that this nation intends to take strong steps to stem the flow of narcotics from South America.... It is important that U.S. troops assigned to this detail be kept out of any law enforcement activities during the raids. Bolivian authorities should take full responsibility for any fighting or apprehensions that occur. The role of U.S. military personnel should be limited to a backup capacity.... As the spread of cocaine use continues throughout this country, federal authorities may be forced to take measures that never would have been considered a few years ago. Sending troops to Bolivia to assist in stamping out cocaine-processing plants was a difficult decision -- but it was the right one."

(Dallas Morning News, 7/17)

Military aid in drug war needed, but isn't solution -- "If the United States is going to pressure foreign nations to suppress the drug producers in their midst, Washington must support their struggle.... The United States must look harder at attacking the economic roots of drug production, and at curbing its own drug appetite, which gives the Bolivian druglords the incentive to outwit U.S. plans. The toughest battle against drugs will be fought at home."

(Philadelphia Inquirer, 7/20)

SALT II

Salt kept alive -- barely -- "We don't expect much of a result from the meeting President Reagan has authorized next Tuesday in Geneva to discuss his previously announced determination to declare the unratified Salt II treaty dead and buried. It is and it isn't which has been the situation for a long time.... It is at least ironic that the treaty, never mutually accepted, would by now have expired even if it had been ratified and observed. Those who think the Soviets are just playing propaganda games with their demands for next Tuesday's talks cannot help being at least partly right. However, in these profoundly dangerous times no slightest chance of making sense -- if not friends -- should be ignored. We don't expect this one to amount to much, but we would be happy to be wrong."

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune, 7/16)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS (continued)

Back to Geneva -- "A summit is still the best hope for reducing international tensions. But there ought to be more on the table than just arms reduction and control. Such matters as Mideast peace, human rights, responses to terrorism and Soviet aggression in Afghanistan also are matters of serious concern. If the Soviets are sincere, next week's Geneva conclave could be a giant step toward the summit. Alternately, it could be just another zig in a long pattern of zigs and zags."

(Newark Star-Ledger, 7/16)

MANION

Manion no help to Reagan image -- "President Reagan seems determined to parlay the unfortunate judicial nomination of Daniel A. Manion into an Armageddon on the Senate. He told a group of Republican senators this week that he considers the nomination a major test of his presidential power. He is making a big mistake.... What a smelly mess -- and to this the President would tie his prestige? Win or lose, Daniel Manion does not stand to polish the presidential image. Reagan should quietly but quickly walk away from this nominee."

(Atlanta Constitution, 7/17)

CHILE

Putting the screws on Chile -- "The Reagan Administration is playing its cards exactly right over Chile. A senior State Department official, Robert Gelbard, spent four days there last week urging the Pinochet regime to restore democracy by 1989 at the latest -- but not threatening, not bullying, not interfering.... It's an odious regime. The U.S. message is that Chile deserves better, and that economic, military and diplomatic support depends upon a restoration of democracy. If that means providing secure exile for Pinochet, so be it."

(New York Daily News, 7/21)

SYRIA

Reagan owes people straight talk on Syria, Soviets -- "It's high time that the Reagan Administration clarified its position on Syria. Day by day, the evidence accumulates that Syria has become the Soviet Union's best-armed client in the Middle East, a danger not only to Israel but also to its Arab neighbors. Syria is Russia's chief political agent in the region as well.... Strategically, Syria, armed and supported by the Soviet Union, is in a good position to seriously harm U.S. interests in the Middle East. Shouldn't the Reagan Administration see Syria for what it is -- the Kremlin's armed agent in a turbulent area -- and tell American people the facts?"

(Drew Middleton, Salt Lake Tribune, 7/12)

NASA

Putting the brakes on NASA -- "The United States will not launch another space shuttle until 1988, according to NASA Administrator James Fletcher. That is a wise decision, but the news is bittersweet. It took the deaths of seven space explorers and a series of tough safety recommendations by a presidential panel for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to decide it will no longer trust to luck."

(Chicago Tribune, 7/21)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

ARMS CONTROL

"The stage is being set for a summit meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev in the United States, probably in November or December. The last piece of the jigsaw fell into place last Friday with the confirmation that Secretary of State George Shultz and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will meet in late September."
(Observer, Britain)

"The timing means that Mr. Shultz...and Mr. Shevardnadze should be able to clear the ground for a summit at the end of the year.... A sudden rush to be amenable, apparent since the beginning of the month, has broken the logjams impeding movement on several important issues."
(Daily Telegraph, Britain)

"Detente or not? Relations between the Kremlin and the White House are like the weather this summer: storms and blue skies follow each other without any transition."
(Liberation, France)

"The same day a bomb explodes in Nevada and former President Nixon is received at the Kremlin, we get the long awaited news: the foreign ministers of the two superpowers will meet at the end of September in New York. It's a pre-summit, on which the Reagan-Gorbachev summit will depend."
(Il Resto del Carlino, Italy)

"The American reply deals with many arms control questions as well as with the research program to develop an antimissile defense system. In Geneva tomorrow the two superpowers are due to open a working session of the Standing Consultative Commission which Moscow requested to discuss President Reagan's SALT II decision."
(Le Matin, Switzerland)

"It is lamentable that serious discussions about security and cooperation in Europe always have to be intimately linked to the climate between Moscow and Washington. The Stockholm Conference -- and the CSCE process on the whole -- was actually considered to be all-European, with the stress on the latter word. To be constantly lumped together with the fluctuations in the superpower rivalry does not benefit the work for peace and detente in Europe."
(Dagens Nyheter, Sweden)

"West German Foreign Minister Genscher is expected to try to persuade Soviet leaders into making concessions and more concrete proposals on nuclear disarmament, in order to make the anticipated U.S.-Soviet summit a success."
(Yomiuri, Japan)

"Nitze briefed Genscher on President Reagan's answer to Gorbachev which will be ready 'shortly.' He said Reagan's letter will address 'all areas of disarmament.' ... Political observers believe that this letter was influenced 50-50 by Weinberger and Shultz."
(Westfaelische Rundschau, West Germany)

FOREIGN MEDIA (continued)

SOUTH AFRICA

"President Reagan will deliver a major policy speech on South African tomorrow in which he will stand by his staunch refusal to impose tough economic and diplomatic sanctions on the Pretoria Government. The statement will avoid mention of his plan to nominate Mr. Robert Brown as the first black American ambassador to South Africa, because of embarrassing revelations concerning Mr. Brown's past business dealings."

(Times, Britain)

"With a change of mind which is likely to raise considerable dispute, President Reagan seems firmly decided on giving up on what was already described as a sensational diplomatic provocation with respect to the racist government in South Africa.... By reconsidering a decision already made, Reagan is failing to send the Botha Government a stronger signal than those sent in the past."

(Corriere della Sera, Italy)

VICE PRESIDENT IN MIDDLE EAST

"A senior official with the Vice President said at a White House briefing that Bush intends to assure Foreign Minister Shamir that U.S. support for Israel will remain strong following the rotation in October.... The Reagan Administration, by sending Bush to the region, is hoping to signal America's continued interest in the Mideast."

(Jerusalem Post, Israel)

"Bush's presence in Cairo or Tel Aviv might lead to the announcement of a Taba settlement, a matter which will benefit Bush in the Presidential election. As a result, Bush will be the sole beneficiary (of the trip) for he will attract tremendous media coverage when he brings along his corps of reporters."

(al-Jazira, Saudi Arabia)

"Habib was in the region in 1982 when Israel invaded Lebanon... Murphy was in the region last spring when the United States attacked Libya.... What does Bush carry, and what will happen during or after his tour? Arabs must expect evil during, or after, every visit by an American official to the region."

(al-Baath, Syria)

"By a show of U.S. reengagement in the region does the United States want to renew its attempts at hegemony or has it learned from past mistakes and wants to reassess its policy so these mistakes are not repeated in future."

(ar-Rai, Jordan)

-End of News Summary-