

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: News Summary Office, White House:
News Summaries, 1981-1989

Series: II: WHITE HOUSE NEWS SUMMARY FINALS,
1981-1989

Folder Title: 06/01/1987

Box: 396

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories>

Contact a reference archivist at: **reagan.library@nara.gov**

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1987 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Urges Wide AIDS Testing But Does Not Call For Compulsion -- President Reagan called for a wide range of AIDS testing at the state and federal levels to detect the hidden spread of the virus.

(New York Times, USA Today, Washington Post, AP, Copley, UPI)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Administration Will Report To Hill On Gulf Operations -- The Reagan Administration has reached substantial agreement with Congress on demands for complete advance reports detailing the sea and airpower the U.S. will use to escort re-flagged Kuwaiti vessels in the Persian Gulf.

(Christian Science Monitor, Washington Post,
Washington Times, AP, Reuter)

Plane's Landing Seen As Threat To Missile Pact -- Political fallout from the Red Square plane incident may seriously hamper Kremlin leader Gorbachev's ability to negotiate a missile deal with the U.S.

(Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Reuter, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Sunday Evening)

AIDS -- President Reagan announced his support for an ambitious AIDS testing program.

PERSIAN GULF -- Iran reported it has seized seven Kuwaiti boats and accused the crews of espionage.

SOUTH AFRICA -- South African President Botha called on President Reagan and other western leaders who will meet in Venice to help end violence in South Africa.



NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN CALLS FOR ROUTINE TESTING FOR AIDS, COMPASSION FOR VICTIMS

President Reagan, warning that "AIDS is surreptitiously spreading throughout our population," ordered increased testing for the deadly virus and urged states to begin testing all citizens who apply for marriage licenses.

While his denunciation of discrimination against AIDS victims was applauded, the President was loudly booed and hissed by many of the several hundred persons who had gathered in a tent on the banks of the Potomac River on a humid and sweltering Washington evening to raise funds for the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

Undeterred, Reagan announced he has ordered the Department of Health and Human Services to add AIDS to the list of contagious diseases for which immigrants and illegal aliens can be denied entry to the U.S.

The hissing continued when the President said he has instructed the Justice Department to plan to begin testing "all federal prisoners, as well as looking into ways to protect uninfected inmates and their families."

(George Condon, Copley)

Reagan Calls For AIDS Testing

President Reagan was booed and hissed by a black-tie, AIDS fund-raising crowd when he called for "routine" testing of immigrants, prisoners and those seeking marriage licenses.

Saying the epidemic calls for "urgency, not panic," Reagan asked that AIDS be put on the list of contagious diseases that can bar entry for immigrants. But that proposal, along with others, was booed as well as applauded. The loudest hisses came when Reagan said "the final judgement (of victims) is up to God" -- interpreted by some as a dig at gays.

Reagan also defended the rights of victims.

"There's no reason for those who carry the AIDS virus to wear a scarlet A," he said. "We must prevent the persecution, through ignorance or malice, of our fellow citizens." (Johanna Neuman, USA Today, A1)

President Reagan/AIDS

To boos and hisses, President Reagan announced a plan to test millions of Americans for AIDS while calling for "urgency, not panic" in fighting the deadly epidemic he has labeled "Public Health Enemy No. 1."

Headlining a star-studded \$500,000 fund-raising dinner for the American Foundation for AIDS Research, Reagan outlined a program that could subject tens of millions of immigrants, prisoners and others to automatic AIDS tests.

With a vaccine years away by all accounts, Reagan underscored the need for education and relented some from his previous position that morality-based instruction on abstinence from drugs and sex is the key to limiting the spread of AIDS by young people.

"What our citizens must know is this: America faces a disease that is fatal and spreading," Reagan said. "This calls for urgency, not panic. It calls for compassion, not blame. And it calls for understanding, not ignorance." (Norman Sandler, UPI)

Reagan Urges Wide AIDS Testing But Does Not Call For Compulsion

In his first speech devoted exclusively to the growing AIDS epidemic, President Reagan called for a wide range of AIDS testing at the state and federal levels to detect the hidden spread of the virus.

Reagan shied away from urging mandatory testing of broad segments of the public but called instead for mandatory tests of selected groups, including federal prisoners.

Such testing is needed, he said, to identify infected individuals so that they will not continue to spread the virus unwittingly and to help public officials understand the dimensions of the epidemic.

(Philip Boffey, New York Times, A1)

Reagan Asks Expansion Of AIDS Testing

President Reagan, saying that AIDS is "surreptitiously spreading throughout our population," called for a significant expansion in routine AIDS virus testing for prisoners, immigrants, applicants for marriage licenses and those seeking treatment for drug abuse or sexually transmitted diseases.

"AIDS affects all of us," said Reagan in remarks prepared for delivery at a fund-raising dinner sponsored by the American Foundation for AIDS Research. "Just as most individuals don't know they carry the virus, no one knows to what extent the virus has infected our society.... It is time we knew exactly what we were facing. And that is why I support routine testing."

Although Reagan endorsed "routine" rather than "mandatory" testing -- a practice that most public health officials, including Surgeon General Koop, have said would drive the disease underground by discouraging people from seeking medical advice and treatment -- a White House official (Gary Bauer) said that the President strongly supports mandatory testing.

(Sandra Boodman, Washington Post, A1)

Flap Over The AIDS Fundraiser; Reagan's Testing Proposal Draws Concern, Talk Of Protest

Before an audience of ambassadors and activists, socialites and movie stars, corporate moguls and public health officials, President Reagan was expected to call for testing for exposure to the AIDS virus of immigrants, federal prisoners and people applying for marriage licenses, a policy that a sizable portion of the crowd, including Surgeon General Koop, strongly opposes.

Distressed by what they see as the Reagan Administration's lack of sensitivity on AIDS, and fearful that in his speech the President would choose to emphasize testing over education and research, a number of guests had discussed whether they should mount some form of protest inside the tent at Potomac restaurant, where the President was to speak. Not far from the tent, more than 200 people, many of them suffering from AIDS, planned to stage a vigil in memory of those who have died from the disease.

(Elizabeth Kastor & Sandra Boodman, Washington Post, B1)

Gay Congressmen Applaud AIDS Walkers, Denounce Reagan

Two openly gay congressmen accused President Reagan of failing to lead the fight against AIDS and turning his back on all Americans by ignoring the advice of his top health adviser.

Speaking to a crowd of 5,000 people on the Boston Common before a fund-raising walk to benefit AIDS programs, Rep. Gerry Studds said, "Gay and straight, this is your country, Mr. President.

"In the name of our common humanity, Mr. President, lead us. ...Help us be a country that can put this plague behind us," Studds said. he urged Reagan to "listen to your surgeon general."

Rep. Barney Frank...accused Reagan of ignoring AIDS, which in the U.S. has mostly afflicted male homosexuals and intravenous drug users. (John King, AP)

WHITE HOUSE STUDY SAYS SIN-TAX BOOST MAY BE JUSTIFIED BY HEALTH-CARE COSTS

A confidential analysis by the White House budget office contends the cost to government of dealing with smoking- and drinking-related health problems could justify a major rise in "sin" taxes on tobacco and alcoholic drinks.

The analysis makes no recommendations, but it apparently is designed to provide the Reagan Administration a rationale to accept a boost in excise taxes on cigarettes and liquor.

(Paul Blustein, Wall Street Journal, A54)

PLAN TO SELL OFF FEDERAL LOANS FALLS BEHIND

The Reagan Administration's proposed sale of government loans to help reduce the federal deficit has run into difficulties and will not produce the \$5 billion in revenues Congress counted on this year, according to Administration officials.

Two-thirds of the way through fiscal 1987, the agencies in the program have yet to sell a single government loan to the investment community.

"Yes, it is behind," said Joseph Wright, deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget and the leader of the effort. "But we are not pushing it until all the problems are resolved. I'm not about to make a mistake and jeopardize all of credit reform."

(Judith Havemann, Washington Post, A1)

DEBATE OVER AIR SAFETY SPUTTERS ON

On the eve of the peak summer travel season, Deputy Transportation Secretary James Burnley attacked critics for confusing and scaring travelers with "loose, quick, glib" answers to questions about air safety.

Burnley and Sen. Frank Lautenberg, chairman of the Senate Appropriations transportation subcommittee, clashed sharply in a debate on CBS's "Face the Nation" about air traffic controller training and staffing and the FAA's plans to handle increased summer traffic.

Lautenberg accused the FAA of a "stubbornness and unwillingness" to recognize a problem with safety. (Laura Parker, Washington Post, A12)

Federal Air Officials Still Squabbling Over Air Safety Outlook For Summer

As the nation heads into the summer flying season, federal officials continue arguing about the safety of the country's commercial aviation system.

"We are operating the system safely, we truly are," said Donald Engen, head of the FAA, on ABC's "This Week with David Brinkley." Engen agreed the current system is overburdened, causing passenger delays (but not safety hazards).

"At this time there is cause for alarm" said James Burnett, chief of the National Transportation Safety Board, on CBS's "Face the Nation." "Now the FAA is looking at this problem through different glasses. They are approaching the problem and trying to maximize the efficiency of the air traffic system.... But we have to recognize that there is a trade-off between doing that and maintaining an adequate margin of safety."

(Tim Ahern, AP)

MORE THAN 100 ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF WRONGDOING IN REAGAN YEARS

...More than 100 members of President Reagan's Administration have been accused of wrongdoing since he took office in 1981.

White House officials dismiss these incidences as "individual cases" -- although they say they want all transgressions investigated.

Others see it differently. Stephen Wayne, a professor of political science and public affairs at George Washington University, blames the ethical problems on the type of people the Reagan election swept into positions of power.

"This Administration was peopled primarily by outsiders who were not experienced hands in government," Wayne said. "There is a different way of behaving in the private sector and in the public sector."

(Dale Nelson, AP)

BUSH PLAYS IT SAFE, AND BLAND, IN IOWA Funds Plentiful As Iran-Contra Stigma Eases

DES MOINES -- The clue to how nicely Vice President Bush thinks his candidacy is going these days was buried in a bland speech he gave here this weekend to a big gathering of GOP foot soldiers from the Midwest.

Applause lines? Policy proposals? Stirring visions? Not from the GOP front-runner. Bush was all business, which is to say, safe, predictable and a tad boring.

But like Sherlock Holmes' dog that did not bark, the speech spoke volumes silently. It told of the luxuries -- real and false -- of being an institutional front-runner a year before a presidential convention.

(News Analysis, Paul Taylor & Bill Peterson, Washington Post, A3)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Excerpts From Reagan Speech," appears in The Washington Post, A4.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PENTAGON PLANS LARGER GULF ROLE; REAGAN MOVES TO SMOOTH FEATHERS IN CONGRESS

Pentagon officials are planning a larger U.S. naval presence in the Persian Gulf as President Reagan tries to avert a showdown with a skeptical Congress over his proposal to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers from Iranian attack.

Defense Department officials said they were making plans to move an aircraft carrier and an advanced Aegis cruiser into the Gulf region, but neither Reagan nor his aides have spelled out exactly what steps they would take if Iran attacks vessels sailing under U.S. Navy protection.

(Bryan Brumley, AP)

Administration Will Report To Hill On Gulf Operations

The Reagan Administration has reached substantial agreement with Congress on demands for complete advance reports detailing the sea and airpower the U.S. will use to escort re-flagged Kuwaiti vessels in the Persian Gulf.

"We have no problem whatsoever complying with the congressional desire for us to submit reports," said National Security Adviser Carlucci. "We think that is a legitimate function."

But Carlucci said the White House had some problems with the condition that the Administration could do nothing until the reports were filed with Congress.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3)

U.S. Military Plan Gulf Strategy Amid Warnings From Iran

U.S. military officials were planning to provide protection for Persian Gulf shipping while Iran warned against superpower interference in the region.

According to some news reports, the U.S. was considering sending cruisers to the Gulf, as well as another aircraft carrier. Cruisers are larger and more heavily armed than frigates there now.

(Kenneth Barry, Reuter)

Iran Insists Gulf Must Be Safe For Everyone -- Or No One

The Reagan Administration's apparent delay in fully carrying out its plan to protect Kuwaiti tankers sailing in the Persian Gulf has been greeted in Tehran as yet another victory for the Islamic revolution.

"This is a sign that our firmness is paying off," said a jubilant senior Iranian official contacted Friday. "We stick to our position: As long as the Iraqis attack tankers loading oil from our own terminals, we will retaliate by striking at merchant ships entering or leaving other Gulf countries' ports, be they flying Soviet, American or any other flag. Neither U.S. naval escort nor U.S. air escort will deter us from firing at Kuwaiti tankers using the U.S. flag."

(Claude van England, Christian Science Monitor, A1)

Iran Warns Soviets, U.S. On Gulf Moves

NICOSIA, Cyprus -- Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati warned the U.S. and the Soviet Union against intervening in the Persian Gulf War as Tehran announced that seven Kuwaiti speedboats had been detained while "spying" for Iraq.

Observers suggested that Iran was embarked on a major propaganda exercise to strengthen congressional critics of the Reagan Administration's plan to provide U.S. Navy escorts for Kuwaiti tankers "reflagged" as American shipping. (Jonathan Randal, Washington Post, A13)

Danger And Denial

"I don't see the danger of a war," President Reagan responded last week to a question from a foreign journalist about the possibility of conflict in the Persian Gulf. "I don't see how one could possibly start."

The President's bland dismissal of the dangers in the Gulf occurred four days after he paid homage to the 37 sailors who died when the USS Stark was struck by a missile fired from an Iraqi jet. This tragedy showed one way that war could "possibly start," which is by accident. And Congress is aware, even if Reagan isn't, that war also could be triggered by a deliberate Iranian attack on Kuwaiti tankers moving slowly through the Gulf under American flag.

Reagan has not made his case (defending the policy of protecting Kuwaiti tankers) in a national forum except for a five-minute statement Friday in the White House briefing room in which he alternately denounced the Soviets and the Iranians. Reagan's reluctance to make a higher-visibility appearance may in part reflect embarrassment over the Iran arms deal, which damaged U.S. credibility in the region. But the larger reason is that the President resists giving Congress an eventual veto power over U.S. deployment in the Gulf by invoking the War Powers Resolution and saying that hostilities are "imminent or likely." If he did, Congress could decide that forces must be withdrawn after 90 days.

When American warships steam into the Gulf as protective forces for the Kuwaiti tankers, their crews will face deadly risks of both deliberate and accidental attack. Reagan should acknowledge these risks. He should tell the American people what he is doing and why he is doing it.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A2)

A BLIND SPOT LEFT STARK VULNERABLE, U.S. OFFICIALS SAY

Officers aboard the American frigate Stark failed to execute a standard air-defense maneuver when she was attacked May 17 by an Iraqi jet in the Persian Gulf, according to government officials familiar with the Navy investigation of the incident.

Knowing an Iraqi warplane was approaching, the ship's captain did not begin to turn her stern toward the aircraft. That step would have permitted the Stark's sophisticated electronic defenses to detect the launching of two Exocet, sea-skimming missiles and to shoot them down.

...Officials familiar with the inquiry suggested this weekend that the ship's commander, Capt. Glenn Brindel, and perhaps three other officers could be held culpable. The four officers have been named as "interested parties," or primary subjects of the inquiry, and have been assigned legal counsel. (John Cushman, New York Times, A1)

BRITISH-IRANIAN TIES HEAD FOR CRISIS AS DIPLOMAT FACES CHARGES

LONDON -- British-Iranian relations headed for a crisis as Tehran threatened charges against a British diplomat briefly held by revolutionary guards last week and a British paper reported the envoy could face the death penalty.

The Daily Telegraph newspaper reported the charges "are understood to relate to drugs, corruption, undermining the economy in time of war and theft" and could carry the death penalty. (Reuter)

PLANE AFFAIR SPARKS SOVIET POWER PLAY Military Purge Seen Risky For Gorbachev

MOSCOW -- Kremlin leader Gorbachev is using a flagrant violation of Soviet security to launch a Defense Ministry purge and seal his control over the powerful Soviet military in a bold play for power that also runs the risk of destabilizing his regime, western diplomats said here.

...In a country where the military is considered one of three pillars of power -- alongside the political leadership and state security -- the military shake-up is widely viewed here as Gorbachev's boldest reach yet at the reins of power.

The reason, according to western diplomatic assessments here, is that Gorbachev's own position is not yet secure enough to consolidate control fully over an institution like the Soviet military, with its record of wobbly support for some of the Kremlin leader's policies.

(News Analysis, Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

Gorbachev May Turn National Embarrassment To Personal Advantage

MOSCOW -- The landing of a private German plane in Red Square, though an embarrassment to the regime of Soviet leader Gorbachev, could end up strengthening his hand in dealing with the armed forces and even the KGB.

Though the incident could be used by Gorbachev's enemies as an example of the loose discipline that could result from his cherished liberalization program, many western observers believe the astonishing lapse Thursday by the nation's air defense forces leaves Gorbachev better positioned to make more changes. (Jack Redden, UPI)

Aide Asserts Moscow May Send German Pilot Home Unpunished

MOSCOW -- Matthias Rust, the 19-year-old West German whose aerial escapade set off a purge of the Soviet military, may be allowed to go home without standing trial, a Soviet spokesman said.

Valentin Falin, former ambassador to West Germany and now chief of the official Novosti press feature syndicate, said the young pilot would probably not be punished for flying a single-engine plane across the heavily defended Soviet frontier and landing it Thursday near the Kremlin.

"On the one side, he will be thanked, that he made us aware of the gaps in our air defense system," Falin told a West German newspaper. His remarks were confirmed by an aide in Moscow.

(Bill Keller, New York Times, A1)

Gorbachev Faces Delicate Decision Over Daredevil Flier Rust

MOSCOW -- Kremlin leader Gorbachev faces a delicate decision on how to treat daredevil West German pilot Matthias Rust, who landed a light plane on Red Square to the embarrassment of the Soviet military.

Analysts said if Gorbachev decided to send the 19-year-old flier home to Hamburg unpunished, he could appear weak domestically, especially to opponents of his reform drive.

On the other hand, if he punished the youth severely, he could seem mean and humorless in the West, where he is trying to project the image of a dynamic leader out to make Soviet society more humane.

(Helen Womack, Reuter)

West Germans Hope To Meet Soon With Pilot Who Landed In Red Square

MOSCOW -- West German officials hope to meet with a young West German pilot who flew a light plane from Finland all the way to Red Square, causing the Soviets severe embarrassment and sparking a Kremlin upheaval.

"We were told that we will be able to see him at the beginning of this forthcoming week," Alexander Arnot, minister of the West German Embassy, said.

(UPI)

Plane's Landing Seen As Threat To Missile Pact

Political fallout from the Red Square plane incident may seriously hamper Kremlin leader Gorbachev's ability to negotiate a missile deal with the U.S., Soviet and western analysts said.

"The intrusion of the West German plane poses such a serious security question that Gorbachev may have to lean over backward to assure Soviet people that he is not compromising security in arms agreements," one western diplomat said.

(Antero Pietila, Baltimore Sun, A1)

KOHL SUMMONS COALITION TO SEAL BELATED MISSILE COMPROMISE

BONN -- West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, his leadership under attack, called top-level talks to seek a nuclear arms-control compromise and throw Bonn's belated support behind a proposed superpower deal.

Government sources were quoted in West German newspaper reports as saying he was expected to propose a compromise formula giving West Germany's assent to a controversial plan to rid Europe of Soviet and U.S. shorter-range as well as medium-range missiles.

(Douglas Hamilton, Reuter)

GORBACHEV'S EAST BLOC POLICY STALLS Old Habits Slow New Economic Relations

WARSAW -- Despite Soviet leader Gorbachev's repeated calls for "radical" improvement in economic cooperation, trade between the Soviet Union and its six East European allies is stagnating and new technological and industrial projects are mired in bureaucratic entanglements, according to government officials and economists.

...Official economic reports and interviews with East Bloc officials indicate that Gorbachev's economic thrust has produced remarkably poor results. Not only are the new projects proposed by Gorbachev far behind schedule, but the overall contribution of East Europe to the Soviet economy seems to have undergone a "qualitative" decline.

(Jackson Diehl, Washington Post, A1)

WHITE HOUSE AND PRO-CHOICE GROUPS WAGE BATTLE OVER ABORTIONS ABROAD

The Reagan Administration is facing a series of challenges to its international population control policy, which has emphasized ending all ties to family planning organizations that do not explicitly reject abortion.

The policy, which involves millions of dollars in grants to international family planning groups, is being contested in a federal court in New York, on Capitol Hill and in newspaper advertisements and billboards. More important than the money is that America's overseas population programs have become an important battlefield between the opposing sides in the nation's abortion debate.

(Neil Lewis, New York Times, A12)

###

IRAN — NICARAGUA

FRICITION AND CONTRADICTION Iran-Contra Witnesses Show Their Differences

In four weeks of testimony...the men who planned and managed the clandestine resupply of the contras have told -- while under oath -- conflicting stories about the same events. They have accused each other of profiteering, attempted theft, security breeches, and even of leaking information to left-wing news media.

One explanation for the conflicts and contradiction in the testimony may be simply that some witnesses are trying to cover up possible illegalities. But it is also evident from the conflicting stories being told by key participants that some are using their moment in the spotlight to rationalize their own actions, or continue old feuds.

(Walter Pincus & Dan Morgan, Washington Post, A1)

HILL PANEL TO GRILL ABRAMS ABOUT AID

Elliott Abrams, the assistant secretary of state who fought many congressional battles for the Nicaraguan contras, returns to Capitol Hill tomorrow to face tough questions about his efforts to aid the resistance.

The panel, which is expected to question Abrams for two days, will try to determine the extent of any involvement in private efforts to supply the contras during the ban on official aid.

(News Analysis, Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A5)

-End of A-Section-

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Sunday Evening, May 31, 1987)

AIDS

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan tonight announces his support for an ambitious program for testing for AIDS -- the deadly acquired immune deficiency syndrome for which no cure or prevention has been discovered. The President delivered his views at a fund raising dinner for AIDS research here in Washington.

ABC's Kenneth Walker: In his first speech on AIDS last month, President Reagan limited his remarks to a pledge for intensified research efforts to find a cure for the disease.

(The President: "We've declared AIDS public health enemy number one.")

(TV coverage: File footage from April 1.)

But tonight, in only his second speech on the subject, the President tackles one of the most controversial topics -- testing for AIDS. Officials say Mr. Reagan will announce he has ordered testing in a number of areas. Immigrants seeking permanent residence in the U.S. will be barred entry if they test positive for AIDS. All inmates in federal prisons will be tested as well. And a review has been ordered to see if patients at other federal facilities, such as veterans' hospitals, should be tested too. Mr. Reagan also wants states to test their prisoners and inmates and patients at clinics for drug abuse as well as those for sexually transmitted diseases. The President also is expected to encourage the states to offer routine, but not compulsory testing for marriage license applicants -- a recommendation already rejected by 11 states and last week overwhelmingly rejected by the Senate.

(Sen. Dole: "Will jobs we lost, careers destroyed, families interrupted all for the sake of a false positive test? To take action now is premature, and, in fact, may do more harm than good.")

Firm opposition to mandatory testing by Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and other health officials led the President to call his testing plans "routine," although persons effected by the federal plans have no choice but to be tested.

(Koop: "Mandatory testing, with some specific exceptions, would not be good public health practice at this time.")

(Rep. Waxman: "I think this is a triumph of politics in the Administration over all the advice of their public health experts. He's ignored them and gone ahead and called for routine testing.")

The President's plans almost surely will provoke challenges in court as well as in Congress. And as the President leaves this week for the economic summit in Venice where AIDS is already on the agenda, Mr. Reagan can expect a vigorous debate on his proposals there.

(ABC-Lead)

NBC's John Hart: President Reagan is expected to announce tonight his plan for nationwide testing for AIDS.

NBC's Jamie Gangel: The President came back from Camp David today prepared to make his speech at a blacktie fund raiser hosted by Elizabeth Taylor.

-more-

Gangel continues: His message, according to White House officials -- to recommend AIDS testing for millions of Americans, some of it mandatory.

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady returning from Camp David on the South Lawn and walking into the White House.)

Officials say the President will announce that he wants a plan to test all federal prisoners and he will recommend that states require testing in state and local prisons. Immigrants will also be subject to testing. The President has asked that AIDS be added to the list of contagious diseases for which immigrants can be denied entry. The President is also asking for routine testing at VA hospitals, at drug abuse clinics and at centers for sexually transmitted diseases. And finally the President will also recommend routine testing for marriage license's applicants leaving it up to individual states to decide whether it should be mandatory. Routine testing means tests will be given unless a person strongly objects. Critics of testing are concerned it will drive away those who most need help because of discrimination. They point to public hysteria over AIDS and homosexuals.

(Howard Phillips, Conservative Caucus: "I think the American people want to be protected from the promiscuous spread of disease. They don't want their kids to be exposed to AIDS in the schools. They don't want to have to pay \$20 billion a year to subsidize the consequences of perverted behavior.")

Rep. Waxman: "What we see here is traditional right wing bashing of homosexuality.")

And the political controversy is not over. Tonight conservative supporters of mandatory testing will protest the President's speech and tomorrow AIDS activists plan to demonstrate in front of the White House to say the testing plan has gone too far.

NBC's Robert Bazell reports on the AIDS conference.

(NBC-2)

CBS's Susan Spencer: AIDS and the devastation the disease is causing around the world will be a major issue at the upcoming economic summit in Venice. The White House confirms tonight that the leaders at the seven nation gathering will call for international mobilization against AIDS which they see as a threat to economic and political stability as well as to world health.

CBS's Jacqueline Adams: President Reagan returned from Camp David today ready to step up the Administration's war against AIDS. Tonight at an AIDS research fund raising dinner, the President will call for routine AIDS testing for as many as 50 million Americans each year. Next week at the Venice economic summit Mr. Reagan will join with the leaders of the seven industrial democracies in labeling AIDS a major world health problem....

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady returning from Camp David on the South Lawn and walking into the White House.)

Spencer reports on the AIDS fund raising march in Boston and the AIDS conference in Washington including the specific testing programs expected to be endorsed by the President at tonight's fund raising event for AIDS research.

(CBS-Lead)

-more-

INVASION OF SOVIET AIR SPACE

Donaldson: Dust is still settling in Moscow in the vigorous and swift Kremlin reaction to penetration of Soviet air space Thursday by a single engine light plane that landed in Red Square. The dismissal of the Soviet Defense Minister and the Soviet General in charge of air defense was not only a vigorous reaction, it was a revealing demonstration of just where the power lies now in the Soviet Union.

ABC's Walter Rogers reports on the changes in the Soviet defense ministry and air defense system. (ABC-2, NBC-Lead, CBS-5)

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Hart: The Miami Herald reports today that President Reagan signed a directive in 1983 designating the National Security Council as the top government entity coordinating all U.S. intelligence activities. The White House has been saying recently the National Security Council was exempt from the law against helping the contras because it was not an intelligence agency. (NBC-4)

IRAN/KUWAITI SPEED BOATS

Donaldson: The state-owned Iranian news agency reported today that Iran has seized seven Kuwaiti speed boats in the Persian Gulf and arrested the crew members as spies for Iraq. The dispatch didn't pinpoint when this took place, but the story did say that the incident shows growing support for Iraq by the Kuwaiti government -- something the Iranian news agency called "treacherous." (ABC-4, NBC-6, CBS-10)

SENATORS TOUR PERSIAN GULF

Spencer: Senators John Warner and John Glenn took a helicopter ride over the Gulf's strategic Strait of Hormuz today. Twenty percent of the Western world's oil supply must pass through the Strait -- site of many Iranian attacks on shipping. An aide said Glenn is concerned about Chinese-made missiles that Iran recently has deployed in the vicinity. (CBS-11)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Spencer: The South African President has asked President Reagan and the other Western leaders who will meet in Venice to help end the violence in South Africa. As a start he wants them to break all relations with the African National Congress -- the black guerilla movement. (CBS-12)

-more-

AIR SAFETY

Donaldson: The heads of the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board continued their dispute today about the safety of the commercial aviation system in the U.S. Safety Board Chairman James Burnett said there is cause for alarm. FAA administrator Donald Engen said the system is operating safely as long as it is closely watched. Engen, a retired Navy admiral, acknowledged there is a constant strain on the traffic controllers operation because of what he called "throughput." And what is throughput? Turnover, it turns out. (ABC-7)

FOREIGN TRADE

Spencer: The federal trade commission says unfair foreign competition is not responsible for the big U.S. trade deficit, so retaliating with tariffs won't do much to shrink it. In a report tonight, the FTC says the real causes of the deficit are shifting currency values and growing U.S. consumer demand. (CBS-6)

TERRORISM

Hart: On Weekend Journal tonight an account of a country in the age of terrorism that was gripped by it, met it and dramatically reduced it.

NBC's Sam Bernard: Italy was once the most terrorist-torn country in Western Europe.... With the Lebanon war in 1982, Italy, despite being sympathetic toward the Palestinian cause, became a significant arena for Arab terrorism. And the targets were mainly Americans.... The deadliest Arab terrorist attack was at the airport. Sixteen died and 74 were wounded.... Three terrorists were among the dead.... There are new agreements with the U.S., France and Spain to cooperate and share information on terrorists. Attorney General Meese came to Italy last year to sign the document. Within the last weeks, arrests have been made in Spain and in France.... (NBC-5)

FIGHTING IN LEBANON

Donaldson: Heavy fighting broke out today in the Israeli occupied security zone in South Lebanon. More than 20 people have been killed when Shiite Muslim guerillas attacked Israeli-backed forces. Before it was over the Israeli army joined the fray.

ABC's Dean Reynolds reports from Tel Aviv on the latest fighting. (ABC-3, CBS-13)

-End of B-Section-

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

Moderator: David Brinkley Panel: George Will and Sam Donaldson.

Guests: Donald Engen, Federal Aviation Administration Chief; Senator Nancy Kassenbaum; William Bolger, President of Air Transport Association of America; Henry Duffy, President of Air Line Pilots Association; and James Stogner, Operations Director for Hartsfield International Airport.

Guest: Henry Duffy and James Stogner.

Brinkley Was deregulation a good idea?

Duffy: It's done a lot of harm to the employees of the industry. It's still a mix judgment as far as what it's done for the consumers. I think it would have been a lot easier to have anticipated the growth that was going to take place in the industry and create an air traffic control system that could accommodate that growth.

Stogner: I believe the final judgment is not yet in. I do believe a better job could have been done about anticipating some of the results and trying to speak to those before the deregulation act.

Duffy: We polled all of our 40,000 pilots and they said their number one concern was the threat of a near midair collision. That tells me that they think that the air traffic control system is breaking down too often. The secret to curing that is new technology, more controllers and we've simply got to control the number of air planes going into the system.

Donaldson: Are we really flying in unsafe skies?

Duffy: I think the system is safe. There are improvements and higher degrees of efficiency that could be made....

Stogner: I think the important thing is the system is not as safe as it should and could be. We need a political commitment for more funding of the air traffic controller system and airport improvements to increase capacity. That's the only thing that's going to fix this problem.

Guest: Senator Kassenbaum and William Bolger.

Brinkley: Name a benefit to the consumer of deregulation.

Kassenbaum: Some consumers have benefitted by cheaper fares.... I think all of that though has added to the turbulence in the system.

Donaldson: Explain what you have in mind.

Kassenbaum: I think one thing that might help...is publishing actual flight times. If a flight consistently arrives a half hour late, the consumers should know that when they're booking their flights. Hopefully, it will pressure the airlines to work out their schedulings better. I think one of the real problems we have to address is trying to spread out arrival and departure times so they aren't all occurring during peak hours....

-more-

THIS WEEK (continued)

Will: Isn't this a case of applied conservatism that wasn't followed through? Conservatives said deregulate the market, we'll lower prices, everyone can fly. But the conservatives didn't follow through with concrete.

Kassenbaum: It's been a problem with both the Carter and Reagan Administrations not wanting to spend money out of the trust fund because it does help show a surplus in the budget. We've got about \$4 billion that we should be spending out of the trust fund. We've authorized those levels of spending. They've never really been appropriated to the level that they should be....

Guest: Donald Engen.

Brinkley: It was six years ago that we fired all the air traffic controllers. We still don't have sufficient numbers. Why don't we have enough?

Engen: It does take time to train our air traffic controllers. There is a constant strain on the system. We have continually driven to increase the number of air traffic controllers. We do indeed today have more air traffic controllers than we had last year and the year before that.... We do need more airports.

Will: Do you oppose the Administration's policy of not spending the money from the trust fund?

Engen: That's not the Administration's policy, sir. I beg to differ in this respect. Secretary Dole and I have both come forward with a 1988 budget which would ask for the expenditure of some \$5 billion from that fund. And we need it. Now it's going to be up to Congress to give us that money.

Will: Should the government re-regulate in some way?

Engen: That really is a question for Congress. Congress deregulated and if Congress wants to re-regulate, I guess that would be the law of the land. My opinion is the system is functioning. You don't want to mix up service with safety. We are operating this system safely.... We want to improve the service, but I will not allow the system to become unsafe.

Donaldson: How come the number of near misses has risen to some 800?

Engen: If you look [at the figures from] ten years ago, you'd find we had some 2,600 -- it varies with time. It's risen over the last 2-3 years because we've changed the ways of reporting.... You never achieve full safety. So you achieve safety in the system by using good operation procedures.... You take the last 3 years in the U.S. -- they've been the safest 3 years in U.S. aviation history.

Donaldson: Jim Burnett of the National Transportation Safety Board says you're pressing it against the red line. That you are operating in an unsafe manner.

THIS WEEK (continued)

Engen: Let me show you, first of all, that I don't know what Mr. Burnett is relating to, but I want to assure you that we have monitored, metered the system over the last three years. We're doing [it] every day. And I don't know what Mr. Burnett's talking about.... There's no way I can guarantee there won't be a tragic accident, but we can take the procedures, and we are taking the procedures, to insure that the American flying public will fly with safety.

FREE-FOR-ALL DISCUSSION (Hodding Carter joins panel.)

Brinkley: We will put American flags on Kuwaiti tankers and the U.S. Navy will escort them and protect them. Where might that lead?

Will: It might lead to a clash with Iran but that's why we're there. We're not there for the reason the President says. The President says we're there to make war against war. And the Secretary of Defense says we're there for some legal reason.... We're there to forestall the Soviet Union from doing what we're doing. And we're also there to prevent Iraqi from losing the war and unleashing Islamic fundamentalism throughout the Gulf.

Donaldson: I think the President's policy is exactly right. We're there for the reasons that George stated, but also primarily to keep the sea lanes open and I think we must do that. President Reagan is right to carry it [this policy] forward. Where he's wrong is in not honestly stating to the American people that there's a very grave risk that more American lives may be lost, that he feels it's worth it and that he's going to have to go ahead and do it in the national interest.

Hodding: You can't go out there playing a five-sided policy and expect to enlist the American people or anybody else behind it.... You can't be playing games out there. The President needs to get out there and say policy A-B-C -- this is it and there's no private policy.

Donaldson : The President says, "I want the Iranians to go to bed at night wondering what we're going to do." That's exactly wrong. We want the Iranians to know precisely what we're going to do and, at the same time, let the American people know precisely what we're going to do.

Brinkley: President Reagan is going to take a position on some sort of AID policy. Do you know now what it is?

Donaldson: He's going to advocate a very comprehensive program of AIDS testing -- people who are getting married, people who want to immigrate to the U.S. I suppose, without seeing all the details of his plan, I've got to agree. I think he's right. I think we need some sort of testing. I think it's a matter of public safety.

Will: I agree. The best reason for testing is...it will generally put into the system the information that AIDS is a behaviorally-based disease and that if enough people change their behavior the epidemic stops and recedes. I think that is in fact what's going to happen.

CBS -- FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Lesley Stahl.

Guests: Jim Burnett, National Transportation Safety Board Chairman; James Burnley IV, Deputy Transportation Secretary; Senator Frank Lautenberg; Clark Onstad, Vice President of Texas Air Corp.

Burnett: I want to make very clear that I think on this issue, at this time, there is cause of alarm. The FAA is looking at this problem through different glasses. They are approaching the problem and trying to maximize the efficiency of the air traffic system. They are trying to get the maximum landing rate at the airports. That helps expedite travel and helps alleviate some of these problems. But we have to recognize that there is a trade-off between doing that and maintaining an adequate margin of safety.

Stahl: What's the problem? Is the problem the controllers -- that they have never rebuilt the controllers' system after the strike in 1981?

Burnett: I think the FAA did a good job... I do not think the system is really rebuilt at this point. And I want to emphasize that I do not think that the FAA should remain the system with the same number of personnel that they had at the time of the strike.

Stahl: What [do] you think [is] the FAA's motivation in not listening to obviously a passionate plea here and a quite honest concern about safety? Is it that the FAA gave in to pressure from the airlines?

Burnett: They are obviously under a lot of pressure -- it is also giving into the pressure that comes from all of us who travel...and a feeling that they have to provide a response to that service.

Stahl: Do you feel a reluctance to go along with what you are proposing because then the FAA and the DOT and the Reagan Administration would have to admit they made mistakes, that maybe the strike was a mistake?

Burnett: I think obvious people who are proud of the jobs they have done in handling the situation post strike...would like to have no problems on the horizon.... One of the questions is to what extent is the FAA free to do whatever the FAA would like? Even before the Safety Board issued its recommendations and when we were working on them, the Secretary of Transportation said she saw no need for reductions in the level of flights for the summer. So I don't know whether the FAA is as free as we would like to see them to take action that we would like to see them take.

Stahl: Do you think Secretary Dole is getting any kind of instruction from even higher up?

Burnett: I have no reason to believe that.

Guests: Deputy Secretary James Burnley, Senator Frank Lautenberg.

Stahl: Do you think the public's safety is being jeopardized by the FAA's decision?

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Lautenberg: I think the public's safety could be jeopardized by the stubbornness that we see coming out of the FAA.... Is it basically a safe system? I think so. Could it be safer? A lot safer. And the FAA is dragging across the threshold kicking and screaming to make improvements, always trying to defend the numbers, always trying to cover up what I think [has been] a lack of good management for a number of years.

Stahl: Why is the FAA and DOT not heeding these warning and reducing flights so the public doesn't have to worry about safety?

Burnley: What is being said by a few folks who like to get on national television and the front pages is scary. [It] is gibberish, nonsense and untrue....

Stahl: Are you going to do what they [the NTSB] recommended?

Burnley: Yes.... We put a new computer into service last week.... We are going to be able, and we can now, as of a week ago, look literally at any sector in the country from the central flow control unit.... We have the ability now, therefore, to do just what the NTSB has recommended, and we will be doing that.

Lautenberg: It's not coordinated with anything else... That system is, in my view, show business. And that's what we get from you constantly. You want to call the other people's statements gibberish, you want to shoot the messenger, you want to cover up what's not really being taken care of.

Burnley: We have asked for a 68 percent increase in our budget next year.... We had to do that because Congress has short-funded Reagan Administration requests by \$1 billion over the last six years.

Lautenberg: ...What you insist on doing is putting the public to bed with a tablet and saying don't worry about it, it's almost as safe as it ought to be. And it isn't.

Burnley: The facts aren't there.

Stahl: Why are there more near misses or reports of near misses?

Burnley: Reports of near misses have been going up in '85 and '86 for a number of reasons...our reporting system had broken down. So we did have a dramatic increase in '85; the numbers pre-'85 are worthless. Since then we do not see a further increase.... If I could ask the Senator why he voted for the the Senate Democratic budget resolution that denies the Reagan Administration its 20 percent budget increase for next year just the other day? If he is so concerned about this, why is he cutting our budget?

Lautenberg: Because the Reagan Administration is playing a game.

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Guest: Clark Onstad.

Stahl: What if the government has gone along with the NTSB's recommendation and agreed to reduce the number of flights in rush hour times? What would that have meant for the flying public?

Onstad: It would have meant a lot of small communities would have been without air service today....

Stahl Are you worried about safety?

Onstad: No.... Let me give you the reasons. Number one, for the airlines that Texas Air owns...our departures per day are down. Second, we are in constant communication with our crews and with our airplanes. We have on a real-time basis a very, very good indication of whether or not the system is safe.... We are pressuring all the time to improve the system. Last November the Air Transport Association gave the DOT an inch thick report recommending changes in the system, ways to improve capacity, make the system even safer than it is today.... The airlines wouldn't be in business if in fact we didn't believe the system is safe. Second, the pressure on the system this summer is not what it's been built up to be.

###

NBC -- MEET THE PRESS

Moderator: Chris Wallace. Panel Robert Hager, Christine Russell.

Guests: Rep. Henry Waxman; Howard Phillips, Chairman of the Conservative Caucus; Dr. Paul Volberding, Chief of the AIDS Activities Division of San Francisco General Hospital.

Wallace: The President is going to be calling for routine testing of millions of Americans. Is routine testing on a massive scale a good idea?

Waxman: I think there is a triumph of politics in the Administration over all the advice of their public health experts.... He's ignored them and gone ahead and called for routine testing. It's the most expensive and least effective way of educating the public. Testing is not so he can identify people who have the virus and then give them some medicine to stop it from being transmitted. It's only to identify those people so we can educate them through counselling not to transmit it further.

Phillips: I think routine testing is a step in the right direction, but it isn't all that needs to be done....

Wallace: Dr. Phillips, do you think the Administration has copped out in a sense by not making mandatory testing in all cases, instead they have "routine" testing?

Phillips: I think the role of federal government in this is necessarily limited. I think there could and should be mandatory testing with respect to federal facilities and federal dollars. But most of these decisions have to be made at the state and local level.... The job of the government is to protect the innocent and I say there should be a stigma attached to homosexual behavior. It's an abomination. It's a crime against God and it's a crime against the laws of most of the states. And I think it is very important that the public be protected financially and in the terms of health.

Wallace: Is AIDS becoming a big political issue? It sounds like it.

Waxman: It sounds like the right wing would like to make it a political issue and I think that is a reprehensible activity when we're facing an epidemic where we need to follow the guidance of the health people and not let this thing go to the point where we panic people and that is irresponsible.

Phillips: The homosexual movement has been a political issue....

Wallace: Mr. Phillips, is the right wing going to make this a litmus test for candidates in the '88 election?

Phillips: I think the American people want to be protected for the promiscuous spread of the disease.... They don't want to pay \$20 billion a year to subsidize the consequences of perverted behavior.

Waxman: What you see here is traditional right wing bashing of homosexuality -- using this disease to go after the people they've disliked all along.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Phillips: Homosexuality is wrong.

Guest: Dr. Volberding.

Wallace: As a doctor who is trying to help sick people, what are your thoughts when you hear that AIDS is going to become, in fact, already has become, a hot political issue?

Volberding: That's a tremendous distraction from a very important job that we, as a country, have it seems to me to stop the further spread of the epidemic and to take care of the people who may well be destined to develop illness from this virus. We need more support than we are seeing.

Wallace: Specifically, how much do you feel the right wing pressure on the White House has slowed down the effort to fight AIDS?

Volberding: It seems to me that the effort to understand the disease and understand the virus that causes AIDS has gone along very rapidly. Where we've really fallen down is in educating the public and that's obviously a more social and political issue and I'm afraid it's looking like it's becoming more so.

Wallace: One of the things the President also plans to do is to name an advisory commission on AIDS. But the word came out of the White House that he does not plan to name any gay to that commission. What's your thought about that?

Volberding: I would like to see it not be a political issue. It's an issue to me of asking for advice on a commission from people who can give you some important information on this disease. That has to include homosexuals because they're the ones that have been [living] with this disease for the last six years.... It would be stupid not to involve them on that commission.

Wallace: A number of top health professionals, and I think you're included in that, have sent an open letter to the President indicating that they'll boycott the commission if there's no gay. Really?

Volberding: I don't see the point in having a commission if it starts out guaranteeing not to be effective and our time is too precious to do that, so I hope there would be a boycott of that commission.

Wallace: Generally speaking, how would you rate President Reagan's performance on this problem?

Volberding: I think the performance of the Administration has been good in terms of basic research and good in terms of clinical research. It's progressing rapidly. Very, very poor on public education and keeping this a public health rather than a political issue.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

PANEL DISCUSSION

Wallace: To what degree do you think politics is standing in the way of good public health?

Russell: Thus far, the epidemic has largely been managed by the public health authorities. I think we are at a turning point now where the direction is increasingly come from the politicians. And that's a mixed blessing. It might mean more money and more public attention. But it might also mean some things that are not really in the interest of public health and they're more politically motivated.

Hager: It's been a long and bitter difference within the Administration between the Surgeon General and Secretary Bennett.

Wallace: Where is Everett Koop in this Administration now?

Hager: Isolated I think.... He's very outspoken and he goes off and does his own thing and off and on the Administration listens to him. But I think right now he's encircled. He's almost standing alone, because the Education Secretary seems more to have the ear of the people at the White House.

Russell: I think he and the whole Department of HHS have been pushed aside a little bit. It's also interesting that in 1984 the public health authorities said this was public health enemy number one. It's really taken three years for the President to be willing to talk about it. So, it hasn't been on the front burner for this Administration. It's going to be on the front burned for the international summit. So, it suddenly has risen to the top level.

Wallace: It is interesting just on the personal level. I mean, Everett Koop came in the darling of the right wing, as the most outspoken opponent of abortion. And, yet, he had a testimonial dinner recently in Washington and the right wing was asking the Republican candidates to boycott it and some of them did.

Russell: What's interesting is when he prepared his outspoken report, a lot of people in the public health community thought, "What is he going to come up with?" He really did it all by himself. They were flabbergasted when he was as outspoken as he was about what needed to be done about AIDS. He is one of the most independent people in the Administration and I'm sure he's feeling very frustrated right now. He's trying to fight his fight, but he has not entirely won.

Hager: I want to make a point on this question of whether people from the gay community get included on the commission. I think those of us who are reporting on AIDS issues discover very quickly that those people are out on the cutting edge of it. I mean, they really are in the trench lines and they know what's happening.

THE McLAUGHLIN GROUP

Moderator: John McLaughlin Panel: Richard Cohen, Jack Germond, Robert Novak, Morton Kondracke.

ON PERSIAN GULF POLICY:

McLaughlin: Should the U.S. fly its flag on Kuwaiti tankers to protect them in the Gulf as reaffirmed by President Reagan this week?

Cohen: No, I don't think we should fly the flag on Kuwaiti tankers... We [would] lose our standing as a neutral. We no longer will have the capacity to bring these two sides together.

Novak: Of course we have to fly the flag on these ships....

Germond: I don't know and it's very difficult to decide. It's not as simple as the Administration makes it out to be.

Kondracke: I absolutely think we ought to do it. The Soviet Union is doing it.... We cannot create that kind of a vacuum.

Novak: You know what the lesson is? If you want to change American policy shoot one of our ships and all the lily-livers like Mr. Cohen will decide they have to change--

Germond: The fact that Congress got to it late does not alter the validity of examining whether we should be doing it.

Kondracke: What's happening here is that the Congress [is getting] on board, they are being consulted, as they should be, and when they sign off on it, they will be as responsible as the Administration.

Germond: Are we willing to go to war with Iran?

Kondracke: I think yes. I think the answer is if we are attacked by Iranian air, we will respond by hitting Iranian air bases.

Cohen: The question is -- what is our policy in the Middle East? Our policy is to prevent Iran from winning this war and dominating the Persian Gulf.

McLaughlin: We want a fair and negotiated end to the war. We believe that we can push Iran to the table by helping the ally of Iraq to maintain its oil shipping. That's the logic behind it.

McLaughlin: Don't you think Senator Byrd is correct when he said we ought to slow this thing down and first of all get an articulated position of what the Administration's policy is with regard to the Persian Gulf? Are we not all agreed on that? (Voices: No.) We're not?

Novak: I say while we're having all these negotiations with our own Congress, the Soviets have put three mine sweepers and two frigates in--

MCLAUGHLIN GROUP (continued)

McLaughlin: Is there a danger of a superpower collision? (Everyone: no.)
...Do you think that the U.S. should flag the Kuwaiti vessels -- soon?
Now?

Cohen: No. Novak: Now. Germond: I still don't know.

Kondracke: Get Congress on board and do it. McLaughlin: Don't do it.

ON IRAN-CONTRA HEARINGS:

McLaughlin: What's the big Iran-contra story this week?

Germond: Well, it's sort of a little, tiny story -- more and more evidence of a great many people involved in this. It is more and more difficult for the President to deny knowledge of these things.

Novak: These have ceased to be Iran-contra hearings. It is a contra hearing. It is an attempt to nail the President and the only thing that is interesting is that the Administration plays rope-a-dope.

McLaughlin: You see what Ronald Reagan is doing -- this is the last desperate tactic of a rope-a-dope politician. He did the same thing earlier--

Novak: The enemy is not the President -- it's the Democratic committee.

McLaughlin: Is the public interest in Irangate mounting or ebbing?

Kondracke: Ebbing. Novak: Really ebbing. Germond: Doesn't matter to me. Cohen: Ebbing. McLaughlin: Still ebbing.

PREDICTIONS:

Cohen: Very shortly Mike Dukakis is going to start picking up some of the key former Hart operatives.

Novak: Former Gov. Richard Thornburgh of Pennsylvania is being told by friends that he can fill the leadership vacuum and be the next President of the U.S. And he's taking a look at it.

Germond: The stories about John Glenn thinking about another run are serious and people who are close to him say it's better than even that he'll do it.

Kondracke: The Soviet Union is going to try to sneak 105 KBG onto the Secretary of the UN which is not suppose to hire anybody because of a freeze. If this thing goes through; the Administration will raise a stink about it and Congress is likely to threaten to cut off all funds to the UN.

McLaughlin: Vice President George Bush will not be hurt by Irangate expect in a minor way notwithstanding Don Gregg and his testimony next week. Ronald Reagan goes to Rome, meets with the Pope and stays awake.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Moderator: Martin Agronsky Panel: Strobe Talbott, Elizabeth Drew, Carl Rowan, James Kilpatrick.

ON PERSIAN GULF POLICY:

Agronsky: President Reagan said this week, that the U.S. has a commitment to it's vital national security to maintain freedom of passage in the Persian Gulf. Senator Richard Lugar...said the environment surrounding our Navy in the Persian Gulf is as dangerous as the exposure of our Marines in Beirut. Is the President or the Senator right?

Talbott: I think both of them are wrong. Senator Lugar's comparison to Beirut is a bit off a cheap shot. As for what the President said -- we're already in a war situation.... There's still lots of ironies that have to be sorted out here. The President still has a lot of explaining to do.

Drew: ...We are taking sides more overtly in this war and I think there are a lot of questions. This seems to be an example of the Administration leaping before it looked. It took a decision to do something without figuring out how to do it, knowing the implications, and adequately consulting Congress.

Rowan: On Friday the President made a bold and brave statement about how we are not going to walk out of the Persian Gulf. I can't quarrel with that. But the Congress, I, and a lot of people are tired of hearing bold statements and then going to tearful funerals for American servicemen. What the Congress is demanding of this Administration, and I think will get, is a clear understanding of what it is we propose to do, how we propose to it, and how we're going to protect the troops.

Kilpatrick: I'll second everything Carl had to say.

Agronsky: We've had a series of crisis in which the President promises a certain policy and his performance does not support that policy or make it work. Do you think this could be another instance of that?

Rowan: There's more agreement between the Congress and the Reagan Administration now than people know. And the President didn't tell you a thing Friday about it. But his Secretary of Defense, his National Security Advisor met Thursday with Bob Dole, with Bob Byrd, Sam Nunn. They promised that they would abide by both the spirit and the letter of standing resolutions both Houses are going to pass this Tuesday requiring that within 7 days they report to the Congress what kind of forces are we going to put in, what will these forces be....

Drew: In his Friday statement, the President said we are doing this to promote peace in the Gulf War. Well, that is why we were selling arms to the so-called "moderates" in Iran a few months ago.... Because the Iran thing went to sour some of the people in the Administration felt we have to, once again, show our resolve.... It was to make up for the original embarrassment. Now the question is -- is this a wise decision?

Talbott: This whole crisis is an indirect side effect of Irangate.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY (continued)

Agronsky: The President, on Friday, reached out to make Iran the chief villain and to make the Soviet Union the co-villain. What has the Soviet Union done in this situation that justifies that?

Kilpatrick: Put additional naval presence into the Gulf, which is bound to worry the President.... There is no really great satisfactory course that the President can take now on this. If he goes in with the ideal of putting the flags on the Kuwaiti tankers, then he's damned in that direction. If he does nothing -- if he simply withdraws the U.S. naval presence -- then he's going to be damned for that.

Agronsky: Has the President of the U.S. told the country enough about it and the Congress enough about it?

Rowan: This isn't the first President who said this was vital to our interests -- Jimmy Carter said that we would fight if we had to preserve our access to the Persian Gulf.... There are some things [the President] hasn't said. One of the problems is that the Soviets have offered to escort some Kuwaiti ships and we don't want the Soviets to get in there with the first lead on this deal, so we're in a contest with them.

Drew: The Administration is very angry with Congress for making so much noise, but in fact, I think they are somewhat saving the Administration from itself by forcing some of these decisions.

Talbott: Let's not make the same mistake as the President. Let's not lump Iran together with the Soviet Union, Iran and the Soviet Union are not allies in the Persian Gulf or anywhere else and the Soviet Union has played a role there that is not all that different from the one that we are now trying to play.

ON THE IRAN-CONTRA HEARINGS:

Agronsky: Do you think we're learning anything more?

Rowan: We don't know whether this [the testimony] is true or not, but they sure laid a finger on Elliott Abrams and Casey and the President this week.

Agronsky: And the Vice President.

Drew: I don't think that the important thing about this week was so much whether it got to the President.... It is true it got a little closer to the Vice President.... The real thing -- is the President accountable for these activities? I'm very curious about the White House. Last week, the President said, "I knew about all these things. The law doesn't get to me..." This week, he walked back and said, "I didn't know anything about it. These were private groups." Which is it?

Talbott: This was a bad week too for somebody else -- George Shultz -- whose name has not been dragged into Irangate all that often. It's only indirectly.... It really is beginning to look like Elliott Abrams knew a great deal more than he had heretofore said.... That is going to have to, at least, raise some questions about Secretary Shultz.

###



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1987 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Urges Wide AIDS Testing But Does Not Call For Compulsion --
President Reagan called for a wide range of AIDS testing at the state and federal levels to detect the hidden spread of the virus.

(New York Times, USA Today, Washington Post, AP, Copley, UPI)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Administration Will Report To Hill On Gulf Operations -- The Reagan Administration has reached substantial agreement with Congress on demands for complete advance reports detailing the sea and airpower the U.S. will use to escort re-flagged Kuwaiti vessels in the Persian Gulf.

(Christian Science Monitor, Washington Post,
Washington Times, AP, Reuter)

Plane's Landing Seen As Threat To Missile Pact -- Political fallout from the Red Square plane incident may seriously hamper Kremlin leader Gorbachev's ability to negotiate a missile deal with the U.S.

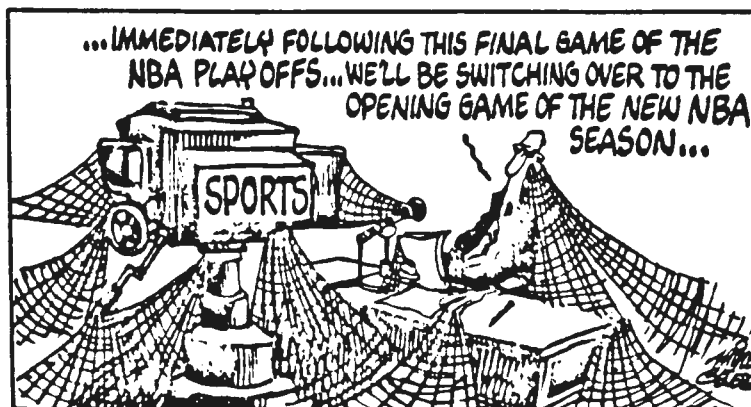
(Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Reuter, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Sunday Evening)

AIDS -- President Reagan announced his support for an ambitious AIDS testing program.

PERSIAN GULF -- Iran reported it has seized seven Kuwaiti boats and accused the crews of espionage.

SOUTH AFRICA -- South African President Botha called on President Reagan and other western leaders who will meet in Venice to help end violence in South Africa.



NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN CALLS FOR ROUTINE TESTING FOR AIDS, COMPASSION FOR VICTIMS

President Reagan, warning that "AIDS is surreptitiously spreading throughout our population," ordered increased testing for the deadly virus and urged states to begin testing all citizens who apply for marriage licenses.

While his denunciation of discrimination against AIDS victims was applauded, the President was loudly booed and hissed by many of the several hundred persons who had gathered in a tent on the banks of the Potomac River on a humid and sweltering Washington evening to raise funds for the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

Undeterred, Reagan announced he has ordered the Department of Health and Human Services to add AIDS to the list of contagious diseases for which immigrants and illegal aliens can be denied entry to the U.S.

The hissing continued when the President said he has instructed the Justice Department to plan to begin testing "all federal prisoners, as well as looking into ways to protect uninfected inmates and their families."

(George Condon, Copley)

Reagan Calls For AIDS Testing

President Reagan was booed and hissed by a black-tie, AIDS fund-raising crowd when he called for "routine" testing of immigrants, prisoners and those seeking marriage licenses.

Saying the epidemic calls for "urgency, not panic," Reagan asked that AIDS be put on the list of contagious diseases that can bar entry for immigrants. But that proposal, along with others, was booed as well as applauded. The loudest hisses came when Reagan said "the final judgement (of victims) is up to God" -- interpreted by some as a dig at gays.

Reagan also defended the rights of victims.

"There's no reason for those who carry the AIDS virus to wear a scarlet A," he said. "We must prevent the persecution, through ignorance or malice, of our fellow citizens." (Johanna Neuman, USA Today, A1)

President Reagan/AIDS

To boos and hisses, President Reagan announced a plan to test millions of American for AIDS while calling for "urgency, not panic" in fighting the deadly epidemic he has labeled "Public Health Enemy No. 1."

Headlining a star-studded \$500,000 fund-raising dinner for the American Foundation for AIDS Research, Reagan outlined a program that could subject tens of millions of immigrants, prisoners and others to automatic AIDS tests.

With a vaccine years away by all accounts, Reagan underscored the need for education and relented some from his previous position that morality-based instruction on abstinence from drugs and sex is the key to limiting the spread on AIDS by young people.

"What our citizens must know is this: America faces a disease that is fatal and spreading," Reagan said. "This calls for urgency, not panic. It calls for compassion, not blame. And it calls for understanding, not ignorance." (Norman Sandler, UPI)

Reagan Urges Wide AIDS Testing But Does Not Call For Compulsion

In his first speech devoted exclusively to the growing AIDS epidemic, President Reagan called for a wide range of AIDS testing at the state and federal levels to detect the hidden spread of the virus.

Reagan shied away from urging mandatory testing of broad segments of the public but called instead for mandatory tests of selected groups, including federal prisoners.

Such testing is needed, he said, to identify infected individuals so that they will not continue to spread the virus unwittingly and to help public officials understand the dimensions of the epidemic.

(Philip Boffey, New York Times, A1)

Reagan Asks Expansion Of AIDS Testing

President Reagan, saying that AIDS is "surreptitiously spreading throughout our population," called for a significant expansion in routine AIDS virus testing for prisoners, immigrants, applicants for marriage licenses and those seeking treatment for drug abuse or sexually transmitted diseases.

"AIDS affects all of us," said Reagan in remarks prepared for delivery at a fund-raising dinner sponsored by the American Foundation for AIDS Research. "Just as most individuals don't know they carry the virus, no one knows to what extent the virus has infected our society.... It is time we knew exactly what we were facing. And that is why I support routine testing."

Although Reagan endorsed "routine" rather than "mandatory" testing -- a practice that most public health officials, including Surgeon General Koop, have said would drive the disease underground by discouraging people from seeking medical advice and treatment -- a White House official (Gary Bauer) said that the President strongly supports mandatory testing.

(Sandra Boodman, Washington Post, A1)

Flap Over The AIDS Fundraiser; Reagan's Testing Proposal Draws Concern, Talk Of Protest

Before an audience of ambassadors and activists, socialites and movie stars, corporate moguls and public health officials, President Reagan was expected to call for testing for exposure to the AIDS virus of immigrants, federal prisoners and people applying for marriage licenses, a policy that a sizable portion of the crowd, including Surgeon General Koop, strongly opposes.

Distressed by what they see as the Reagan Administration's lack of sensitivity on AIDS, and fearful that in his speech the President would choose to emphasize testing over education and research, a number of guests had discussed whether they should mount some form of protest inside the tent at Potomac restaurant, where the President was to speak. Not far from the tent, more than 200 people, many of them suffering from AIDS, planned to stage a vigil in memory of those who have died from the disease. (Elizabeth Kastor & Sandra Boodman, Washington Post, B1)

Gay Congressmen Applaud AIDS Walkers, Denounce Reagan

Two openly gay congressmen accused President Reagan of failing to lead the fight against AIDS and turning his back on all Americans by ignoring the advice of his top health adviser.

Speaking to a crowd of 5,000 people on the Boston Common before a fund-raising walk to benefit AIDS programs, Rep. Gerry Studds said, "Gay and straight, this is your country, Mr. President.

"In the name of our common humanity, Mr. President, lead us. ...Help us be a country that can put this plague behind us," Studds said. he urged Reagan to "listen to your surgeon general."

Rep. Barney Frank...accused Reagan of ignoring AIDS, which in the U.S. has mostly afflicted male homosexuals and intravenous drug users. (John King, AP)

WHITE HOUSE STUDY SAYS SIN-TAX BOOST MAY BE JUSTIFIED BY HEALTH-CARE COSTS

A confidential analysis by the White House budget office contends the cost to government of dealing with smoking- and drinking-related health problems could justify a major rise in "sin" taxes on tobacco and alcoholic drinks.

The analysis makes no recommendations, but it apparently is designed to provide the Reagan Administration a rationale to accept a boost in excise taxes on cigarettes and liquor.

(Paul Blustein, Wall Street Journal, A54)

PLAN TO SELL OFF FEDERAL LOANS FALLS BEHIND

The Reagan Administration's proposed sale of government loans to help reduce the federal deficit has run into difficulties and will not produce the \$5 billion in revenues Congress counted on this year, according to Administration officials.

Two-thirds of the way through fiscal 1987, the agencies in the program have yet to sell a single government loan to the investment community.

"Yes, it is behind," said Joseph Wright, deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget and the leader of the effort. "But we are not pushing it until all the problems are resolved. I'm not about to make a mistake and jeopardize all of credit reform."

(Judith Havemann, Washington Post, A1)

DEBATE OVER AIR SAFETY SPUTTERS ON

On the eve of the peak summer travel season, Deputy Transportation Secretary James Burnley attacked critics for confusing and scaring travelers with "loose, quick, glib" answers to questions about air safety.

Burnley and Sen. Frank Lautenberg, chairman of the Senate Appropriations transportation subcommittee, clashed sharply in a debate on CBS's "Face the Nation" about air traffic controller training and staffing and the FAA's plans to handle increased summer traffic.

Lautenberg accused the FAA of a "stubbornness and unwillingness" to recognize a problem with safety. (Laura Parker, Washington Post, A12)

Federal Air Officials Still Squabbling Over Air Safety Outlook For Summer

As the nation heads into the summer flying season, federal officials continue arguing about the safety of the country's commercial aviation system.

"We are operating the system safely, we truly are," said Donald Engen, head of the FAA, on ABC's "This Week with David Brinkley." Engen agreed the current system is overburdened, causing passenger delays (but not safety hazards).

"At this time there is cause for alarm" said James Burnett, chief of the National Transportation Safety Board, on CBS's "Face the Nation." "Now the FAA is looking at this problem through different glasses. They are approaching the problem and trying to maximize the efficiency of the air traffic system.... But we have to recognize that there is a trade-off between doing that and maintaining an adequate margin of safety."

(Tim Ahern, AP)

MORE THAN 100 ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF WRONGDOING IN REAGAN YEARS

...More than 100 members of President Reagan's Administration have been accused of wrongdoing since he took office in 1981.

White House officials dismiss these incidences as "individual cases" -- although they say they want all transgressions investigated.

Others see it differently. Stephen Wayne, a professor of political science and public affairs at George Washington University, blames the ethical problems on the type of people the Reagan election swept into positions of power.

"This Administration was peopled primarily by outsiders who were not experienced hands in government," Wayne said. "There is a different way of behaving in the private sector and in the public sector."

(Dale Nelson, AP)

BUSH PLAYS IT SAFE, AND BLAND, IN IOWA Funds Plentiful As Iran-Contra Stigma Eases

DES MOINES -- The clue to how nicely Vice President Bush thinks his candidacy is going these days was buried in a bland speech he gave here this weekend to a big gathering of GOP foot soldiers from the Midwest.

Applause lines? Policy proposals? Stirring visions? Not from the GOP front-runner. Bush was all business, which is to say, safe, predictable and a tad boring.

But like Sherlock Holmes' dog that did not bark, the speech spoke volumes silently. It told of the luxuries -- real and false -- of being an institutional front-runner a year before a presidential convention.

(News Analysis, Paul Taylor & Bill Peterson, Washington Post, A3)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Excerpts From Reagan Speech," appears in The Washington Post, A4.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PENTAGON PLANS LARGER GULF ROLE; REAGAN MOVES TO SMOOTH FEATHERS IN CONGRESS

Pentagon officials are planning a larger U.S. naval presence in the Persian Gulf as President Reagan tries to avert a showdown with a skeptical Congress over his proposal to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers from Iranian attack.

Defense Department officials said they were making plans to move an aircraft carrier and an advanced Aegis cruiser into the Gulf region, but neither Reagan nor his aides have spelled out exactly what steps they would take if Iran attacks vessels sailing under U.S. Navy protection.

(Bryan Brumley, AP)

Administration Will Report To Hill On Gulf Operations

The Reagan Administration has reached substantial agreement with Congress on demands for complete advance reports detailing the sea and airpower the U.S. will use to escort re-flagged Kuwaiti vessels in the Persian Gulf.

"We have no problem whatsoever complying with the congressional desire for us to submit reports," said National Security Adviser Carlucci. "We think that is a legitimate function."

But Carlucci said the White House had some problems with the condition that the Administration could do nothing until the reports were filed with Congress.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3)

U.S. Military Plan Gulf Strategy Amid Warnings From Iran

U.S. military officials were planning to provide protection for Persian Gulf shipping while Iran warned against superpower interference in the region.

According to some news reports, the U.S. was considering sending cruisers to the Gulf, as well as another aircraft carrier. Cruisers are larger and more heavily armed than frigates there now.

(Kenneth Barry, Reuter)

Iran Insists Gulf Must Be Safe For Everyone -- Or No One

The Reagan Administration's apparent delay in fully carrying out its plan to protect Kuwaiti tankers sailing in the Persian Gulf has been greeted in Tehran as yet another victory for the Islamic revolution.

"This is a sign that our firmness is paying off," said a jubilant senior Iranian official contacted Friday. "We stick to our position: As long as the Iraqis attack tankers loading oil from our own terminals, we will retaliate by striking at merchant ships entering or leaving other Gulf countries' ports, be they flying Soviet, American or any other flag. Neither U.S. naval escort nor U.S. air escort will deter us from firing at Kuwaiti tankers using the U.S. flag."

(Claude van England, Christian Science Monitor, A1)

Iran Warns Soviets, U.S. On Gulf Moves

NICOSIA, Cyprus -- Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati warned the U.S. and the Soviet Union against intervening in the Persian Gulf War as Tehran announced that seven Kuwaiti speedboats had been detained while "spying" for Iraq.

Observers suggested that Iran was embarked on a major propaganda exercise to strengthen congressional critics of the Reagan Administration's plan to provide U.S. Navy escorts for Kuwaiti tankers "reflagged" as American shipping. (Jonathan Randal, Washington Post, A13)

Danger And Denial

"I don't see the danger of a war," President Reagan responded last week to a question from a foreign journalist about the possibility of conflict in the Persian Gulf. "I don't see how one could possibly start."

The President's bland dismissal of the dangers in the Gulf occurred four days after he paid homage to the 37 sailors who died when the USS Stark was struck by a missile fired from an Iraqi jet. This tragedy showed one way that war could "possibly start," which is by accident. And Congress is aware, even if Reagan isn't, that war also could be triggered by a deliberate Iranian attack on Kuwaiti tankers moving slowly through the Gulf under American flag.

Reagan has not made his case (defending the policy of protecting Kuwaiti tankers) in a national forum except for a five-minute statement Friday in the White House briefing room in which he alternately denounced the Soviets and the Iranians. Reagan's reluctance to make a higher-visibility appearance may in part reflect embarrassment over the Iran arms deal, which damaged U.S. credibility in the region. But the larger reason is that the President resists giving Congress an eventual veto power over U.S. deployment in the Gulf by invoking the War Powers Resolution and saying that hostilities are "imminent or likely." If he did, Congress could decide that forces must be withdrawn after 90 days.

When American warships steam into the Gulf as protective forces for the Kuwaiti tankers, their crews will face deadly risks of both deliberate and accidental attack. Reagan should acknowledge these risks. He should tell the American people what he is doing and why he is doing it.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A2)

A BLIND SPOT LEFT STARK VULNERABLE, U.S. OFFICIALS SAY

Officers aboard the American frigate Stark failed to execute a standard air-defense maneuver when she was attacked May 17 by an Iraqi jet in the Persian Gulf, according to government officials familiar with the Navy investigation of the incident.

Knowing an Iraqi warplane was approaching, the ship's captain did not begin to turn her stern toward the aircraft. That step would have permitted the Stark's sophisticated electronic defenses to detect the launching of two Exocet, sea-skimming missiles and to shoot them down.

...Officials familiar with the inquiry suggested this weekend that the ship's commander, Capt. Glenn Brindel, and perhaps three other officers could be held culpable. The four officers have been named as "interested parties," or primary subjects of the inquiry, and have been assigned legal counsel. (John Cushman, New York Times, A1)

BRITISH-IRANIAN TIES HEAD FOR CRISIS AS DIPLOMAT FACES CHARGES

LONDON -- British-Iranian relations headed for a crisis as Tehran threatened charges against a British diplomat briefly held by revolutionary guards last week and a British paper reported the envoy could face the death penalty.

The Daily Telegraph newspaper reported the charges "are understood to relate to drugs, corruption, undermining the economy in time of war and theft" and could carry the death penalty. (Reuter)

PLANE AFFAIR SPARKS SOVIET POWER PLAY Military Purge Seen Risky For Gorbachev

MOSCOW -- Kremlin leader Gorbachev is using a flagrant violation of Soviet security to launch a Defense Ministry purge and seal his control over the powerful Soviet military in a bold play for power that also runs the risk of destabilizing his regime, western diplomats said here.

...In a country where the military is considered one of three pillars of power -- alongside the political leadership and state security -- the military shake-up is widely viewed here as Gorbachev's boldest reach yet at the reins of power.

The reason, according to western diplomatic assessments here, is that Gorbachev's own position is not yet secure enough to consolidate control fully over an institution like the Soviet military, with its record of wobbly support for some of the Kremlin leader's policies.

(News Analysis, Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

Gorbachev May Turn National Embarrassment To Personal Advantage

MOSCOW -- The landing of a private German plane in Red Square, though an embarrassment to the regime of Soviet leader Gorbachev, could end up strengthening his hand in dealing with the armed forces and even the KGB.

Though the incident could be used by Gorbachev's enemies as an example of the loose discipline that could result from his cherished liberalization program, many western observers believe the astonishing lapse Thursday by the nation's air defense forces leaves Gorbachev better positioned to make more changes. (Jack Redden, UPI)

Aide Asserts Moscow May Send German Pilot Home Unpunished

MOSCOW -- Matthias Rust, the 19-year-old West German whose aerial escapade set off a purge of the Soviet military, may be allowed to go home without standing trial, a Soviet spokesman said.

Valentin Falin, former ambassador to West Germany and now chief of the official Novosti press feature syndicate, said the young pilot would probably not be punished for flying a single-engine plane across the heavily defended Soviet frontier and landing it Thursday near the Kremlin.

"On the one side, he will be thanked, that he made us aware of the gaps in our air defense system," Falin told a West German newspaper. His remarks were confirmed by an aide in Moscow.

(Bill Keller, New York Times, A1)

Gorbachev Faces Delicate Decision Over Daredevil Flier Rust

MOSCOW -- Kremlin leader Gorbachev faces a delicate decision on how to treat daredevil West German pilot Matthias Rust, who landed a light plane on Red Square to the embarrassment of the Soviet military.

Analysts said if Gorbachev decided to send the 19-year-old flier home to Hamburg unpunished, he could appear weak domestically, especially to opponents of his reform drive.

On the other hand, if he punished the youth severely, he could seem mean and humorless in the West, where he is trying to project the image of a dynamic leader out to make Soviet society more humane.

(Helen Womack, Reuter)

West Germans Hope To Meet Soon With Pilot Who Landed In Red Square

MOSCOW -- West German officials hope to meet with a young West German pilot who flew a light plane from Finland all the way to Red Square, causing the Soviets severe embarrassment and sparking a Kremlin upheaval.

"We were told that we will be able to see him at the beginning of this forthcoming week," Alexander Arnot, minister of the West German Embassy, said.

(UPI)

Plane's Landing Seen As Threat To Missile Pact

Political fallout from the Red Square plane incident may seriously hamper Kremlin leader Gorbachev's ability to negotiate a missile deal with the U.S., Soviet and western analysts said.

"The intrusion of the West German plane poses such a serious security question that Gorbachev may have to lean over backward to assure Soviet people that he is not compromising security in arms agreements," one western diplomat said.

(Antero Pietila, Baltimore Sun, A1)

KOHL SUMMONS COALITION TO SEAL BELATED MISSILE COMPROMISE

BONN -- West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, his leadership under attack, called top-level talks to seek a nuclear arms-control compromise and throw Bonn's belated support behind a proposed superpower deal.

Government sources were quoted in West German newspaper reports as saying he was expected to propose a compromise formula giving West Germany's assent to a controversial plan to rid Europe of Soviet and U.S. shorter-range as well as medium-range missiles.

(Douglas Hamilton, Reuter)

GORBACHEV'S EAST BLOC POLICY STALLS Old Habits Slow New Economic Relations

WARSAW -- Despite Soviet leader Gorbachev's repeated calls for "radical" improvement in economic cooperation, trade between the Soviet Union and its six East European allies is stagnating and new technological and industrial projects are mired in bureaucratic entanglements, according to government officials and economists.

...Official economic reports and interviews with East Bloc officials indicate that Gorbachev's economic thrust has produced remarkably poor results. Not only are the new projects proposed by Gorbachev far behind schedule, but the overall contribution of East Europe to the Soviet economy seems to have undergone a "qualitative" decline.

(Jackson Diehl, Washington Post, A1)

WHITE HOUSE AND PRO-CHOICE GROUPS WAGE BATTLE OVER ABORTIONS ABROAD

The Reagan Administration is facing a series of challenges to its international population control policy, which has emphasized ending all ties to family planning organizations that do not explicitly reject abortion.

The policy, which involves millions of dollars in grants to international family planning groups, is being contested in a federal court in New York, on Capitol Hill and in newspaper advertisements and billboards. More important than the money is that America's overseas population programs have become an important battlefield between the opposing sides in the nation's abortion debate.

(Neil Lewis, New York Times, A12)

###

IRAN — NICARAGUA

FRICTION AND CONTRADICTION Iran-Contra Witnesses Show Their Differences

In four weeks of testimony...the men who planned and managed the clandestine resupply of the contras have told -- while under oath -- conflicting stories about the same events. They have accused each other of profiteering, attempted theft, security breeches, and even of leaking information to left-wing news media.

One explanation for the conflicts and contradiction in the testimony may be simply that some witnesses are trying to cover up possible illegalities. But it is also evident from the conflicting stories being told by key participants that some are using their moment in the spotlight to rationalize their own actions, or continue old feuds.

(Walter Pincus & Dan Morgan, Washington Post, A1)

HILL PANEL TO GRILL ABRAMS ABOUT AID

Elliott Abrams, the assistant secretary of state who fought many congressional battles for the Nicaraguan contras, returns to Capitol Hill tomorrow to face tough questions about his efforts to aid the resistance.

The panel, which is expected to question Abrams for two days, will try to determine the extent of any involvement in private efforts to supply the contras during the ban on official aid.

(News Analysis, Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A5)

-End of A-Section-

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Sunday Evening, May 31, 1987)

AIDS

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan tonight announces his support for an ambitious program for testing for AIDS -- the deadly acquired immune deficiency syndrome for which no cure or prevention has been discovered. The President delivered his views at a fund raising dinner for AIDS research here in Washington.

ABC's Kenneth Walker: In his first speech on AIDS last month, President Reagan limited his remarks to a pledge for intensified research efforts to find a cure for the disease.

(The President: "We've declared AIDS public health enemy number one.")

(TV coverage: File footage from April 1.)

But tonight, in only his second speech on the subject, the President tackles one of the most controversial topics -- testing for AIDS. Officials say Mr. Reagan will announce he has ordered testing in a number of areas. Immigrants seeking permanent residence in the U.S. will be barred entry if they test positive for AIDS. All inmates in federal prisons will be tested as well. And a review has been ordered to see if patients at other federal facilities, such as veterans' hospitals, should be tested too. Mr. Reagan also wants states to test their prisoners and inmates and patients at clinics for drug abuse as well as those for sexually transmitted diseases. The President also is expected to encourage the states to offer routine, but not compulsory testing for marriage license applicants -- a recommendation already rejected by 11 states and last week overwhelmingly rejected by the Senate.

(Sen. Dole: "Will jobs we lost, careers destroyed, families interrupted all for the sake of a false positive test? To take action now is premature, and, in fact, may do more harm than good.")

Firm opposition to mandatory testing by Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and other health officials led the President to call his testing plans "routine," although persons effected by the federal plans have no choice but to be tested.

(Koop: "Mandatory testing, with some specific expectations, would not be good public health practice at this time.")

(Rep. Waxman: "I think this is a triumph of politics in the Administration over all the advice of their public health experts. He's ignored them and gone ahead and called for routine testing.")

The President's plans almost surely will provoke challenges in court as well as in Congress. And as the President leaves this week for the economic summit in Venice where AIDS is already on the agenda, Mr. Reagan can expect a vigorous debate on his proposals there.

(ABC-Lead)

NBC's John Hart: President Reagan is expected to announce tonight his plan for nationwide testing for AIDS.

NBC's Jamie Gangel: The President came back from Camp David today prepared to make his speech at a blacktie fund raiser hosted by Elizabeth Taylor.

Gangel continues: His message, according to White House officials -- to recommend AIDS testing for millions of Americans, some of it mandatory.

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady returning from Camp David on the South Lawn and walking into the White House.)

Officials say the President will announce that he wants a plan to test all federal prisoners and he will recommend that states require testing in state and local prisons. Immigrants will also be subject to testing. The President has asked that AIDS be added to the list of contagious diseases for which immigrants can be denied entry. The President is also asking for routine testing at VA hospitals, at drug abuse clinics and at centers for sexually transmitted diseases. And finally the President will also recommend routine testing for marriage license's applicants leaving it up to individual states to decide whether it should be mandatory. Routine testing means tests will be given unless a person strongly objects. Critics of testing are concerned it will drive away those who most need help because of discrimination. They point to public hysteria over AIDS and homosexuals.

(Howard Phillips, Conservative Caucus: "I think the American people want to be protected from the promiscuous spread of disease. They don't want their kids to be exposed to AIDS in the schools. They don't want to have to pay \$20 billion a year to subsidize the consequences of perverted behavior.")

Rep. Waxman: "What we see here is traditional right wing bashing of homosexuality.")

And the political controversy is not over. Tonight conservative supporters of mandatory testing will protest the President's speech and tomorrow AIDS activists plan to demonstrate in front of the White House to say the testing plan has gone too far.

NBC's Robert Bazell reports on the AIDS conference.

(NBC-2)

CBS's Susan Spencer: AIDS and the devastation the disease is causing around the world will be a major issue at the upcoming economic summit in Venice. The White House confirms tonight that the leaders at the seven nation gathering will call for international mobilization against AIDS which they see as a threat to economic and political stability as well as to world health.

CBS's Jacqueline Adams: President Reagan returned from Camp David today ready to step up the Administration's war against AIDS. Tonight at an AIDS research fund raising dinner, the President will call for routine AIDS testing for as many as 50 million Americans each year. Next week at the Venice economic summit Mr. Reagan will join with the leaders of the seven industrial democracies in labeling AIDS a major world health problem....

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady returning from Camp David on the South Lawn and walking into the White House.)

Spencer reports on the AIDS fund raising march in Boston and the AID conference in Washington including the specific testing programs expected to be endorsed by the President at tonight's fund raising event for AIDS research.

(CBS-Lead)

-more-

INVASION OF SOVIET AIR SPACE

Donaldson: Dust is still settling in Moscow in the vigorous and swift Kremlin reaction to penetration of Soviet air space Thursday by a single engine light plane that landed in Red Square. The dismissal of the Soviet Defense Minister and the Soviet General in charge of air defense was not only a vigorous reaction, it was a revealing demonstration of just where the power lies now in the Soviet Union.

ABC's Walter Rogers reports on the changes in the Soviet defense ministry and air defense system. (ABC-2, NBC-Lead, CBS-5)

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Hart: The Miami Herald reports today that President Reagan signed a directive in 1983 designating the National Security Council as the top government entity coordinating all U.S. intelligence activities. The White House has been saying recently the National Security Council was exempt from the law against helping the contras because it was not an intelligence agency. (NBC-4)

IRAN/KUWAITI SPEED BOATS

Donaldson: The state-owned Iranian news agency reported today that Iran has seized seven Kuwaiti speed boats in the Persian Gulf and arrested the crew members as spies for Iraq. The dispatch didn't pinpoint when this took place, but the story did say that the incident shows growing support for Iraq by the Kuwaiti government -- something the Iranian news agency called "treacherous." (ABC-4, NBC-6, CBS-10)

SENATORS TOUR PERSIAN GULF

Spencer: Senators John Warner and John Glenn took a helicopter ride over the Gulf's strategic Strait of Hormuz today. Twenty percent of the Western world's oil supply must pass through the Strait -- site of many Iranian attacks on shipping. An aide said Glenn is concerned about Chinese-made missiles that Iran recently has deployed in the vicinity. (CBS-11)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Spencer: The South African President has asked President Reagan and the other Western leaders who will meet in Venice to help end the violence in South Africa. As a start he wants them to break all relations with the African National Congress -- the black guerilla movement. (CBS-12)

-more-

AIR SAFETY

Donaldson: The heads of the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board continued their dispute today about the safety of the commercial aviation system in the U.S. Safety Board Chairman James Burnett said there is cause for alarm. FAA administrator Donald Engen said the system is operating safely as long as it is closely watched. Engen, a retired Navy admiral, acknowledged there is a constant strain on the traffic controllers operation because of what he called "throughput." And what is throughput? Turnover, it turns out. (ABC-7)

FOREIGN TRADE

Spencer: The federal trade commission says unfair foreign competition is not responsible for the big U.S. trade deficit, so retaliating with tariffs won't do much to shrink it. In a report tonight, the FTC says the real causes of the deficit are shifting currency values and growing U.S. consumer demand. (CBS-6)

TERRORISM

Hart: On Weekend Journal tonight an account of a country in the age of terrorism that was gripped by it, met it and dramatically reduced it.

NBC's Sam Bernard: Italy was once the most terrorist-torn country in Western Europe.... With the Lebanon war in 1982, Italy, despite being sympathetic toward the Palestinian cause, became a significant arena for Arab terrorism. And the targets were mainly Americans.... The deadliest Arab terrorist attack was at the airport. Sixteen died and 74 were wounded.... Three terrorists were among the dead.... There are new agreements with the U.S., France and Spain to cooperate and share information on terrorists. Attorney General Meese came to Italy last year to sign the document. Within the last weeks, arrests have been made in Spain and in France.... (NBC-5)

FIGHTING IN LEBANON

Donaldson: Heavy fighting broke out today in the Israeli occupied security zone in South Lebanon. More than 20 people have been killed when Shiite Muslim guerillas attacked Israeli-backed forces. Before it was over the Israeli army joined the fray.

ABC's Dean Reynolds reports from Tel Aviv on the latest fighting. (ABC-3, CBS-13)

-End of B-Section-

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

Moderator: David Brinkley Panel: George Will and Sam Donaldson.

Guests: Donald Engen, Federal Aviation Administration Chief; Senator Nancy Kassenbaum; William Bolger, President of Air Transport Association of America; Henry Duffy, President of Air Line Pilots Association; and James Stogner, Operations Director for Hartsfield International Airport.

Guest: Henry Duffy and James Stogner.

Brinkley Was deregulation a good idea?

Duffy: It's done a lot of harm to the employees of the industry. It's still a mix judgment as far as what it's done for the consumers. I think it would have been a lot easier to have anticipated the growth that was going to take place in the industry and create an air traffic control system that could accommodate that growth.

Stogner: I believe the final judgment is not yet in. I do believe a better job could have been done about anticipating some of the results and trying to speak to those before the deregulation act.

Duffy: We polled all of our 40,000 pilots and they said their number one concern was the threat of a near midair collision. That tells me that they think that the air traffic control system is breaking down too often. The secret to curing that is new technology, more controllers and we've simply got to control the number of air planes going into the system.

Donaldson: Are we really flying in unsafe skies?

Duffy: I think the system is safe. There are improvements and higher degrees of efficiency that could be made....

Stogner: I think the important thing is the system is not as safe as it should and could be. We need a political commitment for more funding of the air traffic controller system and airport improvements to increase capacity. That's the only thing that's going to fix this problem.

Guest: Senator Kassenbaum and William Bolger.

Brinkley: Name a benefit to the consumer of deregulation.

Kassenbaum: Some consumers have benefitted by cheaper fares.... I think all of that though has added to the turbulence in the system.

Donaldson: Explain what you have in mind.

Kassenbaum: I think one thing that might help...is publishing actual flight times. If a flight consistently arrives a half hour late, the consumers should know that when they're booking their flights. Hopefully, it will pressure the airlines to work out their schedulings better. I think one of the real problems we have to address is trying to spread out arrival and departure times so they aren't all occurring during peak hours....

THIS WEEK (continued)

Will: Isn't this a case of applied conservatism that wasn't followed through? Conservatives said deregulate the market, we'll lower prices, everyone can fly. But the conservatives didn't follow through with concrete.

Kassenbaum: It's been a problem with both the Carter and Reagan Administrations not wanting to spend money out of the trust fund because it does help show a surplus in the budget. We've got about \$4 billion that we should be spending out of the trust fund. We've authorized those levels of spending. They've never really been appropriated to the level that they should be....

Guest: Donald Engen.

Brinkley: It was six years ago that we fired all the air traffic controllers. We still don't have sufficient numbers. Why don't we have enough?

Engen: It does take time to train our air traffic controllers. There is a constant strain on the system. We have continually driven to increase the number of air traffic controllers. We do indeed today have more air traffic controllers than we had last year and the year before that.... We do need more airports.

Will: Do you oppose the Administration's policy of not spending the money from the trust fund?

Engen: That's not the Administration's policy, sir. I beg to differ in this respect. Secretary Dole and I have both come forward with a 1988 budget which would ask for the expenditure of some \$5 billion from that fund. And we need it. Now it's going to be up to Congress to give us that money.

Will: Should the government re-regulate in some way?

Engen: That really is a question for Congress. Congress deregulated and if Congress wants to re-regulate, I guess that would be the law of the land. My opinion is the system is functioning. You don't want to mix up service with safety. We are operating this system safely.... We want to improve the service, but I will not allow the system to become unsafe.

Donaldson: How come the number of near misses has risen to some 800?

Engen: If you look [at the figures from] ten years ago, you'd find we had some 2,600 -- it varies with time. It's risen over the last 2-3 years because we've changed the ways of reporting.... You never achieve full safety. So you achieve safety in the system by using good operation procedures.... You take the last 3 years in the U.S. -- they've been the safest 3 years in U.S. aviation history.

Donaldson: Jim Burnett of the National Transportation Safety Board says you're pressing it against the red line. That you are operating in an unsafe manner.

THIS WEEK (continued)

Engen: Let me show you, first of all, that I don't know what Mr. Burnett is relating to, but I want to assure you that we have monitored, metered the system over the last three years. We're doing [it] every day. And I don't know what Mr. Burnett's talking about.... There's no way I can guarantee there won't be a tragic accident, but we can take the procedures, and we are taking the procedures, to insure that the American flying public will fly with safety.

-FREE-FOR-ALL DISCUSSION (Hodding Carter joins panel.)

Brinkley: We will put American flags on Kuwaiti tankers and the U.S. Navy will escort them and protect them. Where might that lead?

Will: It might lead to a clash with Iran but that's why we're there. We're not there for the reason the President says. The President says we're there to make war against war. And the Secretary of Defense says we're there for some legal reason.... We're there to forestall the Soviet Union from doing what we're doing. And we're also there to prevent Iraqi from losing the war and unleashing Islamic fundamentalism throughout the Gulf.

Donaldson: I think the President's policy is exactly right. We're there for the reasons that George stated, but also primarily to keep the sea lanes open and I think we must do that. President Reagan is right to carry it [this policy] forward. Where he's wrong is in not honestly stating to the American people that there's a very grave risk that more American lives may be lost, that he feels it's worth it and that he's going to have to go ahead and do it in the national interest.

Hodding: You can't go out there playing a five-sided policy and expect to enlist the American people or anybody else behind it.... You can't be playing games out there. The President needs to get out there and say policy A-B-C -- this is it and there's no private policy.

Donaldson : The President says, "I want the Iranians to go to bed at night wondering what we're going to do." That's exactly wrong. We want the Iranians to know precisely what we're going to do and, at the same time, let the American people know precisely what we're going to do.

Brinkley: President Reagan is going to take a position on some sort of AID policy. Do you know now what it is?

Donaldson: He's going to advocate a very comprehensive program of AIDS testing -- people who are getting married, people who want to immigrate to the U.S. I suppose, without seeing all the details of his plan, I've got to agree. I think he's right. I think we need some sort of testing. I think it's a matter of public safety.

Will: I agree. The best reason for testing is...it will generally put into the system the information that AIDS is a behaviorally-based disease and that if enough people change their behavior the epidemic stops and recedes. I think that is in fact what's going to happen.

CBS -- FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Lesley Stahl.

Guests: Jim Burnett, National Transportation Safety Board Chairman; James Burnley IV, Deputy Transportation Secretary; Senator Frank Lautenberg; Clark Onstad, Vice President of Texas Air Corp.

Burnett: I want to make very clear that I think on this issue, at this time, there is cause of alarm. The FAA is looking at this problem through different glasses. They are approaching the problem and trying to maximize the efficiency of the air traffic system. They are trying to get the maximum landing rate at the airports. That helps expedite travel and helps alleviate some of these problems. But we have to recognize that there is a trade-off between doing that and maintaining an adequate margin of safety.

Stahl: What's the problem? Is the problem the controllers -- that they have never rebuilt the controllers' system after the strike in 1981?

Burnett: I think the FAA did a good job... I do not think the system is really rebuilt at this point. And I want to emphasize that I do not think that the FAA should reman the system with the same number of personnel that they had at the time of the strike.

Stahl: What [do] you think [is] the FAA's motivation in not listening to obviously a passionate plea here and a quite honest concern about safety? Is it that the FAA gave in to pressure from the airlines?

Burnett: They are obviously under a lot of pressure -- it is also giving into the pressure that comes from all of us who travel...and a feeling that they have to provide a response to that service.

Stahl: Do you feel a reluctance to go along with what you are proposing because then the FAA and the DOT and the Reagan Administration would have to admit they made mistakes, that maybe the strike was a mistake?

Burnett: I think obvious people who are proud of the jobs they have done in handling the situation post strike...would like to have no problems on the horizon.... One of the questions is to what extent is the FAA free to do whatever the FAA would like? Even before the Safety Board issued its recommendations and when we were working on them, the Secretary of Transportation said she saw no need for reductions in the level of flights for the summer. So I don't know whether the FAA is as free as we would like to see them to take action that we would like to see them take.

Stahl: Do you think Secretary Dole is getting any kind of instruction from even higher up?

Burnett: I have no reason to believe that.

Guests: Deputy Secretary James Burnley, Senator Frank Lautenberg.

Stahl: Do you think the public's safety is being jeopardized by the FAA's decision?

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Lautenberg: I think the public's safety could be jeopardized by the stubbornness that we see coming out of the FAA.... Is it basically a safe system? I think so. Could it be safer? A lot safer. And the FAA is dragging across the threshold kicking and screaming to make improvements, always trying to defend the numbers, always trying to cover up what I think [has been] a lack of good management for a number of years.

Stahl: Why is the FAA and DOT not heeding these warning and reducing flights so the public doesn't have to worry about safety?

Burnley: What is being said by a few folks who like to get on national television and the front pages is scarey. [It] is gibberish, nonsense and untrue...

Stahl: Are you going to do what they [the NTSB] recommended?

Burnley: Yes.... We put a new computer into service last week.... We are going to be able, and we can now, as of a week ago, look literally at any sector in the country from the central flow control unit.... We have the ability now, therefore, to do just what the NTSB has recommended, and we will be doing that.

Lautenberg: It's not coordinated with anything else... That system is, in my view, show business. And that's what we get from you constantly. You want to call the other people's statements gibberish, you want to shoot the messenger, you want to cover up what's not really being taken care of.

Burnley: We have asked for a 68 percent increase in our budget next year.... We had to do that because Congress has short-funded Reagan Administration requests by \$1 billion over the last six years.

Lautenberg: ...What you insist on doing is putting the public to bed with a tablet and saying don't worry about it, it's almost as safe as it ought to be. And it isn't.

Burnley: The facts aren't there.

Stahl: Why are there more near misses or reports of near misses?

Burnley: Reports of near misses have been going up in '85 and '86 for a number of reasons...our reporting system had broken down. So we did have a dramatic increase in '85; the numbers pre-'85 are worthless. Since then we do not see a further increase.... If I could ask the Senator why he voted for the the Senate Democratic budget resolution that denies the Reagan Administration its 20 percent budget increase for next year just the other day? If he is so concerned about this, why is he cutting our budget?

Lautenberg: Because the Reagan Administration is playing a game.

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Guest: Clark Onstad.

Stahl: What if the government has gone along with the NTSB's recommendation and agreed to reduce the number of flights in rush hour times? What would that have meant for the flying public?

Onstad: It would have meant a lot of small communities would have been without air service today....

Stahl Are you worried about safety?

Onstad: No.... Let me give you the reasons. Number one, for the airlines that Texas Air owns...our departures per day are down. Second, we are in constant communication with our crews and with our airplanes. We have on a real-time basis a very, very good indication of whether or not the system is safe.... We are pressuring all the time to improve the system. Last November the Air Transport Association gave the DOT an inch thick report recommending changes in the system, ways to improve capacity, make the system even safer than it is today.... The airlines wouldn't be in business if in fact we didn't believe the system is safe. Second, the pressure on the system this summer is not what it's been built up to be.

###

NBC -- MEET THE PRESS

Moderator: Chris Wallace. Panel Robert Hager, Christine Russell.

Guests: Rep. Henry Waxman; Howard Phillips, Chairman of the Conservative Caucus; Dr. Paul Volberding, Chief of the AIDS Activities Division of San Francisco General Hospital.

Wallace: The President is going to be calling for routine testing of millions of Americans. Is routine testing on a massive scale a good idea?

Waxman: I think there is a triumph of politics in the Administration over all the advice of their public health experts.... He's ignored them and gone ahead and called for routine testing. It's the most expensive and least effective way of educating the public. Testing is not so he can identify people who have the virus and then give them some medicine to stop it from being transmitted. It's only to identify those people so we can educate them through counselling not to transmit it further.

Phillips: I think routine testing is a step in the right direction, but it isn't all that needs to be done....

Wallace: Dr. Phillips, do you think the Administration has copped out in a sense by not making mandatory testing in all cases, instead they have "routine" testing?

Phillips: I think the role of federal government in this is necessarily limited. I think there could and should be mandatory testing with respect to federal facilities and federal dollars. But most of these decisions have to be made at the state and local level.... The job of the government is to protect the innocent and I say there should be a stigma attached to homosexual behavior. It's an abomination. It's a crime against God and it's a crime against the laws of most of the states. And I think it is very important that the public be protected financially and in the terms of health.

Wallace: Is AIDS becoming a big political issue? It sounds like it.

Waxman: It sounds like the right wing would like to make it a political issue and I think that is a reprehensible activity when we're facing an epidemic where we need to follow the guidance of the health people and not let this thing go to the point where we panic people and that is irresponsible.

Phillips: The homosexual movement has been a political issue....

Wallace: Mr. Phillips, is the right wing going to make this a litmus test for candidates in the '88 election?

Phillips: I think the American people want to be protected for the promiscuous spread of the disease.... They don't want to pay \$20 billion a year to subsidize the consequences of perverted behavior.

Waxman: What you see here is traditional right wing bashing of homosexuality -- using this disease to go after the people they've disliked all along.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Phillips: Homosexuality is wrong.

Guest: Dr. Volberding.

Wallace: As a doctor who is trying to help sick people, what are your thoughts when you hear that AIDS is going to become, in fact, already has become, a hot political issue?

Volberding: That's a tremendous distraction from a very important job that we, as a country, have it seems to me to stop the further spread of the epidemic and to take care of the people who may well be destined to develop illness from this virus. We need more support than we are seeing.

Wallace: Specifically, how much do you feel the right wing pressure on the White House has slowed down the effort to fight AIDS?

Volberding: It seems to me that the effort to understand the disease and understand the virus that causes AIDS has gone along very rapidly. Where we've really fallen down is in educating the public and that's obviously a more social and political issue and I'm afraid it's looking like it's becoming more so.

Wallace: One of the things the President also plans to do is to name an advisory commission on AIDS. But the word came out of the White House that he does not plan to name any gay to that commission. What's your thought about that?

Volberding: I would like to see it not be a political issue. It's an issue to me of asking for advice on a commission from people who can give you some important information on this disease. That has to include homosexuals because they're the ones that have been [living] with this disease for the last six years.... It would be stupid not to involve them on that commission.

Wallace: A number of top health professionals, and I think you're included in that, have sent an open letter to the President indicating that they'll boycott the commission if there's no gay. Really?

Volberding: I don't see the point in having a commission if it starts out guaranteeing not to be effective and our time is too precious to do that, so I hope there would be a boycott of that commission.

Wallace: Generally speaking, how would you rate President Reagan's performance on this problem?

Volberding: I think the performance of the Administration has been good in terms of basic research and good in terms of clinical research. It's progressing rapidly. Very, very poor on public education and keeping this a public health rather than a political issue.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

PANEL DISCUSSION

Wallace: To what degree do you think politics is standing in the way of good public health?

Russell: Thus far, the epidemic has largely been managed by the public health authorities. I think we are at a turning point now where the direction is increasingly come from the politicians. And that's a mixed blessing. It might mean more money and more public attention. But it might also mean some things that are not really in the interest of public health and they're more politically motivated.

Hager: It's been a long and bitter difference within the Administration between the Surgeon General and Secretary Bennett.

Wallace: Where is Everett Koop in this Administration now?

Hager: Isolated I think.... He's very outspoken and he goes off and does his own thing and off and on the Administration listens to him. But I think right now he's encircled. He's almost standing alone, because the Education Secretary seems more to have the ear of the people at the White House.

Russell: I think he and the whole Department of HHS have been pushed aside a little bit. It's also interesting that in 1984 the public health authorities said this was public health enemy number one. It's really taken three years for the President to be willing to talk about it. So, it hasn't been on the front burner for this Administration. It's going to be on the front burned for the international summit. So, it suddenly has risen to the top level.

Wallace: It is interesting just on the personal level. I mean, Everett Koop came in the darling of the right wing, as the most outspoken opponent of abortion. And, yet, he had a testimonial dinner recently in Washington and the right wing was asking the Republican candidates to boycott it and some of them did.

Russell: What's interesting is when he prepared his outspoken report, a lot of people in the public health community thought, "What is he going to come up with?" He really did it all by himself. They were flabbergasted when he was as outspoken as he was about what needed to be done about AIDS. He is one of the most independent people in the Administration and I'm sure he's feeling very frustrated right now. He's trying to fight his fight, but he has not entirely won.

Hager: I want to make a point on this question of whether people from the gay community get included on the commission. I think those of us who are reporting on AIDS issues discover very quickly that those people are out on the cutting edge of it. I mean, they really are in the trench lines and they know what's happening.

THE McLAUGHLIN GROUP

Moderator: John McLaughlin Panel: Richard Cohen, Jack Germond, Robert Novak, Morton Kondracke.

ON PERSIAN GULF POLICY:

McLaughlin: Should the U.S. fly it's flag on Kuwaiti tankers to protect them in the Gulf as reaffirmed by President Reagan this week?

Cohen: No, I don't think we should fly the flag on Kuwaiti tankers... We [would] lose our standing as a neutral. We no longer will have the capacity to bring these two sides together.

Novak: Of course we have to fly the flag on these ships....

Germond: I don't know and it's very difficult to decide. It's not as simple as the Administration makes it out to be.

Kondracke: I absolutely think we ought to do it. The Soviet Union is doing it.... We cannot create that kind of a vacuum.

Novak: You know what the lesson is? If you want to change American policy shoot one of our ships and all the lily-livers like Mr. Cohen will decide they have to change--

Germond: The fact that Congress got to it late does not alter the validity of examining whether we should be doing it.

Kondracke: What's happening here is that the Congress [is getting] on board, they are being consulted, as they should be, and when they sign off on it, they will be as responsible as the Administration.

Germond: Are we willing to go to war with Iran?

Kondracke: I think yes. I think the answer is if we are attacked by Iranian air, we will respond by hitting Iranian air bases.

Cohen: The question is -- what is our policy in the Middle East? Our policy is to prevent Iran from winning this war and dominating the Persian Gulf.

McLaughlin: We want a fair and negotiated end to the war. We believe that we can push Iran to the table by helping the ally of Iraq to maintain its oil shipping. That's the logic behind it.

McLaughlin: Don't you think Senator Byrd is correct when he said we ought to slow this thing down and first of all get an articulated position of what the Administration's policy is with regard to the Persian Gulf? Are we not all agreed on that? (Voices: No.) We're not?

Novak: I say while we're having all these negotiations with our own Congress, the Soviets have put three mine sweepers and two frigates in--

Monday, June 1, 1987 -- C--11

MCLAUGHLIN GROUP (continued)

McLaughlin: Is there a danger of a superpower collision? (Everyone: no.) ...Do you think that the U.S. should flag the Kuwaiti vessels -- soon? Now?

Cohen: No. Novak: Now. Germond: I still don't know.

Kondracke: Get Congress on board and do it. McLaughlin: Don't do it.

ON IRAN-CONTRA HEARINGS:

McLaughlin: What's the big Iran-contra story this week?

Germond: Well, it's sort of a little, tiny story -- more and more evidence of a great many people involved in this. It is more and more difficult for the President to deny knowledge of these things.

Novak: These have ceased to be Iran-contra hearings. It is a contra hearing. It is an attempt to nail the President and the only thing that is interesting is that the Administration plays rope-a-dope.

McLaughlin: You see what Ronald Reagan is doing -- this is the last desperate tactic of a rope-a-dope politician. He did the same thing earlier--

Novak: The enemy is not the President -- it's the Democratic committee.

McLaughlin: Is the public interest in Irangate mounting or ebbing?

Kondracke: Ebbing. Novak: Really ebbing. Germond: Doesn't matter to me. Cohen: Ebbing. McLaughlin: Still ebbing.

PREDICTIONS:

Cohen: Very shortly Mike Dukakis is going to start picking up some of the key former Hart operatives.

Novak: Former Gov. Richard Thornburgh of Pennsylvania is being told by friends that he can fill the leadership vacuum and be the next President of the U.S. And he's taking a look at it.

Germond: The stories about John Glenn thinking about another run are serious and people who are close to him say it's better than even that he'll do it.

Kondracke: The Soviet Union is going to try to sneak 105 KBG onto the Secretary of the UN which is not suppose to hire anybody because of a freeze. If this thing goes through; the Administration will raise a stink about it and Congress is likely to threaten to cut off all funds to the UN.

McLaughlin: Vice President George Bush will not be hurt by Irangate expect in a minor way notwithstanding Don Gregg and his testimony next week. Ronald Reagan goes to Rome, meets with the Pope and stays awake.

###

AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Moderator: Martin Agronsky
Carl Rowan, James Kilpatrick.

Panel: Strobe Talbott, Elizabeth Drew,

ON PERSIAN GULF POLICY:

Agronsky: President Reagan said this week, that the U.S. has a commitment to it's vital national security to maintain freedom of passage in the Persian Gulf. Senator Richard Lugar...said the environment surrounding our Navy in the Persian Gulf is as dangerous as the exposure of our Marines in Beirut. Is the President or the Senator right?

Talbott: I think both of them are wrong. Senator Lugar's comparison to Beirut is a bit off a cheap shot. As for what the President said -- we're already in a war situation.... There's still lots of ironies that have to be sorted out here. The President still has a lot of explaining to do.

Drew: ...We are taking sides more overtly in this war and I think there are a lot of questions. This seems to be an example of the Administration leaping before it looked. It took a decision to do something without figuring out how to do it, knowing the implications, and adequately consulting Congress.

Rowan: On Friday the President made a bold and brave statement about how we are not going to walk out of the Persian Gulf. I can't quarrel with that. But the Congress, I, and a lot of people are tired of hearing bold statements and then going to tearful funerals for American servicemen. What the Congress is demanding of this Administration, and I think will get, is a clear understanding of what it is we propose to do, how we propose to it, and how we're going to protect the troops.

Kilpatrick: I'll second everything Carl had to say.

Agronsky: We've had a series of crisis in which the President promises a certain policy and his performance does not support that policy or make it work. Do you think this could be another instance of that?

Rowan: There's more agreement between the Congress and the Reagan Administration now than people know. And the President didn't tell you a thing Friday about it. But his Secretary of Defense, his National Security Advisor met Thursday with Bob Dole, with Bob Byrd, Sam Nunn. They promised that they would abide by both the spirit and the letter of standing resolutions both Houses are going to pass this Tuesday requiring that within 7 days they report to the Congress what kind of forces are we going to put in, what will these forces be....

Drew: In his Friday statement, the President said we are doing this to promote peace in the Gulf War. Well, that is why we were selling arms to the so-called "moderates" in Iran a few months ago.... Because the Iran thing went to sour some of the people in the Administration felt we have to, once again, show our resolve.... It was to make up for the original embarrassment. Now the question is -- is this a wise decision?

Talbott: This whole crisis is an indirect side effect of Irangate.

-more-

AGRONSKY & COMPANY (continued)

Agronsky: The President, on Friday, reached out to make Iran the chief villain and to make the Soviet Union the co-villain. What has the Soviet Union done in this situation that justifies that?

Kilpatrick: Put additional naval presence into the Gulf, which is bound to worry the President.... There is no really great satisfactory course that the President can take now on this. If he goes in with the ideal of putting the flags on the Kuwaiti tankers, then he's damned in that direction. If he does nothing -- if he simply withdraws the U.S. naval presence -- then he's going to be damned for that.

Agronsky: Has the President of the U.S. told the country enough about it and the Congress enough about it?

Rowan: This isn't the first President who said this was vital to our interests -- Jimmy Carter said that we would fight if we had to preserve our access to the Persian Gulf.... There are some things [the President] hasn't said. One of the problems is that the Soviets have offered to escort some Kuwaiti ships and we don't want the Soviets to get in there with the first lead on this deal, so we're in a contest with them.

Drew: The Administration is very angry with Congress for making so much noise, but in fact, I think they are somewhat saving the Administration from itself by forcing some of these decisions.

Talbott: Let's not make the same mistake as the President. Let's not lump Iran together with the Soviet Union, Iran and the Soviet Union are not allies in the Persian Gulf or anywhere else and the Soviet Union has played a role there that is not all that different from the one that we are now trying to play.

ON THE IRAN-CONTRA HEARINGS:

Agronsky: Do you think we're learning anything more?

Rowan: We don't know whether this [the testimony] is true or not, but they sure laid a finger on Elliott Abrams and Casey and the President this week.

Agronsky: And the Vice President.

Drew: I don't think that the important thing about this week was so much whether it got to the President.... It is true it got a little closer to the Vice President.... The real thing -- is the President accountable for these activities? I'm very curious about the White House. Last week, the President said, "I knew about all these things. The law doesn't get to me..." This week, he walked back and said, "I didn't know anything about it. These were private groups." Which is it?

Talbott: This was a bad week too for somebody else -- George Shultz -- whose name has not been dragged into Irangate all that often. It's only indirectly.... It really is beginning to look like Elliott Abrams knew a great deal more than he had heretofore said.... That is going to have to, at least, raise some questions about Secretary Shultz.

###



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1987 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Urges Wide AIDS Testing But Does Not Call For Compulsion -- President Reagan called for a wide range of AIDS testing at the state and federal levels to detect the hidden spread of the virus.

(New York Times, USA Today, Washington Post, AP, Copley, UPI)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Administration Will Report To Hill On Gulf Operations -- The Reagan Administration has reached substantial agreement with Congress on demands for complete advance reports detailing the sea and airpower the U.S. will use to escort re-flagged Kuwaiti vessels in the Persian Gulf.

(Christian Science Monitor, Washington Post,
Washington Times, AP, Reuter)

Plane's Landing Seen As Threat To Missile Pact -- Political fallout from the Red Square plane incident may seriously hamper Kremlin leader Gorbachev's ability to negotiate a missile deal with the U.S.

(Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Reuter, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Sunday Evening)

AIDS -- President Reagan announced his support for an ambitious AIDS testing program.

PERSIAN GULF -- Iran reported it has seized seven Kuwaiti boats and accused the crews of espionage.

SOUTH AFRICA -- South African President Botha called on President Reagan and other western leaders who will meet in Venice to help end violence in South Africa.



NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN CALLS FOR ROUTINE TESTING FOR AIDS, COMPASSION FOR VICTIMS

President Reagan, warning that "AIDS is surreptitiously spreading throughout our population," ordered increased testing for the deadly virus and urged states to begin testing all citizens who apply for marriage licenses.

While his denunciation of discrimination against AIDS victims was applauded, the President was loudly booed and hissed by many of the several hundred persons who had gathered in a tent on the banks of the Potomac River on a humid and sweltering Washington evening to raise funds for the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

Undeterred, Reagan announced he has ordered the Department of Health and Human Services to add AIDS to the list of contagious diseases for which immigrants and illegal aliens can be denied entry to the U.S.

The hissing continued when the President said he has instructed the Justice Department to plan to begin testing "all federal prisoners, as well as looking into ways to protect uninfected inmates and their families."

(George Condon, Copley)

Reagan Calls For AIDS Testing

President Reagan was booed and hissed by a black-tie, AIDS fund-raising crowd when he called for "routine" testing of immigrants, prisoners and those seeking marriage licenses.

Saying the epidemic calls for "urgency, not panic," Reagan asked that AIDS be put on the list of contagious diseases that can bar entry for immigrants. But that proposal, along with others, was booed as well as applauded. The loudest hisses came when Reagan said "the final judgement (of victims) is up to God" -- interpreted by some as a dig at gays.

Reagan also defended the rights of victims.

"There's no reason for those who carry the AIDS virus to wear a scarlet A," he said. "We must prevent the persecution, through ignorance or malice, of our fellow citizens." (Johanna Neuman, USA Today, A1)

President Reagan/AIDS

To boos and hisses, President Reagan announced a plan to test millions of Americans for AIDS while calling for "urgency, not panic" in fighting the deadly epidemic he has labeled "Public Health Enemy No. 1."

Headlining a star-studded \$500,000 fund-raising dinner for the American Foundation for AIDS Research, Reagan outlined a program that could subject tens of millions of immigrants, prisoners and others to automatic AIDS tests.

With a vaccine years away by all accounts, Reagan underscored the need for education and relented some from his previous position that morality-based instruction on abstinence from drugs and sex is the key to limiting the spread of AIDS by young people.

"What our citizens must know is this: America faces a disease that is fatal and spreading," Reagan said. "This calls for urgency, not panic. It calls for compassion, not blame. And it calls for understanding, not ignorance." (Norman Sandler, UPI)

Reagan Urges Wide AIDS Testing But Does Not Call For Compulsion

In his first speech devoted exclusively to the growing AIDS epidemic, President Reagan called for a wide range of AIDS testing at the state and federal levels to detect the hidden spread of the virus.

Reagan shied away from urging mandatory testing of broad segments of the public but called instead for mandatory tests of selected groups, including federal prisoners.

Such testing is needed, he said, to identify infected individuals so that they will not continue to spread the virus unwittingly and to help public officials understand the dimensions of the epidemic.

(Philip Boffey, New York Times, A1)

Reagan Asks Expansion Of AIDS Testing

President Reagan, saying that AIDS is "surreptitiously spreading throughout our population," called for a significant expansion in routine AIDS virus testing for prisoners, immigrants, applicants for marriage licenses and those seeking treatment for drug abuse or sexually transmitted diseases.

"AIDS affects all of us," said Reagan in remarks prepared for delivery at a fund-raising dinner sponsored by the American Foundation for AIDS Research. "Just as most individuals don't know they carry the virus, no one knows to what extent the virus has infected our society.... It is time we knew exactly what we were facing. And that is why I support routine testing."

Although Reagan endorsed "routine" rather than "mandatory" testing -- a practice that most public health officials, including Surgeon General Koop, have said would drive the disease underground by discouraging people from seeking medical advice and treatment -- a White House official (Gary Bauer) said that the President strongly supports mandatory testing.

(Sandra Boodman, Washington Post, A1)

Flap Over The AIDS Fundraiser; Reagan's Testing Proposal Draws Concern, Talk Of Protest

Before an audience of ambassadors and activists, socialites and movie stars, corporate moguls and public health officials, President Reagan was expected to call for testing for exposure to the AIDS virus of immigrants, federal prisoners and people applying for marriage licenses, a policy that a sizable portion of the crowd, including Surgeon General Koop, strongly opposes.

Distressed by what they see as the Reagan Administration's lack of sensitivity on AIDS, and fearful that in his speech the President would choose to emphasize testing over education and research, a number of guests had discussed whether they should mount some form of protest inside the tent at Potomac restaurant, where the President was to speak. Not far from the tent, more than 200 people, many of them suffering from AIDS, planned to stage a vigil in memory of those who have died from the disease.

(Elizabeth Kastor & Sandra Boodman, Washington Post, B1)

Gay Congressmen Applaud AIDS Walkers, Denounce Reagan

Two openly gay congressmen accused President Reagan of failing to lead the fight against AIDS and turning his back on all Americans by ignoring the advice of his top health adviser.

Speaking to a crowd of 5,000 people on the Boston Common before a fund-raising walk to benefit AIDS programs, Rep. Gerry Studds said, "Gay and straight, this is your country, Mr. President.

"In the name of our common humanity, Mr. President, lead us. ...Help us be a country that can put this plague behind us," Studds said. he urged Reagan to "listen to your surgeon general."

Rep. Barney Frank...accused Reagan of ignoring AIDS, which in the U.S. has mostly afflicted male homosexuals and intravenous drug users. (John King, AP)

WHITE HOUSE STUDY SAYS SIN-TAX BOOST MAY BE JUSTIFIED BY HEALTH-CARE COSTS

A confidential analysis by the White House budget office contends the cost to government of dealing with smoking- and drinking-related health problems could justify a major rise in "sin" taxes on tobacco and alcoholic drinks.

The analysis makes no recommendations, but it apparently is designed to provide the Reagan Administration a rationale to accept a boost in excise taxes on cigarettes and liquor.

(Paul Blustein, Wall Street Journal, A54)

PLAN TO SELL OFF FEDERAL LOANS FALLS BEHIND

The Reagan Administration's proposed sale of government loans to help reduce the federal deficit has run into difficulties and will not produce the \$5 billion in revenues Congress counted on this year, according to Administration officials.

Two-thirds of the way through fiscal 1987, the agencies in the program have yet to sell a single government loan to the investment community.

"Yes, it is behind," said Joseph Wright, deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget and the leader of the effort. "But we are not pushing it until all the problems are resolved. I'm not about to make a mistake and jeopardize all of credit reform."

(Judith Havemann, Washington Post, A1)

DEBATE OVER AIR SAFETY SPUTTERS ON

On the eve of the peak summer travel season, Deputy Transportation Secretary James Burnley attacked critics for confusing and scaring travelers with "loose, quick, glib" answers to questions about air safety.

Burnley and Sen. Frank Lautenberg, chairman of the Senate Appropriations transportation subcommittee, clashed sharply in a debate on CBS's "Face the Nation" about air traffic controller training and staffing and the FAA's plans to handle increased summer traffic.

Lautenberg accused the FAA of a "stubbornness and unwillingness" to recognize a problem with safety. (Laura Parker, Washington Post, A12)

Federal Air Officials Still Squabbling Over Air Safety Outlook For Summer

As the nation heads into the summer flying season, federal officials continue arguing about the safety of the country's commercial aviation system.

"We are operating the system safely, we truly are," said Donald Engen, head of the FAA, on ABC's "This Week with David Brinkley." Engen agreed the current system is overburdened, causing passenger delays (but not safety hazards).

"At this time there is cause for alarm" said James Burnett, chief of the National Transportation Safety Board, on CBS's "Face the Nation." "Now the FAA is looking at this problem through different glasses. They are approaching the problem and trying to maximize the efficiency of the air traffic system.... But we have to recognize that there is a trade-off between doing that and maintaining an adequate margin of safety."

(Tim Ahern, AP)

MORE THAN 100 ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF WRONGDOING IN REAGAN YEARS

...More than 100 members of President Reagan's Administration have been accused of wrongdoing since he took office in 1981.

White House officials dismiss these incidences as "individual cases" -- although they say they want all transgressions investigated.

Others see it differently. Stephen Wayne, a professor of political science and public affairs at George Washington University, blames the ethical problems on the type of people the Reagan election swept into positions of power.

"This Administration was peopled primarily by outsiders who were not experienced hands in government," Wayne said. "There is a different way of behaving in the private sector and in the public sector."

(Dale Nelson, AP)

BUSH PLAYS IT SAFE, AND BLAND, IN IOWA Funds Plentiful As Iran-Contra Stigma Eases

DES MOINES -- The clue to how nicely Vice President Bush thinks his candidacy is going these days was buried in a bland speech he gave here this weekend to a big gathering of GOP foot soldiers from the Midwest.

Applause lines? Policy proposals? Stirring visions? Not from the GOP front-runner. Bush was all business, which is to say, safe, predictable and a tad boring.

But like Sherlock Holmes' dog that did not bark, the speech spoke volumes silently. It told of the luxuries -- real and false -- of being an institutional front-runner a year before a presidential convention.

(News Analysis, Paul Taylor & Bill Peterson, Washington Post, A3)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Excerpts From Reagan Speech," appears in The Washington Post, A4.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PENTAGON PLANS LARGER GULF ROLE; REAGAN MOVES TO SMOOTH FEATHERS IN CONGRESS

Pentagon officials are planning a larger U.S. naval presence in the Persian Gulf as President Reagan tries to avert a showdown with a skeptical Congress over his proposal to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers from Iranian attack.

Defense Department officials said they were making plans to move an aircraft carrier and an advanced Aegis cruiser into the Gulf region, but neither Reagan nor his aides have spelled out exactly what steps they would take if Iran attacks vessels sailing under U.S. Navy protection.

(Bryan Brumley, AP)

Administration Will Report To Hill On Gulf Operations

The Reagan Administration has reached substantial agreement with Congress on demands for complete advance reports detailing the sea and airpower the U.S. will use to escort re-flagged Kuwaiti vessels in the Persian Gulf.

"We have no problem whatsoever complying with the congressional desire for us to submit reports," said National Security Adviser Carlucci. "We think that is a legitimate function."

But Carlucci said the White House had some problems with the condition that the Administration could do nothing until the reports were filed with Congress.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3)

U.S. Military Plan Gulf Strategy Amid Warnings From Iran

U.S. military officials were planning to provide protection for Persian Gulf shipping while Iran warned against superpower interference in the region.

According to some news reports, the U.S. was considering sending cruisers to the Gulf, as well as another aircraft carrier. Cruisers are larger and more heavily armed than frigates there now.

(Kenneth Barry, Reuter)

Iran Insists Gulf Must Be Safe For Everyone -- Or No One

The Reagan Administration's apparent delay in fully carrying out its plan to protect Kuwaiti tankers sailing in the Persian Gulf has been greeted in Tehran as yet another victory for the Islamic revolution.

"This is a sign that our firmness is paying off," said a jubilant senior Iranian official contacted Friday. "We stick to our position: As long as the Iraqis attack tankers loading oil from our own terminals, we will retaliate by striking at merchant ships entering or leaving other Gulf countries' ports, be they flying Soviet, American or any other flag. Neither U.S. naval escort nor U.S. air escort will deter us from firing at Kuwaiti tankers using the U.S. flag."

(Claude van England, Christian Science Monitor, A1)

Iran Warns Soviets, U.S. On Gulf Moves

NICOSIA, Cyprus -- Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati warned the U.S. and the Soviet Union against intervening in the Persian Gulf War as Tehran announced that seven Kuwaiti speedboats had been detained while "spying" for Iraq.

Observers suggested that Iran was embarked on a major propaganda exercise to strengthen congressional critics of the Reagan Administration's plan to provide U.S. Navy escorts for Kuwaiti tankers "reflagged" as American shipping. (Jonathan Randal, Washington Post, A13)

Danger And Denial

"I don't see the danger of a war," President Reagan responded last week to a question from a foreign journalist about the possibility of conflict in the Persian Gulf. "I don't see how one could possibly start."

The President's bland dismissal of the dangers in the Gulf occurred four days after he paid homage to the 37 sailors who died when the USS Stark was struck by a missile fired from an Iraqi jet. This tragedy showed one way that war could "possibly start," which is by accident. And Congress is aware, even if Reagan isn't, that war also could be triggered by a deliberate Iranian attack on Kuwaiti tankers moving slowly through the Gulf under American flag.

Reagan has not made his case (defending the policy of protecting Kuwaiti tankers) in a national forum except for a five-minute statement Friday in the White House briefing room in which he alternately denounced the Soviets and the Iranians. Reagan's reluctance to make a higher-visibility appearance may in part reflect embarrassment over the Iran arms deal, which damaged U.S. credibility in the region. But the larger reason is that the President resists giving Congress an eventual veto power over U.S. deployment in the Gulf by invoking the War Powers Resolution and saying that hostilities are "imminent or likely." If he did, Congress could decide that forces must be withdrawn after 90 days.

When American warships steam into the Gulf as protective forces for the Kuwaiti tankers, their crews will face deadly risks of both deliberate and accidental attack. Reagan should acknowledge these risks. He should tell the American people what he is doing and why he is doing it.

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A2)

A BLIND SPOT LEFT STARK VULNERABLE, U.S. OFFICIALS SAY

Officers aboard the American frigate Stark failed to execute a standard air-defense maneuver when she was attacked May 17 by an Iraqi jet in the Persian Gulf, according to government officials familiar with the Navy investigation of the incident.

Knowing an Iraqi warplane was approaching, the ship's captain did not begin to turn her stern toward the aircraft. That step would have permitted the Stark's sophisticated electronic defenses to detect the launching of two Exocet, sea-skimming missiles and to shoot them down.

...Officials familiar with the inquiry suggested this weekend that the ship's commander, Capt. Glenn Brindel, and perhaps three other officers could be held culpable. The four officers have been named as "interested parties," or primary subjects of the inquiry, and have been assigned legal counsel. (John Cushman, New York Times, A1)

BRITISH-IRANIAN TIES HEAD FOR CRISIS AS DIPLOMAT FACES CHARGES

LONDON -- British-Iranian relations headed for a crisis as Tehran threatened charges against a British diplomat briefly held by revolutionary guards last week and a British paper reported the envoy could face the death penalty.

The Daily Telegraph newspaper reported the charges "are understood to relate to drugs, corruption, undermining the economy in time of war and theft" and could carry the death penalty. (Reuter)

PLANE AFFAIR SPARKS SOVIET POWER PLAY Military Purge Seen Risky For Gorbachev

MOSCOW -- Kremlin leader Gorbachev is using a flagrant violation of Soviet security to launch a Defense Ministry purge and seal his control over the powerful Soviet military in a bold play for power that also runs the risk of destabilizing his regime, western diplomats said here.

...In a country where the military is considered one of three pillars of power -- alongside the political leadership and state security -- the military shake-up is widely viewed here as Gorbachev's boldest reach yet at the reins of power.

The reason, according to western diplomatic assessments here, is that Gorbachev's own position is not yet secure enough to consolidate control fully over an institution like the Soviet military, with its record of wobbly support for some of the Kremlin leader's policies.

(News Analysis, Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

Gorbachev May Turn National Embarrassment To Personal Advantage

MOSCOW -- The landing of a private German plane in Red Square, though an embarrassment to the regime of Soviet leader Gorbachev, could end up strengthening his hand in dealing with the armed forces and even the KGB.

Though the incident could be used by Gorbachev's enemies as an example of the loose discipline that could result from his cherished liberalization program, many western observers believe the astonishing lapse Thursday by the nation's air defense forces leaves Gorbachev better positioned to make more changes. (Jack Redden, UPI)

Aide Asserts Moscow May Send German Pilot Home Unpunished

MOSCOW -- Matthias Rust, the 19-year-old West German whose aerial escapade set off a purge of the Soviet military, may be allowed to go home without standing trial, a Soviet spokesman said.

Valentin Falin, former ambassador to West Germany and now chief of the official Novosti press feature syndicate, said the young pilot would probably not be punished for flying a single-engine plane across the heavily defended Soviet frontier and landing it Thursday near the Kremlin.

"On the one side, he will be thanked, that he made us aware of the gaps in our air defense system," Falin told a West German newspaper. His remarks were confirmed by an aide in Moscow.

(Bill Keller, New York Times, A1)

Gorbachev Faces Delicate Decision Over Daredevil Flier Rust

MOSCOW -- Kremlin leader Gorbachev faces a delicate decision on how to treat daredevil West German pilot Matthias Rust, who landed a light plane on Red Square to the embarrassment of the Soviet military.

Analysts said if Gorbachev decided to send the 19-year-old flier home to Hamburg unpunished, he could appear weak domestically, especially to opponents of his reform drive.

On the other hand, if he punished the youth severely, he could seem mean and humorless in the West, where he is trying to project the image of a dynamic leader out to make Soviet society more humane.

(Helen Womack, Reuter)

West Germans Hope To Meet Soon With Pilot Who Landed In Red Square

MOSCOW -- West German officials hope to meet with a young West German pilot who flew a light plane from Finland all the way to Red Square, causing the Soviets severe embarrassment and sparking a Kremlin upheaval.

"We were told that we will be able to see him at the beginning of this forthcoming week," Alexander Arnot, minister of the West German Embassy, said. (UPI)

Plane's Landing Seen As Threat To Missile Pact

Political fallout from the Red Square plane incident may seriously hamper Kremlin leader Gorbachev's ability to negotiate a missile deal with the U.S., Soviet and western analysts said.

"The intrusion of the West German plane poses such a serious security question that Gorbachev may have to lean over backward to assure Soviet people that he is not compromising security in arms agreements," one western diplomat said.

(Antero Pietila, Baltimore Sun, A1)

KOHL SUMMONS COALITION TO SEAL BELATED MISSILE COMPROMISE

BONN -- West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, his leadership under attack, called top-level talks to seek a nuclear arms-control compromise and throw Bonn's belated support behind a proposed superpower deal.

Government sources were quoted in West German newspaper reports as saying he was expected to propose a compromise formula giving West Germany's assent to a controversial plan to rid Europe of Soviet and U.S. shorter-range as well as medium-range missiles.

(Douglas Hamilton, Reuter)

GORBACHEV'S EAST BLOC POLICY STALLS
Old Habits Slow New Economic Relations

WARSAW -- Despite Soviet leader Gorbachev's repeated calls for "radical" improvement in economic cooperation, trade between the Soviet Union and its six East European allies is stagnating and new technological and industrial projects are mired in bureaucratic entanglements, according to government officials and economists.

...Official economic reports and interviews with East Bloc officials indicate that Gorbachev's economic thrust has produced remarkably poor results. Not only are the new projects proposed by Gorbachev far behind schedule, but the overall contribution of East Europe to the Soviet economy seems to have undergone a "qualitative" decline.

(Jackson Diehl, Washington Post, A1)

WHITE HOUSE AND PRO-CHOICE GROUPS
WAGE BATTLE OVER ABORTIONS ABROAD

The Reagan Administration is facing a series of challenges to its international population control policy, which has emphasized ending all ties to family planning organizations that do not explicitly reject abortion.

The policy, which involves millions of dollars in grants to international family planning groups, is being contested in a federal court in New York, on Capitol Hill and in newspaper advertisements and billboards. More important than the money is that America's overseas population programs have become an important battlefield between the opposing sides in the nation's abortion debate.

(Neil Lewis, New York Times, A12)

###

IRAN — NICARAGUA

FRICTION AND CONTRADICTION Iran-Contra Witnesses Show Their Differences

In four weeks of testimony...the men who planned and managed the clandestine resupply of the contras have told -- while under oath -- conflicting stories about the same events. They have accused each other of profiteering, attempted theft, security breeches, and even of leaking information to left-wing news media.

One explanation for the conflicts and contradiction in the testimony may be simply that some witnesses are trying to cover up possible illegalities. But it is also evident from the conflicting stories being told by key participants that some are using their moment in the spotlight to rationalize their own actions, or continue old feuds.

(Walter Pincus & Dan Morgan, Washington Post, A1)

HILL PANEL TO GRILL ABRAMS ABOUT AID

Elliott Abrams, the assistant secretary of state who fought many congressional battles for the Nicaraguan contras, returns to Capitol Hill tomorrow to face tough questions about his efforts to aid the resistance.

The panel, which is expected to question Abrams for two days, will try to determine the extent of any involvement in private efforts to supply the contras during the ban on official aid.

(News Analysis, Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A5)

-End of A-Section-

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Sunday Evening, May 31, 1987)

AIDS

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan tonight announces his support for an ambitious program for testing for AIDS -- the deadly acquired immune deficiency syndrome for which no cure or prevention has been discovered. The President delivered his views at a fund raising dinner for AIDS research here in Washington.

ABC's Kenneth Walker: In his first speech on AIDS last month, President Reagan limited his remarks to a pledge for intensified research efforts to find a cure for the disease.

(The President: "We've declared AIDS public health enemy number one.")

(TV coverage: File footage from April 1.)

But tonight, in only his second speech on the subject, the President tackles one of the most controversial topics -- testing for AIDS. Officials say Mr. Reagan will announce he has ordered testing in a number of areas. Immigrants seeking permanent residence in the U.S. will be barred entry if they test positive for AIDS. All inmates in federal prisons will be tested as well. And a review has been ordered to see if patients at other federal facilities, such as veterans' hospitals, should be tested too. Mr. Reagan also wants states to test their prisoners and inmates and patients at clinics for drug abuse as well as those for sexually transmitted diseases. The President also is expected to encourage the states to offer routine, but not compulsory testing for marriage license applicants -- a recommendation already rejected by 11 states and last week overwhelmingly rejected by the Senate.

(Sen. Dole: "Will jobs we lost, careers destroyed, families interrupted all for the sake of a false positive test? To take action now is premature, and, in fact, may do more harm than good.")

Firm opposition to mandatory testing by Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and other health officials led the President to call his testing plans "routine," although persons effected by the federal plans have no choice but to be tested.

(Koop: "Mandatory testing, with some specific exceptions, would not be good public health practice at this time.")

(Rep. Waxman: "I think this is a triumph of politics in the Administration over all the advice of their public health experts. He's ignored them and gone ahead and called for routine testing.")

The President's plans almost surely will provoke challenges in court as well as in Congress. And as the President leaves this week for the economic summit in Venice where AIDS is already on the agenda, Mr. Reagan can expect a vigorous debate on his proposals there.

(ABC-Lead)

NBC's John Hart: President Reagan is expected to announce tonight his plan for nationwide testing for AIDS.

NBC's Jamie Gangel: The President came back from Camp David today prepared to make his speech at a blacktie fund raiser hosted by Elizabeth Taylor.

-more-

Gangel continues: His message, according to White House officials -- to recommend AIDS testing for millions of Americans, some of it mandatory.

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady returning from Camp David on the South Lawn and walking into the White House.)

Officials say the President will announce that he wants a plan to test all federal prisoners and he will recommend that states require testing in state and local prisons. Immigrants will also be subject to testing. The President has asked that AIDS be added to the list of contagious diseases for which immigrants can be denied entry. The President is also asking for routine testing at VA hospitals, at drug abuse clinics and at centers for sexually transmitted diseases. And finally the President will also recommend routine testing for marriage license's applicants leaving it up to individual states to decide whether it should be mandatory. Routine testing means tests will be given unless a person strongly objects. Critics of testing are concerned it will drive away those who most need help because of discrimination. They point to public hysteria over AIDS and homosexuals.

(Howard Phillips, Conservative Caucus: "I think the American people want to be protected from the promiscuous spread of disease. They don't want their kids to be exposed to AIDS in the schools. They don't want to have to pay \$20 billion a year to subsidize the consequences of perverted behavior.")

Rep. Waxman: "What we see here is traditional right wing bashing of homosexuality.")

And the political controversy is not over. Tonight conservative supporters of mandatory testing will protest the President's speech and tomorrow AIDS activists plan to demonstrate in front of the White House to say the testing plan has gone too far.

NBC's Robert Bazell reports on the AIDS conference.

(NBC-2)

CBS's Susan Spencer: AIDS and the devastation the disease is causing around the world will be a major issue at the upcoming economic summit in Venice. The White House confirms tonight that the leaders at the seven nation gathering will call for international mobilization against AIDS which they see as a threat to economic and political stability as well as to world health.

CBS's Jacqueline Adams: President Reagan returned from Camp David today ready to step up the Administration's war against AIDS. Tonight at an AIDS research fund raising dinner, the President will call for routine AIDS testing for as many as 50 million Americans each year. Next week at the Venice economic summit Mr. Reagan will join with the leaders of the seven industrial democracies in labeling AIDS a major world health problem....

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady returning from Camp David on the South Lawn and walking into the White House.)

Spencer reports on the AIDS fund raising march in Boston and the AID conference in Washington including the specific testing programs expected to be endorsed by the President at tonight's fund raising event for AIDS research.

(CBS-Lead)

INVASION OF SOVIET AIR SPACE

Donaldson: Dust is still settling in Moscow in the vigorous and swift Kremlin reaction to penetration of Soviet air space Thursday by a single engine light plane that landed in Red Square. The dismissal of the Soviet Defense Minister and the Soviet General in charge of air defense was not only a vigorous reaction, it was a revealing demonstration of just where the power lies now in the Soviet Union.

ABC's Walter Rogers reports on the changes in the Soviet defense ministry and air defense system. (ABC-2, NBC-Lead, CBS-5)

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Hart: The Miami Herald reports today that President Reagan signed a directive in 1983 designating the National Security Council as the top government entity coordinating all U.S. intelligence activities. The White House has been saying recently the National Security Council was exempt from the law against helping the contras because it was not an intelligence agency. (NBC-4)

IRAN/KUWAITI SPEED BOATS

Donaldson: The state-owned Iranian news agency reported today that Iran has seized seven Kuwaiti speed boats in the Persian Gulf and arrested the crew members as spies for Iraq. The dispatch didn't pinpoint when this took place, but the story did say that the incident shows growing support for Iraq by the Kuwaiti government -- something the Iranian news agency called "treacherous." (ABC-4, NBC-6, CBS-10)

SENATORS TOUR PERSIAN GULF

Spencer: Senators John Warner and John Glenn took a helicopter ride over the Gulf's strategic Strait of Hormuz today. Twenty percent of the Western world's oil supply must pass through the Strait -- site of many Iranian attacks on shipping. An aide said Glenn is concerned about Chinese-made missiles that Iran recently has deployed in the vicinity. (CBS-11)

SOUTH AFRICA.

Spencer: The South African President has asked President Reagan and the other Western leaders who will meet in Venice to help end the violence in South Africa. As a start he wants them to break all relations with the African National Congress -- the black guerilla movement. (CBS-12)

AIR SAFETY

Donaldson: The heads of the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board continued their dispute today about the safety of the commercial aviation system in the U.S. Safety Board Chairman James Burnett said there is cause for alarm. FAA administrator Donald Engen said the system is operating safely as long as it is closely watched. Engen, a retired Navy admiral, acknowledged there is a constant strain on the traffic controllers operation because of what he called "throughput." And what is throughput? Turnover, it turns out. (ABC-7)

FOREIGN TRADE

Spencer: The federal trade commission says unfair foreign competition is not responsible for the big U.S. trade deficit, so retaliating with tariffs won't do much to shrink it. In a report tonight, the FTC says the real causes of the deficit are shifting currency values and growing U.S. consumer demand. (CBS-6)

TERRORISM

Hart: On Weekend Journal tonight an account of a country in the age of terrorism that was gripped by it, met it and dramatically reduced it.

NBC's Sam Bernard: Italy was once the most terrorist-torn country in Western Europe.... With the Lebanon war in 1982, Italy, despite being sympathetic toward the Palestinian cause, became a significant arena for Arab terrorism. And the targets were mainly Americans.... The deadliest Arab terrorist attack was at the airport. Sixteen died and 74 were wounded.... Three terrorists were among the dead.... There are new agreements with the U.S., France and Spain to cooperate and share information on terrorists. Attorney General Meese came to Italy last year to sign the document. Within the last weeks, arrests have been made in Spain and in France.... (NBC-5)

FIGHTING IN LEBANON

Donaldson: Heavy fighting broke out today in the Israeli occupied security zone in South Lebanon. More than 20 people have been killed when Shiite Muslim guerillas attacked Israeli-backed forces. Before it was over the Israeli army joined the fray.

ABC's Dean Reynolds reports from Tel Aviv on the latest fighting. (ABC-3, CBS-13)

-End of B-Section-

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

Moderator: David Brinkley Panel: George Will and Sam Donaldson.

Guests: Donald Engen, Federal Aviation Administration Chief; Senator Nancy Kassenbaum; William Bolger, President of Air Transport Association of America; Henry Duffy, President of Air Line Pilots Association; and James Stogner, Operations Director for Hartsfield International Airport.

Guest: Henry Duffy and James Stogner.

Brinkley Was deregulation a good idea?

Duffy: It's done a lot of harm to the employees of the industry. It's still a mix judgment as far as what it's done for the consumers. I think it would have been a lot easier to have anticipated the growth that was going to take place in the industry and create an air traffic control system that could accommodate that growth.

Stogner: I believe the final judgment is not yet in. I do believe a better job could have been done about anticipating some of the results and trying to speak to those before the deregulation act.

Duffy: We polled all of our 40,000 pilots and they said their number one concern was the threat of a near midair collision. That tells me that they think that the air traffic control system is breaking down too often. The secret to curing that is new technology, more controllers and we've simply got to control the number of air planes going into the system.

Donaldson: Are we really flying in unsafe skies?

Duffy: I think the system is safe. There are improvements and higher degrees of efficiency that could be made....

Stogner: I think the important thing is the system is not as safe as it should and could be. We need a political commitment for more funding of the air traffic controller system and airport improvements to increase capacity. That's the only thing that's going to fix this problem.

Guest: Senator Kassenbaum and William Bolger.

Brinkley: Name a benefit to the consumer of deregulation.

Kassenbaum: Some consumers have benefitted by cheaper fares.... I think all of that though has added to the turbulence in the system.

Donaldson: Explain what you have in mind.

Kassenbaum: I think one thing that might help...is publishing actual flight times. If a flight consistently arrives a half hour late, the consumers should know that when they're booking their flights. Hopefully, it will pressure the airlines to work out their schedulings better. I think one of the real problems we have to address is trying to spread out arrival and departure times so they aren't all occurring during peak hours....

THIS WEEK (continued)

Will: Isn't this a case of applied conservatism that wasn't followed through? Conservatives said deregulate the market, we'll lower prices, everyone can fly. But the conservatives didn't follow through with concrete.

Kassenbaum: It's been a problem with both the Carter and Reagan Administrations not wanting to spend money out of the trust fund because it does help show a surplus in the budget. We've got about \$4 billion that we should be spending out of the trust fund. We've authorized those levels of spending. They've never really been appropriated to the level that they should be....

Guest: Donald Engen.

Brinkley: It was six years ago that we fired all the air traffic controllers. We still don't have sufficient numbers. Why don't we have enough?

Engen: It does take time to train our air traffic controllers. There is a constant strain on the system. We have continually driven to increase the number of air traffic controllers. We do indeed today have more air traffic controllers than we had last year and the year before that.... We do need more airports.

Will: Do you oppose the Administration's policy of not spending the money from the trust fund?

Engen: That's not the Administration's policy, sir. I beg to differ in this respect. Secretary Dole and I have both come forward with a 1988 budget which would ask for the expenditure of some \$5 billion from that fund. And we need it. Now it's going to be up to Congress to give us that money.

Will: Should the government re-regulate in some way?

Engen: That really is a question for Congress. Congress deregulated and if Congress wants to re-regulate, I guess that would be the law of the land. My opinion is the system is functioning. You don't want to mix up service with safety. We are operating this system safely.... We want to improve the service, but I will not allow the system to become unsafe.

Donaldson: How come the number of near misses has risen to some 800?

Engen: If you look [at the figures from] ten years ago, you'd find we had some 2,600 -- it varies with time. It's risen over the last 2-3 years because we've changed the ways of reporting.... You never achieve full safety. So you achieve safety in the system by using good operation procedures.... You take the last 3 years in the U.S. -- they've been the safest 3 years in U.S. aviation history.

Donaldson: Jim Burnett of the National Transportation Safety Board says you're pressing it against the red line. That you are operating in an unsafe manner.

THIS WEEK (continued)

Engen: Let me show you, first of all, that I don't know what Mr. Burnett is relating to, but I want to assure you that we have monitored, metered the system over the last three years. We're doing [it] every day. And I don't know what Mr. Burnett's talking about.... There's no way I can guarantee there won't be a tragic accident, but we can take the procedures, and we are taking the procedures, to insure that the American flying public will fly with safety.

FREE-FOR-ALL DISCUSSION (Hodding Carter joins panel.)

Brinkley: We will put American flags on Kuwaiti tankers and the U.S. Navy will escort them and protect them. Where might that lead?

Will: It might lead to a clash with Iran but that's why we're there. We're not there for the reason the President says. The President says we're there to make war against war. And the Secretary of Defense says we're there for some legal reason.... We're there to forestall the Soviet Union from doing what we're doing. And we're also there to prevent Iraqi from losing the war and unleashing Islamic fundamentalism throughout the Gulf.

Donaldson: I think the President's policy is exactly right. We're there for the reasons that George stated, but also primarily to keep the sea lanes open and I think we must do that. President Reagan is right to carry it [this policy] forward. Where he's wrong is in not honestly stating to the American people that there's a very grave risk that more American lives may be lost, that he feels it's worth it and that he's going to have to go ahead and do it in the national interest.

Hodding: You can't go out there playing a five-sided policy and expect to enlist the American people or anybody else behind it.... You can't be playing games out there. The President needs to get out there and say policy A-B-C -- this is it and there's no private policy.

Donaldson : The President says, "I want the Iranians to go to bed at night wondering what we're going to do." That's exactly wrong. We want the Iranians to know precisely what we're going to do and, at the same time, let the American people know precisely what we're going to do.

Brinkley: President Reagan is going to take a position on some sort of AID policy. Do you know now what it is?

Donaldson: He's going to advocate a very comprehensive program of AIDS testing -- people who are getting married, people who want to immigrate to the U.S. I suppose, without seeing all the details of his plan, I've got to agree. I think he's right. I think we need some sort of testing. I think it's a matter of public safety.

Will: I agree. The best reason for testing is...it will generally put into the system the information that AIDS is a behaviorally-based disease and that if enough people change their behavior the epidemic stops and recedes. I think that is in fact what's going to happen.

CBS -- FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Lesley Stahl.

Guests: Jim Burnett, National Transportation Safety Board Chairman; James Burnley IV, Deputy Transportation Secretary; Senator Frank Lautenberg; Clark Onstad, Vice President of Texas Air Corp.

Burnett: I want to make very clear that I think on this issue, at this time, there is cause of alarm. The FAA is looking at this problem through different glasses. They are approaching the problem and trying to maximize the efficiency of the air traffic system. They are trying to get the maximum landing rate at the airports. That helps expedite travel and helps alleviate some of these problems. But we have to recognize that there is a trade-off between doing that and maintaining an adequate margin of safety.

Stahl: What's the problem? Is the problem the controllers -- that they have never rebuilt the controllers' system after the strike in 1981?

Burnett: I think the FAA did a good job... I do not think the system is really rebuilt at this point. And I want to emphasize that I do not think that the FAA should remain the system with the same number of personnel that they had at the time of the strike.

Stahl: What [do] you think [is] the FAA's motivation in not listening to obviously a passionate plea here and a quite honest concern about safety? Is it that the FAA gave in to pressure from the airlines?

Burnett: They are obviously under a lot of pressure -- it is also giving into the pressure that comes from all of us who travel...and a feeling that they have to provide a response to that service.

Stahl: Do you feel a reluctance to go along with what you are proposing because then the FAA and the DOT and the Reagan Administration would have to admit they made mistakes, that maybe the strike was a mistake?

Burnett: I think obvious people who are proud of the jobs they have done in handling the situation post strike...would like to have no problems on the horizon.... One of the questions is to what extent is the FAA free to do whatever the FAA would like? Even before the Safety Board issued its recommendations and when we were working on them, the Secretary of Transportation said she saw no need for reductions in the level of flights for the summer. So I don't know whether the FAA is as free as we would like to see them to take action that we would like to see them take.

Stahl: Do you think Secretary Dole is getting any kind of instruction from even higher up?

Burnett: I have no reason to believe that.

Guests: Deputy Secretary James Burnley, Senator Frank Lautenberg.

Stahl: Do you think the public's safety is being jeopardized by the FAA's decision?

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Lautenberg: I think the public's safety could be jeopardized by the stubbornness that we see coming out of the FAA.... Is it basically a safe system? I think so. Could it be safer? A lot safer. And the FAA is dragging across the threshold kicking and screaming to make improvements, always trying to defend the numbers, always trying to cover up what I think [has been] a lack of good management for a number of years.

Stahl: Why is the FAA and DOT not heeding these warning and reducing flights so the public doesn't have to worry about safety?

Burnley: What is being said by a few folks who like to get on national television and the front pages is scarey. [It] is gibberish, nonsense and untrue....

Stahl: Are you going to do what they [the NTSB] recommended?

Burnley: Yes.... We put a new computer into service last week.... We are going to be able, and we can now, as of a week ago, look literally at any sector in the country from the central flow control unit.... We have the ability now, therefore, to do just what the NTSB has recommended, and we will be doing that.

Lautenberg: It's not coordinated with anything else... That system is, in my view, show business. And that's what we get from you constantly. You want to call the other people's statements gibberish, you want to shoot the messenger, you want to cover up what's not really being taken care of.

Burnley: We have asked for a 68 percent increase in our budget next year.... We had to do that because Congress has short-funded Reagan Administration requests by \$1 billion over the last six years.

Lautenberg: ...What you insist on doing is putting the public to bed with a tablet and saying don't worry about it, it's almost as safe as it ought to be. And it isn't.

Burnley: The facts aren't there.

Stahl: Why are there more near misses or reports of near misses?

Burnley: Reports of near misses have been going up in '85 and '86 for a number of reasons...our reporting system had broken down. So we did have a dramatic increase in '85; the numbers pre-'85 are worthless. Since then we do not see a further increase.... If I could ask the Senator why he voted for the the Senate Democratic budget resolution that denies the Reagan Administration its 20 percent budget increase for next year just the other day? If he is so concerned about this, why is he cutting our budget?

Lautenberg: Because the Reagan Administration is playing a game.

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Guest: Clark Onstad.

Stahl: What if the government has gone along with the NTSB's recommendation and agreed to reduce the number of flights in rush hour times? What would that have meant for the flying public?

Onstad: It would have meant a lot of small communities would have been without air service today....

Stahl Are you worried about safety?

Onstad: No.... Let me give you the reasons. Number one, for the airlines that Texas Air owns...our departures per day are down. Second, we are in constant communication with our crews and with our airplanes. We have on a real-time basis a very, very good indication of whether or not the system is safe.... We are pressuring all the time to improve the system. Last November the Air Transport Association gave the DOT an inch thick report recommending changes in the system, ways to improve capacity, make the system even safer than it is today.... The airlines wouldn't be in business if in fact we didn't believe the system is safe. Second, the pressure on the system this summer is not what it's been built up to be.

###

NBC -- MEET THE PRESS

Moderator: Chris Wallace. Panel Robert Hager, Christine Russell.

Guests: Rep. Henry Waxman; Howard Phillips, Chairman of the Conservative Caucus; Dr. Paul Volberding, Chief of the AIDS Activities Division of San Francisco General Hospital.

Wallace: The President is going to be calling for routine testing of millions of Americans. Is routine testing on a massive scale a good idea?

Waxman: I think there is a triumph of politics in the Administration over all the advice of their public health experts.... He's ignored them and gone ahead and called for routine testing. It's the most expensive and least effective way of educating the public. Testing is not so he can identify people who have the virus and then give them some medicine to stop it from being transmitted. It's only to identify those people so we can educate them through counselling not to transmit it further.

Phillips: I think routine testing is a step in the right direction, but it isn't all that needs to be done....

Wallace: Dr. Phillips, do you think the Administration has copped out in a sense by not making mandatory testing in all cases, instead they have "routine" testing?

Phillips: I think the role of federal government in this is necessarily limited. I think there could and should be mandatory testing with respect to federal facilities and federal dollars. But most of these decisions have to be made at the state and local level.... The job of the government is to protect the innocent and I say there should be a stigma attached to homosexual behavior. It's an abomination. It's a crime against God and it's a crime against the laws of most of the states. And I think it is very important that the public be protected financially and in the terms of health.

Wallace: Is AIDS becoming a big political issue? It sounds like it.

Waxman: It sounds like the right wing would like to make it a political issue and I think that is a reprehensible activity when we're facing an epidemic where we need to follow the guidance of the health people and not let this thing go to the point where we panic people and that is irresponsible.

Phillips: The homosexual movement has been a political issue....

Wallace: Mr. Phillips, is the right wing going to make this a litmus test for candidates in the '88 election?

Phillips: I think the American people want to be protected for the promiscuous spread of the disease.... They don't want to pay \$20 billion a year to subsidize the consequences of perverted behavior.

Waxman: What you see here is traditional right wing bashing of homosexuality -- using this disease to go after the people they've disliked all along.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Phillips: Homosexuality is wrong.

Guest: Dr. Volberding.

Wallace: As a doctor who is trying to help sick people, what are your thoughts when you hear that AIDS is going to become, in fact, already has become, a hot political issue?

Volberding: That's a tremendous distraction from a very important job that we, as a country, have it seems to me to stop the further spread of the epidemic and to take care of the people who may well be destined to develop illness from this virus. We need more support than we are seeing.

Wallace: Specifically, how much do you feel the right wing pressure on the White House has slowed down the effort to fight AIDS?

Volberding: It seems to me that the effort to understand the disease and understand the virus that causes AIDS has gone along very rapidly. Where we've really fallen down is in educating the public and that's obviously a more social and political issue and I'm afraid it's looking like it's becoming more so.

Wallace: One of the things the President also plans to do is to name an advisory commission on AIDS. But the word came out of the White House that he does not plan to name any gay to that commission. What's your thought about that?

Volberding: I would like to see it not be a political issue. It's an issue to me of asking for advice on a commission from people who can give you some important information on this disease. That has to include homosexuals because they're the ones that have been [living] with this disease for the last six years.... It would be stupid not to involve them on that commission.

Wallace: A number of top health professionals, and I think you're included in that, have sent an open letter to the President indicating that they'll boycott the commission if there's no gay. Really?

Volberding: I don't see the point in having a commission if it starts out guaranteeing not to be effective and our time is too precious to do that, so I hope there would be a boycott of that commission.

Wallace: Generally speaking, how would you rate President Reagan's performance on this problem?

Volberding: I think the performance of the Administration has been good in terms of basic research and good in terms of clinical research. It's progressing rapidly. Very, very poor on public education and keeping this a public health rather than a political issue.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

PANEL DISCUSSION

Wallace: To what degree do you think politics is standing in the way of good public health?

Russell: Thus far, the epidemic has largely been managed by the public health authorities. I think we are at a turning point now where the direction is increasingly come from the politicians. And that's a mixed blessing. It might mean more money and more public attention. But it might also mean some things that are not really in the interest of public health and they're more politically motivated.

Hager: It's been a long and bitter difference within the Administration between the Surgeon General and Secretary Bennett.

Wallace: Where is Everett Koop in this Administration now?

Hager: Isolated I think.... He's very outspoken and he goes off and does his own thing and off and on the Administration listens to him. But I think right now he's encircled. He's almost standing alone, because the Education Secretary seems more to have the ear of the people at the White House.

Russell: I think he and the whole Department of HHS have been pushed aside a little bit. It's also interesting that in 1984 the public health authorities said this was public health enemy number one. It's really taken three years for the President to be willing to talk about it. So, it hasn't been on the front burner for this Administration. It's going to be on the front burned for the international summit. So, it suddenly has risen to the top level.

Wallace: It is interesting just on the personal level. I mean, Everett Koop came in the darling of the right wing, as the most outspoken opponent of abortion. And, yet, he had a testimonial dinner recently in Washington and the right wing was asking the Republican candidates to boycott it and some of them did.

Russell: What's interesting is when he prepared his outspoken report, a lot of people in the public health community thought, "What is he going to come up with?" He really did it all by himself. They were flabbergasted when he was as outspoken as he was about what needed to be done about AIDS. He is one of the most independent people in the Administration and I'm sure he's feeling very frustrated right now. He's trying to fight his fight, but he has not entirely won.

Hager: I want to make a point on this question of whether people from the gay community get included on the commission. I think those of us who are reporting on AIDS issues discover very quickly that those people are out on the cutting edge of it. I mean, they really are in the trench lines and they know what's happening.

THE McLAUGHLIN GROUP

Moderator: John McLaughlin Panel: Richard Cohen, Jack Germond, Robert Novak, Morton Kondracke.

ON PERSIAN GULF POLICY:

McLaughlin: Should the U.S. fly its flag on Kuwaiti tankers to protect them in the Gulf as reaffirmed by President Reagan this week?

Cohen: No, I don't think we should fly the flag on Kuwaiti tankers... We [would] lose our standing as a neutral. We no longer will have the capacity to bring these two sides together.

Novak: Of course we have to fly the flag on these ships....

Germond: I don't know and it's very difficult to decide. It's not as simple as the Administration makes it out to be.

Kondracke: I absolutely think we ought to do it. The Soviet Union is doing it.... We cannot create that kind of a vacuum.

Novak: You know what the lesson is? If you want to change American policy shoot one of our ships and all the lily-livers like Mr. Cohen will decide they have to change--

Germond: The fact that Congress got to it late does not alter the validity of examining whether we should be doing it.

Kondracke: What's happening here is that the Congress [is getting] on board, they are being consulted, as they should be, and when they sign off on it, they will be as responsible as the Administration.

Germond: Are we willing to go to war with Iran?

Kondracke: I think yes. I think the answer is if we are attacked by Iranian air, we will respond by hitting Iranian air bases.

Cohen: The question is -- what is our policy in the Middle East? Our policy is to prevent Iran from winning this war and dominating the Persian Gulf.

McLaughlin: We want a fair and negotiated end to the war. We believe that we can push Iran to the table by helping the ally of Iraq to maintain its oil shipping. That's the logic behind it.

McLaughlin: Don't you think Senator Byrd is correct when he said we ought to slow this thing down and first of all get an articulated position of what the Administration's policy is with regard to the Persian Gulf? Are we not all agreed on that? (Voices: No.) We're not?

Novak: I say while we're having all these negotiations with our own Congress, the Soviets have put three mine sweepers and two frigates in--

-more-

MCLAUGHLIN GROUP (continued)

McLaughlin: Is there a danger of a superpower collision? (Everyone: no.) ...Do you think that the U.S. should flag the Kuwaiti vessels -- soon? Now?

Cohen: No. Novak: Now. Germond: I still don't know.

Kondracke: Get Congress on board and do it. McLaughlin: Don't do it.

ON IRAN-CONTRA HEARINGS:

McLaughlin: What's the big Iran-contra story this week?

Germond: Well, it's sort of a little, tiny story -- more and more evidence of a great many people involved in this. It is more and more difficult for the President to deny knowledge of these things.

Novak: These have ceased to be Iran-contra hearings. It is a contra hearing. It is an attempt to nail the President and the only thing that is interesting is that the Administration plays rope-a-dope.

McLaughlin: You see what Ronald Reagan is doing -- this is the last desperate tactic of a rope-a-dope politician. He did the same thing earlier--

Novak: The enemy is not the President -- it's the Democratic committee.

McLaughlin: Is the public interest in Irangate mounting or ebbing?

Kondracke: Ebbing. Novak: Really ebbing. Germond: Doesn't matter to me. Cohen: Ebbing. McLaughlin: Still ebbing.

PREDICTIONS:

Cohen: Very shortly Mike Dukakis is going to start picking up some of the key former Hart operatives.

Novak: Former Gov. Richard Thornburgh of Pennsylvania is being told by friends that he can fill the leadership vacuum and be the next President of the U.S. And he's taking a look at it.

Germond: The stories about John Glenn thinking about another run are serious and people who are close to him say it's better than even that he'll do it.

Kondracke: The Soviet Union is going to try to sneak 105 KBG onto the Secretary of the UN which is not suppose to hire anybody because of a freeze. If this thing goes through; the Administration will raise a stink about it and Congress is likely to threaten to cut off all funds to the UN.

McLaughlin: Vice President George Bush will not be hurt by Irangate expect in a minor way notwithstanding Don Gregg and his testimony next week. Ronald Reagan goes to Rome, meets with the Pope and stays awake.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Moderator: Martin Agronsky Panel: Strobe Talbott, Elizabeth Drew, Carl Rowan, James Kilpatrick.

ON PERSIAN GULF POLICY:

Agronsky: President Reagan said this week, that the U.S. has a commitment to it's vital national security to maintain freedom of passage in the Persian Gulf. Senator Richard Lugar...said the environment surrounding our Navy in the Persian Gulf is as dangerous as the exposure of our Marines in Beirut. Is the President or the Senator right?

Talbott: I think both of them are wrong. Senator Lugar's comparison to Beirut is a bit off a cheap shot. As for what the President said -- we're already in a war situation.... There's still lots of ironies that have to be sorted out here. The President still has a lot of explaining to do.

Drew: ...We are taking sides more overtly in this war and I think there are a lot of questions. This seems to be an example of the Administration leaping before it looked. It took a decision to do something without figuring out how to do it, knowing the implications, and adequately consulting Congress.

Rowan: On Friday the President made a bold and brave statement about how we are not going to walk out of the Persian Gulf. I can't quarrel with that. But the Congress, I, and a lot of people are tired of hearing bold statements and then going to tearful funerals for American servicemen. What the Congress is demanding of this Administration, and I think will get, is a clear understanding of what it is we propose to do, how we propose to it, and how we're going to protect the troops.

Kilpatrick: I'll second everything Carl had to say.

Agronsky: We've had a series of crisis in which the President promises a certain policy and his performance does not support that policy or make it work. Do you think this could be another instance of that?

Rowan: There's more agreement between the Congress and the Reagan Administration now than people know. And the President didn't tell you a thing Friday about it. But his Secretary of Defense, his National Security Advisor met Thursday with Bob Dole, with Bob Byrd, Sam Nunn. They promised that they would abide by both the spirit and the letter of standing resolutions both Houses are going to pass this Tuesday requiring that within 7 days they report to the Congress what kind of forces are we going to put in, what will these forces be....

Drew: In his Friday statement, the President said we are doing this to promote peace in the Gulf War. Well, that is why we were selling arms to the so-called "moderates" in Iran a few months ago.... Because the Iran thing went to sour some of the people in the Administration felt we have to, once again, show our resolve.... It was to make up for the original embarrassment. Now the question is -- is this a wise decision?

Talbott: This whole crisis is an indirect side effect of Irangate.

-more-

AGRONSKY & COMPANY (continued)

Agronsky: The President, on Friday, reached out to make Iran the chief villain and to make the Soviet Union the co-villain. What has the Soviet Union done in this situation that justifies that?

Kilpatrick: Put additional naval presence into the Gulf, which is bound to worry the President.... There is no really great satisfactory course that the President can take now on this. If he goes in with the ideal of putting the flags on the Kuwaiti tankers, then he's damned in that direction. If he does nothing -- if he simply withdraws the U.S. naval presence -- then he's going to be damned for that.

Agronsky: Has the President of the U.S. told the country enough about it and the Congress enough about it?

Rowan: This isn't the first President who said this was vital to our interests -- Jimmy Carter said that we would fight if we had to preserve our access to the Persian Gulf.... There are some things [the President] hasn't said. One of the problems is that the Soviets have offered to escort some Kuwaiti ships and we don't want the Soviets to get in there with the first lead on this deal, so we're in a contest with them.

Drew: The Administration is very angry with Congress for making so much noise, but in fact, I think they are somewhat saving the Administration from itself by forcing some of these decisions.

Talbott: Let's not make the same mistake as the President. Let's not lump Iran together with the Soviet Union, Iran and the Soviet Union are not allies in the Persian Gulf or anywhere else and the Soviet Union has played a role there that is not all that different from the one that we are now trying to play.

ON THE IRAN-CONTRA HEARINGS:

Agronsky: Do you think we're learning anything more?

Rowan: We don't know whether this [the testimony] is true or not, but they sure laid a finger on Elliott Abrams and Casey and the President this week.

Agronsky: And the Vice President.

Drew: I don't think that the important thing about this week was so much whether it got to the President.... It is true it got a little closer to the Vice President.... The real thing -- is the President accountable for these activities? I'm very curious about the White House. Last week, the President said, "I knew about all these things. The law doesn't get to me..." This week, he walked back and said, "I didn't know anything about it. These were private groups." Which is it?

Talbott: This was a bad week too for somebody else -- George Shultz -- whose name has not been dragged into Irangate all that often. It's only indirectly.... It really is beginning to look like Elliott Abrams knew a great deal more than he had heretofore said.... That is going to have to, at least, raise some questions about Secretary Shultz.