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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1987 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ABM Policy Linked To Hill's Action On 'Star Wars' Budget -- A decision on adopting the broad interpretation of the ABM Treaty now hinges on how Congress disposes of President Reagan's \$5.9 billion 1988 request for SDI, according to senior Administration officials. (Washington Times)

Dollar Plunges, Tokyo Stocks Tumble On Fears Of Trade War -- The dollar plunged to record lows and the Tokyo stock market tumbled today as investors worried about a trade war between the U.S. and Japan, dealers said. (USA Today, Reuter)

NATIONAL NEWS

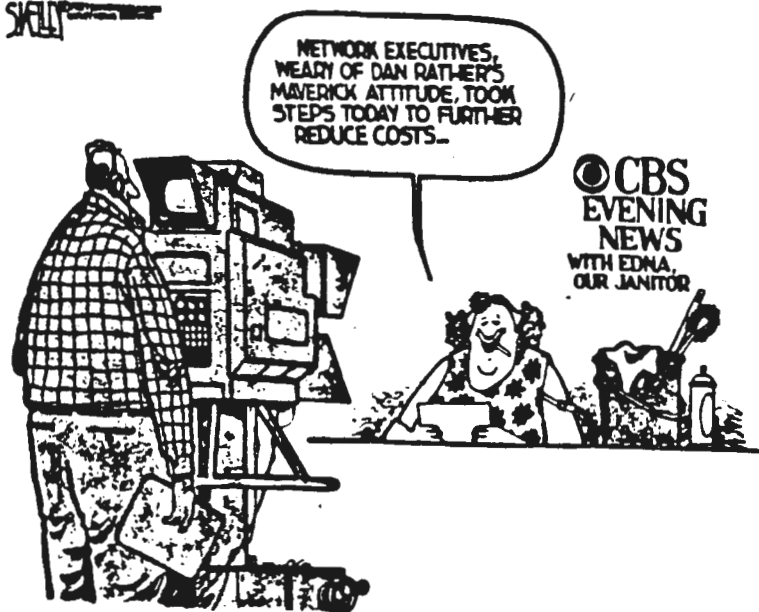
Baker Helping Reagan Renew Ties To Conservative Leaders -- With the help of White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker, President Reagan is retracing his political roots to the conservative movement. (AP)

NETWORK NEWS (Sunday Evening)

U.S. SOVIET EMBASSY -- The Pentagon has ordered an investigation into the use of Marine guards at U.S. embassies.

CARTER/MIDEAST -- Jimmy Carter encouraged Israel and the Reagan Administration to move toward a peace conference with Arab states.

SKETCH BY [unintelligible]



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SDI ENDANGERED BY ITS FRIENDS

The (SDI) program is now menaced by some of its most ardent advocates and original supporters. Such conservatives as Sen. Malcolm Wallop and Rep. Jack Kemp are pushing for immediate deployment of a largely token defense system that would have the effect of repudiating the 1972 ABM Treaty. They are counting on the support of Defense Secretary Weinberger, usually influential with the President in his areas of expertise.

As Reagan has acknowledged, all present SDI tests can be carried out under strict adherence to the ABM Treaty. A decision against the treaty at this time is also a decision against SDI, since Democrats are likely to retaliate by slashing the program's budget.

In addition, there is a persuasive pro-SDI case against early deployment of a jerry-built system that would give minimal protection to U.S. missile sites and none to civilians. "The one way you can kill SDI in its infancy is to deploy something that doesn't work," a senior Administration official said last week. "That would be doing SDI no favor."

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A2)

ABM POLICY LINKED TO HILL'S ACTION ON 'STAR WARS' BUDGET

A decision on adopting the broad interpretation of the ABM Treaty now hinges on how Congress disposes of President Reagan's \$5.9 billion 1988 request for SDI, according to senior Administration officials.

The officials, however, disagree on how that linkage works.

Several sources said the Administration is delaying announcement of its decision until after Congress considers the SDI request for fear of jeopardizing the research funds.

Others believe the decision will be made, in part, on the basis of how much funding Congress provides for the missile defense program.

(Warren Strobel & James Dorsey, Washington Times, A1)

SOVIETS SAY U.S. TRYING TO SCUTTLE EUROMISSILE PACT

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union has accused the U.S. of stalling at the Geneva arms talks and trying to block an agreement banning intermediate-range missiles from Europe.

The charge, leveled Sunday by the Communist Party newspaper Pravda, came two weeks before Secretary Shultz is due in the Soviet capital for crucial talks on the arms negotiations.

"After the initial and fairly favorable response to the Soviet proposal, there has ensued a pause in Washington," Pravda said. "It has often been this way before, to gain time for regrouping forces."

(Jack Redden, UPI)

PROSPECTS OF A TREATY WORRY THE GENERALS

When Secretary Shultz heads to Moscow next month, looking over his shoulder will be nervous NATO generals who doubt they have the might to hold off the Russians without medium-range missiles.

And when Shultz meets Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze on April 13-16, it is by no means clear they will be able to conclude a proposed deal to rid Europe of 441 Soviet SS-20s and 208 U.S. Pershing 2 and 108 cruise missiles.
(Bryan Brumley, AP)

'SHORT-RANGE' MISSILES A CENTRAL OBSTACLE TO TREATY PROGRESS

A dozen or so short-range missiles deployed two years ago on the Soviet-Polish border have suddenly emerged as a crucial sticking point in U.S.-Soviet efforts to reduce nuclear weapons in Europe, U.S. officials and arms control experts said last week.

Those SS23 Soviet missiles are the principal target of a U.S. demand that would cap the number of such short-range missiles at the current level, the officials said. The Soviets, rejecting that demand, want to defer any limits on short-range missile forces and keep the option of modernizing their force with SS23s.

(Jeffrey Smith, Washington Post, A18)

MOSCOW LIKELY TO REJECT THATCHER'S RIGHTS-ARMS LINK

MOSCOW -- Kremlin leader Gorbachev is likely to reject any effort by British Prime Minister Thatcher to link human rights with disarmament issues when they begin talks in Moscow today, Soviet sources said.

According to the sources, Gorbachev will respond with a list of what Moscow regards as British violations of human rights if Thatcher attempts to make a major issue of problems the Kremlin views as purely internal affairs.

"We don't think she will be on very strong ground if she tries to push this issue," one Soviet official said yesterday. "The way Britain has handled Northern Ireland as well as the trade union movement recently is not a model for democracy."
(Robert Evans, Reuter)

EUROMISSILES ON THE AGENDA IN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON

Prime Ministers Thatcher of Britain and Chirac of France -- making separate trips to the superpower capitals this week -- are expected to outline Europe's concern over any ban on mid-range nuclear missiles.

Soviet leader Gorbachev meets today in Moscow with Thatcher during the first summit between the two countries in 12 years.

President Reagan meets Tuesday with Chirac, who'll discuss France's reluctance to back a mid-range missile agreement that doesn't consider shorter-range nuclear weapons -- or French and British nuclear weapons.

(Juan Walte, USA Today, A4)

THATCHER GIVES SOVIETS BRITISH-STYLE 'GLASNOST'

MOSCOW -- It could have been election day in Finchley, Margaret Thatcher's home constituency in suburban London. Working her way through Russian crowd that grabbed her hand, stroked her garments and occasionally pecked her cheek, the British prime minister looked as though she were about to solicit their votes for her Conservative Party.

Today was Thatcher's day to meet people here, and she went about it in her usual purposeful way during tours of a monastery, a high-rise housing project and a supermarket. The Soviets, who turned out in seemingly spontaneous droves at every stop, appeared delighted as she repeated the Russian equivalent of "Hello. Pleased to meet you."

For the most part the second of Thatcher's five days here seemed satisfying to all concerned. Her "walkabout" gave the Soviet government of Mikhail Gorbachev another chance to display its new openness both to the outside world and to its own people. Thatcher's aides were obviously pleased with the turnout, the message she delivered, and the pictures destined for the evening news back home.

(Karen DeYoung, Washington Post, A13)

WHITE HOUSE IS ACCUSED OF AIDING THATCHER BID

LONDON -- The opposition Labor Party today accused the White House of distorting party leader Neil Kinnock's talks with President Reagan to help Prime Minister Thatcher's reelection chances.

Labor deputy leader Denis Healey, a former foreign secretary, also charged that Reagan appeared badly briefed and muddled during Friday's meeting at the White House. He said Reagan was incapable of responding to some questions and that he mistook Healey for the British ambassador.

(AP story, Washington Post, A18)

SOVIETS TO TRY OFFERING VOTER CLEAR CHOICE

Contest In Localities Scheduled For June

MOSCOW -- Elections featuring several candidates and billed as experimental will be held in select districts throughout the country on June 21, the Soviet news agency Tass announced today. The move will give voters a choice of candidates on a wide scale for the first time in Soviet history.

At certain polling places in 15 Soviet republics and autonomous regions, voters will have a choice of candidates for posts on local governing councils and for judges on district courts, Tass said.

(Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

EAST EUROPE BALKS AT GORBACHEV'S REFORMS

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia -- In an unusual twist, Eastern European leaders who for decades promoted reforms to a disapproving Moscow are now balking at Soviet leader Gorbachev's reform crusade.

Communist Party officials in Czechoslovakia and the other five Warsaw Pact nations face the daunting prospect of encouraging dangerous public expectations by lifting the lid on their stagnant centrally planned economies.

(Patricia Koza, UPI)

EMBASSY SPIES MAY HAVE DONE MORE DAMAGE THAN WALKERS

The Soviet KGB intelligence service last year penetrated the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, gaining access to communications equipment, top secret documents, the defense attache's office and "other sensitive intelligence spaces," according to military court papers.

An Administration official said a preliminary investigation of the espionage case involving two Marine security guards indicates that the security breach is one of the most serious intelligence failures in U.S. history. A wide range of intelligence techniques, sources and methods were compromised by the KGB operation, said the official, who declined to be named.

"The damage can only be estimated, but I believe it is incalculable," said the official. "The worst part is that we may never know how much was lost."

(Bill Gertz, Washington Times, A1)

JAPAN TO TRY TO HEAD OFF TARIFFS

TOKYO -- Japan plans to buy multimillion-dollar American supercomputers in hopes of inducing Washington to cancel penalty tariffs imposed in a dispute over trade in key electronic parts, newspapers reported Sunday.

But a Ministry of International Trade and Industry spokesman, asked Monday if the reports were true, said, "There's absolutely no connection" between the reported purchases and the hopes of mollifying Washington.

(AP)

DOLLAR PLUNGES, TOKYO STOCKS TUMBLE ON FEARS OF TRADE WAR

TOKYO -- The dollar plunged to record lows and the Tokyo stock market tumbled today as investors worried about a trade war between the U.S. and Japan, dealers said.

Battered by waves of Japanese selling, the dollar fell to a record low of 144.70 yen this morning, more than four yen below its level in Tokyo on Friday. The previous record low in Tokyo of 148.40 was set last Tuesday.

With Tokyo digging in its heels against U.S. pressure over trade in computer microchips, the currency markets decided that the only solution to the two countries' huge trade imbalance lay in a lower dollar, dealers said.

(Rich Miller, Reuter)

Dollar Dive Gives Market Jitters

Wall Street -- beset by jitters over the dollar's value -- faces a new challenge today after the dollar plunged in Tokyo to the lowest exchange rate ever.

In trading midday Monday, Tokyo time, the dollar dropped to 144.75 yen after opening at 145.80, the lowest opening since exchange rates were set after World War II. Friday's close was 149 yen.

Wall Street's fear: Japanese investors -- big players in the market -- may pull out because the value of their holdings fall along with the dollar.

(Bob Twigg, USA Today, A1)

OUTLOOK BRIGHTENS ON U.S.-JAPAN SEMICONDUCTOR TRADE DISPUTE

The prospect for settlement of a trade dispute between the U.S. and Japan has brightened after a top U.S. official predicted the two nations would soon settle their differences.

Similarly, the Japanese government said yesterday it was moving to prevent the dispute from flaring into a trade war between the two nations by depicting the U.S. action against Japanese semiconductor exports as a warning to Japanese manufacturers rather than to the government itself.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige had conciliatory words for the Japanese government in a broadcast interview yesterday and predicted that the dispute would soon be settled.

"Their (Japan's) government wants to live up to (the accord). Their industries haven't been doing it, and I think we'll have a good settlement to spare both sides," Baldrige said on ABC television. (Reuter)

CHIP WAR HIGHLIGHTS DIFFERENCES U.S., Japanese Industries Vary

KUMAMOTO CITY, Japan -- The U.S. has Silicon Valley. Japan has Silicon Island.

The jagged coastline of Kyushu, the southernmost of Japan's four main islands, is dotted with trim factories where workers in dust-free production chambers every day turn out millions of the tiny, silicon-based electronic chips known as semiconductors.

Semiconductors are yet another story of remarkable economic success in postwar Japan. But today they are causing what could be this country's most dangerous trade showdown with its ally, the United States.

(John Burgess, Washington Post, A1)

U.S. OFFICIALS MAKE IMPORTANT GAINS AT IDB MEETING

U.S. officials will seek during the next two weeks to build on the subtle yet important gains they have made in their attempt to win more control over the Inter-American Development Bank.

Treasury Secretary James Baker and his aides left the IDB's annual meeting in Miami last week looking more like pariahs than potential regents. Delegates privately snickered over Baker's rosy assessment of Latin America's economic health, and IDB officials refused to act on a U.S. proposal to give Washington near-veto power on the bank's loans.

Nevertheless, the agency that has lent more than \$35 billion to Latin America and the Caribbean since 1959 is evolving. In the future, it almost certainly will reflect more often Washington's view of what Latin America and the Caribbean need. (Craig Webb, UPI)

INDICTED ISRAELI RESIGNS

Col. Sella, Pollard's Alleged Contact, Cites U.S. Relations

JERUSALEM -- Israeli Air Force Col. Aviem Sella, who is under U.S. indictment for his alleged role in the Jonathan Pollard spy affair, today resigned his post as commander of one of Israel's largest air bases, citing his concern about relations with the U.S. and American Jews.

Sella, whose appointment to the new post late last month just days before his indictment helped touch off a new storm of controversy over the spying scandal, said in his one-page letter of resignation to the Air Force commander, Gen. Amos Lapidot: "The deterioration in Israeli-U.S. relations and my concern for the future of ties between the two countries and for relations with American Jews have induced me to ask you to relieve me from my duties as commander of the Tel Nof base."

(Glenn Frankel, Washington Post, A1)

CARTER CRITICAL OF ISRAEL

HAIFA, Israel -- Former president Jimmy Carter is ending his five-nation Middle East tour on a critical note, questioning Israel's actions since the Camp David agreement.

On Sunday, Carter met with Israeli analysts at Tel Aviv's Dayan Center, a Middle East think tank, and criticized Israeli policy in the occupied Arab territories. (UPI)

SHAMIR SAYS ISRAEL WILL HOLD WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP

Tel Aviv, Israel -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Sunday the West Bank and Gaza Strip will remain in Israeli hands "forever," drawing loud applause from delegates to a convention of his right-wing Herut Party.

The delegates approved a resolution urging the government to annex the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which have been occupied by Israel since the 1967 Middle East war. (Allyn Fisher, AP)

HUSSEIN WEIGHING U.S. VISIT

Progress Toward Mideast Peace Talks Seen Critical Issue

AMMAN, Jordan -- Jordan is sending two top officials to Washington next week to discuss whether a visit by King Hussein would succeed in making progress toward an international peace conference on the Middle East, a senior Jordanian official said today.

Jordanian Prime Minister Zeid Rifai and Foreign Minister Taher Masri will go to Washington April 5, the official said.

Such a visit by Hussein would represent a sharp change in the Arab leader's attitude. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Hussein, two of the U.S.'s closest Arab allies, were invited last December and January, respectively, to visit Washington. But both turned down the invitations at the time, in large part because of anger over the Reagan Administration's sale of arms to Iran.

(Samira Kavar, Washington Post, A1)

NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN STARTS WEEK WITH PEP TALK TO POLITICAL APPOINTEES

President Reagan, determined to show he has not abandoned his political agenda, faces combat with Congress to push his Administration forward.

Reagan planned a pep talk with political appointees today to show resolve on his objectives, though his appearance before the Executive Forum carried symbolic importance as well -- coming on the sixth anniversary of the shooting that wounded him, press secretary James Brady and two law officers.

The success with which Reagan bounced back from that personal crisis has not been lost on those responsible for advising him about how to rebound from the political damage of the Iran-contra scandal.

In the last few weeks, White House officials have gone to great lengths to counter that furor with stepped-up activity by the President on such issues as arms control, trade and domestic policy -- plus a much higher public profile.

(Norman Sandler, UPI)

BAKER HELPING REAGAN RENEW TIES TO CONSERVATIVE LEADERS

With the help of White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker, President Reagan is retracing his political roots to the conservative movement.

In a month's time, Baker has played the dual role of political genealogist and goodwill ambassador, setting up a system in which conservatives can meet regularly with Reagan as he seeks to regain the leadership momentum of earlier years.

"We have a new team in the White House," a senior Administration official said, "so I think it is only natural that the President would want to re-integrate some of his older supporters with his new members of the White House team...to get their views on a regular basis, to see what we ought to be doing."

(Susanne Schafer, AP)

CONGRESS IN SHOWDOWN WITH WHITE HOUSE OVER HIGHWAY BILL

With Democrats crying foul and twisting arms for support, Congress is heading for a major showdown with President Reagan this week over his veto of a popular \$88 billion highway construction bill.

Even the White House conceded that "we're clearly the underdog" as the House and Senate prepared for climactic votes on whether to override Reagan's veto of the bill. Both chambers earlier had approved the bipartisan measure by overwhelming margins.

(Robert Andrews, AP)

Reagan Mobilizes Friends To Sustain Highway Bill Veto

President Reagan this week is pulling out all the stops to mobilize enough votes to uphold his veto of the \$87.5 billion highway bill. Those on both sides of the issue say the outcome is too close to call.

"I am not only willing, but anxious, to sign a responsible bill to continue highway and transit programs," Reagan said when he vetoed the measure Friday.

Reagan continued his strategy of arm-twisting, personal persuasion and calling in pledges of support from members of Congress who have promised to help cut the federal deficit and support his veto of "over-weight" spending bills. (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3)

Reagan Steps Up Drive To Sustain Veto On Highways

Facing a critical legislative test, President Reagan lobbied vigorously over the weekend to sustain his veto of an \$88 billion highway and mass transit bill that would also allow states to raise the federal speed limit to 65 miles per hour on rural interstates.

He pressed two key arguments: that the bill was too expensive and that his political prestige and power were at stake. He also promised to sign a less costly version of the bill as quickly as possible, should his veto be upheld. (Steven Roberts, New York Times, A1)

ILL WINDS FOR AIR FORCE STAFFING PLAN

House Chairmen Say Reorganization Weakens Civilian Oversight

Two ranking House members, charging that the Air Force is weakening its in-house watchdogs, have asked Secretary Weinberger to delay implementation of the service's reorganization plan.

In a letter to Weinberger, Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin and Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman John Dingell wrote that the Air Force reorganization "appears to emasculate internal civilian controls and checks and balances." (Molly Moore, Washington Post, A9)

DESTROYING CHEMICAL WEAPONS STOCKPILE WILL COST MORE THAN \$2 BILLION

The Army says it will cost as much as \$2.8 billion to destroy thousands of tons of aging and obsolete chemical weapons, a program ordered by Congress as part of the long-running fight over whether to build new U.S. gas weapons.

The latest cost figures were sent to Congress last week as the House Armed Services Committee prepared to begin writing a Pentagon budget for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1. (Tim Ahern, AP)

CIVIL RIGHTS DOCUMENTS BACKDATED

Action Enabled U.S. Aides To Falsely Certify Compliance With Order

High-ranking Education Department officials have acknowledged repeated backdating of key documents to make it appear that they complied with a court order for quick reviews of civil rights complaints, according to department reports.

The practice enabled them to certify falsely to a federal judge that the government was obeying strict court-ordered deadlines for the civil rights reviews, department officials acknowledged in interviews last week. The department has been fighting the court order for more than a year.

(Howard Kurtz, Washington Post, A1)

AFDC CHANGES LIKELY AS LAWMAKERS CONCUR WELFARE MOTHERS SHOULD WORK

Program's Tremendous Growth, Shift In Social Attitudes Are Factors

Changes in public attitudes over the last few years have produced a consensus on one of the most contentious debates affecting the principal federal program for low-income mothers with children -- that welfare mothers should be forced to work whenever possible.

This idea has emerged as one of the most widely accepted concepts of the current session of Congress, likely to be the subject of major action.

Several elements have combined to bring about this change of attitude. Among other things, public attitudes about working women in general have changed in the last few decades, and many are worried about the cost of the program, which has grown tremendously in recent years. And many are fearful that welfare may be creating a new permanent underclass.

(Spencer Rich, Washington Post, A4)

REAGAN AND THE GRIDIRON'S GOOD SPORTS

VIP Watching And Verse With Sting At The Annual Roast Of Spring

After three hours of spoofs of the events and explanations and reexplanations of the Iran-contra affair, President Reagan got his turn at the mike at the Gridiron Club's white-tie dinner.

"With the Iran thing occupying everyone's attention, I was thinking: Do you remember the flap when I said, 'We begin bombing in five minutes?' Remember when I fell asleep during my audience with the pope? Remember Bitburg? ...Boy, those were the good old days."

The audience loved it.

This Reaganesque confession took place in the appropriately satirical "off-the-record" setting of the annual Gridiron dinner Saturday night at the Capital Hilton. The dinner is one of Washington's most exclusive traditions, hosted by a core of 60 journalists who invite their publishers, government officials and other headliners to a lavish meal and satirical show. Working reporters, however, are not allowed to attend.

And the President and Nancy Reagan were by all accounts good old sports about the skits that lampooned the President's memory (or lack thereof), Nancy Reagan's behind-the-scenes power plays, the activities of former White House aides John Poindexter, Oliver North and Donald Regan and the contents of Swiss bank accounts.

(Jacqueline Trescott & Victoria Dawson, Washington Post, B1)

Reagan Upstages Hosts At Annual Roast

President Reagan stole the weekend's 102nd Gridiron Club show -- trading barbs with the journalism establishment at the annual white-tie, political song-and-dance roast.

Responding to a skit that singed him as reading working papers during TV commercial breaks, Reagan said: "That's inaccurate. I watch the commercials. I read the papers while the news is on."

(Jessica Lee, USA Today, A4)

A SPRING OUTING FOR HOUSE REPUBLICANS

NEW YORK -- Republicans in the House of Representatives, depressed through the fall and winter by poor election results and President Reagan's troubles with the Iran-contra affair, decided a spring outing might lift their spirits.

Along the way, they ate, drank and danced the samba; auditioned five potential successors to Reagan; pondered party philosophy; and paid tribute to the First Federal Congress, which met in the spring of 1789 at Federal Hall in New York.

(Cliff Haas, AP)

FANFARE FOR SLAVA'S BIRTHDAY

Nancy Reagan Leads NSO Salute To The Maestro

Nancy Reagan was the National Symphony Orchestra's final guest conductor last night at the Kennedy Center, and though she followed in the tracks of such musical notables as Leonard Bernstein, Yehudi Menuhin, James Conlon and Maxim Shostakovich, she got the most vivid reaction from the audience.

She managed that by turning her back to the orchestra, once she had it rolling, and conducting the audience, *molto adagio e con sentimento*, in a heartfelt rendition of "Happy Birthday to You" (in honor of Mstislav Rostropovich's birthday).

(Victoria Dawson & Joseph McLellan, Washington Post, B7)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Foley: Braking Partisanship -- Majority Leader's Pragmatism Finds Respect," appears in The Washington Post, A1.

IRAN — NICARAGUA

U.S. KNEW BUT DID NOT REVEAL IRAN ARMS SHIPMENTS TO SANDINISTAS

Thousands of rifles and hundreds of thousands of rounds of ammunition were sent from Iran to Nicaragua in early 1985 shortly before the White House arms overtures to Tehran, present and former U.S. officials say.

The Administration never publicly denounced the alleged Iranian role in arming the Sandinista government, unlike the highly critical U.S. attitude toward the military ties of other Middle East radicals and Marxist countries with Nicaragua.

Three sources who verified the Iranian-Sandinista link suggested the Administration remained silent on the arms shipments to promote a favorable atmosphere for its secret overtures to Iran during an 18-month period between 1985 and 1986. (George Gedda, AP)

NEWSPAPER SAYS ISRAELI OFFICIAL MET WITH GHORBANIFAR

JERUSALEM -- An Israeli official accused of playing a role in secret U.S. arms sales to Iran met in Europe with Iranian middleman Manucher Ghorbanifar 10 days ago without the Israeli government's knowledge, a newspaper said Sunday.

The centrist Hadashot newspaper said Amiram Nir, a counter-terrorism adviser to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, met Ghorbanifar in Switzerland in an encounter unconnected to his government post and unapproved by his superiors. (AP)

IRN PROBES TAKE SEARCH ACROSS GLOBE

Congressional investigators fan out across the world this week in pursuit of evidence to lay bare the Iran-contra affair:

Staff members of the House and Senate committees probing the scandal are in Central America focusing on covert operations to resupply Nicaraguan rebels. Others will be in Paris wednesday to interview Manucher Ghorbanifar, middleman in the sale of arms to Iran. And more are searching for clues in Switzerland, Denmark and the United Kingdom.

(Leslie Phillips, USA Today, A4)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Sunday Evening, March 29, 1987; CBS News was pre-empted)

U.S. SOVIET EMBASSY

NBC's Chris Wallace: The Pentagon has ordered a thorough investigation into the use of Marine guards at U.S. embassies following allegations that two Marines allowed Soviet spies access to the American Embassy in Moscow. While officials are moving fast to make sure it doesn't happen again, their first concern is to find out just how much damage was done in Moscow.

NBC's Jim Miklaszewski: The damage in the Marine spy scandal at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow is apparently so serious that members of the Senate Intelligence Committee were reported shaken by a secret briefing on the matter last week.

(George Carver, Intelligence Expert: "You obviously have a very serious set of compound security breaches. Just how serious no one yet knows, but the damage must have been substantial.")

And the Pentagon is considering a shake-up in the entire Marine guard corps.

(Secretary Weinberger: "I'm going to look at the whole thing, the way they're chosen, the training, and the way the Soviets will continually try to subvert them.")

...Reports from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow reveal an overall lack of discipline among Marine guards and lack of supervision from their superiors.... Although no other Marines have been implicated in the sex-for-secrets scandal the Pentagon is apparently prepared to clean house and replace the entire Marine Corps contingent now on guard in Moscow. (NBC-Lead)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: In the wake of the arrest of two Marine guards at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow on charges of espionage, all sensitive communications between the embassy and the outside world have been shut down. Messages are hand-carried in and out by select courier teams who are shuttling between Moscow and Frankfurt, West Germany. (ABC-3)

CARTER/MIDEAST/SELLA

Donaldson: Former President Jimmy Carter went on American television today from Israel to prod his Israeli hosts and the Reagan Administration to move forward toward a peace conference with Arab nations who Mr. Carter described as more ready to negotiate peace with Israel now than ever before. But Mr. Carter's Israeli hosts were more interested in moving backward from a tense confrontation with the United States over the Pollard spy case.

ABC's Dean Reynolds: Although this has been a private trip to the Middle East, the visit of Jimmy Carter has an official look and sound to it. Today he was on American television from Israel offering his views on settling the Arab-Israeli conflict, pushing for an international peace conference and urging the Reagan Administration to offer more than passive support for the idea.

Reynolds continue:

(Jimmy Carter: "This is a matter that can only be overcome, in my judgment, by a comprehensive approach, which is now possible in my judgment, through an international peace conference.")

Mr. Carter says Arab leaders he's met, including Syrian President Assad, are ready to accept this format.

(Mr. Carter: "This is a very significant move forward in the last year or so.")

But Israel is divided on the idea. Prime Minister Shamir is against it.... Foreign Minister Perez is for it. Mr. Carter said today Shamir is wrong.... While the Israeli prime minister may be opposed to the peace conference idea, he would dearly love to make progress on another issue that divides Jerusalem from Washington: the Pollard spy scandal. Tonight he may have found a way. Col. Sella, who was indicted earlier this month for allegedly directing convicted spy Jonathan Pollard, announced his resignation as commander of a major Israeli air base.... Sella said tonight in his letter of resignation that he was stepping down to halt the worsening of Israeli-U.S. relations. The Israeli military quickly accepted the resignation....

(ABC-Lead, NBC-2)

THE PRESIDENT

Wallace: President Reagan's effort to look more on top of things in the aftermath of the Iran arms scandal may have suffered a new setback. The leader of the British Labor Party, Dennis Healey, says when he met with the President Friday Mr. Reagan said, "Nice to see you again, Mr. Ambassador." In fact, the President has met the ambassador, Sir Anthony Acland, many times, and he was standing nearby. Healey talked about it today on British television.

(Healey: "He greeted me very effusively, as an old friend, which I'm not in fact. It was the first time I've met him up close. But I think that was because he thought I was the British Ambassador and the British Ambassador was able to explain that that was a mistake.")

(NBC-5)

U.S.-JAPAN/TRADE

Donaldson: Japanese newspapers report this Sunday that Japan plans to buy multi-million dollar American super computers in an effort to get Washington to drop the idea of imposing stiff tariffs on some Japanese goods. President Reagan announced on Friday such retaliation will be taken because Japan has not lived up to an agreement on marketing electronic microchips. The Japanese have a huge trade surplus with the United States. They are awash in American greenbacks and as a result they are buying up everything....

(ABC-6)

THATCHER/GOBACHEV

Donaldson: British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher sits down tomorrow with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for their first business session of Mrs. Thatcher's current visit to Moscow. They'll talk about arms control and that talk may be tough.

(ABC-2)

-more-

KOOP/AIDS

Wallace: Surgeon General C. Everett Koop said today an AIDS vaccine is unlikely during the remainder of this century. Speaking on CBS's Face The Nation, Koop said AIDS is a very complicated virus and he doesn't think a vaccine is, "in the cards before the year 2000."
(NBC-6)

PHILIPPINES/VIGILANTES

Donaldson: Philippine President Corazon Aquino, having declared war against communist rebels, today endorsed the idea of employing unarmed citizen groups in the fight -- "people power" she called it. But not everyone there thinks that's a good idea.
(ABC-8)

GRIDIRON DINNER

Donaldson: It was fun and games last night in Washington at the annual Gridiron Dinner where the town's top print journalists lampoon the nation's top officials. To the tune of "Try To Remember" they sang to President Reagan: Try to remember the time in September when you said yes or was it golly. And he was accused of doing his evening reading of briefing papers only when the commercials are on. But it was the President who stole the show when, taking it all in good spirits he fired back, "I watch the commercials. I read my briefing papers during the news." And recalling the criticism he once received for joking that the bombing begins in five minutes, for falling asleep with the Pope, and for going to Bitburg, Mr. Reagan sighed, "Those were the good old days."
(ABC-7)

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

Moderator: David Brinkley. Panel: George Will, Sam Donaldson.
Guests: Rev. Jerry Falwell; Professor Harvey Cox, Harvard University;
Leander Keck, Dean, Yale Divinity School; Robert Dugan, National
Association of Evangelicals; Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, President, Notre
Dame University.

The panel and guests discussed the current situation of evangelicals and television ministers.

FREE-FOR-ALL DISCUSSION (Bob Maynard, Editor of The Oakland Tribune joins panel.)

On Trade:

Brinkley: This week President Reagan announced that on certain Japanese products...he might put a 100% tariff.... Finally we're actually going to do something maybe. Isn't it about time?

Will: I think it is about time. But it ain't quite done. This is probably part of a bargaining tactic having to do with the coming visit of Mr. Nakasone....

Donaldson: This puts Nakasone on the spot.... I will bet that he (Nakasone) won't be able to cure the problem, we'll go ahead and have these tariffs put in place for a few weeks or maybe months, and then he'll cure it.

Maynard: ...This is a move of the most genteel sort on the part of this Administration.... These sanctions would apply to...a rather small drop in the bucket from a substantive standpoint....

Will: Most of the trade deficit we run with Japan...derives from the fact that the Japanese, with malice aforethought, keep sending us products that are cheaper and better than a lot of the things we're making here. There's a tone of whininess creeping into American life that I think's unbecoming a great nation.

Maynard: It helps us to avoid facing the inefficiencies and the lack of productivity within our own industries by putting all the blame on the Japanese....

Donaldson: Let's not lose sight of the fact that while everyone is saying this will not precipitate a trade war, this is the first shot -- a formal shot -- of a trade war.... Ronald Reagan is the one who has preached for years, "open markets, no protectionism."... But...he's now the first president of modern times to engage in protectionism.

THIS WEEK (continued)

On The Highway Bill:

Brinkley: Will Congress override his (the President's) veto?

Maynard: There's a fair chance that it may.... The President calls it lard but I would remind you that in some instances what the President calls lard, for somebody else may be protein....

Donaldson: Major figures told the President he oughtn't pick this fight.... But on this one I go with Ronald Reagan. I think he was right to do it because there is a budget battle. And if the President is gonna stand for anything on that, he can't allow these bills to go through willy-nilly. I think he's right to veto this bill and I predict that in the Senate he will just barely, by the skin of his teeth, be sustained.

Will: Even if everything in this bill turned out to be a good idea, the brute fact is that we cannot afford all good ideas in this country when we're running a...deficit....

Donaldson: The Democrats say we're gonna go in a sharp recession if he vetoes this bill and his veto is sustained, because, they say, that they can't come up with another bill in any short period of time.... Remember, this is a Congress, not this particular one, but Congress can when it needs to adjust something like the TV blackouts on Sunday, in 48 hours it can come up with a bill....

On Affirmative Action:

Brinkley: ...Is that (ruling) fair?

Will: You ask, "Is this fair?" I respectfully say that is not the question.... What they are paid to do...is construing the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title VII.... They have turned out the original intent as expressed by Hubert Humphrey...when Title VII was being enacted. They turned inside out the intent of this bill....

CBS -- FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Bruce Morton.

Guests: C. Everett Koop, Surgeon General; Dr. Harvey Fineberg, Dean, Harvard School of Public Health; Fred Wolf, AIDS Coordinator; Thomas Stoddard, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Guest: C. Everett Koop.

Morton: You've said that the epidemic in this country is poorly reported, and that the only way we are really going to get a handle on its size is through testing. What sort of testing program do you envisage?

Koop: ...There is such a stigma associated with this disease that you have to be very careful who knows that an individual is sero-positive for the AIDS virus, because that person could lose his job, he could lose his housing, he could lose his friends.... But there is no doubt about the fact that if we could do that with some broad spectrum of people, we would have a much better handle on the epidemiology of this disease.

Morton: What kind of testing do you see, then, something random like people being admitted to hospitals?

Koop: That would be one way to do it....

Morton: The government has also suggested that people who had blood transfusions in the last ten years get the test.... Are too many people who don't need to be tested getting tested?

Koop: I think that that was misunderstood. What the government really said was that if you had had multiple transfusions in those areas of the country where the virus was prevalent in the period in question, then it would be good to go and see your doctor and be counselled.

Morton: What about pregnant women, ought they to be tested?

Koop: I've been so misquoted on this I'd like to make it clear.... I have not changed my position on abortion at all -- I am still opposed to it and would not recommend it. However, I think that any woman who is pregnant and is sero-positive for the AIDS virus is entitled to the option of abortion counselling if she so desires.

Morton: Do you...really believe that you can change people's behavior by education?

Koop: We do have little cohorts that we've studied where we do know that education does have an effect on people who are prone to have AIDS....

Morton: If education is the answer, is the federal government spending enough?

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Koop: Right now the Centers for Disease Control are letting contracts with advertising agencies, they are doing public service announcements. I think that with a boost in the budget next year we are well on the way to doing the right thing about education. At the moment we are using about a quarter of our AIDS budget for education, and, inasmuch as the budget has gone up every year, I see that as a hopeful sign, and I think we can make do with the money we have.

Morton: Would it help this education process if Mr. Reagan came out and spoke to American young people?

Koop: I don't know whether young people would believe the President on a health matter any more than they believe the Surgeon General. I just think that we have to keep hammering away at it.

Guest: Dr. Fineberg.

Morton: Are we spending what we ought to be spending?

Fineberg: In my opinion we are not even close....

Morton: Let me raise one other issue with you Doctor, and that is the complaints by some of the affected groups...that the testing of new drugs is too slow.... Is the FDA dragging its feet, in your view?

Fineberg: I don't believe the FDA is dragging its feet.... I do believe that the FDA could move more effectively in making available drugs in proper testing situations to apply to patients with AIDS.

NBC -- MEET THE PRESS

Moderator: Marvin Kalb.

Panel: Tom Brokaw, Chris Wallace.

Guest: Jimmy Carter.

Kalb: On this whole question of criticism when a major American figure is abroad, there is always the possibility of confusing signals being sent, and when you were president you did not like prominent Americans going abroad, criticizing your policy. So what about this whole business, and shouldn't that criticism stop at the water's edge?

Carter: I'm over here, not as a representative of my government, nor a critic of my government. I come representing the Carter Center in Atlanta.... I think that one of the major criticisms that I've expressed is the lack of the Reagan Administration to put Middle East as one of the high priorities. I think that basically President Reagan's policy in the Middle East, as expressed by his very fine speech of September, 1982...is quite compatible with my own. But I don't feel constrained at all to stand mute as a free citizen when I have something that I consider to be very important to say. I hope that the Reagan Administration will change, will elevate Mideast peace to a high priority and in the last two years be successful.

Wallace: You are critical of President Reagan for being too disengaged from the Middle East and a host of other issues.... But some of the (Tower) commission members said that his predecessor, you, had had an opposite problem, that you were too engaged. Does it bother you to see that your management style is viewed as the flip side of President Reagan's?

Carter: What I tried to do was to minimize the number of issues in which I was involved, and when I saw something that had to be managed personally by the president, I did my homework and I tried to master that issue as much as possible....

Wallace: Couldn't some NSC officials in the basement of the White House have been conducting some operations without you knowing about it?

Carter: I don't think so. Not without my knowing about it, or Zbigniew Brzezinski knowing about it or others.

Wallace: How dangerous is it when a president seems to have been disengaged from daily business of government as President Reagan?

Carter: I don't have any criticism about how President Reagan runs his business in the White House. The criticism I've had is how the Administration, in toto, including the secretary of state and others, treats issues that I consider to be crucial.

Brokaw: ...You've been critical of the West Bank policies of the Israeli government. Is Israel now abusing its relationship with the United States?

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Carter: I think every nation on earth does what's best for its own people, uses the alliances that it has, minimizes the adverse effect of animosities.... There's a torture in Israel now about the adverse reactions in our country concerning the arms sales to Iran, the possible diversion of funds to the contras, and particularly the Pollard affair. I think the Israelis are very deeply hopeful that their future investigations about these matters, and those investigations in the United States, will clear these issues up. But I do not think that Israel is, in an unwarranted way, abusing the relationship.

Wallace: Congressional Democrats say that the President is being unrealistic about the 1988 budget; that you've got to raise taxes, and that you may well have to do away or delay the Gramm-Rudman guidelines. Aren't they handing the Republicans two pretty good issues?

Carter: The overall issue...is the size of the deficit; the depression that is devastating the farm economy of our country; the breaking of hundreds of banks since President Reagan's been in office.... These are the kind of long-range consequences of President Reagan's economics that the Democrats should utilize as a political issue.

Wallace: Would you agree to the arms deal that it appears that President Reagan is willing to go for now, eliminate all medium-range missiles in Europe, even if that leaves the Soviets with a big conventional balance?

Carter: I would favor any substantive move towards an arms control agreement that can be put forward. The problem in the last six years has been that we've not only not made any progress -- sometimes our demands have been unreasonable -- but we've tended to dismantle the crucial arms control agreements negotiated by predecessor presidents, including SALT II and others negotiated by Republican and Democratic presidents.... I've never thought that Europe was a likely arena for a confrontation between the two superpowers.... I've always felt that the explosive point might precipitate a confrontation without our control, maybe between Syria and Israel, was in the Middle East.... And that's why I think that now, and in the past, Middle East peace is a crucial matter for any administration in Washington.

THE McLAUGHLIN GROUP

Moderator: John McLaughlin.
Eleanor Clift, Robert Novak.

Panel: Jack Germond, Morton Kondracke,

On Steen/Hostages:

McLaughlin: Because of the Iran affair, the American public attitude towards hostages has shifted. What is that attitude now, and how does it affect Steen?

Clift: For months there's been somewhat of a new callousness towards the hostages ever since Irangate broke.... The fate of Mr. Steen is gonna test our resolve as a people and the resolve of our political leaders -- whether we have the guts to stand up to what is essentially extortion.

Novak: I wouldn't call it callousness, I'd call it a new realism.... I think that the bashing of President Reagan for being insensitive to the needs of the hostages no longer works at all....

Germond: ...Nobody is bashing Ronald Reagan on this. The fact is that Reagan opened the door for criticism by dealing once with terrorists, and this encourages these people who think he'll deal again no matter what he says.

Kondracke: There can't be any pressure on Reagan to trade this time. That's what we all should have learned from the Iran mess....

McLaughlin: Is Jimmy Carter helping or hurting in this matter of hostage release?

Germond: I don't know whether Carter can help anything, but I don't see how in the world he can hurt. Because the fact is there isn't any Mideast policy.

Novak: ...The idea of a former president of the United States going abroad and attacking American policy, attacking the President -- that used to be out of bounds...even for a congressman.

McLaughlin: Is it a political minus or a plus or nothing (for the Democrats)?

Clift: It's a big plus. He looks strong on terrorism and next to Reagan he looks good.

McLaughlin: At his last press conference Ronald Reagan said this: "I... believe that when an American Citizen...any place in the world is unjustly denied their constitutional right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, it is the responsibility of this government to restore those rights." But...a few weeks earlier the President said..."Americans going to Lebanon do so at their own risk."... Can you reconcile those two statements?

Clift: He's trying to have it both ways, but it's not gonna wash. He has bought himself political freedom from the hostage issue in a sense. The American people don't expect him to do something, and I think they're willing to acknowledge that terrorism is war and in war there are some casualties.

McLaughlin: In view of the extraordinary nature of this video tape appeal plus the family appeal, is there any reason for thinking that we ought to really pull away a little bit from the position this government has now taken which is absolutely no dealing with hostages directly or through third parties?...

Clift: We've only taken that position in words, we haven't practiced it at all....

Novak: ...I think we ought to start taking a no deal position.

Germond: There's a difference between trading arms for hostages and trying to negotiate through third parties to get them out.... How about a few threats.

Kondracke: Secret talks, secrets threats, nothing on the surface.... And absolutely no trades.

On Affirmative Action Ruling:

McLaughlin: ...Would you have voted with the majority...or with the minority?

Novak: ...This was the most disgraceful decision of the Supreme Court since the heyday of the Warren Court.... The disgraceful part of it is that from the infeeble Reagan Administration, there has been very little audible protest. I think the President should have gone to America and said that "Your freedoms have been eroded."

Clift: ...What the Supreme Court did was codify common sense.

Predictions:

Clift: Despite a personal plea from Secretary Shultz, the Democratic leadership is not going to prevent embarrassing arms control amendments from coming to the floor of the congress before Shultz leaves for Moscow.

Novak: Watch for Gov. George Deukmejian of California to go national talking on national issues. He won't be a favorite son candidate but there are friends urging him to start an exploratory committee for president.

Germond: I suspect this Bakker affair may force Robertson to drop his presidential bid.

Kondracke: There is secret testimony...given at the time of the negotiations of the ABM Treaty that apparently argue against the Sam Nunn interpretation of the treaty.

McLaughlin: 2500 Dow Jones within six weeks, June 1. 3000 by Christmas.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Moderator: Martin Agronsky.
Hugh Sidey, James Kilpatrick.

Panel: Elizabeth Drew, Carl Rowan,

On Affirmative Action:

Agronsky: How significant is this?

Kilpatrick: It is an important decision.... Rehnquist and Scalia wrote a brilliant dissent, I thought.

Drew: I thought it was a quite reasonable decision.... I am also struck by among the people who cheered this decision was the Chamber of Commerce and some businesses who want to be left alone and have the right to try to remedy past patterns of discrimination.... I think an interesting sidelight of this is that time after time the Justice Department under Ed Meese is getting its head handed to it by the Supreme Court....

Agronsky: I also think it's interesting, if a bit divergent, that you find Scalia in this instance staying with the conservatives, but in the decision before that related to this...going with the liberal.... I raise it just -- I'm curious watching Scalia on the Court -- if this is the man that President Reagan thought he appointed in terms of his philosophy.

Rowan: This is one of the tragedies of the Reagan Administration. They keep talking about his place in history, and I find it very sad that because of Ed Meese and William Bradford Reynolds, and Ronald Reagan, this Administration is going to wind up with a terribly bad record in all of these areas of racial and sex discrimination. They are totally out of touch with reality.

On Highway Bill:

Agronsky: ...All the indications are, however, that that veto may indeed may be overridden and that this is a confrontation that many people feel Mr. Reagan sought.

Drew: The President came down on the side of those who were inviting him to have a confrontation and try very hard to win so as to try to change the atmosphere here -- to show him as having some muscle again....

Sidey: Let's take a look at this.... If they're gonna send down every bill that's 12% over, the whole idea of deficits and the problem of balancing the budget...is just gonna be so out of whack it's gonna be disaster....

Drew: ...What we have is now...since the election, the fourth attempt on the part of Reagan's advisers to restart his presidency.... One of the problems is they keep talking about what they say they're trying to do in order to change the subject.

Sidey: There's a deep reservoir of support for him. This incident did happen in the classroom and it got the headlines here, but...in the middle west my suspicion is that played very well -- that whole visit.