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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Nicaragua Presents Captured American To Press -- Nicaraguan authorities have presented a captured American they say survived the downing of a plane carrying arms to U.S.-backed rebels.

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

'Don't Tie My Hands,' Reagan Implores Congressional Leaders -- President Reagan yesterday urged House Democrats to drop proposed arms control measures he said would "tie my hands" in his meeting this weekend with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

(Washington Post, Washington Times, AP, Copley, McClatchy, Reuter, UPI)

NATIONAL NEWS

'Unreasonable Goals' Cited In Shuttle Study -- A House committee released its own report on the Challenger accident yesterday and concluded that pressure to fly shuttles twice a month helped set the stage for the disaster and that Congress and the White House must share some blame.

(Washington Post, Washington Times, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Tuesday Evening)

NICARAGUA -- Nicaragua insists tonight that the downed cargo plane was on a CIA mission and the lone survivor is an American military adviser.

ORLOV -- The President praised Orlov for his courage and fortitude in pushing human rights in the Soviet Union.

DRUG BILL -- House and Senate negotiators agreed on the death penalty for drug related murders.

THIRTEEN DAYS IN A KGB PRISON

I learned firsthand what every Soviet citizen knows -- that an individual is helpless in the grip of the KGB. And I experienced what every American should know and too seldom appreciates -- that in our system the rights of the individual do matter. Because of that, because the American government and the American people rallied to me and stood firm for me, I am a free man again today.

(Nicholas Daniloff,
U.S. News & World Report, 10/13)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

DOWNED U.S. CREWMAN PRESENTED BY MANAGUA

MANAGUA -- An American captured by Nicaragua troops appeared briefly at a press conference here late today, and the Sandinista military displayed credentials identifying him and another American, a pilot who died in a downed plane Sunday, as U.S. military advisers in El Salvador.

A second American, the copilot, also was killed, according to Nicaraguan officials.

The Nicaraguan government charged that the flight was operated by the CIA to resupply U.S.-backed rebels inside Nicaragua.

(Julia Preston, Washington Post, A1)

Nicaragua Presents Captured American To Press

MANAGUA -- Nicaraguan authorities have presented a captured American they say survived the downing of a plane carrying arms to U.S.-backed rebels.

Eugene Hasenfus appeared at a news conference yesterday in the Nicaraguan capital where he read a prepared statement giving his name and adding that he was captured yesterday in southern Nicaragua.

(Matthew Campbell, Reuter)

Private Venture Operated Plane Downed By Nicaragua, Aides Say

An American-built cargo plane that was shot down over southern Nicaragua on Sunday was operated by a private group led by a retired United States Army major general, Reagan Administration officials said today.

The officials said the plane was operated by an organization headed by the retired general, John Singlaub, and had taken off from El Salvador. It had flown down the Pacific coast of Nicaragua and turned inland to deliver ammunition and supplies to insurgents seeking to open a southern front against the Sandinista Government in Managua.

(Richard Halloran, New York Times, A1)

Contra Benefactors Flew Downed Plane

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras -- The airplane that crashed in Nicaragua Sunday with an American survivor was a privately owned "benefactor" flight carrying supplies for anti-Marxist freedom fighters, informed sources said yesterday.

The sources also disputed claims by the Sandinista government that its soldiers shot down the plane because, they said, "there was some radio contact" between the rebels and the four-man air crew "shortly before it went down."

Top rebel officials believe three members of the crew were killed by Sandinista soldiers after the plane crash landed, the sources said.

(Glen Garvin, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan Administration Denies U.S. Link To Plane

Top Reagan Administration officials yesterday flatly denied any U.S. government connection with a transport plane that the Sandinista government said it shot down in Nicaragua with three Americans and a man of Latin origin aboard.

At the same time, U.S. officials indicated that they knew more about the situation than they were willing to disclose, including the names of those killed in the crash. Secretary of State Shultz said the aircraft was "hired by private people" who "had no connection with the U.S. government at all." He said they were "not from our military, not from any U.S. government agency, CIA included.... These are private citizens."

A spokesman for the CIA denied the agency was involved in the mission, as the Nicaraguan government asserted, but refused to deny that it knew anything about it. (Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A1)

U.S. Denies Role In Nicaragua Crash, But Questions Persist

Reagan Administration officials are insisting that an American-manned cargo plane shot down over leftist-ruled Nicaragua had no connection to the U.S. government, despite claims that the surviving crewman had ties to the CIA.

Secretary Shultz, the White House and the Central Intelligence Agency rejected charges from Nicaragua's Sandinista government that three Americans onboard -- two of whom died -- were on a CIA mission.

(Robert Parry, AP)

Captured American Will Probably Face Trial In Nicaragua

The American who survived the crash of a cargo plane loaded with military supplies in Nicaragua will probably have to face trial, a Nicaraguan official said today.

Alejandro Bendana, secretary general to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, said Eugene Hasenfus "will probably go before a trial. He will of course be given access to U.S. embassy authorities, and he's going to have to respond to the domestic and international legislation he violated."

(Reuter)

Man Described As Patriotic, Adventuresome

MARINETTE, Wis. -- An American man who was aboard a plane shot down over Nicaragua is an adventurer who "goes looking for trouble," his brother says.

William Hasenfus Sr. said Tuesday his son came out of the Marine Corps more patriotic than when he entered.

"He was a different boy when he came out of the Marines -- he wanted to do more for what he fought for," the elder Hasenfus said. "He was more patriotic, I guess you would say." (Robert O'Meara, AP)

CONTRAS WANT SOUTHERN FRONT AGAINST NICARAGUA

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica -- The downing of a plane laden with supplies apparently destined for anti-Sandinista rebels has sparked new speculation about a southern front in the U.S.-supported war against Nicaragua's leftist government.

The origin and destination of the C-123 were not known, but the fact that it was shot down in a remote, jungled and relatively tranquil area of southern Nicaragua fueled fresh speculation about Contra plans and activities.

(Reid Miller, AP)

CONTRA AID OPPONENTS RENEW FIGHT IN CONGRESS

Congressional opponents of President Reagan's \$100 million aid package for the Nicaraguan resistance yesterday renewed efforts to derail the measure but admitted it probably will be signed into law soon.

At a morning news conference, four veterans of the military now fasting on the steps of the Capitol were accompanied by more than a dozen liberal lawmakers who pledged to continue their efforts to reverse the President's Central American policy.

(Christopher Simpson, Washington Times, A6)

DROP ARMS LIMITS, REAGAN ASKS HILL Controversy May Be 'Punted' Into Next Year

President Reagan yesterday put new pressure on Congress to drop proposed constraints on his nuclear weapons program as Democrats scrambled to salvage their arms control proposals without appearing to undercut the President as his meeting with Soviet leader Gorbachev nears.

Although the high-level jockeying appeared inconclusive on the surface, congressional sources reported some signs of progress in working out a substantive agreement on arms control as well as a fallback procedure for "punting" on the issue until next year. Others said a combination of the two was likely: agreement on some issues, deferral of others.

(Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A4)

'Don't Tie My Hands,' Reagan Implores Congressional Leaders

President Reagan yesterday urged House Democrats to drop proposed arms control measures he said would "tie my hands" in his meeting this weekend with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

House and Senate leaders expect a compromise, but appeared leaning away from a proposal to postpone confrontation until early next year.

"I ask you not to tie my hands," the President told the bipartisan group, according to Larry Speakes. "Don't undermine my negotiating position."

(Damon Thompson & Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A5)

Reagan Links Arms Pact, Rights Progress

With newly freed Soviet dissident Yuri Orlov at his side, President Reagan pledged Tuesday that he will not make an arms deal with Kremlin leader Gorbachev in Iceland without guarantees of significant Soviet progress on human rights.

The President said a successful follow-up summit in the United States also hinges on "real improvement" in the Soviet Union's treatment of political dissidents and religious minorities. (Leo Rennert, McClatchy)

Arms Control Issues On Deadline

Simultaneous efforts are under way to resolve some thorny congressional issues on arms control, with the alternatives being to put them off until spring or finish them now in the shadow of the Iceland summit.

"The decision has not been made to punt," said Rep. Les Aspin. "We're looking more to settle it now than to postpone it. The punt option creates problems." (Eliot Brenner, UPI)

Success Of Iceland Summit Not To Be Determined Until Later Negotiations

Top Administration officials Tuesday said it will be impossible to determine if this weekend's meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev is a success until they see how the Soviets respond in arms control talks.

Continuing their campaign to lower expectations for the Iceland summit, both Secretary Shultz and Donald Regan downplayed the prospects for substantive progress to be achieved at Iceland in any area of the U.S.-Soviet relationship. (George Condon, Copley)

Conservatives Uneasy About Iceland Summit

President Reagan's warning against "false hopes" as he prepares for his second meeting with Soviet leader Gorbachev might also include a caution to conservatives against false alarms about the Iceland summit.

To conservatives who attained power on Reagan's coattails, summity carries the potential that the President's sense of history will override ideology and prompt him to trim his plans for a missile defense system in exchange for promise of an arms control agreement with the Soviets.

(Donald Rothberg, AP)

Hopes High For Reykjavik But Worries Equally Great

MOSCOW -- The hopes of the world are fixed on the superpower mini-summit in Iceland but public worries are equally great because of lack of progress towards arms control, Pravda said today.

Editor in chief Viktor Afanasyev said this weekend's meeting between Kremlin leader Gorbachev and President Reagan in Reykjavik should help to further the understanding they reached in Geneva last year to cut nuclear arms and prevent military expansion in outer space. (Reuter)

SHULTZ SEES CHANCE FOR INTERIM ACCORD

Secretary Shultz said yesterday the upcoming superpower summit in Iceland could lead to an interim U.S. Soviet agreement limiting intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

"We seem to be heading toward an interim agreement on intermediate nuclear forces," Mr. Shultz said at the White House as President Reagan prepared to leave tomorrow for Reykjavik, Iceland, for meetings with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

"At least in general principle there is agreement that we should aspire to have none of these weapons, but it appears that there will need to be an intermediate step on the way to zero," Mr. Shultz said.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A5)

Shultz Sees No Arms Agreement At Reykjavik Summit

Despite the narrowing of U.S.-Soviet differences on how to control medium range missiles, Secretary Shultz envisions no final agreement on the issue at the Iceland Summit.

"The particular differences have been winnowed out and are pretty well understood," Shultz said Tuesday. But he added: "It's also true that as in most negotiations the issues that come at the end tend to be among the most difficult."

(Henry Gottlieb, AP)

SHULTZ SAYS SOVIET WILL 'PUBLICIZE' TAKING TROOPS OUT OF AFGHANISTAN

Secretary Shultz said today that there were signs that the Soviet Union was planning a "publicized" withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan to coincide with the meeting in Iceland this weekend.

Mr. Shultz seemed concerned that this highly visible withdrawal might allow the Soviet Union to avoid American pressure during the two-day meeting between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev for an agreement for the total withdrawal of the Soviet troops.

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

REPRIEVE FOR 25 SOVIETS CASTS CLOUD OVER SUMMIT

President Reagan's decision to delay the expulsion of 25 Soviet diplomats accused of spying at the United Nations eased some superpower tension but leaves a cloud hanging over the Reykjavik summit.

Secretary Shultz said yesterday that all 25, identified by the Reagan Administration as working for the Soviet KGB or GRU intelligence agencies, would have to be out by Oct. 14 -- two days after the end of the meeting in Iceland.

(Richard Beeston, Washington Times, A5)

KOHL IS UPBEAT ON REAGAN-GORBACHEV TALKS

MAINZ, W. Germany -- Chancellor Helmut Kohl said yesterday he saw new chances for East West detente and arms control emerging from the forthcoming U.S.-Soviet talks, and from the reformist policies of Kremlin chief Gorbachev.

Delivering the keynote address to a congress of his Christian Democratic party here, Mr. Kohl said he was confident that the preparatory summit meeting at Reykjavik, Iceland, this weekend would reinforce the beginning of a new period of detente.

(Washington Times, A6)

PRESS CONFERENCE ON SOVIET ABUSES ALLOWED BY ICELAND

Jewish leaders received permission yesterday to hold a press conference in Reykjavik, Iceland, to protest Soviet human rights abuses on the eve of the summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev.

Prime Minister Steingrimur Hermansson had urged demonstrators to stay away during the summit meetings on Saturday and Sunday, but later agreed to allow the National Conference on Soviet Jewry to hold a press conference Friday.

(Ed Rogers, Washington Times, A1)

REYKJAVIK MEETING/PUBLIC RELATIONS

If a public relations firm has connections or the appearance of connections, people come knocking at the door. Unsuspecting little Iceland is about to be invaded by a superpower summit. And apparently one of the first things one does when faced with such a situation is hire a Washington public relations firm. And the firm the country has chosen is Gray & Co. Three Gray employees winged off to Iceland last week to get ready for the estimated thousand or more media people traveling there to cover this weekend's meetings between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev.

A Gray spokesman said the well-known, sometimes controversial public relations firm will be assisting the Icelandic government with the care and feeding of the journalists and with directing them to nonsummit feature stories such as Icelandic geology, thermal baths and the fact that the country has the oldest parliament in the world.

(Chuck Conconi, Washington Post, D3)

WOMEN'S LIB STARTS AT TOP IN ICELAND Reagan's Host Is World's First Elected Female President

REYKJAVIK -- When President Reagan visits Iceland, he will be welcomed by a President who is divorced, as he was, and who came to politics from show business, as he did.

President Vigdis Finnbogadotir, 56, also enjoys another distinction: she is the first woman ever democratically elected to be a chief of state.

(Robert McCartney, Washington Post, A19)

SDI PROPONENTS PUSH DEPLOYMENT WITHIN 7½ YEARS

Supporters of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative yesterday unveiled a \$30 billion proposal to deploy a broad-based defense against Soviet nuclear missiles within 7½ years.

The proposal, developed by the pro-SDI group High Frontier, envisions three layers of defense, with a mix of ground-based "swarm" guns, interceptor rockets and space-based weapons to destroy enemy nuclear missiles before they reach the United States.

(Warren Strobel, Washington Times, A3)

Group Proposes 'Star Wars' System

The technology exists to erect a "Star Wars" defensive shield for \$30 billion in just 7½ years, and some parts could be deployed in about two years, says a supporter of the program.

Retired Army Lt. Gen. Daniel Graham, director of High Frontier and chairman of the Coalition for the Strategic Defense Initiative, released a study Tuesday and said the two organizations hope to convince the Administration to adopt the proposal. (Eliot Brenner, UPI)

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION DUE TO EXCEED SALT II CEILING IN MID-NOVEMBER

The Air Force is moving up to Nov. 11 the date for exceeding the SALT II treaty limit on strategic bombers carrying air-launched cruise missiles, Administration and congressional sources say.

That might mean scuttling a key provision of the most recent major U.S.-Soviet arms control accord before President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev could hold a full-scale summit here. (Barry Schweid, AP)

REAGAN ACCLAIMS ORLOV AS 'HERO FOR OUR TIME' Rights Emphasis At Summit Is Pledged

President Reagan hailed freed Soviet human rights activist Yuri Orlov as "a hero for our time" yesterday and vowed to tell Soviet leader Gorbachev this weekend that without "real Soviet movement on human rights we will not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make lasting progress on other issues."

The President's remarks came as he welcomed Orlov and his wife, Irina, to a White House meeting with human rights advocates.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A19)

President Links Rights In Soviet To Summit Success

President Reagan met today with Yuri Orlov, the freed Soviet dissident, and said later that a substantive improvement in Soviet human rights was crucial for a summit meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev in the United States.

Mr. Reagan said there was "much room for improvement on religious persecution, long-divided families and suppression of emigration."

It was the first time that he had linked Soviet policies in the rights field to a summit meeting, and it seemed to be part of an effort to induce Mr. Gorbachev to talk about issues other than arms control at their Iceland talks this weekend. (Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

Reagan Stresses Iceland Meeting To Focus On More Than Arms

President Reagan, on the eve of his departure for Iceland, today began a campaign trip stressing that human rights would be a central issue at his meeting with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

Reagan, who was set to address rallies in North Carolina and Georgia in a bid to aid Republican candidates in next month's congressional elections, yesterday said an improvement in Moscow's human rights record was essential for a productive full-scale summit.

Speaking at a White House ceremony honoring Yuri Orlov, Reagan said, "Unless there is real Soviet movement in human rights, we will not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make progress on other issues." (Gene Gibbons, Reuter)

Human Rights Before Arms Control, Orlov Urges Reagan

Newly freed Soviet dissident Yuri Orlov yesterday said President Reagan should pursue human rights concerns before arms control when he meets with Soviet leader Gorbachev in Iceland this weekend.

Mr. Reagan assured Mr. Orlov at a White House meeting that the United States "cannot and will not" compromise on human rights.

(Mary Belcher & J.H. Doyle, Washington Times, A5)

U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY OPENS TALKS WITH CHINESE OFFICIALS

PEKING -- U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger today opened talks with Senior Chinese officials on the U.S.-Chinese military relationship, arms control and Sino-Soviet ties.

Weinberger, who began a four-day visit to China last night, was welcomed with colorful military honors today and then met Chinese Defense Minister Zhang Aiping. (Charles Aldinger, Reuter)

U.S. Defense Chief Opens Talks In Peking

PEKING -- U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger met today with his Chinese counterpart for talks expected to cover regional security issues and America's modest but growing defense links with China.

U.S. officials have said he is carrying private messages from President Reagan to top Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping and Premier Zhao Ziyang, both of whom Weinberger will meet Thursday. The content of the messages has not been divulged. (Jim Abrams, AP)

Weinberger And Chinese Counterpart Meet

PEKING -- Caspar Weinberger and his Chinese counterpart mounted a podium near a Soviet-made MiG jet fighter, and a military band played the national anthems of both men as the U.S. defense secretary began a five-day visit.

Chinese Defense Minister Zhang Aiping and Weinberger were to begin talks today expected to focus on Sino-U.S. military cooperation and an unprecedented port call planned for American warships.

(Ron Redmond, UPI)

SENATE APPARENTLY PUTS PERKINS ON FAST TRACK Many Confirmations Drag On For Months

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee is expected today to approve President Reagan's choice of Edward Perkins as U.S. ambassador to South Africa. Then, unless the unexpected intervenes, the full Senate is likely to vote before the end of the week to send Perkins to the Pretoria embassy post that is so crucial to U.S. foreign policy.

If it actually happens that way, Perkins will have been confirmed a little more than one week after Reagan formally nominated him. Among American diplomats and foreign governments that have pressing business with the United States, this feat is likely to be regarded as one of the Senate's most astounding recent achievements.

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A25)

COUNTERSPY EFFORT CALLED INADEQUATE Report Says U.S. Lost Billions To Espionage

The Senate Select Committee On Intelligence said yesterday that recently exposed spy cases have caused damage "far greater than anyone in the U.S. government has yet acknowledged publicly" involving "billions of dollars of actual and potential damage to U.S. military programs." But, the committee said, the U.S. government still has a totally inadequate counterintelligence program to combat "expanding hostile intelligence operations" against this country.

"Our committee found a security system paralyzed by bureaucratic inertia, with little ability to bridge the gaps between agencies or between different security disciplines like personnel security and computer security," Sen. Durenberger said.

(David Ottaway & Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

Spies Pose Greater Threat To U.S. Than Ever Before, Report States

"The hostile intelligence threat to the United States is severe, and it confronts the government and the American people with increasingly serious challenges," according to a Senate committee report on counter-espionage, released yesterday.

"The hostile intelligence threat to America's security is greater than ever before," Mr. Durenberger said at a Capitol Hill news conference. "The threat is large. It's well-financed. It's highly sophisticated, and I regret to say, it's too often successful."

(Bill Gertz, Washington Times, A4)

Soviets Bugged Typewriters In U.S. Embassy In Moscow

In the second such lapse since 1978, U.S. officials allowed Soviet agents to get hold of typewriters being shipped to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and to bug them electronically "for years," the Senate Intelligence Committee said Tuesday.

As a result, "for years, the Soviets were reading some of our most sensitive diplomatic correspondence, economic and political analyses, and other communications," the panel said. (Michael Sniffen, AP)

HOUSE DEMOCRATS RIP GOP ON TRADE

House Democrats accused Senate Republicans and the Reagan Administration yesterday of attempting to sabotage action on sweeping trade legislation that has languished for four months.

"The Administration and the Republican leadership appear to think they can stonewall the problem, pretending that it does not exist and the American public will not know the difference," House Majority Leader Jim Wright said in a statement released at a news conference.

(Mike Robinson, Washington Post, G4)

DANGERS IN DISINFORMATION

In the aftermath of disclosures of the Administration's disinformation program aimed at inspiring false U.S. press reports about Col. Gadhafi and Libya, much is being made about the concept of "strategic deception."

It has been cited knowingly by right-wing commentators, editorialists and assorted conservative spokesmen. Among them are some of the same people who have railed most loudly about the threat of Soviet "disinformation" being sown among willing workers of the unpatriotic, if not outright treacherous, American press.

(Haynes Johnson, Washington Post, A2)

NATIONAL NEWS

DEATH PENALTY RETAINED IN DRUG BILL House Democratic Leadership Feeling Election-Year Pressure

The House Democratic leadership, conceding the strong, election-year support for tough criminal penalties against drug dealers, decided yesterday to include in its antidrug legislation a controversial provision that would authorize use of the death penalty in some drug-related murder cases.

The House Rules Committee cleared the bill for floor action by the full House today. The measure is expected to be approved by the House, setting up the possibility of a filibuster against the death penalty provision in the Senate. (Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A4)

House To Vote On Compromise Drug Bill

The House is expected to vote today on a compromise anti-drug bill that includes the death penalty for drug-related murders but eliminates other controversial amendments.

Breaking a weeklong deadlock, the House Rules Committee cleared the way yesterday for House Majority Leader Jim Wright to offer an amended version of a bill passed earlier in the Senate. No other amendments will be allowed on the House floor. (Jennifer Spevacek, Washington Times, A4)

EDUCATION SECRETARY BENNETT WANTS TEACHERS WHO ABUSE DRUGS FIRED

Secretary Bennett said Tuesday that teachers who use drugs should be fired immediately.

In a breakfast meeting with reporters, Bennett said he has urged the nation's two largest teachers' unions to endorse such a policy toward teachers who have drug problems. But the unions -- the NEA and the American Federation of Teachers -- have refused. (Dori Meinert, Copley)

NEW CHALLENGER REPORT FAULTS HILL, WHITE HOUSE Panel Says Pressure On NASA Continues

A House committee yesterday issued a report on the Challenger accident, concluding that Congress and the White House share the blame for launch schedule pressures that led to the tragedy, and that those pressures continue today in NASA.

In its report, the House Science and Technology Committee also expressed concern that NASA lacks the technical expertise it needs and that its managers still do not understand how a fatal hardware flaw was able to pass through their elaborate testing system.

(Kathy Sawyer, Washington Post, A12)

'Unreasonable Goals' Cited In Shuttle Study

A House committee released its own report on the Challenger accident yesterday and concluded that pressure to fly shuttles twice a month helped set the stage for the disaster and that Congress and the White House must share some blame.

The House Science and Technology Committee also said it believes the pressure to push "for an unrealistic number of flights continues to exist in some sectors of NASA and jeopardizes the promotion of a 'safety first' attitude throughout the shuttle program."

(UPI story, Washington Times, A3)

House Panel Blames Launch Pressure For Shuttle Accident

A congressional report on the Challenger disaster concludes that pressure to meet an overly ambitious launch schedule helped set the stage for the fatal accident and continued pressure "in some sectors of NASA" jeopardizes future safety.

The House Science and Technology Committee also said Congress and the Administration must share the blame for contributing to the drive before the Jan. 28 accident to have shuttles flying as often as possible.

(Al Rossiter, UPI)

U.S. CONTRACTS WITH TRADER TO BOOST CRUDE OIL RESERVES

Energy Secretary John Herrington said yesterday that he has authorized purchases of 10,000 barrels a day of domestic crude oil to be added to government stockpiles.

The Energy Department's one-year, 3.7 million-barrel contract with Transworld Oil USA, a Houston oil trader, is the first to be awarded to a firm specifically to provide a long-term source of domestic oil for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, Herrington said.

(UPI story, Washington Post, G2)

HOUSE APPROVES EMERGENCY FSLIC ASSISTANCE
Backup Fund Ailing

The House yesterday approved emergency legislation to help federal regulators cope with mounting failures of banks and savings and loans.

The bill, approved on a voice vote, would make ailing banks more accessible to potential out-of-state buyers and would raise \$12 billion to \$15 billion for the beleaguered Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp., the fund that insures deposits at S&Ls.

The Senate banking committee has approved similar legislation, but it has not yet come up for a vote by the full Senate.

(Nell Henderson, Washington Post, G1)

OMB CHIEF DOWN ON THE FARM PROVISIONS

Question: Would President Reagan veto a massive spending bill to carry the federal government through fiscal 1987 just because of a couple paltry little old provisions aimed at helping wheat and cotton farmers?

Answer: No one but the President is quite certain, but James Miller, director of OMB, says he'll recommend a veto of the continuing resolution if that wastrel of a Congress doesn't mend its ways.

Which is to say that the cost and the direction of federal farm programs, elements of contention since Ronald Reagan arrived in Washington, are part of the Great Spending Stare-Down between Congress and the Administration. (Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A25)

SUPERFUND SHOWDOWN PLANNED

Senators Talk Of Staying In Session To Override Expected Veto

Congress inched closer yesterday to a confrontation with President Reagan over his threatened veto of the \$9 billion Superfund toxic waste cleanup bill, with the House leadership moving to expedite passage of the controversial compromise and force the President to risk an override.

A similar move started in the Senate, which approved the measure last week by a lopsided 88 to 8. Two senators urged colleagues not to adjourn this week as planned, so they could override a veto by Reagan, who objects to the congressional taxing formula for financing the cleanup program (Michael Weisskopf, Washington Post, A5)

EMERGENCY BAN ORDERED OF WIDELY USED PESTICIDE EPA Cites 'Very Serious Risk' To Farmers

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lee Thomas yesterday ordered an emergency ban of a popular herbicide used on dozens of field crops, fruits and vegetables because the chemical poses a "very serious risk" of birth defects and sterility among farmers and farm workers.

The action is the strongest the agency can take under pesticide law and means that products containing the chemical, called dinoseb, cannot be sold or used even if farmers already have stocks on hand. The EPA estimated that the ban will cost American farmers as much as \$90 million a year. (Cass Peterson, Washington Post, A16)

PRESIDENT REAGAN/REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS

President Reagan told the nation's Republican governors Tuesday night that the GOP has a chance to win a majority of the governorships this year for the first time since 1968.

Reagan, who has been campaigning at least once a week in a bid to help the GOP defend its 22 contested Senate seats, said, "Although the media seems to have a near-fixation on the U.S. Senate, there can be no doubt that what happens in the statehouses is of equal if not greater importance." (UPI)

TRIP NEWS

COBEY, PRICE ARGUE TAXES

RALEIGH, N.C. (UPI) -- Rep. Bill Cobey, R-N.C., and Democratic challenger David Price kept up their fall scrimmage over tax reform Tuesday, with each accusing the other of fumbling on the issue. Cobey, in a news conference at state Republican Party headquarters, said Price had opposed President Reagan's tax cuts in 1981 and supported 1984 Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale's call for higher taxes. Price had started the football analogies two weeks ago with criticism of Cobey for opposing tax reform until it became apparent the bill would pass Congress, "At the one yard line, Mr. Cobey announces his support for tax reform," Price said.

Tuesday, Price conducted a news conference on the steps of the state Education Building to announce support for new initiatives in teacher recruitment, teacher certification and training, math and science education and the fight against illiteracy. Cobey said Price's support for new programs in education and other areas would strain the budget and require new taxes. But Price said the programs are modest and Cobey is the real budget buster with his support for tuition tax credits for children who go to private schools.

Observers are unsure which way the election will go this year, though the seat would be a sweet prize for either party -- Democrats because they lost it in 1984 and Republicans because they are outnumbered 2-1 in the district.

MCMILLAN, MARTIN LOCKED INTIGHT RACES IN 9th

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (UPI) -- Rep. Alex McMillan, R-N.C., and Democrat D.G. Martin are locked in their second tight race for the 9th District, but with the Republican touting incumbency, the challenger may have the tougher battle. Only 320 votes separated McMillan and Martin in their 1984 fight to succeed Republican Gov. Jim Martin as the 9th District representative.

Political observers note the pair are again running a tight race, but this time McMillan has the advantage and D.G. Martin is having a difficult time finding an issue to ignite the electorate.

D.G. Martin has made a campaign theme of the spreading influence of special interest groups, refusing to accept money from political action committees. He also has proposed legislation to keep candidates from accepting contributions from outside their districts and to limit spending in congressional campaigns to \$400,000.

The latest polls, taken by the Charlotte Observer before a recent D.G. Martin ad campaign, showed McMillan leading, 46-41. The poll carried a margin of error of 5 percent.

McMillan, who represents a district that hasn't elected a Democrat to Congress since 1950, has backed Reagan on most issues and used his incumbency to stay in touch with constituents through newsletters and personal appearances.

TRIP NEWS (continued)

SANFORD, BROYHILL DIFFER ON FOREIGN POLICY

Sen. Jim Broyhill, R-N.C., and his opponent, Democratic former Gov. Terry Sanford, point to many of the same problem areas when discussing foreign policy, but disagree on the solutions.

The two candidates are at odds over U.S. sanctions against South Africa and United States-Soviet relations in general.

Both support aid to the Nicaraguan Contras and funding for Star Wars research, but for different reasons, according to the Winston-Salem Journal.

In dealing with the Soviet Union, Sanford said the Reagan Administration has moved too slowly to defuse tensions. Broyhill is solidly behind Reagan's dealings with the Soviets and, like Sanford, praised the administration's recent progress toward arms control negotiations. Both candidates support further research on the Strategic Defense Initiative, or Star Wars, largely as a bargaining chip in negotiations with the Soviets. But Sanford said SDI creates a false hope of a foolproof missile defense.

NUCLEAR BOMB SURVIVOR URGES PROGRESS IN SUMMIT

ATLANTA (UPI) -- A survivor of the atomic blast that leveled Nagasaki said Tuesday he hopes this weekend's summit is successful because people who lived through Japan's nuclear attacks are dying and cannot warn the world of the folly of nuclear war much longer.

Sumiteru Taniguchi, who was delivering mail on a bicycle when the atomic bomb hit, is a board member of a Japanese peace group urging U.S. and U.S.S.R. leaders to hold a summit soon in Hiroshima or Nagasaki. They are the cities America obliterated with atomic bombs in 1945, ending World War II.

Noting that Gorbachev has called for a moratorium on nuclear testing and has proposed completely eliminating nuclear weapons, Taniguchi said, "It seems the Soviet Union is more interested in this direction than the United States." He added that his group, Nihon Hidankyo, the 360,000-member Japanese organization of atomic bomb sufferers, opposes Reagan's "Star Wars" plan because "it presumes that nuclear weapons can be used."

All nuclear weapons must be destroyed, the slight, quiet man in a gray suit said, adding, "It is simply because, without elimination of nuclear weapons, we cannot save Earth."

Taniguchi spent more than three years in a hospital, recovering from the blast that tore the skin and muscle from his back. Taniguchi is a board member of Nihon Hidankyo, whose chairperson, Takishi Ito, wrote Reagan and Gorbachev asking that a summit be held in Hiroshima or Nagasaki.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Tuesday evening, Oct. 6th.)

NICARAGUA

NBC's Tom Brokaw reports Nicaragua continues to insist tonight that a cargo plane shot down in that country was on a CIA mission and that the lone American survivor is a military adviser. Secretary of State Shultz and the CIA, however, say that is not true. Three Americans were killed when the U.S.-built C-123 was shot down. American camera crews were taken to the crash site, they were shown the lone survivor who identified himself as Eugene Hasenfus, an ex-Marine who had worked for a Florida air freight company. The Reagan Administration went to great lengths today to deny that the plane and the men in it were on an official mission for the U.S. government.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "The people involved were not from our military, not from any U.S. government agency, CIA included.")

NBC's Fred Francis reports the Secretary of State is correct but NBC News has learned from Administration and Contra officials that the White House has had full knowledge of this Contra cargo plane operation for more than a year. Those sources tell NBC News that the plane downed in Nicaragua was based here in El Salvador's Il Lopango airport. That it was piloted by American mercenaries and financed by a foreign government friendly to U.S. interests. NBC News has learned from Administration and Contra officials that the rebels have been using this Salvadoran base to store supplies and air planes for more than 18 months. The man in charge of Central American foreign policy, Elliott Abrams, today said God bless the person who survived because he is fighting for freedom.

(Elliott Abrams: "What's kept the resistance alive, really, has been private citizens in this country and other countries who have contributed their time and some very, very brave people who have been willing to actually then bring this material into Nicaragua.")

What Secretary Abrams did not say is that the Americans involved in the Salvadoran cargo operation were fighting for a price. Each man received several thousand dollars per trip into Nicaragua and at least two flights were made per month from the Salvadoran base, all financed by a friendly foreign government. Administration sources say this is the first time a foreign power has spent millions covertly to carry out the President's policies.

(NBC-1)

Brokaw: And today's developments focussed fresh attention on a dramatic protest that has been underway against U.S. policy in Central America for more than a month now. As NBC's Bob Kur reports tonight, four American veterans are fasting and they are spending part of each day on the Capitol steps to make their point.

(NBC-2)

ABC's John McWethy reports the Reagan Administration denied any connection to the downed aircraft.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "The people involved were not from our military, not from any U.S. government agency, CIA included.")

Reaction from Congress was mixed. Sen. Patrick Leahy expressed concern that the CIA, while not directly responsible, could have been involved in other ways with the private group.

(Leahy: "What concerns me very much is that they are connected with any of the adjunct soldier of fortune type operations, those which are sort of sent out there with a wink and shrug as a way of going around our a stated foreign policy.")

(Rep. Robert Michel: "Well it doesn't worry me one tinker's dam and I think it is a big to do about nothing and all the media does is give them an opportunity to make their usual diatribe over the tube.")

ABC's Peter Jennings: Whatever the truth of this particular incident, there is to be sure a large gray area when it comes to fighting this kind of war in Central America, and that is the way some of the participants like it. ABC's John Martin has this report on some of the players. (ABC-1)

CBS's Phil Jones reports here is Washington there was a quick denial of any official connection.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "The people involved were not from our military, not from any U.S. government agency, CIA included.")

Sources at the State Department described it as benefactor flight, one funded by private donations. At the Capitol leaders were divided in their reaction.

(Rep. Robert Michel: "Well it doesn't worry me one tinker's dam and I think it is a big to do about nothing and all the media does is give them an opportunity to make their usual diatribe over the tube.")

(Speaker O'Neill: "I've always said I thought the President's policy is going to bring us to war there and that's why I fought against it vehemently.")

(Sen. Patrick Leahy: "What concerns me very much is that they are connected with any of the adjunct soldier of fortune type operations, those which are sort of sent out there with a wink and shrug.")

Most here believe there was no official involvement but sources told CBS News tonight it is fair to assume the Administration knew what was going on and who was involved.

CBS's Dan Rather: Ever since Congress voted to suspend military aid to the Contras in 1984, a number of shadowy private groups have kept the American connection going. CBS News correspondent Charles Osgood has been looking into that. (CBS-1)

ORLOV/SUMMIT

Brokaw: Four days before President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev talk privately at the Iceland summit, the two countries talked publicly today about what they expect. The Soviets said they expect movement in 2 or 3 areas with arms control heading the list. But the U.S. has other ideas.

NBC's Chris Wallace: The President continued his hardline approach to the summit today with still more criticism of the Soviets. He met with human rights activist Yuri Orlov, freed this weekend after 9 years in Soviet captivity. And Mr. Reagan emphasized the mistreatment of people like Orlov is just as important as arms control. (TV coverage of the President and Orlov. President Reagan: "I'll make it amply clear to Mr. Gorbachev that unless there is real Soviet movement on human rights we do not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make lasting progress on other issues.")

The President meant that in a general sense the true peace requires respect for individual freedom. But later Orlov called for direct linkage, no progress on human rights, no arms deals. Secretary of State Shultz also talked tough saying the Soviets may announce a troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in time for the summit, but then dismissing that as a publicity stunt:

(Secretary Shultz: "There is a puzzlement about it but it almost looks as though new forces are coming in as some are being withdrawn so it is kind of a puzzling situation.")

The Soviets aren't the only ones the President is trying to put on the defensive. He called in Congressional Democrats to urge them to remove amendments from a key spending bill restricting his arms control policy saying I ask you not to tie my hands before Iceland. House Majority Leader Wright has offered to put the issue off to next March, but only if the President agrees not to break the SALT II arms treaty in the meantime as he now plans to.

(Rep. Jim Wright: "There would have to be some clear understanding that the President isn't going to unilaterally violate SALT II. That would be the worst thing from the standpoint of the United States.")

Tonight there is still no deal between the President and House Democrats, aides saying Mr. Reagan refuses to go to the summit with any constraints, so look for the Administration to continue its hardline, both towards the Soviets and Congress. (NBC-3)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: The President praised Yuri Orlov for his courage and fortitude in pushing human rights in the Soviet Union, the President said under unspeakable conditions. And for the second day in a row, Mr. Reagan promised to raise the issue in Iceland with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

(TV coverage of the President and Orlov. President Reagan: "I'll make it amply clear to Mr. Gorbachev that unless there is real Soviet movement on human rights we do not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make lasting progress on other issues.")

In the White House briefing room, Secretary of State Shultz gave his most optimistic assessment to date of the possibility of making progress on one of those other issues in the field of reducing the numbers of intermediate nuclear missiles.

(Secretary Shultz: "There seems to be more opportunity for agreement than perhaps in others in an immediate sense. I hope that's true.")

Donaldson continues:

Shultz and the President pointedly tied any progress in Iceland to a surrender by Congressional Democrats on five disputed foreign policy restrictions now contained in a final government spending bill including ones banning nuclear tests, prohibiting anti-satellite weapons and requiring continued adherence to the SALT II treaty missile limits. The President wants all of them dropped, the Democrats are willing to postpone the restrictions except for SALT II. (Rep. Jim Wright: "We are willing to postpone consideration of anything that he would find unpleasant to him except of course the President would have to show good faith by maintaining the SALT II limits, for example.")

The Democrats really have no choice this week but to give in. They can't be in a position where Ronald Reagan can blame them if things go wrong this weekend in Iceland. (ABC-6)

CBS's Bill Plante: Yuri Orlov's road from Siberia led to the White House and a role in the pre-summit maneuvering as a physical symbol of human rights. After a private meeting with President Reagan, the frail Orlov was applauded by Administration officials and human rights leaders as he entered the Cabinet Room. Mr. Reagan, praising Orlov as a hero, promised to make Moscow improve its human rights record as a condition for the next full scale summit.

(TV coverage of the President and Orlov. President Reagan: "I'll make it ample clear to Mr. Gorbachev that unless there is real Soviet movement on human rights we do not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make lasting progress on other issues.")

Earlier the newly released Soviet dissident endorsed the idea of U.S.-Soviet talks in Iceland if there is that emphasis on human rights.

(Orlov through translator: "They can have meaning if the United States will hold strictly to the line of acknowledging the linkage between the issues of peace and security and the issues of human rights.")

What the Reagan Administration wants is enough political leverage to force Moscow to allow more family reunions like this, a new emigre from the Soviet Union today in New York. Orlov, meanwhile, seemed overwhelmed by the whirlwind which has swept him up.

(Orlov through translator: "I would like to repeat once again that I simply can't get accustom to the fact that I am here in freedom.")

The Reagan Administration wants more than just a date for Gorbachev to come to the U.S., it's trying to arrange the release of prominent Soviet dissidents Vladimir Slepak and David Goldfarb. The price, easing the order to expel Soviet U.N. employees the U.S. considers spies. But the U.S. badly wants to come away with more than just potential arms control agreements. (CBS-7)

Jennings: There were some other observations about the Soviet Union from Yuri Orlov today. Speaking in New York he said that the quality of life since Mikhail Gorbachev became the leader has improved, not as much as he would like, said Mr. Orlov, but you can see the change. Some people cannot of course, a reminder as the summit approaches, they are the people who have been swept into the shadows simply for advocating change. Here is ABC's Richard Threlkeld. (ABC-7)

DRUG BILL

Jennings: There has been something of an agreement today between the Senate and the House on the final form of an anti-drug bill. The House and Senate negotiators have agreed on the death penalty for drug related murders. They also agree the military should not be used to try to stop smugglers at the nation's borders. And they also agree that illegally seized evidence may not be used in trials.

(ABC-2, CBS-2)

CARIBBEAN DRUG OPERATION

Rather: CBS News correspondent Rita Braver has been told that the U.S. has launched a major drug busting operation in the Caribbean and off the coast of Colombia. Object: to try to stop marijuana and cocaine trafficking at harvest time. The U.S. Coast Guard and Navy are reportedly involved in the operation, one major hole reported, Mexico is not cooperating.

(CBS-4)

SOVIET SPYING

Brokaw: The Senate Intelligence Committee charged today that the Reagan Administration has understated both the cost and the impact of Soviet spying against the U.S. The committee made its case in a report that took 16 months to prepare. It contained 95 recommendations, among them, reduce the number of Soviet diplomats in this country.

(NBC-4)

REGAN/DISINFORMATION

Brokaw: White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan commented today on the Administration's reported disinformation campaign against Libya's Moammar Gadhafi. Regan told me on NBC's "Today Show" this morning that the Administration "never tried to lie to the American press," but then he added when you have an opponent as wily and as dastardly as Gadhafi almost anything goes.

(NBC-5)

NATIONAL FLOWER

Rather: President Reagan made it official today, the rose is now the national flower of the U.S.A.

(CBS-12)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

REYKJAVIK MEETING

Prelude To Summit -- "The mere fact that the pre-summit meeting is being held suggests that progress is being made at the nuclear arms reduction negotiations in Geneva, Switzerland. It is quite possible that some statement about that progress will be issued in Iceland.... Gorbachev needs a nuclear arms agreement so the Soviet Union can devote a smaller percentage of its gross national product to defense and concentrate on improving the faltering Soviet economy. Reagan needs an agreement in order to re-establish the credibility of his Administration on nuclear arms control and perhaps for the history books. Because both men need a nuclear arms control agreement, there are, indeed, reasons to expect something worthwhile to happen in Iceland."

(Fort Worth Star Telegram, 10/2)

Non-Summit Summit -- "Careful, detailed planning should precede a summit so as to maximize understanding and enhance agreements while reducing confusion and minimizing miscalculation, by participants as well as observers. Messrs. Gorbachev and Reagan are short-circuiting that time-honored precept. Perhaps with good reason and with chances for even better success when the summit is held. In this instance, the impulse seems to be on behalf of improving relations, unprecedented and, therefore, risky though it may be." (Salt Lake Tribune, 10/1)

What To Do In Reykjavik -- "It now becomes evident why the Soviets stole Nicholas Daniloff for a few weeks. They didn't really care that we had nabbed one of their spies. For the Kremlin, spies are a dime a dozen. No, Moscow was after bigger fish. It wanted Ronald Reagan -- at a summit, that is, and the sooner the better. Moscow is desperate to nip Mr. Reagan's Star Wars program in the bud, and it knows that Mr. Reagan is desperate to appear 'reasonable' in the period leading up to the November election.... This sort of short-order summiteering is made to order for disaster. The leaders of two superpowers have no business getting together unless it's to dot the i's and cross the t's on agreements carefully worked out by subordinates." (Detroit News, 10/1)

Summit -- "For the U.S. to allow the two cases to be linked sets a dangerous precedent.... For years to come, this tit-for-tat swap is sure to haunt American presidents as well as Western journalists covering the Soviet Union.... The U.S. has paid a high price for a summit meeting with the Soviet Union this year. Nothing less than substantive arms control concessions by the Soviets can justify that cost."

(Charleston Daily Mail, 10/1)

Ronald Reagan's Killer Rabbit -- "Every President gets attacked by killer rabbits. What remained of Jimmy Carter's presidential legacy foundered, incredibly, on news stories in August 1979 of a rabbit that tried to jump into his rowboat.... Mr. Reagan has worked hard to build the most successful presidential legacy since FDR. Sustaining this achievement allows for little falloff in either the President's skill or judgment. We hear reports of a large, unfriendly rabbit in Reykjavik."

(Wall Street Journal, 10/6)

HOSTAGES

Beirut Hostages Not Ignored -- "That is unfair and unwarranted. The hostage situations in Moscow and Beirut are incomparable, and the U.S. government has no choice but to respond to them differently, just as it is. Mr. Daniloff's captor was the Soviet government. Direct diplomatic relations therefore could be brought to bear, employing reason, pressure and nuance. By contrast, the Beirut abductors are a group of pro-Iranian fanatics calling themselves the Islamic Jihad (Holy War). They claimed responsibility for the Oct. 23, 1983, suicide truck-bombing in Beirut that killed 241 U.S. servicemen.... The hostages and their families are under great emotional strain, but they do themselves and their country no service by cultivating a loss of faith in their government as it struggles on their behalf." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 10/7)

Forgotten Hostages Of Lebanon -- "President Reagan expresses delight that the U.S. government got the Soviets to release Daniloff and let him return to the West this week. He is silent about Anderson, who remains a captive of radical Muslims in Lebanon. So, for that matter, are the media -- the same media that rushed to the defense of another colleague, Daniloff. We don't think the President has any less regard for Anderson than Daniloff. It's just that U.S. foreign policy suffers from a blind spot. We can deal with the Soviet Union, but not with the terror and anarchy of Lebanon." (San Diego Tribune, 10/1)

JUDGES

'No' On Rose Bird -- "California Chief Justice Rose Elizabeth Bird now comes before the voters to ask that they continue her in office. She argues that she has demonstrated by judicial temperament, impartiality and maturity her qualifications to retain the top judicial post in the state. We cannot agree. We believe her record is one of mismanagement, arrogance, judicial adventurism, and sociopolitical bias. We believe the people of California should reject her confirmation.... In our view, it is necessary to replace the chief justice in order to restore the California Supreme Court to its former level of esteem." (San Francisco Chronicle, 10/5)

Making History -- "Despite the elevation of William H. Rehnquist and the addition of Antonin Scalia, the basic conservative-centrist-liberal makeup of the court has not changed. Unless Rehnquist and Scalia prove especially persuasive in drawing moderate justices to their peculiar views, the court is likely to continue moving back and forth between broadening rights and constricting them, between favoring individuals and favoring authorities.... At the opposite end of the political spectrum from Rehnquist and Scalia is the court's senior member, Justice William J. Brennan Jr., who at 80 years old has emerged as the Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. or the Louis D. Brandeis of our time. He and Justice Thurgood Marshall, who is 78, are the consistent and unfailing champions of the highest American ideals of justice." (Los Angeles Times, 10/6)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

REYKJAVIK MEETING

"Although there can be no comparison in the consequences, the Soviet Navy went through a maritime Chernobyl last Friday. This time, the lesson had been learned and information circulated rapidly. It was impossible not to do that one week before the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting."

(Les Echos, France)

"In terms of credibility, Gorbachev handled the submarine case pretty well.... Still, the Secretary will set out to Reykjavik on somewhat wobbly legs."

(Haaretz, Israel)

"The greatest mystery about the Reykjavik summit is why it is taking place at all. None of the explanations offered by the Americans for accepting the Soviet proposal come close to justifying holding such an important meeting at such short notice in such an inconvenient place."

(Observer, Britain)

"The announcement of the summit in Iceland is one of those classical 'coups de theatre' known in U.S. politics as the 'October surprise' normally occurring on the eve of the November elections."

(Il Tempo, Italy)

"Progress is possible...in Reykjavik.... Real prerequisites exist for the 'interim' meeting to be the final stage before important decisions are made during the Soviet leader's official visit to the United States."

(Izvestia, Soviet Union)

"Reykjavik will not be a copy of Geneva.... Objectively, it will not replace the summit scheduled for Washington.... Nor are the leaders of the two superpowers sufficiently ready to reach an agreement."

(Diario de Noticias, Portugal)

"From this unexpected meeting (in Reykjavik) one can draw at least two conclusions. First, that both sides are obviously quite interested in...reaching an agreement.... Second, that in some key areas U.S.-Soviet relations have lately shown a significant improvement."

(Nin, Yugoslavia)

DISINFORMATION

"The President has denied that the report (on the Libyan disinformation campaign) was accurate, but has virtually said he does not disagree with the technique. The press, meanwhile, is enraged at having caught the Administration red-handed."

(Observer, Britain)

"Rather than being at war with Libya -- as it appeared to desire so eagerly -- the White House finds itself at war with the whole U.S. journalistic corps which knows very well that it was manipulated but does not love to see it written down in the memoranda of the National Security Council."

(Repubblica, Italy)

"The U.S. Government's leak of false information did not hurt the U.S. media alone, since the U.S. Administration reportedly sought to leak false information to foreign media too."

(Chosun Ilbo, South Korea)



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1986 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Nicaragua Presents Captured American To Press -- Nicaraguan authorities have presented a captured American they say survived the downing of a plane carrying arms to U.S.-backed rebels.

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

'Don't Tie My Hands,' Reagan Implores Congressional Leaders -- President Reagan yesterday urged House Democrats to drop proposed arms control measures he said would "tie my hands" in his meeting this weekend with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

(Washington Post, Washington Times, AP, Copley, McClatchy, Reuter, UPI)

NATIONAL NEWS

'Unreasonable Goals' Cited In Shuttle Study -- A House committee released its own report on the Challenger accident yesterday and concluded that pressure to fly shuttles twice a month helped set the stage for the disaster and that Congress and the White House must share some blame.

(Washington Post, Washington Times, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Tuesday Evening)

NICARAGUA -- Nicaragua insists tonight that the downed cargo plane was on a CIA mission and the lone survivor is an American military adviser.

ORLOV -- The President praised Orlov for his courage and fortitude in pushing human rights in the Soviet Union.

DRUG BILL -- House and Senate negotiators agreed on the death penalty for drug related murders.

THIRTEEN DAYS IN A KGB PRISON

I learned firsthand what every Soviet citizen knows -- that an individual is helpless in the grip of the KGB. And I experienced what every American should know and too seldom appreciates -- that in our system the rights of the individual do matter. Because of that, because the American government and the American people rallied to me and stood firm for me, I am a free man again today.

(Nicholas Daniloff,
U.S. News & World Report, 10/13)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

DOWNED U.S. CREWMAN PRESENTED BY MANAGUA

MANAGUA -- An American captured by Nicaragua troops appeared briefly at a press conference here late today, and the Sandinista military displayed credentials identifying him and another American, a pilot who died in a downed plane Sunday, as U.S. military advisers in El Salvador.

A second American, the copilot, also was killed, according to Nicaraguan officials.

The Nicaraguan government charged that the flight was operated by the CIA to resupply U.S.-backed rebels inside Nicaragua.

(Julia Preston, Washington Post, A1)

Nicaragua Presents Captured American To Press

MANAGUA -- Nicaraguan authorities have presented a captured American they say survived the downing of a plane carrying arms to U.S.-backed rebels.

Eugene Hasenfus appeared at a news conference yesterday in the Nicaraguan capital where he read a prepared statement giving his name and adding that he was captured yesterday in southern Nicaragua.

(Matthew Campbell, Reuter)

Private Venture Operated Plane Downed By Nicaragua, Aides Say

An American-built cargo plane that was shot down over southern Nicaragua on Sunday was operated by a private group led by a retired United States Army major general, Reagan Administration officials said today.

The officials said the plane was operated by an organization headed by the retired general, John Singlaub, and had taken off from El Salvador. It had flown down the Pacific coast of Nicaragua and turned inland to deliver ammunition and supplies to insurgents seeking to open a southern front against the Sandinista Government in Managua.

(Richard Halloran, New York Times, A1)

Contra Benefactors Flew Downed Plane

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras -- The airplane that crashed in Nicaragua Sunday with an American survivor was a privately owned "benefactor" flight carrying supplies for anti-Marxist freedom fighters, informed sources said yesterday.

The sources also disputed claims by the Sandinista government that its soldiers shot down the plane because, they said, "there was some radio contact" between the rebels and the four-man air crew "shortly before it went down."

Top rebel officials believe three members of the crew were killed by Sandinista soldiers after the plane crash landed, the sources said.

(Glen Garvin, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan Administration Denies U.S. Link To Plane

Top Reagan Administration officials yesterday flatly denied any U.S. government connection with a transport plane that the Sandinista government said it shot down in Nicaragua with three Americans and a man of Latin origin aboard.

At the same time, U.S. officials indicated that they knew more about the situation than they were willing to disclose, including the names of those killed in the crash. Secretary of State Shultz said the aircraft was "hired by private people" who "had no connection with the U.S. government at all." He said they were "not from our military, not from any U.S. government agency, CIA included.... These are private citizens."

A spokesman for the CIA denied the agency was involved in the mission, as the Nicaraguan government asserted, but refused to deny that it knew anything about it. (Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A1)

U.S. Denies Role In Nicaragua Crash, But Questions Persist

Reagan Administration officials are insisting that an American-manned cargo plane shot down over leftist-ruled Nicaragua had no connection to the U.S. government, despite claims that the surviving crewman had ties to the CIA.

Secretary Shultz, the White House and the Central Intelligence Agency rejected charges from Nicaragua's Sandinista government that three Americans onboard -- two of whom died -- were on a CIA mission.

(Robert Parry, AP)

Captured American Will Probably Face Trial In Nicaragua

The American who survived the crash of a cargo plane loaded with military supplies in Nicaragua will probably have to face trial, a Nicaraguan official said today.

Alejandro Béndana, secretary general to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, said Eugene Hasenfus "will probably go before a trial. He will of course be given access to U.S. embassy authorities, and he's going to have to respond to the domestic and international legislation he violated."

(Reuter)

Man Described As Patriotic, Adventuresome

MARINETTE, Wis. -- An American man who was aboard a plane shot down over Nicaragua is an adventurer who "goes looking for trouble," his brother says.

William Hasenfus Sr. said Tuesday his son came out of the Marine Corps more patriotic than when he entered.

"He was a different boy when he came out of the Marines -- he wanted to do more for what he fought for," the elder Hasenfus said. "He was more patriotic, I guess you would say." (Robert O'Meara, AP)

CONTRAS WANT SOUTHERN FRONT AGAINST NICARAGUA

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica -- The downing of a plane laden with supplies apparently destined for anti-Sandinista rebels has sparked new speculation about a southern front in the U.S.-supported war against Nicaragua's leftist government.

The origin and destination of the C-123 were not known, but the fact that it was shot down in a remote, jungled and relatively tranquil area of southern Nicaragua fueled fresh speculation about Contra plans and activities.

(Reid Miller, AP)

CONTRA AID OPPONENTS RENEW FIGHT IN CONGRESS

Congressional opponents of President Reagan's \$100 million aid package for the Nicaraguan resistance yesterday renewed efforts to derail the measure but admitted it probably will be signed into law soon.

At a morning news conference, four veterans of the military now fasting on the steps of the Capitol were accompanied by more than a dozen liberal lawmakers who pledged to continue their efforts to reverse the President's Central American policy.

(Christopher Simpson, Washington Times, A6)

DROP ARMS LIMITS, REAGAN ASKS HILL Controversy May Be 'Punted' Into Next Year

President Reagan yesterday put new pressure on Congress to drop proposed constraints on his nuclear weapons program as Democrats scrambled to salvage their arms control proposals without appearing to undercut the President as his meeting with Soviet leader Gorbachev nears.

Although the high-level jockeying appeared inconclusive on the surface, congressional sources reported some signs of progress in working out a substantive agreement on arms control as well as a fallback procedure for "punting" on the issue until next year. Others said a combination of the two was likely: agreement on some issues, deferral of others.

(Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A4)

'Don't Tie My Hands,' Reagan Implores Congressional Leaders

President Reagan yesterday urged House Democrats to drop proposed arms control measures he said would "tie my hands" in his meeting this weekend with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

House and Senate leaders expect a compromise, but appeared leaning away from a proposal to postpone confrontation until early next year.

"I ask you not to tie my hands," the President told the bipartisan group, according to Larry Speakes. "Don't undermine my negotiating position."

(Damon Thompson & Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A5)

Reagan Links Arms Pact, Rights Progress

With newly freed Soviet dissident Yuri Orlov at his side, President Reagan pledged Tuesday that he will not make an arms deal with Kremlin leader Gorbachev in Iceland without guarantees of significant Soviet progress on human rights.

The President said a successful follow-up summit in the United States also hinges on "real improvement" in the Soviet Union's treatment of political dissidents and religious minorities. (Leo Rennert, McClatchy)

Arms Control Issues On Deadline

Simultaneous efforts are under way to resolve some thorny congressional issues on arms control, with the alternatives being to put them off until spring or finish them now in the shadow of the Iceland summit.

"The decision has not been made to punt," said Rep. Les Aspin. "We're looking more to settle it now than to postpone it. The punt option creates problems." (Eliot Brenner, UPI)

Success Of Iceland Summit Not To Be Determined Until Later Negotiations

Top Administration officials Tuesday said it will be impossible to determine if this weekend's meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev is a success until they see how the Soviets respond in arms control talks.

Continuing their campaign to lower expectations for the Iceland summit, both Secretary Shultz and Donald Regan downplayed the prospects for substantive progress to be achieved at Iceland in any area of the U.S.-Soviet relationship. (George Condon, Copley)

Conservatives Uneasy About Iceland Summit

President Reagan's warning against "false hopes" as he prepares for his second meeting with Soviet leader Gorbachev might also include a caution to conservatives against false alarms about the Iceland summit.

To conservatives who attained power on Reagan's coattails, summity carries the potential that the President's sense of history will override ideology and prompt him to trim his plans for a missile defense system in exchange for promise of an arms control agreement with the Soviets.

(Donald Rothberg, AP)

Hopes High For Reykjavik But Worries Equally Great

MOSCOW -- The hopes of the world are fixed on the superpower mini-summit in Iceland but public worries are equally great because of lack of progress towards arms control, Pravda said today.

Editor in chief Viktor Afanasyev said this weekend's meeting between Kremlin leader Gorbachev and President Reagan in Reykjavik should help to further the understanding they reached in Geneva last year to cut nuclear arms and prevent military expansion in outer space. (Reuter)

SHULTZ SEES CHANCE FOR INTERIM ACCORD

Secretary Shultz said yesterday the upcoming superpower summit in Iceland could lead to an interim U.S.-Soviet agreement limiting intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

"We seem to be heading toward an interim agreement on intermediate nuclear forces," Mr. Shultz said at the White House as President Reagan prepared to leave tomorrow for Reykjavik, Iceland, for meetings with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

"At least in general principle there is agreement that we should aspire to have none of these weapons, but it appears that there will need to be an intermediate step on the way to zero," Mr. Shultz said.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A5)

Shultz Sees No Arms Agreement At Reykjavik Summit

Despite the narrowing of U.S.-Soviet differences on how to control medium range missiles, Secretary Shultz envisions no final agreement on the issue at the Iceland Summit.

"The particular differences have been winnowed out and are pretty well understood," Shultz said Tuesday. But he added: "It's also true that as in most negotiations the issues that come at the end tend to be among the most difficult."

(Henry Gottlieb, AP)

SHULTZ SAYS SOVIET WILL 'PUBLICIZE' TAKING TROOPS OUT OF AFGHANISTAN

Secretary Shultz said today that there were signs that the Soviet Union was planning a "publicized" withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan to coincide with the meeting in Iceland this weekend.

Mr. Shultz seemed concerned that this highly visible withdrawal might allow the Soviet Union to avoid American pressure during the two-day meeting between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev for an agreement for the total withdrawal of the Soviet troops.

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

REPRIEVE FOR 25 SOVIETS CASTS CLOUD OVER SUMMIT

President Reagan's decision to delay the expulsion of 25 Soviet diplomats accused of spying at the United Nations eased some superpower tension but leaves a cloud hanging over the Reykjavik summit.

Secretary Shultz said yesterday that all 25, identified by the Reagan Administration as working for the Soviet KGB or GRU intelligence agencies, would have to be out by Oct. 14 -- two days after the end of the meeting in Iceland.

(Richard Beeston, Washington Times, A5)

KOHL IS UPBEAT ON REAGAN-GORBACHEV TALKS

MAINZ, W. Germany -- Chancellor Helmut Kohl said yesterday he saw new chances for East West detente and arms control emerging from the forthcoming U.S.-Soviet talks, and from the reformist policies of Kremlin chief Gorbachev.

Delivering the keynote address to a congress of his Christian Democratic party here, Mr. Kohl said he was confident that the preparatory summit meeting at Reykjavik, Iceland, this weekend would reinforce the beginning of a new period of detente.

(Washington Times, A6)

PRESS CONFERENCE ON SOVIET ABUSES ALLOWED BY ICELAND

Jewish leaders received permission yesterday to hold a press conference in Reykjavik, Iceland, to protest Soviet human rights abuses on the eve of the summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev.

Prime Minister Steingrimur Hermansson had urged demonstrators to stay away during the summit meetings on Saturday and Sunday, but later agreed to allow the National Conference on Soviet Jewry to hold a press conference Friday.

(Ed Rogers, Washington Times, A1)

REYKJAVIK MEETING/PUBLIC RELATIONS

If a public relations firm has connections or the appearance of connections, people come knocking at the door. Unsuspecting little Iceland is about to be invaded by a superpower summit. And apparently one of the first things one does when faced with such a situation is hire a Washington public relations firm. And the firm the country has chosen is Gray & Co. Three Gray employees winged off to Iceland last week to get ready for the estimated thousand or more media people traveling there to cover this weekend's meetings between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev.

A Gray spokesman said the well-known, sometimes controversial public relations firm will be assisting the Icelandic government with the care and feeding of the journalists and with directing them to nonsummit feature stories such as Icelandic geology, thermal baths and the fact that the country has the oldest parliament in the world.

(Chuck Conconi, Washington Post, D3)

WOMEN'S LIB STARTS AT TOP IN ICELAND Reagan's Host Is World's First Elected Female President

REYKJAVIK -- When President Reagan visits Iceland, he will be welcomed by a President who is divorced, as he was, and who came to politics from show business, as he did.

President Vigdis Finnbogadotir, 56, also enjoys another distinction: she is the first woman ever democratically elected to be a chief of state.

(Robert McCartney, Washington Post, A19)

SDI PROPONENTS PUSH DEPLOYMENT WITHIN 7½ YEARS

Supporters of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative yesterday unveiled a \$30 billion proposal to deploy a broad-based defense against Soviet nuclear missiles within 7½ years.

The proposal, developed by the pro-SDI group High Frontier, envisions three layers of defense, with a mix of ground-based "swarm" guns, interceptor rockets and space-based weapons to destroy enemy nuclear missiles before they reach the United States.

(Warren Strobel, Washington Times, A3)

Group Proposes 'Star Wars' System

The technology exists to erect a "Star Wars" defensive shield for \$30 billion in just 7½ years, and some parts could be deployed in about two years, says a supporter of the program.

Retired Army Lt. Gen. Daniel Graham, director of High Frontier and chairman of the Coalition for the Strategic Defense Initiative, released a study Tuesday and said the two organizations hope to convince the Administration to adopt the proposal.

(Eliot Brenner, UPI)

REAGAN ADMINISTRATION DUE TO EXCEED SALT II CEILING IN MID-NOVEMBER

The Air Force is moving up to Nov. 11 the date for exceeding the SALT II treaty limit on strategic bombers carrying air-launched cruise missiles, Administration and congressional sources say.

That might mean scuttling a key provision of the most recent major U.S.-Soviet arms control accord before President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev could hold a full-scale summit here.

(Barry Schweid, AP)

REAGAN ACCLAIMS ORLOV AS 'HERO FOR OUR TIME' Rights Emphasis At Summit Is Pledged

President Reagan hailed freed Soviet human rights activist Yuri Orlov as "a hero for our time" yesterday and vowed to tell Soviet leader Gorbachev this weekend that without "real Soviet movement on human rights we will not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make lasting progress on other issues."

The President's remarks came as he welcomed Orlov and his wife, Irina, to a White House meeting with human rights advocates.

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A19)

President Links Rights In Soviet To Summit Success

President Reagan met today with Yuri Orlov, the freed Soviet dissident, and said later that a substantive improvement in Soviet human rights was crucial for a summit meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev in the United States.

Mr. Reagan said there was "much room for improvement on religious persecution, long-divided families and suppression of emigration."

It was the first time that he had linked Soviet policies in the rights field to a summit meeting, and it seemed to be part of an effort to induce Mr. Gorbachev to talk about issues other than arms control at their Iceland talks this weekend. (Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

Reagan Stresses Iceland Meeting To Focus On More Than Arms

President Reagan, on the eve of his departure for Iceland, today began a campaign trip stressing that human rights would be a central issue at his meeting with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

Reagan, who was set to address rallies in North Carolina and Georgia in a bid to aid Republican candidates in next month's congressional elections, yesterday said an improvement in Moscow's human rights record was essential for a productive full-scale summit.

Speaking at a White House ceremony honoring Yuri Orlov, Reagan said, "Unless there is real Soviet movement in human rights, we will not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make progress on other issues." (Gene Gibbons, Reuter)

Human Rights Before Arms Control, Orlov Urges Reagan

Newly freed Soviet dissident Yuri Orlov yesterday said President Reagan should pursue human rights concerns before arms control when he meets with Soviet leader Gorbachev in Iceland this weekend.

Mr. Reagan assured Mr. Orlov at a White House meeting that the United States "cannot and will not" compromise on human rights.

(Mary Belcher & J.H. Doyle, Washington Times, A5)

U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY OPENS TALKS WITH CHINESE OFFICIALS

PEKING -- U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger today opened talks with Senior Chinese officials on the U.S.-Chinese military relationship, arms control and Sino-Soviet ties.

Weinberger, who began a four-day visit to China last night, was welcomed with colorful military honors today and then met Chinese Defense Minister Zhang Aiping. (Charles Aldinger, Reuter)

U.S. Defense Chief Opens Talks In Peking

PEKING -- U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger met today with his Chinese counterpart for talks expected to cover regional security issues and America's modest but growing defense links with China.

U.S. officials have said he is carrying private messages from President Reagan to top Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping and Premier Zhao Ziyang, both of whom Weinberger will meet Thursday. The content of the messages has not been divulged. (Jim Abrams, AP)

Weinberger And Chinese Counterpart Meet

PEKING -- Caspar Weinberger and his Chinese counterpart mounted a podium near a Soviet-made MiG jet fighter, and a military band played the national anthems of both men as the U.S. defense secretary began a five-day visit.

Chinese Defense Minister Zhang Aiping and Weinberger were to begin talks today expected to focus on Sino-U.S. military cooperation and an unprecedented port call planned for American warships.

(Ron Redmond, UPI)

SENATE APPARENTLY PUTS PERKINS ON FAST TRACK Many Confirmations Drag On For Months

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee is expected today to approve President Reagan's choice of Edward Perkins as U.S. ambassador to South Africa. Then, unless the unexpected intervenes, the full Senate is likely to vote before the end of the week to send Perkins to the Pretoria embassy post that is so crucial to U.S. foreign policy.

If it actually happens that way, Perkins will have been confirmed a little more than one week after Reagan formally nominated him. Among American diplomats and foreign governments that have pressing business with the United States, this feat is likely to be regarded as one of the Senate's most astounding recent achievements.

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A25)

COUNTERSPY EFFORT CALLED INADEQUATE Report Says U.S. Lost Billions To Espionage

The Senate Select Committee On Intelligence said yesterday that recently exposed spy cases have caused damage "far greater than anyone in the U.S. government has yet acknowledged publicly" involving "billions of dollars of actual and potential damage to U.S. military programs." But, the committee said, the U.S. government still has a totally inadequate counterintelligence program to combat "expanding hostile intelligence operations" against this country.

"Our committee found a security system paralyzed by bureaucratic inertia, with little ability to bridge the gaps between agencies or between different security disciplines like personnel security and computer security," Sen. Durenberger said.

(David Ottaway & Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

Spies Pose Greater Threat To U.S. Than Ever Before, Report States

"The hostile intelligence threat to the United States is severe, and it confronts the government and the American people with increasingly serious challenges," according to a Senate committee report on counter-espionage, released yesterday.

"The hostile intelligence threat to America's security is greater than ever before," Mr. Durenberger said at a Capitol Hill news conference. "The threat is large. It's well-financed. It's highly sophisticated, and I regret to say, it's too often successful."

(Bill Gertz, Washington Times, A4)

Soviets Bugged Typewriters In U.S. Embassy In Moscow

In the second such lapse since 1978, U.S. officials allowed Soviet agents to get hold of typewriters being shipped to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and to bug them electronically "for years," the Senate Intelligence Committee said Tuesday.

As a result, "for years, the Soviets were reading some of our most sensitive diplomatic correspondence, economic and political analyses, and other communications," the panel said. (Michael Sniffen, AP)

HOUSE DEMOCRATS RIP GOP ON TRADE

House Democrats accused Senate Republicans and the Reagan Administration yesterday of attempting to sabotage action on sweeping trade legislation that has languished for four months.

"The Administration and the Republican leadership appear to think they can stonewall the problem, pretending that it does not exist and the American public will not know the difference," House Majority Leader Jim Wright said in a statement released at a news conference.

(Mike Robinson, Washington Post, G4)

DANGERS IN DISINFORMATION

In the aftermath of disclosures of the Administration's disinformation program aimed at inspiring false U.S. press reports about Col. Gadhafi and Libya, much is being made about the concept of "strategic deception."

It has been cited knowingly by right-wing commentators, editorialists and assorted conservative spokesmen. Among them are some of the same people who have railed most loudly about the threat of Soviet "disinformation" being sown among willing workers of the unpatriotic, if not outright treacherous, American press.

(Haynes Johnson, Washington Post, A2)

NATIONAL NEWS

DEATH PENALTY RETAINED IN DRUG BILL

House Democratic Leadership Feeling Election-Year Pressure

The House Democratic leadership, conceding the strong, election-year support for tough criminal penalties against drug dealers, decided yesterday to include in its antidrug legislation a controversial provision that would authorize use of the death penalty in some drug-related murder cases.

The House Rules Committee cleared the bill for floor action by the full House today. The measure is expected to be approved by the House, setting up the possibility of a filibuster against the death penalty provision in the Senate. (Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A4)

House To Vote On Compromise Drug Bill

The House is expected to vote today on a compromise anti-drug bill that includes the death penalty for drug-related murders but eliminates other controversial amendments.

Breaking a weeklong deadlock, the House Rules Committee cleared the way yesterday for House Majority Leader Jim Wright to offer an amended version of a bill passed earlier in the Senate. No other amendments will be allowed on the House floor. (Jennifer Spevacek, Washington Times, A4)

EDUCATION SECRETARY BENNETT WANTS TEACHERS WHO ABUSE DRUGS FIRED

Secretary Bennett said Tuesday that teachers who use drugs should be fired immediately.

In a breakfast meeting with reporters, Bennett said he has urged the nation's two largest teachers' unions to endorse such a policy toward teachers who have drug problems. But the unions -- the NEA and the American Federation of Teachers -- have refused. (Dori Meinert, Copley)

NEW CHALLENGER REPORT FAULTS HILL, WHITE HOUSE Panel Says Pressure On NASA Continues

A House committee yesterday issued a report on the Challenger accident, concluding that Congress and the White House share the blame for launch schedule pressures that led to the tragedy, and that those pressures continue today in NASA.

In its report, the House Science and Technology Committee also expressed concern that NASA lacks the technical expertise it needs and that its managers still do not understand how a fatal hardware flaw was able to pass through their elaborate testing system.

(Kathy Sawyer, Washington Post, A12)

'Unreasonable Goals' Cited In Shuttle Study

A House committee released its own report on the Challenger accident yesterday and concluded that pressure to fly shuttles twice a month helped set the stage for the disaster and that Congress and the White House must share some blame.

The House Science and Technology Committee also said it believes the pressure to push "for an unrealistic number of flights continues to exist in some sectors of NASA and jeopardizes the promotion of a 'safety first' attitude throughout the shuttle program."

(UPI story, Washington Times, A3)

House Panel Blames Launch Pressure For Shuttle Accident

A congressional report on the Challenger disaster concludes that pressure to meet an overly ambitious launch schedule helped set the stage for the fatal accident and continued pressure "in some sectors of NASA" jeopardizes future safety.

The House Science and Technology Committee also said Congress and the Administration must share the blame for contributing to the drive before the Jan. 28 accident to have shuttles flying as often as possible.

(Al Rossiter, UPI)

U.S. CONTRACTS WITH TRADER TO BOOST CRUDE OIL RESERVES

Energy Secretary John Herrington said yesterday that he has authorized purchases of 10,000 barrels a day of domestic crude oil to be added to government stockpiles.

The Energy Department's one-year, 3.7 million-barrel contract with Transworld Oil USA, a Houston oil trader, is the first to be awarded to a firm specifically to provide a long-term source of domestic oil for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, Herrington said.

(UPI story, Washington Post, G2)

HOUSE APPROVES EMERGENCY FSLIC ASSISTANCE
Backup Fund Ailing

The House yesterday approved emergency legislation to help federal regulators cope with mounting failures of banks and savings and loans.

The bill, approved on a voice vote, would make ailing banks more accessible to potential out-of-state buyers and would raise \$12 billion to \$15 billion for the beleaguered Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp., the fund that insures deposits at S&Ls.

The Senate banking committee has approved similar legislation, but it has not yet come up for a vote by the full Senate.

(Nell Henderson, Washington Post, G1)

OMB CHIEF DOWN ON THE FARM PROVISIONS

Question: Would President Reagan veto a massive spending bill to carry the federal government through fiscal 1987 just because of a couple paltry little old provisions aimed at helping wheat and cotton farmers?

Answer: No one but the President is quite certain, but James Miller, director of OMB, says he'll recommend a veto of the continuing resolution if that wastrel of a Congress doesn't mend its ways.

Which is to say that the cost and the direction of federal farm programs, elements of contention since Ronald Reagan arrived in Washington, are part of the Great Spending Stare-Down between Congress and the Administration. (Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A25)

SUPERFUND SHOWDOWN PLANNED

Senators Talk Of Staying In Session To Override Expected Veto

Congress inched closer yesterday to a confrontation with President Reagan over his threatened veto of the \$9 billion Superfund toxic waste cleanup bill, with the House leadership moving to expedite passage of the controversial compromise and force the President to risk an override.

A similar move started in the Senate, which approved the measure last week by a lopsided 88 to 8. Two senators urged colleagues not to adjourn this week as planned, so they could override a veto by Reagan, who objects to the congressional taxing formula for financing the cleanup program (Michael Weisskopf, Washington Post, A5)

EMERGENCY BAN ORDERED OF WIDELY USED PESTICIDE EPA Cites 'Very Serious Risk' To Farmers

Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lee Thomas yesterday ordered an emergency ban of a popular herbicide used on dozens of field crops, fruits and vegetables because the chemical poses a "very serious risk" of birth defects and sterility among farmers and farm workers.

The action is the strongest the agency can take under pesticide law and means that products containing the chemical, called dinoseb, cannot be sold or used even if farmers already have stocks on hand. The EPA estimated that the ban will cost American farmers as much as \$90 million a year. (Cass Peterson, Washington Post, A16)

PRESIDENT REAGAN/REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS

President Reagan told the nation's Republican governors Tuesday night that the GOP has a chance to win a majority of the governorships this year for the first time since 1968.

Reagan, who has been campaigning at least once a week in a bid to help the GOP defend its 22 contested Senate seats, said, "Although the media seems to have a near-fixation on the U.S. Senate, there can be no doubt that what happens in the statehouses is of equal if not greater importance." (UPI)

TRIP NEWS

COBEY, PRICE ARGUE TAXES

RALEIGH, N.C. (UPI) -- Rep. Bill Cobey, R-N.C., and Democratic challenger David Price kept up their fall scrimmage over tax reform Tuesday, with each accusing the other of fumbling on the issue. Cobey, in a news conference at state Republican Party headquarters, said Price had opposed President Reagan's tax cuts in 1981 and supported 1984 Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale's call for higher taxes. Price had started the football analogies two weeks ago with criticism of Cobey for opposing tax reform until it became apparent the bill would pass Congress, "At the one yard line, Mr. Cobey announces his support for tax reform," Price said.

Tuesday, Price conducted a news conference on the steps of the state Education Building to announce support for new initiatives in teacher recruitment, teacher certification and training, math and science education and the fight against illiteracy. Cobey said Price's support for new programs in education and other areas would strain the budget and require new taxes. But Price said the programs are modest and Cobey is the real budget buster with his support for tuition tax credits for children who go to private schools.

Observers are unsure which way the election will go this year, though the seat would be a sweet prize for either party -- Democrats because they lost it in 1984 and Republicans because they are outnumbered 2-1 in the district.

MCMILLAN, MARTIN LOCKED INTIGHT RACES IN 9th

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (UPI) -- Rep. Alex McMillan, R-N.C., and Democrat D.G. Martin are locked in their second tight race for the 9th District, but with the Republican touting incumbency, the challenger may have the tougher battle. Only 320 votes separated McMillan and Martin in their 1984 fight to succeed Republican Gov. Jim Martin as the 9th District representative.

Political observers note the pair are again running a tight race, but this time McMillan has the advantage and D.G. Martin is having a difficult time finding an issue to ignite the electorate.

D.G. Martin has made a campaign theme of the spreading influence of special interest groups, refusing to accept money from political action committees. He also has proposed legislation to keep candidates from accepting contributions from outside their districts and to limit spending in congressional campaigns to \$400,000.

The latest polls, taken by the Charlotte Observer before a recent D.G. Martin ad campaign, showed McMillan leading, 46-41. The poll carried a margin of error of 5 percent.

McMillan, who represents a district that hasn't elected a Democrat to Congress since 1950, has backed Reagan on most issues and used his incumbency to stay in touch with constituents through newsletters and personal appearances.

TRIP NEWS (continued)

SANFORD, BROYHILL DIFFER ON FOREIGN POLICY

Sen. Jim Broyhill, R-N.C., and his opponent, Democratic former Gov. Terry Sanford, point to many of the same problem areas when discussing foreign policy, but disagree on the solutions.

The two candidates are at odds over U.S. sanctions against South Africa and United States-Soviet relations in general.

Both support aid to the Nicaraguan Contras and funding for Star Wars research, but for different reasons, according to the Winston-Salem Journal.

In dealing with the Soviet Union, Sanford said the Reagan Administration has moved too slowly to defuse tensions. Broyhill is solidly behind Reagan's dealings with the Soviets and, like Sanford, praised the administration's recent progress toward arms control negotiations. Both candidates support further research on the Strategic Defense Initiative, or Star Wars, largely as a bargaining chip in negotiations with the Soviets. But Sanford said SDI creates a false hope of a foolproof missile defense.

NUCLEAR BOMB SURVIVOR URGES PROGRESS IN SUMMIT

ATLANTA (UPI) -- A survivor of the atomic blast that leveled Nagasaki said Tuesday he hopes this weekend's summit is successful because people who lived through Japan's nuclear attacks are dying and cannot warn the world of the folly of nuclear war much longer.

Sumiteru Taniguchi, who was delivering mail on a bicycle when the atomic bomb hit, is a board member of a Japanese peace group urging U.S. and U.S.S.R. leaders to hold a summit soon in Hiroshima or Nagasaki. They are the cities America obliterated with atomic bombs in 1945, ending World War II.

Noting that Gorbachev has called for a moratorium on nuclear testing and has proposed completely eliminating nuclear weapons, Taniguchi said, "It seems the Soviet Union is more interested in this direction than the United States." He added that his group, Nihon Hidankyo, the 360,000-member Japanese organization of atomic bomb sufferers, opposes Reagan's "Star Wars" plan because "it presumes that nuclear weapons can be used."

All nuclear weapons must be destroyed, the slight, quiet man in a gray suit said, adding, "It is simply because, without elimination of nuclear weapons, we cannot save Earth."

Taniguchi spent more than three years in a hospital, recovering from the blast that tore the skin and muscle from his back. Taniguchi is a board member of Nihon Hidankyo, whose chairperson, Takishi Ito, wrote Reagan and Gorbachev asking that a summit be held in Hiroshima or Nagasaki.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Tuesday evening, Oct. 6th.)

NICARAGUA

NBC's Tom Brokaw reports Nicaragua continues to insist tonight that a cargo plane shot down in that country was on a CIA mission and that the lone American survivor is a military adviser. Secretary of State Shultz and the CIA, however, say that is not true. Three Americans were killed when the U.S.-built C-123 was shot down. American camera crews were taken to the crash site, they were shown the lone survivor who identified himself as Eugene Hasenfus, an ex-Marine who had worked for a Florida air freight company. The Reagan Administration went to great lengths today to deny that the plane and the men in it were on an official mission for the U.S. government.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "The people involved were not from our military, not from any U.S. government agency, CIA included.")

NBC's Fred Francis reports the Secretary of State is correct but NBC News has learned from Administration and Contra officials that the White House has had full knowledge of this Contra cargo plane operation for more than a year. Those sources tell NBC News that the plane downed in Nicaragua was based here in El Salvador's Il Lopango airport. That it was piloted by American mercenaries and financed by a foreign government friendly to U.S. interests. NBC News has learned from Administration and Contra officials that the rebels have been using this Salvadoran base to store supplies and air planes for more than 18 months. The man in charge of Central American foreign policy, Elliott Abrams, today said God bless the person who survived because he is fighting for freedom.

(Elliott Abrams: "What's kept the resistance alive, really, has been private citizens in this country and other countries who have contributed their time and some very, very brave people who have been willing to actually then bring this material into Nicaragua.")

What Secretary Abrams did not say is that the Americans involved in the Salvadoran cargo operation were fighting for a price. Each man received several thousand dollars per trip into Nicaragua and at least two flights were made per month from the Salvadoran base, all financed by a friendly foreign government. Administration sources say this is the first time a foreign power has spent millions covertly to carry out the President's policies.

(NBC-1)

Brokaw: And today's developments focussed fresh attention on a dramatic protest that has been underway against U.S. policy in Central America for more than a month now. As NBC's Bob Kur reports tonight, four American veterans are fasting and they are spending part of each day on the Capitol steps to make their point.

(NBC-2)

ABC's John McWethy reports the Reagan Administration denied any connection to the downed aircraft.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "The people involved were not from our military, not from any U.S. government agency, CIA included.")

Reaction from Congress was mixed. Sen. Patrick Leahy expressed concern that the CIA, while not directly responsible, could have been involved in other ways with the private group.

(Leahy: "What concerns me very much is that they are connected with any of the adjunct soldier of fortune type operations, those which are sort of sent out there with a wink and shrug as a way of going around our a stated foreign policy.")

(Rep. Robert Michel: "Well it doesn't worry me one tinker's dam and I think it is a big to do about nothing and all the media does is give them an opportunity to make their usual diatribe over the tube.")

ABC's Peter Jennings: Whatever the truth of this particular incident, there is to be sure a large gray area when it comes to fighting this kind of war in Central America, and that is the way some of the participants like it. ABC's John Martin has this report on some of the players.

(ABC-1)

CBS's Phil Jones reports here in Washington there was a quick denial of any official connection.

(TV coverage of Secretary Shultz: "The people involved were not from our military, not from any U.S. government agency, CIA included.")

Sources at the State Department described it as benefactor flight, one funded by private donations. At the Capitol leaders were divided in their reaction.

(Rep. Robert Michel: "Well it doesn't worry me one tinker's dam and I think it is a big to do about nothing and all the media does is give them an opportunity to make their usual diatribe over the tube.")

(Speaker O'Neill: "I've always said I thought the President's policy is going to bring us to war there and that's why I fought against it vehemently.")

(Sen. Patrick Leahy: "What concerns me very much is that they are connected with any of the adjunct soldier of fortune type operations, those which are sort of sent out there with a wink and shrug.")

Most here believe there was no official involvement but sources told CBS News tonight it is fair to assume the Administration knew what was going on and who was involved.

CBS's Dan Rather: Ever since Congress voted to suspend military aid to the Contras in 1984, a number of shadowy private groups have kept the American connection going. CBS News correspondent Charles Osgood has been looking into that.

(CBS-1)

ORLOV/SUMMIT

Brokaw: Four days before President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev talk privately at the Iceland summit, the two countries talked publicly today about what they expect. The Soviets said they expect movement in 2 or 3 areas with arms control heading the list. But the U.S. has other ideas.

NBC's Chris Wallace: The President continued his hardline approach to the summit today with still more criticism of the Soviets. He met with human rights activist Yuri Orlov, freed this weekend after 9 years in Soviet captivity. And Mr. Reagan emphasized the mistreatment of people like Orlov is just as important as arms control. (TV coverage of the President and Orlov. President Reagan: "I'll make it amply clear to Mr. Gorbachev that unless there is real Soviet movement on human rights we do not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make lasting progress on other issues.") The President meant that in a general sense the true peace requires respect for individual freedom. But later Orlov called for direct linkage, no progress on human rights, no arms deals. Secretary of State Shultz also talked tough saying the Soviets may announce a troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in time for the summit, but then dismissing that as a publicity stunt:

(Secretary Shultz: "There is a puzzlement about it but it almost looks as though new forces are coming in as some are being withdrawn so it is kind of a puzzling situation.")

The Soviets aren't the only ones the President is trying to put on the defensive. He called in Congressional Democrats to urge them to remove amendments from a key spending bill restricting his arms control policy saying I ask you not to tie my hands before Iceland. House Majority Leader Wright has offered to put the issue off to next March, but only if the President agrees not to break the SALT II arms treaty in the meantime as he now plans to.

(Rep. Jim Wright: "There would have to be some clear understanding that the President isn't going to unilaterally violate SALT II. That would be the worst thing from the standpoint of the United States.") Tonight there is still no deal between the President and House Democrats, aides saying Mr. Reagan refuses to go to the summit with any constraints, so look for the Administration to continue its hardline, both towards the Soviets and Congress. (NBC-3)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: The President praised Yuri Orlov for his courage and fortitude in pushing human rights in the Soviet Union, the President said under unspeakable conditions. And for the second day in a row, Mr. Reagan promised to raise the issue in Iceland with Soviet leader Gorbachev.

(TV coverage of the President and Orlov. President Reagan: "I'll make it amply clear to Mr. Gorbachev that unless there is real Soviet movement on human rights we do not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make lasting progress on other issues.")

In the White House briefing room, Secretary of State Shultz gave his most optimistic assessment to date of the possibility of making progress on one of those other issues in the field of reducing the numbers of intermediate nuclear missiles.

(Secretary Shultz: "There seems to be more opportunity for agreement than perhaps in others in an immediate sense. I hope that's true.")

Donaldson continues:

Shultz and the President pointedly tied any progress in Iceland to a surrender by Congressional Democrats on five disputed foreign policy restrictions now contained in a final government spending bill including ones banning nuclear tests, prohibiting anti-satellite weapons and requiring continued adherence to the SALT II treaty missile limits. The President wants all of them dropped, the Democrats are willing to postpone the restrictions except for SALT II. (Rep. Jim Wright: "We are willing to postpone consideration of anything that he would find unpleasant to him except of course the President would have to show good faith by maintaining the SALT II limits, for example.")

The Democrats really have no choice this week but to give in. They can't be in a position where Ronald Reagan can blame them if things go wrong this weekend in Iceland. (ABC-6)

CBS's Bill Plante: Yuri Orlov's road from Siberia led to the White House and a role in the pre-summit maneuvering as a physical symbol of human rights. After a private meeting with President Reagan, the frail Orlov was applauded by Administration officials and human rights leaders as he entered the Cabinet Room. Mr. Reagan, praising Orlov as a hero, promised to make Moscow improve its human rights record as a condition for the next full scale summit.

(TV coverage of the President and Orlov. President Reagan: "I'll make it amply clear to Mr. Gorbachev that unless there is real Soviet movement on human rights we do not have the kind of political atmosphere necessary to make lasting progress on other issues.")

Earlier the newly released Soviet dissident endorsed the idea of U.S.-Soviet talks in Iceland if there is that emphasis on human rights.

(Orlov through translator: "They can have meaning if the United States will hold strictly to the line of acknowledging the linkage between the issues of peace and security and the issues of human rights.")

What the Reagan Administration wants is enough political leverage to force Moscow to allow more family reunions like this, a new emigre from the Soviet Union today in New York. Orlov, meanwhile, seemed overwhelmed by the whirlwind which has swept him up.

(Orlov through translator: "I would like to repeat once again that I simply can't get accustom to the fact that I am here in freedom.")

The Reagan Administration wants more than just a date for Gorbachev to come to the U.S., it's trying to arrange the release of prominent Soviet dissidents Vladimir Slepak and David Goldfarb. The price, easing the order to expel Soviet U.N. employees the U.S. considers spies. But the U.S. badly wants to come away with more than just potential arms control agreements. (CBS-7)

Jennings: There were some other observations about the Soviet Union from Yuri Orlov today. Speaking in New York he said that the quality of life since Mikhail Gorbachev became the leader has improved, not as much as he would like, said Mr. Orlov, but you can see the change. Some people cannot of course, a reminder as the summit approaches, they are the people who have been swept into the shadows simply for advocating change. Here is ABC's Richard Threlkeld. (ABC-7)

DRUG BILL

Jennings: There has been something of an agreement today between the Senate and the House on the final form of an anti-drug bill. The House and Senate negotiators have agreed on the death penalty for drug related murders. They also agree the military should not be used to try to stop smugglers at the nation's borders. And they also agree that illegally seized evidence may not be used in trials.

(ABC-2, CBS-2)

CARIBBEAN DRUG OPERATION

Rather: CBS News correspondent Rita Braver has been told that the U.S. has launched a major drug busting operation in the Caribbean and off the coast of Colombia. Object: to try to stop marijuana and cocaine trafficking at harvest time. The U.S. Coast Guard and Navy are reportedly involved in the operation, one major hole reported, Mexico is not cooperating.

(CBS-4)

SOVIET SPYING

Brokaw: The Senate Intelligence Committee charged today that the Reagan Administration has understated both the cost and the impact of Soviet spying against the U.S. The committee made its case in a report that took 16 months to prepare. It contained 95 recommendations, among them, reduce the number of Soviet diplomats in this country.

(NBC-4)

REGAN/DISINFORMATION

Brokaw: White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan commented today on the Administration's reported disinformation campaign against Libya's Moammar Gadhafi. Regan told me on NBC's "Today Show" this morning that the Administration "never tried to lie to the American press," but then he added when you have an opponent as wily and as dastardly as Gadhafi almost anything goes.

(NBC-5)

NATIONAL FLOWER

Rather: President Reagan made it official today, the rose is now the national flower of the U.S.A.

(CBS-12)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

REYKJAVIK MEETING

Prelude To Summit -- "The mere fact that the pre-summit meeting is being held suggests that progress is being made at the nuclear arms reduction negotiations in Geneva, Switzerland. It is quite possible that some statement about that progress will be issued in Iceland.... Gorbachev needs a nuclear arms agreement so the Soviet Union can devote a smaller percentage of its gross national product to defense and concentrate on improving the faltering Soviet economy. Reagan needs an agreement in order to re-establish the credibility of his Administration on nuclear arms control and perhaps for the history books. Because both men need a nuclear arms control agreement, there are, indeed, reasons to expect something worthwhile to happen in Iceland."

(Fort Worth Star Telegram, 10/2)

Non-Summit Summit -- "Careful, detailed planning should precede a summit so as to maximize understanding and enhance agreements while reducing confusion and minimizing miscalculation, by participants as well as observers. Messrs. Gorbachev and Reagan are short-circuiting that time-honored precept. Perhaps with good reason and with chances for even better success when the summit is held. In this instance, the impulse seems to be on behalf of improving relations, unprecedented and, therefore, risky though it may be." (Salt Lake Tribune, 10/1)

What To Do In Reykjavik -- "It now becomes evident why the Soviets stole Nicholas Daniloff for a few weeks. They didn't really care that we had nabbed one of their spies. For the Kremlin, spies are a dime a dozen. No, Moscow was after bigger fish. It wanted Ronald Reagan -- at a summit, that is, and the sooner the better. Moscow is desperate to nip Mr. Reagan's Star Wars program in the bud, and it knows that Mr. Reagan is desperate to appear 'reasonable' in the period leading up to the November election.... This sort of short-order summiteering is made to order for disaster. The leaders of two superpowers have no business getting together unless it's to dot the i's and cross the t's on agreements carefully worked out by subordinates." (Detroit News, 10/1)

Summit -- "For the U.S. to allow the two cases to be linked sets a dangerous precedent.... For years to come, this tit-for-tat swap is sure to haunt American presidents as well as Western journalists covering the Soviet Union.... The U.S. has paid a high price for a summit meeting with the Soviet Union this year. Nothing less than substantive arms control concessions by the Soviets can justify that cost."

(Charleston Daily Mail, 10/1)

Ronald Reagan's Killer Rabbit -- "Every President gets attacked by killer rabbits. What remained of Jimmy Carter's presidential legacy foundered, incredibly, on news stories in August 1979 of a rabbit that tried to jump into his rowboat.... Mr. Reagan has worked hard to build the most successful presidential legacy since FDR. Sustaining this achievement allows for little falloff in either the President's skill or judgment. We hear reports of a large, unfriendly rabbit in Reykjavik."

(Wall Street Journal, 10/6)

HOSTAGES

Beirut Hostages Not Ignored -- "That is unfair and unwarranted. The hostage situations in Moscow and Beirut are incomparable, and the U.S. government has no choice but to respond to them differently, just as it is. Mr. Daniloff's captor was the Soviet government. Direct diplomatic relations therefore could be brought to bear, employing reason, pressure and nuance. By contrast, the Beirut abductors are a group of pro-Iranian fanatics calling themselves the Islamic Jihad (Holy War). They claimed responsibility for the Oct. 23, 1983, suicide truck-bombing in Beirut that killed 241 U.S. servicemen.... The hostages and their families are under great emotional strain, but they do themselves and their country no service by cultivating a loss of faith in their government as it struggles on their behalf." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 10/7)

Forgotten Hostages Of Lebanon -- "President Reagan expresses delight that the U.S. government got the Soviets to release Daniloff and let him return to the West this week. He is silent about Anderson, who remains a captive of radical Muslims in Lebanon. So, for that matter, are the media -- the same media that rushed to the defense of another colleague, Daniloff. We don't think the President has any less regard for Anderson than Daniloff. It's just that U.S. foreign policy suffers from a blind spot. We can deal with the Soviet Union, but not with the terror and anarchy of Lebanon." (San Diego Tribune, 10/1)

JUDGES

'No' On Rose Bird -- "California Chief Justice Rose Elizabeth Bird now comes before the voters to ask that they continue her in office. She argues that she has demonstrated by judicial temperament, impartiality and maturity her qualifications to retain the top judicial post in the state. We cannot agree. We believe her record is one of mismanagement, arrogance, judicial adventurism, and sociopolitical bias. We believe the people of California should reject her confirmation.... In our view, it is necessary to replace the chief justice in order to restore the California Supreme Court to its former level of esteem." (San Francisco Chronicle, 10/5)

Making History -- "Despite the elevation of William H. Rehnquist and the addition of Antonin Scalia, the basic conservative-centrist-liberal makeup of the court has not changed. Unless Rehnquist and Scalia prove especially persuasive in drawing moderate justices to their peculiar views, the court is likely to continue moving back and forth between broadening rights and constricting them, between favoring individuals and favoring authorities.... At the opposite end of the political spectrum from Rehnquist and Scalia is the court's senior member, Justice William J. Brennan Jr., who at 80 years old has emerged as the Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. or the Louis D. Brandeis of our time. He and Justice Thurgood Marshall, who is 78, are the consistent and unfailing champions of the highest American ideals of justice." (Los Angeles Times, 10/6)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

REYKJAVIK MEETING

"Although there can be no comparison in the consequences, the Soviet Navy went through a maritime Chernobyl last Friday. This time, the lesson had been learned and information circulated rapidly. It was impossible not to do that one week before the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting."

(Les Echos, France)

"In terms of credibility, Gorbachev handled the submarine case pretty well.... Still, the Secretary will set out to Reykjavik on somewhat wobbly legs."

(Haaretz, Israel)

"The greatest mystery about the Reykjavik summit is why it is taking place at all. None of the explanations offered by the Americans for accepting the Soviet proposal come close to justifying holding such an important meeting at such short notice in such an inconvenient place."

(Observer, Britain)

"The announcement of the summit in Iceland is one of those classical 'coups de theatre' known in U.S. politics as the 'October surprise' normally occurring on the eve of the November elections."

(Il Tempo, Italy)

"Progress is possible...in Reykjavik.... Real prerequisites exist for the 'interim' meeting to be the final stage before important decisions are made during the Soviet leader's official visit to the United States."

(Izvestia, Soviet Union)

"Reykjavik will not be a copy of Geneva.... Objectively, it will not replace the summit scheduled for Washington.... Nor are the leaders of the two superpowers sufficiently ready to reach an agreement."

(Diario de Noticias, Portugal)

"From this unexpected meeting (in Reykjavik) one can draw at least two conclusions. First, that both sides are obviously quite interested in...reaching an agreement.... Second, that in some key areas U.S.-Soviet relations have lately shown a significant improvement."

(Nin, Yugoslavia)

DISINFORMATION

"The President has denied that the report (on the Libyan disinformation campaign) was accurate, but has virtually said he does not disagree with the technique. The press, meanwhile, is enraged at having caught the Administration red-handed."

(Observer, Britain)

"Rather than being at war with Libya -- as it appeared to desire so eagerly -- the White House finds itself at war with the whole U.S. journalistic corps which knows very well that it was manipulated but does not love to see it written down in the memoranda of the National Security Council."

(Repubblica, Italy)

"The U.S. Government's leak of false information did not hurt the U.S. media alone, since the U.S. Administration reportedly sought to leak false information to foreign media too."

(Chosun Ilbo, South Korea)