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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1987 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

IRAN-NICARAGUA

Newsman's Sister Backs Reagan's Commitment -- The sister of Beirut hostage Terry Anderson said yesterday she has renewed faith that the Reagan Administration has not abandoned the kidnapped Americans and is doing all it can to win their release. (Washington Times)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Chairman Worried About Missile Proposal -- The idea of having no intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe -- the "zero option" -- is not as attractive as it seems, warns Rep. Les Aspin, the influential House Armed Services Committee chairman. (UPI)

NATIONAL NEWS

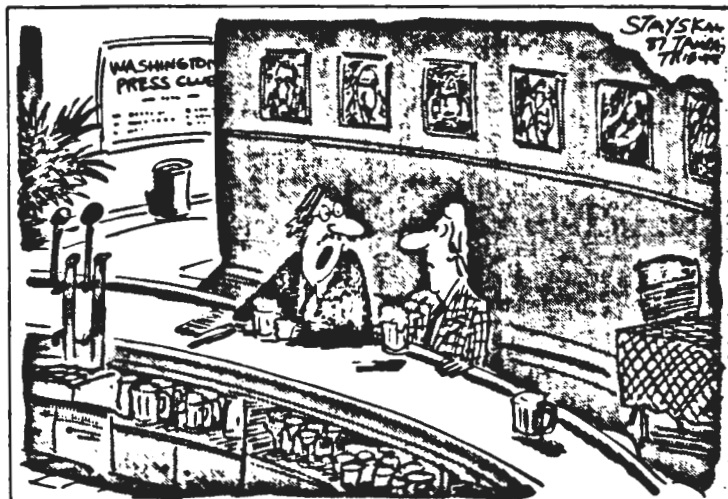
Plan Issued For AIDS Education -- The federal government yesterday released its new AIDS education plan, which stresses sexual abstinence and monogamy as preventive measures and recommends "safe sex" using condoms when these measures are impossible. (Washington Post)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS -- There are continued reverberations in Jerusalem over the Pollard spy case.

WALTERS/IRANIAN ARMS SALES -- ABC correspondent Barbara Walters passed messages to the White House from Manucher Ghorbanifar.

IMMIGRATION -- According to immigration rules, it's clear that amnesty has its price.



What!? You got most of your inside-the-White-House info from my stories? But I got most of mine from your stories!"

IRAN — NICARAGUA

NEWSMAN'S SISTER BACKS REAGAN'S COMMITMENT

VALLEY FORGE, Pa. -- The sister of Beirut hostage Terry Anderson said yesterday she has renewed faith that the Reagan Administration has not abandoned the kidnapped Americans and is doing all it can to win their release.

"I think there is a lot of disarray in the government right now. It's greatly encouraging that President Reagan, in his first speech to the public about it (Iran-contra affair), recommitted himself to the hostages -- and I have to believe him this time," Peggy Say told reporters at a news conference in Valley Forge. (Washington Times, A6)

IRAN-CONTRA PAPER TRAIL EXTENSIVE, RUDMAN SAYS Much Money 'Went To Banks In Washington'

Those involved in the Iran-contra affair left "the greatest paper trail I've ever seen in an investigation," Sen. Warren Rudman, vice chairman of the Senate select committee studying the matter, said yesterday.

Rudman said committee investigators have found abundant evidence in records and computer tapes because "people wrote down what they wanted to do and who they would do it with." One trail, he said without elaboration, indicates that "a lot of the money" derived from arms sales to Iran "went to banks Washington...where we have total access to the records." (David Broder, Washington Post, A11)

EMBOLDENED BY IRAN ARMS AFFAIR, DEMOCRATS TAKE AIM AT REAGAN

Prominent Democrats say that President Reagan is fair game for personal attack now that he has been weakened by the mistakes of the Iran-contra affair.

"Reagan is now a bygone figure, and we are not going to be preoccupied with him per se," said Bill Carrick, manager of the presidential campaign of Rep. Richard Gephardt. "Regardless of where they (Democrats) have been before, they're going to go after Reagan a lot more now." (Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A2)

BUSH DEFENDS ROUTING CONTRA BACKER TO NORTH

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Vice President Bush defended his referral of a contra supporter to then-NSC aide Oliver North, but acknowledged today that such inquiries should be sent to the agency chief.

Bush said the letter he sent March 3, 1985, to contra supporter Dr. Mario Castejon of Guatemala, advising him to contact the Marine lieutenant colonel, was a routine correspondence.

(UPI story, Washington Post, A11)

COSTA RICA ADMITS U.S. PRESSURE ON CONTRAS
Government Files Official Protest, Seeks Response On Tower Report

The Costa Rican government formally admitted for the first time yesterday that the U.S. has pressured it to be more cooperative in helping the Nicaraguan rebels.

In the first official protest it has ever filed on any subject with the U.S., Costa Rica demanded a clarification of U.S. statements and positions reported by the Tower commission as part of its probe of the Iran-contra affair.

(Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A11)

POINDEXTER SEEN DUE FOR IMMUNITY, MAY HELP TRACK FUNDS

Congressional investigators tentatively plan to grant immunity to John Poindexter who they say might help track missing money from the Iran arms sales.

Congressional sources told Reuters yesterday the House and Senate committees probing the arms scandal are expected to back a preliminary accord reached last Friday between their legal advisers to grant the admiral immunity from prosecution in return for his testimony.

(Michael Posner, Reuter)

ABC'S WALTERS RELAYED NOTE FOR IRAN MIDDLEMAN
Reagan Given Message; Ethics Issue Debated

ABC News interviewer Barbara Walters, acting "in violation of a literal interpretation" of her network's news policy, transmitted private messages on the Iran arms sales to President Reagan from Iranian arms middleman Manucher Ghorbanifar, ABC and the White House confirmed yesterday.

Walters, according to the White House, passed two documents to Reagan -- a typed, unsigned letter and handwritten notes on yellow paper, which appeared to be Walters' version of a discussion she had in December with Ghorbanifar.

In journalistic circles, however, there were questions about whether Walters had stepped over the line that is supposed to divide the news media and the government.

(Eleanor Randolph, Washington Post, A11)

Arms Dealer's Letter Claims U.S. Paid Off Iranian Officials

A letter Iranian arms dealer Manucher Ghorbanifar wrote and gave to ABC television correspondent Barbara Walters for delivery to President Reagan says that American officials made "substantial payments" to conservative members of the Iranian government to set up arms deals.

The letter, obtained by The Washington Times from Ghorbanifar, described in detail the internal workings of the Iranian government that led to the ill-fated arms deals sanctioned by the Reagan Administration. It does not name the American officials alleged to have made the payments.

(Michael Hedges, Washington Times, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Benefactor Installs \$2,000 Gate For North -- Senate Iran-Contra Investigators Subpoena 20-Year CIA Veteran," by George Lardner, appears in The Washington Post, A11.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ADMINISTRATION UPSET BY ADVISER'S ABM LETTER Treaty Reinterpretation Seen As Undermined

Top White House and State Department officials are upset that Abraham Sofaer, the State Department's legal adviser, may have undermined the Administration's broad reinterpretation of the 1972 ABM Treaty in a letter he sent last week to Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn.

They are also concerned that Sofaer might have picked an unnecessary fight with the powerful committee chairman, who is a critic of the Administration's broad interpretation of the ABM Treaty that would permit wider testing of President Reagan's SDI.

(Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A4)

CHAIRMAN WORRIED ABOUT MISSILE PROPOSAL

The idea of having no intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe -- the "zero option" -- is not as attractive as it seems, warns Rep. Les Aspin, the influential House Armed Services Committee chairman.

"The best outcome in the coming Geneva talks is not zero missiles in Europe," Aspin said in the speech released by his office Monday. "The politically stable solution is deep cuts in INF forces in Europe that leave small but equal numbers -- in the range of 50 to 100 warheads."

(Robert Shepard, UPI)

ARE SOVIETS RETREATING ON INF?

Soviet "shuffling" has complicated negotiating a limit on intermediate-range nuclear forces, a senior Reagan Administration arms control official claims.

The official says the latest shuffle of Soviet negotiators is an apparent retreat from a pledge to include shorter-range nuclear missiles in any INF agreement.

Interviewed on the condition that his name not be used, this official paints a relatively hard-line picture of Soviet behavior and prospects for arms control. But his remarks mirror the growing realization in Washington that an INF agreement is not just around the corner, despite the negotiating progress of recent weeks.

(Peter Grier, Christian Science Monitor, A1)

RABIN SAYS U.S. RENEGED IN POLLARD CASE
Israeli Counters Criticism Of Promotion Of Spy's Recruiter

JERUSALEM -- Defense Minister Rabin today accused the U.S. Justice Department of reneging on its agreement with Israel in the Jonathan Jay Pollard spy case by refusing to grant prosecutorial immunity to the Israeli Air Force colonel who allegedly recruited the U.S. Navy intelligence analyst to spy for Israel.

Rabin's accusation was this government's first public counterattack against U.S. officials who have contended that Israel violated its pledge to "call to account" those who participated in the Pollard operation when it promoted Col. Aviem Sella to command the country's second largest air base late last month, a few days before he was indicted for espionage in the U.S.

(Glen Frankel, Washington Post, A1)

RESCUED SOVIET SAILORS TO MEET REAGAN TODAY

President Reagan will meet today with Soviet sailors rescued by the Coast Guard as their ship sank off the New Jersey coast over the weekend, U.S. and Soviet sources said yesterday.

Reagan will receive the Soviets in the Rose Garden at 11:15 a.m. during a ceremony honoring the Coast Guard for the rescue, according to the sources.

(AP story, Washington Post, A4)

WEINBERGER'S SPANISH VISIT DOMINATED
BY DEMAND FOR TROOP CUTS

MADRID -- Secretary Weinberger winds up a delicate visit to Madrid today with American officials stressing that Spain's demands for cuts in Spanish-based U.S. troops must not damage Western security.

Weinberger's visit came as anti-American demonstrators renewed their campaign to close four U.S. military bases in Spain.

(Leslie Crawford, Reuter)

U.S. URGES \$185 ALIEN AMNESTY FEE
Family Rate Would Be \$420; Millions Of Illegal Residents Eligible

The Administration yesterday proposed a \$185 charge for each of the millions of illegal aliens who are expected to seek amnesty under the immigration overhaul President Reagan signed into law last November.

Starting May 5, aliens who entered the U.S. before Jan. 1, 1982, may apply for an amnesty that eventually will lead to citizenship, even if they entered the country illegally.

Commissioner Alan Nelson of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service said that families with dependent children will be charged a bargain rate of \$420. Nelson announced the fees along with other long-awaited rule proposals for the immigration changes.

(Mary Thornton, Washington Post, A3)

U.S. URGES CUT IN DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN OIL

Continued dependence on Mideast oil will pose a security threat for the rest of the century or longer and government initiatives are needed to reduce this vulnerability, an Administration study has concluded.

The report, which was ordered by President Reagan last fall, is confined to a list of options. But Energy Secretary Herrington was said today to have sent recommendations to the White House that include financial incentives to raise domestic production by one million barrels a day. Last year, the nation produced about 8.4 million barrels a day.

(Robert Hershey, New York Times, A1)

CARTER HEADS FOR MIDEAST; HOSTAGE ROLE?

Former president Jimmy Carter embarked on a Mideastern tour Monday which the Lebanese press already has linked to the fate of hostages.

Carter -- architect of the 1979 Camp David accord -- said he was going unofficially, but would discuss "a wide range of subjects" in Syria -- despite State Department advice not to go there.

Asked if he was carrying a message from the U.S. government, Carter said, "Not that I can discuss.... I will see if I can get any information."

(Juan Walte & Leslie Phillips, USA Today, A1)

NATIONAL NEWS

BUSH MAKES TWO-DAY FLORIDA POLITICAL SWING

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Vice President Bush, in Florida today, is building a presidential campaign warchest and defending his actions with a contra supporter seeking U.S. aid.

"I've never felt stronger politically in my life," Bush said in Orlando. "It's hard to tell, but I just can't accept the tarnished image thing."
(Bill Wood, UPI)

OFFICIAL SAYS BAKER WON'T USE NEW JOB FOR POLITICAL ADVANTAGE

White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker, settling into what he considers the top of his career, had made it clear he will not leap to a national campaign -- even for the No. 2 spot, an Administration official says.

In an interview Monday with UPI, the official said Baker does not expect the White House to be a springboard to fulfill presidential ambitions. Baker gave up his chance to run an active campaign when he chose to help President Reagan repair a wounded Administration and replaced Donald Regan.
(Helen Thomas, UPI)

PLAN ISSUED FOR AIDS EDUCATION Federal Report Stresses Abstinence And Monogamy

The federal government yesterday released its new AIDS education plan, which stresses sexual abstinence and monogamy as preventive measures and recommends "safe sex" using condoms when these measures are impossible.

The long-awaited and much debated plan also stresses the need to leave local jurisdictions free to decide what, if any, information should be passed on to young people, according to Dr. Robert Windom, assistant secretary of Health and Human Services.

(Philip Hilts & Sandra Boodman, Washington Post, A1)

DEAVER TAKES PLEA TO BLOCK CHARGES TO APPEALS COURT

Michael Deaver asked a federal appeals court yesterday to promptly decide whether the independent counsel law is constitutional, or risk casting "a lengthening shadow" over other investigations where the law is being used.

In a brief filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, Deaver's attorneys said that while a lower court denied his motion to block independent counsel Whitney North Seymour from seeking his perjury indictment, it expressly sent the constitutional question to the appeals panel.
(Washington Times, A3)

JURY INDICTS REP. BIAGGI IN BRIBE CASE

Democratic Rep. Mario Biaggi of New York was indicted yesterday on bribery, conspiracy and obstruction-of-justice charges that an FBI spokesman said would be supported in court by evidence from a telephone wiretap.

Biaggi, a former New York City policeman who was elected to Congress in 1968, "attempted to influence the decisions and actions of departments and agencies of the United States and other members of Congress" on behalf of Coastal Dry Dock and Repair Corp., the indictment charges.
(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A1)

JAMES BRADY/ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

White House Press Secretary James Brady is in Chicago today, where he is breaking precedent by being grand marshal of the city's St. Patrick's Day parade. Chicago is serious about St. Patrick's Day; the Chicago River is even dyed green for the day. And when the city's First Irishman, Mayor Richard Daley, was alive, the city virtually closed down for the celebration.
(Chuck Conconi, Washington Post, D3)

EDITOR'S NOTES: "Coming Soon: Regan Memoirs Of Washington," by Marjorie Williams, appears in The Washington Post, A15.

"Weighing The Decision: For Dukakis, A Start," by Paul Taylor, appears in The Washington Post, A1.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Monday Evening, March 16, 1987)

POLLARD/U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS

ABC's Tom Jarriel: The reverberations continue through the halls of government in Jerusalem over the Jonathan Pollard spy case. The reports the Israelis help pay for Pollard's legal defense and U.S. investigators have hinted Pollard might not have been working alone.

ABC's Bill Reynolds: Defense Minister Rabin today addressed a question that has lingered through the Pollard espionage affair: are there any other spies out there selling U.S. secrets to Israel. His answer was emphatic.

(Rabin: "There are no Americans or non-Americans who sell us spies for Israel against the U.S.")

In remarks to an audience of American Jews, Rabin angrily dismissed news reports alleging that American prosecutors believe Pollard was not the first spy for Israel and may not be the last.

(Rabin: "The insinuation of what was said is that Israel doesn't tell the truth.")

Such unfounded suggestions prolong the Pollard affair, he said, and he questioned the motivation behind them. But new tension may arise over Israeli support for Pollard. Sources in Washington and Jerusalem disclosed today that as much as \$80,000 of the Pollards' legal fees is being financed indirectly by the Israeli government. And Israeli Radio said the Pollard family had been assured most of their bills will be covered through this indirect assistance. A private fund-raiser who had been working in Pollard's behalf said tonight he's ending his efforts since the government is now footing the bill. And there may be more help. Sources say that if and when the storm over this case dies down, the government here is expected to try to prevail on Washington to free the Pollards and deport them to Israel. (ABC-6)

ABC's Jean Meserve: It's hard to envision Jonathan Pollard as James Bond, but prosecutors say he played the part of master spy to perfection. Secretary Weinberger has said of the case: "It is difficult to conceive of a greater harm to national security." U.S. government sources confirm that the satellite photographs, communications intercepts and detailed analyses which Pollard sold provided Israel with detailed information about the chemical weapons capabilities of Syria and Iraq, assessments of Soviet weapons systems and their shipments to the Arab world, intelligence on Pakistan's efforts to build a nuclear weapon and information about PLO assets and activities, including reconnaissance that helped the Israelis carry out an air raid on PLO headquarters in Tunis in 1985.

Meserve continues:

Some analysts say the U.S. should not be complacent about the fact that the information went to an ally. Pollard revealed to the Israelis how the U.S. collects intelligence and from whom, making those methods ineffective and possibly endangering lives. And his espionage is likely to make other nations, especially Arab ones, more reluctant to share information with the U.S. because they don't know who their intelligence will end up helping. (ABC-7)

WALTERS/IRANIAN ARMS SALES

Jarriel reports ABC confirmed earlier stories that Barbara Walters passed messages on to the White House from Manucher Ghorbanifar, a key middle man in the Iranian arms deal. They were passed on at his request after Walters interviewed Ghorbanifar and Adnan Khashoggi last fall. ABC News said today its policy limits journalists cooperating with government agencies, unless threats to human life are involved. Walters believed that to be the case with the Americans held hostage in Lebanon. Walters understands that the transmission of her information to the President was in violation of a literal interpretation of ABC News policy. (ABC-9, NBC-10)

THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH

NBC's Tom Brokaw: President Reagan had a blood transfusion during surgery after a 1981 assassination attempt.... Today the President's doctor told NBC's Chris Wallace that as part of recent routine tests...he checked Mr. Reagan's blood for AIDS and the results were negative. (Followed NBC lead on AIDS and blood transfusions.) (NBC-2)

NORTH

CBS's Dan Rather reports the scandal some call "Ollie-gate" might be taken a little more literally today. Oliver North's actual gate at the entrance of his driveway has developed a story of its own.

CBS's Eric Engberg reports that Oliver North received his gate [valued at between two and three thousand dollars] without paying for it, courtesy of businessmen who were in a position to benefit financially from their association with him. Federal laws bar officials from accepting anything of value from someone out to influence their duties. The provider of the gate met North through General Secord, North's key aide in the Iran-contra affair. (CBS-3)

IMMIGRATION LAW/ADMINISTRATION

Rather reports a cornerstone of the new immigration law is amnesty for some illegal aliens who arrived here before 1982. But according to rules revealed today it's clear that amnesty has its price.

CBS's Bob Schieffer reports the Reagan Administration said it will propose that adult aliens be charged \$185 just to make the initial application. They'll be billed an additional \$50 for each child with the understanding no family will be charged more than \$420. Felons and those who appear likely to go on welfare will be rejected. Officials said the plan was part of the Administration's philosophy to charge user fees where possible instead of putting new burdens on taxpayers. Hispanic activists and lawmakers took immediate exception, saying required medical exams and lawyer fees could push costs to as much as \$700 a family. Critics say the cost could discourage many aliens from applying, but since those eligible for the program have been here illegally for five years, Administration officials say the fee is a small price to pay for citizenship.

(CBS-8)

REP. BIAGGI INDICTED

Brokaw reports Rep. Mario Biaggi, who has represented New York City for eighteen years, was indicted today on federal bribery and conspiracy charges along with a former Democratic party leader.

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

DUKAKIS DECLARES

Jarriel reports Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis said today he intends to run for the Democratic presidential nomination.

(ABC-5, NBC-7, CBS-10)

ICAHN INVESTIGATION

Rather reports corporation raider Carl Icahn this afternoon acknowledged that he is the target of the latest U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission probe.

(CBS-Lead, ABC-3, NBC-5)

TAX CHEATING

Brokaw reports there may be wide-spread tax cheating by America's corporations -- a congressional report says that companies may be failing to report almost \$20 billion of income a year.

(NBC-6)

HOSTAGES IN LEBANON

Brokaw reports kidnappers in Beirut have threatened to kill a French hostage today, but a Shi'ite Moslem cleric says that he intervened and the hostage probably will not be executed. (NBC-13, ABC-7, CBS-4)

NBC's Bill Scheckner reports on the vigil of Peggy Say, the sister of hostage Terry Anderson.... When word of the Iran arms deal surfaced, she said she was sorry she was so hard on the Reagan Administration.

(Say: "I know how difficult it's been for them to have to deal with me for the past two years, being unable to tell me anything and having to deal with my frustration because of that.") (NBC-15)

WAITE

Brokaw reports there still is no sign of Terry Waite. Today, the Speaker of the Iranian parliament said he would attempt to find Waite because the Archbishop of Canterbury offered to help secure the release of two Iranians held in Beirut for four years now. (NBC-14)

AQUINO

Brokaw reports President Corazon Aquino of the Phillipines has ordered that all of the more than two hundred private armies on those islands be disbanded. One of those is the 40,000 member Civilian Home Defense Force which was set up by the military to help fight communist rebels. (NBC-9, ABC-10)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

THE POLLARD CASE AND U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS

Pollard Spy Case Still Lacking Sufficient Action From Israel -- "Jonathan Pollard supplied information about the Israelis he worked with in this sordid affair. It's not unreasonable, then to expect that a genuine feeling of betrayal would impel Israeli officials to invoke justice on those among them who so severely damaged the U.S.-Israeli relationship, at least in a degree commensurate with the court-imposed imprisonment for the Pollards."
(Salt Lake City Tribune, 3/8)

Spying For Israel -- "Israel and the U.S. have cooperated remarkably on intelligence over the years.... Such exchanges are never total, yet Israel penetrated to gather more U.S. intelligence than the U.S. was exchanging, at the risk of curtailing that exchange. Explanations and discipline are necessary, but not yet forthcoming."
(Baltimore Sun, 3/8)

Wake Up To U.S. Anger, Israel -- "The Israeli government, for a long time, has misjudged the nature of support for Israel in the U.S. It has acted as if there is nothing Israel could do wrong. Invade Lebanon and lie about it. Don't worry, the U.S. will back us up. Steal U.S. military secrets and get caught. No problem, it's just spying between friends.... The Israeli government should wake up from its complacency and stop taking American support for granted. Americans do support Israel deeply. But we support -- or condemn -- our own government. We don't support Israel, right or wrong, any more than we tolerate a president who violates the law."
(San Diego Tribune, 3/7)

Israel, America and Espionage -- "It's not astonishing that Jerusalem failed initially to grasp the furor this incident would provoke. The Israelis depend for their very survival on a top-flight intelligence capability. They also believe -- in a hard-headed but not unrealistic way -- that spying is something everyone does, and that their real mistake was in getting caught. But turning American officials into spies is something quite different from...conducting aerial reconnaissance or intercepting communications. It's a practice to be expected of enemies and adversaries -- not of close friends."
(New York Post, 3/10)

Jonathan Pollard, Traitor? -- "In considering a breach of security, you need to consider who received the stolen information. As upset as the Pentagon would be to find out that someone was handing over defense secrets to the Canadians...or the British, it would be far more upset to learn that the recipient was Cuba or the Soviet Union. By any yardstick, the damage would be incomparably greater.... Mr. Pollard stole secrets, which is bad. But he handed them over to one of America's closest allies. It is hard to see how his actions merit the label 'traitor' and a sentence of life at hard labor."
(Bergen County (N.J.) Record, 3/13)

CONTRA AID

Don't Crow Yet -- "Crowing over Wednesday's party-line moratorium on aid to the Nicaraguan resistance, House Majority Leader Thomas Foley boasted that Congress never would appropriate more aid for those forces opposing the Sandinistas.... If the Marxist regime in Managua is able to consolidate its tyranny without opposition, if it exports its revolution to neighboring states, if the Soviet empire dispatches its proconsuls to these new provinces, and if the ensuing chaos and repression force millions of refugees to flee northward toward the Rio Grande, this week's victory will offer little to crow about." (Washington Times, 3/13)

Cruz Resignation A Clear Warning -- "Scratch 'freedom' from 'freedom fighters.' The resignation of Arturo Cruz from the contra leadership strips away the organization's threadbare coat of respectability. It was a coat that never quite fit. Cruz -- a banker and former Sandinista official -- is an authentic reformer and political moderate, but he never had much influence in the contra movement. The rebels have always been dominated by...right-wingers who served under Nicaragua's deposed dictator, Anastasio Somoza. Their commitment to democratic principles is as frail as that of the Sandinistas they want to defeat." (Milwaukee Journal, 3/11)

U.S. Must Prepare Now For The Post-Contra Era -- "There can be no progress unless and until the contra war is ended. It has not toppled Nicaragua's Sandinista regime or defused the region's conflict. And if peace talks were once the Administration's goal, it's time Nicaragua's willingness was tested. There's no longer a viable 'military solution' card to play. It's time the U.S. rebuilt bridges in Central America, before the chasm widens." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 3/16)

Dishonest Debate On The Contras -- "The campaign by Congressional Democrats to cut off all aid to the Nicaraguan contras has been characterized by an almost seedy dishonesty. Instead of asserting outright that the U.S. should learn to live with a Marxist regime in Managua, these Congressmen obfuscate the debate with arguments altogether irrelevant to the real issue.... Sadly, the vote indicates that the Democrats are likely to succeed eventually in terminating U.S. aid to the contras -- possibly without debating the question that matters...." (New York Post, 3/13)

Why Prolong The Contra War? -- "The President should face the facts now before he loses all credibility and leverage in the region with a final cutoff of funds next fall. A renewed effort toward a negotiated peace in Central America makes far more sense than sending the contras out for a last offensive before we jerk the rug out from under them." (Denver Post, 3/11)

Junta Aid -- "After nearly five years of...thinking of new ways to block U.S. support for the democratic resistance fighting the Sandinistas, the [House Democrats] are now trying to turn the fate of the Nicaraguan people over to accountants.... The security interests of the U.S. in keeping a second neighboring country out of the communist orbit shouldn't have to wait for a Congressional foreign policy team that won't act until it gets the Good Housekeeping seal of approval from the General Accounting Office." (Wall Street Journal, 3/10)



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"Reagan is now a bygone figure, and we are not going to be preoccupied with him per se," said Bill Carrick, manager of the presidential campaign of Rep. Richard Gephardt. "Regardless of where they (Democrats) have been before, they're going to go after Reagan a lot more now." (Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A2)

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Government Files Official Protest, Seeks Response On Tower Report

The Costa Rican government formally admitted for the first time yesterday that the U.S. has pressured it to be more cooperative in helping the Nicaraguan rebels.

In the first official protest it has ever filed on any subject with the U.S., Costa Rica demanded a clarification of U.S. statements and positions reported by the Tower commission as part of its probe of the Iran-contra affair.
(Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A11)

POINDEXTER SEEN DUE FOR IMMUNITY, MAY HELP TRACK FUNDS

Congressional investigators tentatively plan to grant immunity to John Poindexter who they say might help track missing money from the Iran arms sales.

Congressional sources told Reuters yesterday the House and Senate committees probing the arms scandal are expected to back a preliminary accord reached last Friday between their legal advisers to grant the admiral immunity from prosecution in return for his testimony.

(Michael Posner, Reuter)

ABC'S WALTERS RELAYED NOTE FOR IRAN MIDDLEMAN
Reagan Given Message; Ethics Issue Debated

ABC News interviewer Barbara Walters, acting "in violation of a literal interpretation" of her network's news policy, transmitted private messages on the Iran arms sales to President Reagan from Iranian arms middleman Manucher Ghorbanifar, ABC and the White House confirmed yesterday.

Walters, according to the White House, passed two documents to Reagan -- a typed, unsigned letter and handwritten notes on yellow paper, which appeared to be Walters' version of a discussion she had in December with Ghorbanifar.

In journalistic circles, however, there were questions about whether Walters had stepped over the line that is supposed to divide the news media and the government.
(Eleanor Randolph, Washington Post, A11)

Arms Dealer's Letter Claims U.S. Paid Off Iranian Officials

A letter Iranian arms dealer Manucher Ghorbanifar wrote and gave to ABC television correspondent Barbara Walters for delivery to President Reagan says that American officials made "substantial payments" to conservative members of the Iranian government to set up arms deals.

The letter, obtained by The Washington Times from Ghorbanifar, described in detail the internal workings of the Iranian government that led to the ill-fated arms deals sanctioned by the Reagan Administration. It does not name the American officials alleged to have made the payments.

(Michael Hedges, Washington Times, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Benefactor Installs \$2,000 Gate For North -- Senate Iran-Contra Investigators Subpoena 20-Year CIA Veteran," by George Lardner, appears in The Washington Post, A11.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ADMINISTRATION UPSET BY ADVISER'S ABM LETTER Treaty Reinterpretation Seen As Undermined

Top White House and State Department officials are upset that Abraham Sofaer, the State Department's legal adviser, may have undermined the Administration's broad reinterpretation of the 1972 ABM Treaty in a letter he sent last week to Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn.

They are also concerned that Sofaer might have picked an unnecessary fight with the powerful committee chairman, who is a critic of the Administration's broad interpretation of the ABM Treaty that would permit wider testing of President Reagan's SDI.

(Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A4)

CHAIRMAN WORRIED ABOUT MISSILE PROPOSAL

The idea of having no intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe -- the "zero option" -- is not as attractive as it seems, warns Rep. Les Aspin, the influential House Armed Services Committee chairman.

"The best outcome in the coming Geneva talks is not zero missiles in Europe," Aspin said in the speech released by his office Monday. "The politically stable solution is deep cuts in INF forces in Europe that leave small but equal numbers -- in the range of 50 to 100 warheads."

(Robert Shepard, UPI)

ARE SOVIETS RETREATING ON INF?

Soviet "shuffling" has complicated negotiating a limit on intermediate-range nuclear forces, a senior Reagan Administration arms control official claims.

The official says the latest shuffle of Soviet negotiators is an apparent retreat from a pledge to include shorter-range nuclear missiles in any INF agreement.

Interviewed on the condition that his name not be used, this official paints a relatively hard-line picture of Soviet behavior and prospects for arms control. But his remarks mirror the growing realization in Washington that an INF agreement is not just around the corner, despite the negotiating progress of recent weeks.

(Peter Grier, Christian Science Monitor, A1)

RABIN SAYS U.S. RENEGED IN POLLARD CASE
Israeli Counters Criticism Of Promotion Of Spy's Recruiter

JERUSALEM -- Defense Minister Rabin today accused the U.S. Justice Department of reneging on its agreement with Israel in the Jonathan Jay Pollard spy case by refusing to grant prosecutorial immunity to the Israeli Air Force colonel who allegedly recruited the U.S. Navy intelligence analyst to spy for Israel.

Rabin's accusation was this government's first public counterattack against U.S. officials who have contended that Israel violated its pledge to "call to account" those who participated in the Pollard operation when it promoted Col. Aviem Sella to command the country's second largest air base late last month, a few days before he was indicted for espionage in the U.S.

(Glen Frankel, Washington Post, A1)

RESCUED SOVIET SAILORS TO MEET REAGAN TODAY

President Reagan will meet today with Soviet sailors rescued by the Coast Guard as their ship sank off the New Jersey coast over the weekend, U.S. and Soviet sources said yesterday.

Reagan will receive the Soviets in the Rose Garden at 11:15 a.m. during a ceremony honoring the Coast Guard for the rescue, according to the sources.

(AP story, Washington Post, A4)

WEINBERGER'S SPANISH VISIT DOMINATED
BY DEMAND FOR TROOP CUTS

MADRID -- Secretary Weinberger winds up a delicate visit to Madrid today with American officials stressing that Spain's demands for cuts in Spanish-based U.S. troops must not damage Western security.

Weinberger's visit came as anti-American demonstrators renewed their campaign to close four U.S. military bases in Spain.

(Leslie Crawford, Reuter)

U.S. URGES \$185 ALIEN AMNESTY FEE
Family Rate Would Be \$420; Millions Of Illegal Residents Eligible

The Administration yesterday proposed a \$185 charge for each of the millions of illegal aliens who are expected to seek amnesty under the immigration overhaul President Reagan signed into law last November.

Starting May 5, aliens who entered the U.S. before Jan. 1, 1982, may apply for an amnesty that eventually will lead to citizenship, even if they entered the country illegally.

Commissioner Alan Nelson of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service said that families with dependent children will be charged a bargain rate of \$420. Nelson announced the fees along with other long-awaited rule proposals for the immigration changes.

(Mary Thornton, Washington Post, A3)

U.S. URGES CUT IN DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN OIL

Continued dependence on Mideast oil will pose a security threat for the rest of the century or longer and government initiatives are needed to reduce this vulnerability, an Administration study has concluded.

The report, which was ordered by President Reagan last fall, is confined to a list of options. But Energy Secretary Herrington was said today to have sent recommendations to the White House that include financial incentives to raise domestic production by one million barrels a day. Last year, the nation produced about 8.4 million barrels a day.

(Robert Hershey, New York Times, A1)

CARTER HEADS FOR MIDEAST; HOSTAGE ROLE?

Former president Jimmy Carter embarked on a Mideastern tour Monday which the Lebanese press already has linked to the fate of hostages.

Carter -- architect of the 1979 Camp David accord -- said he was going unofficially, but would discuss "a wide range of subjects" in Syria -- despite State Department advice not to go there.

Asked if he was carrying a message from the U.S. government, Carter said, "Not that I can discuss.... I will see if I can get any information."

(Juan Walte & Leslie Phillips, USA Today, A1)

NATIONAL NEWS

BUSH MAKES TWO-DAY FLORIDA POLITICAL SWING

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Vice President Bush, in Florida today, is building a presidential campaign war chest and defending his actions with a contra supporter seeking U.S. aid.

"I've never felt stronger politically in my life," Bush said in Orlando. "It's hard to tell, but I just can't accept the tarnished image thing."
(Bill Wood, UPI)

OFFICIAL SAYS BAKER WON'T USE NEW JOB FOR POLITICAL ADVANTAGE

White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker, settling into what he considers the top of his career, had made it clear he will not leap to a national campaign -- even for the No. 2 spot, an Administration official says.

In an interview Monday with UPI, the official said Baker does not expect the White House to be a springboard to fulfill presidential ambitions. Baker gave up his chance to run an active campaign when he chose to help President Reagan repair a wounded Administration and replaced Donald Regan.
(Helen Thomas, UPI)

PLAN ISSUED FOR AIDS EDUCATION Federal Report Stresses Abstinence And Monogamy

The federal government yesterday released its new AIDS education plan, which stresses sexual abstinence and monogamy as preventive measures and recommends "safe sex" using condoms when these measures are impossible.

The long-awaited and much debated plan also stresses the need to leave local jurisdictions free to decide what, if any, information should be passed on to young people, according to Dr. Robert Windom, assistant secretary of Health and Human Services.

(Philip Hilts & Sandra Boodman, Washington Post, A1)

DEAVER TAKES PLEA TO BLOCK CHARGES TO APPEALS COURT

Michael Deaver asked a federal appeals court yesterday to promptly decide whether the independent counsel law is constitutional, or risk casting "a lengthening shadow" over other investigations where the law is being used.

In a brief filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, Deaver's attorneys said that while a lower court denied his motion to block independent counsel Whitney North Seymour from seeking his perjury indictment, it expressly sent the constitutional question to the appeals panel.
(Washington Times, A3)

JURY INDICTS REP. BIAGGI IN BRIBE CASE

Democratic Rep. Mario Biaggi of New York was indicted yesterday on bribery, conspiracy and obstruction-of-justice charges that an FBI spokesman said would be supported in court by evidence from a telephone wiretap.

Biaggi, a former New York City policeman who was elected to Congress in 1968, "attempted to influence the decisions and actions of departments and agencies of the United States and other members of Congress" on behalf of Coastal Dry Dock and Repair Corp., the indictment charges.

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A1)

JAMES BRADY/ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

White House Press Secretary James Brady is in Chicago today, where he is breaking precedent by being grand marshal of the city's St. Patrick's Day parade. Chicago is serious about St. Patrick's Day; the Chicago River is even dyed green for the day. And when the city's First Irishman, Mayor Richard Daley, was alive, the city virtually closed down for the celebration.

(Chuck Conconi, Washington Post, D3)

EDITOR'S NOTES: "Coming Soon: Regan Memoirs Of Washington," by Marjorie Williams, appears in The Washington Post, A15.

"Weighing The Decision: For Dukakis, A Start," by Paul Taylor, appears in The Washington Post, A1.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Monday Evening, March 16, 1987)

POLLARD/U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS

ABC's Tom Jarriel: The reverberations continue through the halls of government in Jerusalem over the Jonathan Pollard spy case. The reports the Israelis help pay for Pollard's legal defense and U.S. investigators have hinted Pollard might not have been working alone.

ABC's Bill Reynolds: Defense Minister Rabin today addressed a question that has lingered through the Pollard espionage affair: are there any other spies out there selling U.S. secrets to Israel. His answer was emphatic.

(Rabin: "There are no Americans or non-Americans who sell us spies for Israel against the U.S.")

In remarks to an audience of American Jews, Rabin angrily dismissed news reports alleging that American prosecutors believe Pollard was not the first spy for Israel and may not be the last.

(Rabin: "The insinuation of what was said is that Israel doesn't tell the truth.")

Such unfounded suggestions prolong the Pollard affair, he said, and he questioned the motivation behind them. But new tension may arise over Israeli support for Pollard. Sources in Washington and Jerusalem disclosed today that as much as \$80,000 of the Pollards' legal fees is being financed indirectly by the Israeli government. And Israeli Radio said the Pollard family had been assured most of their bills will be covered through this indirect assistance. A private fund-raiser who had been working in Pollard's behalf said tonight he's ending his efforts since the government is now footing the bill. And there may be more help. Sources say that if and when the storm over this case dies down, the government here is expected to try to prevail on Washington to free the Pollards and deport them to Israel. (ABC-6)

ABC's Jean Meserve: It's hard to envision Jonathan Pollard as James Bond, but prosecutors say he played the part of master spy to perfection. Secretary Weinberger has said of the case: "It is difficult to conceive of a greater harm to national security." U.S. government sources confirm that the satellite photographs, communications intercepts and detailed analyses which Pollard sold provided Israel with detailed information about the chemical weapons capabilities of Syria and Iraq, assessments of Soviet weapons systems and their shipments to the Arab world, intelligence on Pakistan's efforts to build a nuclear weapon and information about PLO assets and activities, including reconnaissance that helped the Israelis carry out an air raid on PLO headquarters in Tunis in 1985.

Meserve continues:

Some analysts say the U.S. should not be complacent about the fact that the information went to an ally. Pollard revealed to the Israelis how the U.S. collects intelligence and from whom, making those methods ineffective and possibly endangering lives. And his espionage is likely to make other nations, especially Arab ones, more reluctant to share information with the U.S. because they don't know who their intelligence will end up helping. (ABC-7)

WALTERS/IRANIAN ARMS SALES

Jarriel reports ABC confirmed earlier stories that Barbara Walters passed messages on to the White House from Manucher Ghorbanifar, a key middle man in the Iranian arms deal. They were passed on at his request after Walters interviewed Ghorbanifar and Adnan Khashoggi last fall. ABC News said today its policy limits journalists cooperating with government agencies, unless threats to human life are involved. Walters believed that to be the case with the Americans held hostage in Lebanon. Walters understands that the transmission of her information to the President was in violation of a literal interpretation of ABC News policy. (ABC-9, NBC-10)

THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH

NBC's Tom Brokaw: President Reagan had a blood transfusion during surgery after a 1981 assassination attempt.... Today the President's doctor told NBC's Chris Wallace that as part of recent routine tests...he checked Mr. Reagan's blood for AIDS and the results were negative. (Followed NBC lead on AIDS and blood transfusions.) (NBC-2)

NORTH

CBS's Dan Rather reports the scandal some call "Ollie-gate" might be taken a little more literally today. Oliver North's actual gate at the entrance of his driveway has developed a story of its own.

CBS's Eric Engberg reports that Oliver North received his gate [valued at between two and three thousand dollars] without paying for it, courtesy of businessmen who were in a position to benefit financially from their association with him. Federal laws bar officials from accepting anything of value from someone out to influence their duties. The provider of the gate met North through General Secord, North's key aide in the Iran-contra affair. (CBS-3)

IMMIGRATION LAW/ADMINISTRATION

Rather reports a cornerstone of the new immigration law is amnesty for some illegal aliens who arrived here before 1982. But according to rules revealed today it's clear that amnesty has its price.

CBS's Bob Schieffer reports the Reagan Administration said it will propose that adult aliens be charged \$185 just to make the initial application. They'll be billed an additional \$50 for each child with the understanding no family will be charged more than \$420. Felons and those who appear likely to go on welfare will be rejected. Officials said the plan was part of the Administration's philosophy to charge user fees where possible instead of putting new burdens on taxpayers. Hispanic activists and lawmakers took immediate exception, saying required medical exams and lawyer fees could push costs to as much as \$700 a family. Critics say the cost could discourage many aliens from applying, but since those eligible for the program have been here illegally for five years, Administration officials say the fee is a small price to pay for citizenship.

(CBS-8)

REP. BIAGGI INDICTED

Brokaw reports Rep. Mario Biaggi, who has represented New York City for eighteen years, was indicted today on federal bribery and conspiracy charges along with a former Democratic party leader.

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

DUKAKIS DECLARES

Jarriel reports Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis said today he intends to run for the Democratic presidential nomination.

(ABC-5, NBC-7, CBS-10)

ICAHN INVESTIGATION

Rather reports corporation raider Carl Icahn this afternoon acknowledged that he is the target of the latest U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission probe.

(CBS-Lead, ABC-3, NBC-5)

TAX CHEATING

Brokaw reports there may be wide-spread tax cheating by America's corporations -- a congressional report says that companies may be failing to report almost \$20 billion of income a year.

(NBC-6)

HOSTAGES IN LEBANON

Brokaw reports kidnappers in Beirut have threatened to kill a French hostage today, but a Shi'ite Moslem cleric says that he intervened and the hostage probably will not be executed. (NBC-13, ABC-7, CBS-4)

NBC's Bill Scheckner reports on the vigil of Peggy Say, the sister of hostage Terry Anderson.... When word of the Iran arms deal surfaced, she said she was sorry she was so hard on the Reagan Administration.

(Say: "I know how difficult it's been for them to have to deal with me for the past two years, being unable to tell me anything and having to deal with my frustration because of that.") (NBC-15)

WAITE

Brokaw reports there still is no sign of Terry Waite. Today, the Speaker of the Iranian parliament said he would attempt to find Waite because the Archbishop of Canterbury offered to help secure the release of two Iranians held in Beirut for four years now. (NBC-14)

AQUINO

Brokaw reports President Corazon Aquino of the Phillipines has ordered that all of the more than two hundred private armies on those islands be disbanded. One of those is the 40,000 member Civilian Home Defense Force which was set up by the military to help fight communist rebels. (NBC-9, ABC-10)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

THE POLLARD CASE AND U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS

Pollard Spy Case Still Lacking Sufficient Action From Israel -- "Jonathan Pollard supplied information about the Israelis he worked with in this sordid affair. It's not unreasonable, then to expect that a genuine feeling of betrayal would impel Israeli officials to invoke justice on those among them who so severely damaged the U.S.-Israeli relationship, at least in a degree commensurate with the court-imposed imprisonment for the Pollards."
(Salt Lake City Tribune, 3/8)

Spying For Israel -- "Israel and the U.S. have cooperated remarkably on intelligence over the years.... Such exchanges are never total, yet Israel penetrated to gather more U.S. intelligence than the U.S. was exchanging, at the risk of curtailing that exchange. Explanations and discipline are necessary, but not yet forthcoming."
(Baltimore Sun, 3/8)

Wake Up To U.S. Anger, Israel -- "The Israeli government, for a long time, has misjudged the nature of support for Israel in the U.S. It has acted as if there is nothing Israel could do wrong. Invade Lebanon and lie about it. Don't worry, the U.S. will back us up. Steal U.S. military secrets and get caught. No problem, it's just spying between friends.... The Israeli government should wake up from its complacency and stop taking American support for granted. Americans do support Israel deeply. But we support -- or condemn -- our own government. We don't support Israel, right or wrong, any more than we tolerate a president who violates the law."
(San Diego Tribune, 3/7)

Israel, America and Espionage -- "It's not astonishing that Jerusalem failed initially to grasp the furor this incident would provoke. The Israelis depend for their very survival on a top-flight intelligence capability. They also believe -- in a hard-headed but not unrealistic way -- that spying is something everyone does, and that their real mistake was in getting caught. But turning American officials into spies is something quite different from...conducting aerial reconnaissance or intercepting communications. It's a practice to be expected of enemies and adversaries -- not of close friends."
(New York Post, 3/10)

Jonathan Pollard, Traitor? -- "In considering a breach of security, you need to consider who received the stolen information. As upset as the Pentagon would be to find out that someone was handing over defense secrets to the Canadians...or the British, it would be far more upset to learn that the recipient was Cuba or the Soviet Union. By any yardstick, the damage would be incomparably greater.... Mr. Pollard stole secrets, which is bad. But he handed them over to one of America's closest allies. It is hard to see how his actions merit the label 'traitor' and a sentence of life at hard labor."
(Bergen County (N.J.) Record, 3/13)

CONTRA AID

Don't Crow Yet -- "Crowing over Wednesday's party-line moratorium on aid to the Nicaraguan resistance, House Majority Leader Thomas Foley boasted that Congress never would appropriate more aid for those forces opposing the Sandinistas.... If the Marxist regime in Managua is able to consolidate its tyranny without opposition, if it exports its revolution to neighboring states, if the Soviet empire dispatches its proconsuls to these new provinces, and if the ensuing chaos and repression force millions of refugees to flee northward toward the Rio Grande, this week's victory will offer little to crow about." (Washington Times, 3/13)

Cruz Resignation A Clear Warning -- "Scratch 'freedom' from 'freedom fighters.' The resignation of Arturo Cruz from the contra leadership strips away the organization's threadbare coat of respectability. It was a coat that never quite fit. Cruz -- a banker and former Sandinista official -- is an authentic reformer and political moderate, but he never had much influence in the contra movement. The rebels have always been dominated by...right-wingers who served under Nicaragua's deposed dictator, Anastasio Somoza. Their commitment to democratic principles is as frail as that of the Sandinistas they want to defeat." (Milwaukee Journal, 3/11)

U.S. Must Prepare Now For The Post-Contra Era -- "There can be no progress unless and until the contra war is ended. It has not toppled Nicaragua's Sandinista regime or defused the region's conflict. And if peace talks were once the Administration's goal, it's time Nicaragua's willingness was tested. There's no longer a viable 'military solution' card to play. It's time the U.S. rebuilt bridges in Central America, before the chasm widens." (Philadelphia Inquirer, 3/16)

Dishonest Debate On The Contras -- "The campaign by Congressional Democrats to cut off all aid to the Nicaraguan contras has been characterized by an almost seedy dishonesty. Instead of asserting outright that the U.S. should learn to live with a Marxist regime in Managua, these Congressmen obfuscate the debate with arguments altogether irrelevant to the real issue.... Sadly, the vote indicates that the Democrats are likely to succeed eventually in terminating U.S. aid to the contras -- possibly without debating the question that matters...." (New York Post, 3/13)

Why Prolong The Contra War? -- "The President should face the facts now before he loses all credibility and leverage in the region with a final cutoff of funds next fall. A renewed effort toward a negotiated peace in Central America makes far more sense than sending the contras out for a last offensive before we jerk the rug out from under them." (Denver Post, 3/11)

Junta Aid -- "After nearly five years of...thinking of new ways to block U.S. support for the democratic resistance fighting the Sandinistas, the [House Democrats] are now trying to turn the fate of the Nicaraguan people over to accountants.... The security interests of the U.S. in keeping a second neighboring country out of the communist orbit shouldn't have to wait for a Congressional foreign policy team that won't act until it gets the Good Housekeeping seal of approval from the General Accounting Office." (Wall Street Journal, 3/10)