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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1987 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S.-Soviet Effort To Avert Iranian Victory -- The U.S. and the Soviet Union now find themselves on the same side in a diplomatic effort to avert an Iranian victory over Iraq in the Persian Gulf war, a top Administration official says. (Washington Post, AP, UPI)

Chun Agrees To Hold Unprecedented Talks With Top Dissident -- President Chun Doo-hwan agreed to meet with top dissident Kim Young-sam to discuss ways of resolving political turmoil in South Korea, a spokesman for the ruling Democratic Justice Party said. (Washington Post, Washington Times, AP, Reuter)

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan's Trips To People Irk Democrats -- Congressional Democrats say President Reagan is attacking their \$1 trillion 1988 budget to divert attention from his foreign policy troubles, but GOP lawmakers say it's the Democrats who are using the budget deficit as a smokescreen for higher taxes. (Washington Times, AP, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Sunday Evening)

PERSIAN GULF -- The Reagan Administration is expressing optimism about a U.N. plan for a cease-fire in the Gulf War.

HOSTAGES -- Syria rejected an offer to free the son of Lebanon's defense minister in return for keeping American Charles Glass.

HAMADEI -- West Germany's justice minister says Mohammed Ali Hamadei will not be extradited to the U.S.

QUOTABLE QUOTES...

"Pope John Paul II is expected to be in New Orleans only three days in September, but he may stay an extra 30 days to hear Edwin Edwards' confession."

(Iris Kelso, New Orleans Times-Picayune)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CHINA TO BACK U.S. MOVE FOR IRAN-IRAQ CEASE-FIRE U.N. Security Council's Big Five Agree

China has informed the U.N. Security Council that it is ready to support a U.S.-backed resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq war and the opening of negotiations to end the conflict, a senior Administration official indicated.

Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost, appearing on CBS's "Face the Nation," said all five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council now agreed on the first of two resolutions the U.S. is sponsoring in a bid to force Iran into negotiations.

Armacost said the Reagan Administration has found, "to our surprise," that "all of the permanent members" are backing the resolution. "The question now is whether we can negotiate agreement on mandatory sanctions," he added referring to the thrust of the second resolution.

(David Ottaway, Washington Post, A17)

Administration Official Says U.S., Soviet Union Working On Peace Plan In Gulf

The U.S. and the Soviet Union are joining forces on a peace plan to end the 6½-year-old Iran-Iraq war and prevent an Iranian victory, a high-level Reagan Administration official says.

Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost said the U.S., Soviet Union and the other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council -- Britain, France and China -- have been discussing the plan "for several months in New York."

"We're working in the Security Council to engage the Russians and the other permanent members in a call for a cease-fire and return to boundaries, exchange of prisoners, other arrangements, backed by mandatory sanctions," Armacost said in an interview on CBS's "Face the Nation."

Armacost said U.S. officials working on the peace plan have found the Soviet Union to be "surprisingly cooperative." (Donna Cassata, AP)

U.S.-Soviet Effort To Avert Iranian Victory

The U.S. and the Soviet Union now find themselves on the same side in a diplomatic effort to avert an Iranian victory over Iraq in the Persian Gulf war, a top Administration official says.

"The threat of geographic and other expansion (by Iran) affects not only us, but others," Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost noted in an interview. "Therefore, we're working in the U.N. Security Council to engage the Russians and other permanent members in a call for a cease-fire...."

Appearing on CBS's "Face the Nation," Armacost asserted the U.S. and the Soviet Union "share, at least temporarily, an interest in the region, an interest in preventing an Iranian victory in the gulf war."

(Vincent Del Giudice, UPI)

U.S. OFFICIALS CALLED BITTERLY SPLIT OVER CONTINUING TRADE WITH IRAN

The Pentagon is locked in a bitter struggle with the State and Commerce Departments over whether the U.S. should continue to trade with Iran, according to Administration officials.

Secretary Weinberger is arguing strongly for a total ban on trade except for medical supplies and other items that he describes as humanitarian goods. Officials at the State and Commerce Departments believe that current trade levels, which include goods from caviar to oil, are reasonable, the Administration officials said.

In a letter several days ago to Frank Carlucci, the President's national security adviser, Weinberger objected to an interagency draft report on the Iran trade debate that was sent to the National Security Council early this month. He also strongly argued for his own position, according to Pentagon and White House officials.

(Elaine Sciolino, New York Times, A1)

U.S. REJECTS LIBERIAN PLEA FOR PROTECTION OF ITS TANKERS

The Reagan Administration, in an effort to clearly define the U.S. Navy's role in the Persian Gulf, has rejected an informal Liberian request for protection of tankers in the gulf flying that African nation's flag, officials said.

The Administration also will turn down similar requests expected from Panama and the Bahamas, two other countries where U.S. shipowners often register their vessels, the officials said.

(James Dorsey, Washington Times, A1)

DEMOCRATS TO OFFER KUWAITI TANKER REFLAGGING ALTERNATIVE

A leading congressional critic of a Reagan Administration plan to let 11 Kuwaiti tankers fly American flags has said Democratic lawmakers will soon unveil an alternative proposal.

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin said Democratic leaders from the House and Senate will try to hammer out a proposal tomorrow that he said would probably offer restrictions to the reflagging plan.

Among the reflagging alternatives likely to be offered by the Democrats are delaying the start of the plan or placing a time limit or conditions on it that may include a participation requirement by U.S. allies, who rely on Persian Gulf oil much more than the U.S. does, Aspin said.

(Reuter)

GHOST OF LEBANON HAUNTS U.S. BID TO REFLAG KUWAITI TANKERS

The ghost of the U.S. debacle in Lebanon is haunting the congressional debate over the Reagan Administration's plan to engage U.S. military forces in the notoriously unpredictable Middle East on behalf of a little-known Arab ally.

Once again, the same questions are being debated: whether U.S. military forces are in danger of "imminent hostilities" requiring the President to invoke the War Powers Resolution and whether the U.S. is not in fact committing its power and prestige to one side under other pretenses. Critics say the move represents a tilt toward Iraq, because Kuwait, a major financial backer of Iraq, is "neutral" in name only.

(News Analysis, David Ottaway, Washington Post, A13)

U.S. TO INVITE SOVIETS TO JOIN A MIDEAST PEACE PARLEY

The U.S. is now ready to agree to Soviet participation in an international peace conference on the Middle East (between Israel and its Arab neighbors), sources said.

"(Secretary) Shultz believes the U.S. must be seen to have an active, constructive role to play (in the area)," the source said. "He's afraid the Soviets may demonstrate that they can play a role without the U.S."

"So Shultz' thinking is, 'Let's preempt them.' We don't want to chase after them. So let's force them to address the agenda through us."

(Martin Sieff, Washington Times, A1)

OFFICIAL OPTIMISTIC THREE HOSTAGES WILL BE FREED SOON

BEIRUT -- Syria reportedly turned down a deal from Moslem kidnappers that would release two Lebanese but keep U.S. journalist Charles Glass a hostage, and sources said efforts to free the three have entered a "crucial stage."

"I expect the release of Ali, Charles and the driver very soon, Lebanese Defense Minister Adel Osseiran said Sunday. Asked what had raised his hopes, he said without elaboration: "New information. I'm very optimistic."

The kidnapers offered earlier Sunday to release the younger Osseiran and his driver but keep Glass, said sources close to the Syrian army command, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The sources said leaders of Syria's 7,500-strong army contingent in Moslem west Beirut insisted that all three captives be freed quickly and unconditionally.

One source also said, "The Syrians also warned that they would stiffen their stance by demanding the surrender of the kidnappers themselves unless the three captives are released soon." (AP)

Syrian Commander Meets With Hezbollah Leader To Seek Hostage Release

BEIRUT -- Syrian President Hafez Assad sent the commander of his forces to meet with the spiritual leader of Hezbollah -- the pro-Iranian group believed holding American journalist Charles Glass -- in an effort to gain Glass's release, a source said.

The Syrian source, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, also said Glass and two Lebanese kidnapped Wednesday were in "good health."

"Negotiations are still going on and there has been no stalemate in the issue," the source said. "The Syrians intend to solve this crisis diplomatically and so far do not consider a military solution."

Defense Minister Adel Osseiran told Lebanese television in an interview he learned that "Ali and his two companions will be released any day now."

He denied having accused Hezbollah of the incident, saying, "I do not accuse any side. I believe the kidnapers have made a mistake and were not targeting Ali in particular." (UPI)

Syrians Seek Cleric's Help On Hostages; Assad Moves To End Glass' Captivity

BEIRUT -- A senior Syrian official conferred with the religious guide of the militant Shiite Moslem group Hezbollah, in efforts to free kidnapped American reporter Charles Glass and two Lebanese.

Syria's military intelligence chief, Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kanaan, rushed from Damascus for a private meeting with Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, an influential Shiite cleric, apparently to ask for Fadlallah's intervention with Hezbollah, which is believed to hold the hostages. Defense Minister Adel Osseiran said it is Hezbollah that kidnapped Glass, along with Osseiran's son Ali, and his driver, last Wednesday. Security sources said they were being held in the mainly Shiite suburb of Bir Abed. (Nora Boustany, Washington Post, A17)

Syria's Credibility On The Line In Hostage Incident

BEIRUT -- The abduction of American journalist Charles Glass and the son of the Lebanese defense minister has embarrassed Syria and put its credibility in Lebanon on the line, political and military sources say.

"For some time now, the Syrians have been telling everyone that they came to Beirut to liberate it from various militias who were ruling the capital. This kidnapping is a true slap in the face for them, and they are bound to do something about it," said one Lebanese source.

"The issue here is not that Syria loves Charlie Glass or it too keen on helping (Defense Minister Adel) Osseiran. What this kidnapping translates into for the Syrian authorities in Lebanon is that anyone can still abduct a Westerner or a relative of a ranking Lebanese," a source close to the Osseiran family said. "Unless the Syrians crack down on this, and do it quickly, they lose not only the confidence of the Western world but also the trust of Syria's Lebanese allies."

(Peyman Pejman, UPI)

PAPER SAYS NO EXTRADITION FOR HAMADEI

HAMBURG -- A West German newspaper said federal Justice Minister Hans Engelhard has decided against extraditing suspected hijacker Mohammed Ali Hamadei to the U.S.

Welt am Sonntag made the statement in the first paragraph of a front-page story but provided no further information on the decision it said Engelhard had made.

A spokesman for the West German government declined to confirm or deny the Welt am Sonntag story and only repeated the announcement made last Friday by chief government spokesman Friedholm Ost that the government will decide the Hamadei case Wednesday. (UPI)

CHUN AGREES TO TALKS WITH OPPOSITION LEADERS

SEOUL -- President Chun Doo-hwan has agreed to meet with opposition leaders to try and end the political crisis, and he promised to consider the release of political detainees, a top official said Monday.

Roh Tae-woo, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, said after a meeting with Chun that the president had agreed to meet with top opposition leader Kim Young-sam, head of the Reunification Democratic Party.

The agreement appeared to represent a major turnaround by the government, which had repeatedly ruled out concessions. Roh said Chun made the decision after "frank talks."

The Reunification Democratic Party had no immediate comment on the government statement. (Barry Renfrew, AP)

Chun Agrees To Hold Unprecedented Talks With Top Dissident

SEOUL -- President Chun Doo-hwan agreed to meet with top dissident Kim Young-sam to discuss ways of resolving political turmoil in South Korea, a spokesman for the ruling Democratic Justice Party said.

Kim, leader of the main opposition Reunification Democratic Party, has long demanded a meeting with Chun but has set two conditions -- the release of all prisoners arrested since the most serious rioting began June 10, and the lifting of House arrest for fellow dissident Kim Dae-jung.

A spokesman for Kim Young-sam said, "If there is an offer of a summit, we assume that means our conditions have been agreed to." (Moon Ihlwan, Reuter)

S. Korea Considers Concessions; U.S. Official Warns Against Military Force

SEOUL -- South Korea's ruling party, confronted by the most serious challenge to its seven-year rule, met to consider what concessions, if any, it could offer the opposition to defuse political tensions that have fueled 11 days of street protests.

"We do not want to see the military involved," said Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur, speaking from Sydney, Australia on NBC's "Meet the Press." "The proper approach is to have the political leadership get together and reach an understanding of ways in which democracy can come more rapidly and speedily."

Sigur...said he will try to pressure the South Korean government to hold open elections and resume negotiations with opposition leaders.

(Lena Sun, Washington Post, A1)

Envoy To Push Chun On Talks As A Way To Quell Unrest

Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs Gaston Sigur travels to Seoul to press South Korean leader Chun Doo-hwan to reopen dialogue with his political foes on a democratic presidential succession in 1988.

Sigur...said in a television interview that such dialogue, broken off by Chun in April, must start anew. The shelving of talks triggered the most violent demonstrations since the Kwangju riots of 1980.

"We have got to have a reopening of discussions and negotiations" between the leaders of the government and opposition parties, Sigur declared.
(Richard Beeston, Washington Times, A1)

AUSTRALIA ISSUES SHARP CRITICISM OF U.S. PROTECTIONISM MOVES

SYDNEY -- Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden issued an urgent plea to the U.S. government to fight protectionist moves in Congress which he said could undermine Australian security.

Opening a day of talks with Secretaries Shultz and Weinberger, Hayden said: "Australians see economic well-being as a major component of security."

"I cannot stress too strongly the damage that would be dealt to the Australian and other non-subsidizing agricultural exporters by some of the protectionist measures now under consideration in the United States Congress."

Shultz replied that "Australia's economic and trade interests continue to hold our attention as we grapple with our own budgetary and trade difficulties."
(Michael Batty, Reuter)

REAGAN'S TROUBLES WORRY CENTRAL AMERICANS End Of Aid To Contras Could Leave Honduras Holding The Bag

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras -- As the Iran-contra affair drags on in Washington, the perception of a weakened Reagan Administration is causing increasing nervousness in Honduras and other Central American countries, according to diplomatic and Honduran sources.

The nervousness is leading to greater efforts by pro-U.S. countries in Central America to distance themselves from American policy in the region and from the Nicaraguan rebels known as counterrevolutionaries, or contras, the sources said.

The anxiety, among both the Honduras and the contras, stems from concerns that U.S. funding for the rebels will not be renewed, or will be severely restricted, leaving the contras unable to press their war inside Nicaragua and the Honduras forced to host them.

Costa Rican President Oscar Arias lately has been promoting a Central American peace plan that appears to be causing growing consternation in the Reagan Administration. According to diplomatic sources, a recent meeting between U.S. special envoy Philip Habib and Arias in the Costa Rican capital went badly when Arias flatly rejected entreaties that the plan be amended to include a call for negotiations between the Sandinista government and Nicaraguan rebels.

(William Branigin, Washington Post, A1)

LEADING U.S. SENATOR CALLS FOR
DEMOCRATIC REFORMS IN PANAMA

HOWARD AIR FORCE BASE, Panama -- A U.S. subcommittee chairman said increasing military control over civilian affairs threatened to scuttle hopes for a return to full democracy in Panama.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs, spoke...after a three day fact-finding visit to this country....

"There is a danger right now (and) a strong impression, a very strong impression, that there are elements in this country that are leading this nation away from the family of democracies," Dodd told reporters.

(Tom Brown, Reuter)

SOVIETS HOLD MULTI-CANDIDATE VOTING
Unprecedented Move Seen As Test Of Gorbachev's Reform, Drive

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union carried out its first experiment with multi-candidate balloting in scattered districts across the country during local elections that tested other themes of Kremlin leader Gorbachev's campaign for "democratization."

"The departure from old, overly rigid procedures for advancing candidates...sets apart the character of today's election practices, resulting in the increased involvement of the people," the government newspaper Izvestia said in an editorial today.

The most significant experiment involved multi-candidate lists, a practice already in place in several East European countries and announced here in April as a result of political reforms pushed by Gorbachev.

(Celestine Bohlen, Washington Post, A1)

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NATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT TAKES BUDGET SHOW ON ROAD

President Reagan is keeping his promise to put pressure on Congress, beginning a series of trips to argue against tax hikes and to make his case for overhauling the budget-making process.

Reagan, feuding with Democrats over a \$1 trillion spending plan for fiscal 1988, was traveling to Melbourne, Fla., to visit a Dictaphone Corp. plant and address the Chamber of Commerce.

In his weekly radio address to the nation Saturday, Reagan lashed out against the Democratic budget plan....

In his more than six years in office, Reagan said, his choice on congressionally approved budget legislation has been to "take it, pork and all, or veto it."

"This is no way to run a country," Reagan said. "This is why, in the coming weeks, I'll be taking my case to you, the American people, asking for your support to bring fiscal sanity back to our government."

(Merrill Hartson, AP)

Reagan's Trips To People Irk Democrats

Congressional Democrats say President Reagan is attacking their \$1 trillion 1988 budget to divert attention from his foreign policy troubles, but GOP lawmakers say it's the Democrats who are using the budget deficit as a smokescreen for higher taxes.

As Congress reconvenes its Iran-contra hearings and resumes debate over the U.S. role in the Persian Gulf this week, the President is embarking on a series of out-of-town trips to gain support for budget reform.

"It's an attempt at diversion, but I don't think it's diverting anybody," House Speaker Jim Wright said last week. "The President can control issues only to a limited extent."

"I believe the American people want us to spend more money, not less, on education, AIDS research, drug programs and some of the sad cases of the impoverished elderly," said Sen. Pete Dominici, ranking Republican on the Senate Budget Committee.

"But I also believe they want us to cut other programs to pay for a new set of national priorities." (Gene Grabowski, Washington Times, A2)

Reagan Takes Domestic Policy To The Road

The resumption of the Iran-contra hearings this week will find President Reagan waging political war with Congress over the budget as investigators continue digging into the worst scandal of his Administration.

Today Reagan was headed for Melbourne, Fla., to promote his domestic policies -- on the eve of another round of hearings into his foreign policy gone awry.

In remarks to employees at the Melbourne plant of the Dictaphone Corp. and to a local Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Reagan was expected to reinforce his opposition to a \$1 trillion budget approved last week by a Democrat-dominated House-Senate conference committee over Republican objections.

(Norman Sandler, UPI)

FIGHT SEEN RESULTING FROM REAGAN'S VETO OF BROADCASTERS' RULE

President Reagan's veto of legislation to write the fairness doctrine into law sets up a protracted fight with Congress, both sides agree.

In vetoing the legislation over the weekend, the President, once a sportscaster with radio station WHO in Des Moines, Iowa, accepted the arguments of broadcasters who protested that the rule compromised their First Amendment rights.
(Merrill Hartson, AP)

LIBERAL VICTORIES MARK FIRST YEAR OF REHNQUIST ERA

The first year of the Rehnquist Supreme Court is turning out to be, in the words of one chagrined conservative, "Bill Brennan's finest hour."

As the 1986 term draws to a close, with 80 percent of the cases decided -- including the most controversial before the high court this year -- the liberal justices have triumphed in all but two of the blockbuster cases.

The moderate-liberal coalition, led by Justice William Brennan, has prevailed in cases on affirmative action, pregnancy leave, discrimination against workers with communicable diseases such as AIDS, asylum for political refugees and the teaching of creationism in public schools.

The conservative wing, supposedly bolstered by the elevation of William Rehnquist to chief justice and the addition of Antonin Scalia, has managed to win significant victories only in the area of its traditional strength: criminal law. The court upheld the constitutionality of preventive detention of suspects before trial and rejected a challenge to the death penalty as racially discriminatory. Even in the criminal area, the conservatives lost a case involving the use of victim-impact statements in death-penalty cases.
(Al Kamen, Washington Post, A1)

ANTIABORTION GROUPS CONFER Unified Force Unlikely In '88 GOP Primaries

NEW ORLEANS -- The national "Right-to-Life" movement, a grass-roots force that swept like hurricane across presidential politics in the 1980 election, seems to have been sundered into smaller whirlwinds in these opening months of the 1988 campaign.

The 1,000 or so antiabortion leaders who gathered here this weekend for the annual convention of the National Right to Life Committee Inc. found themselves in general agreement on ultimate goals -- government prohibition of abortion and euthanasia -- but widely split on the means of getting there as well as on the choice of a presidential candidate to advance the antiabortion cause.

Other antiabortion groups are sniping openly at the Right to Life Committee, and at one another, in an argument over antiabortion legislation President Reagan sent to Congress earlier this year. Some abortion opponents support the so-called "Superbill." Others maintain just as strenuously that isn't worth the expenditure of time and energy.

(T.R. Reid, Washington Post, A2)

FIRST COUPLE TAKES PART IN ANNUAL FORD'S THEATER GALA

First Lady Nancy Reagan waltzed with ballet star Mikhail Baryshnikov at Ford's Theatre as an array of celebrities turned out for the historic landmark's annual benefit performance.

President Reagan watched with amusement as Baryshnikov held Mrs. Reagan.... The President later made a quip about a poll that showed a majority of the men responding thought Mrs. Reagan would be their ideal date.

Joining his wife on stage at the end of the more than two-hour performance, Reagan said "everybody knows that I'm with the hottest date around."
(Merrill Hartson, AP)

Nancy Reagan Says She Freezes At Sight Of Lincoln Murder Box

Nancy Reagan, receiving an award as a benefactor of historic Ford's Theatre where Abraham Lincoln was shot, said tonight she always feels a "tummy freeze" when she sees Lincoln's box.

"I don't think you can come in here without feeling a certain something," said Mrs. Reagan, whose husband, President Reagan, was the target of an assassination attempt in 1981.

Looking up awed at the box high above the stage and clutching at her stomach, she added, "When you look up there at that box you have to feel a certain tummy freeze."
(Bruce Russell, Reuter)

Ford's And The Famous; Celebrities Gather For Theater's Fundraiser

Yesterday, for a few hours, the White House became one more stop on the Ford's Theatre tour.

Midway through the weekend-long fundraiser "A Festival at Ford's," more than 200 top-dollar patrons found themselves waiting in the East Room for a handshake with the First Couple, nibbling on lobster tarts and fried cheese squares and maybe nabbing an autograph or two from the performers in town for Sunday evening's all-star show.

(Victoria Dawson, Washington Post, B1)

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IRAN — NICARAGUA

GOP CONSERVATIVES SEETHE OVER PROBE'S TACTICS

Anger is beginning to surface among conservative Republicans over what one termed the "lynch mob" tactics of Democrats and some Republicans investigating the Iran-contra affair.

A member of the investigative committee, Rep. Henry Hyde, accused some GOP members of the panel of taking delight in joining the Democrats "in piling on" during the hearings.

Said Rep. Robert Walker, "A few Republicans made the conscious decision that they'd get a better press by beating up on the Administration than in bringing out the facts on the issue."

Sen. Warren Rudman (a target of the attacks) called such accusations unfair. "People way out on the right have been critical of the hearings, but I have supported arms sales to the contras, which surprises them when they learn it," he said. (Ralph Hallow, Washington Times, A1)

MAGAZINE LINKS NORTH TO ASSASSINATION PLOT

Now added to the list of congressional questions for Oliver North in the Iran-contra scandal is the subject of his role in an alleged plot to assassinate Iranian leaders.

The alleged assassination plot is raised in this week's edition of U.S. News & World Report, which was published Saturday, the same day Sen. William Cohen...said in an interview that he thinks North is ready to go to jail rather than testify about the scandal.

Cohen, joining another member of the select committees probing the case, Sen. David Boren, on CNN's "Evans & Novak," said North's silence already has put the committees "at his mercy" as they bargain with his lawyers to get testimony that is considered crucial to tying up loose ends in the case.

In another development, Rep. Ted Weiss said in a UPI interview that he thinks Reagan "has probably committed impeachable offenses" related to the scandal by failing to execute laws of the land. However, Weiss said, he wants to see more information before deciding whether to call for Reagan's ouster. (UPI)

U.S. ADVISER PROTESTED DRAFT OF CASEY'S TESTIMONY ON ARMS SALES, SOURCES SAY

Reagan Administration officials prepared testimony for Congress last November that was so misleading regarding the U.S. role in arms sales to Iran that the State Department's legal adviser said he would resign if it were given.

The protest by Abraham Sofaer...was made indirectly to the Justice Department, according to sources familiar with the House and Senate inquiry into the Iran-contra affair. Sofaer succeeded in forcing corrections, the sources said, but investigators believe the incident also shows there was a concerted effort by some officials to contain the scandal and obscure the White House's early role in the arms sales.

(David Rogers, Wall Street Journal, A12)

CHANNELL AIDE UNSCATHED, BUT MAY HAVE PAID PRICE

David Fischer may not have cut a wide swath when he was at the White House, but he was later worth \$20,000 a month to conservative fund-raiser Carl Channell as a door opener, a job not so different from the one he handled for President Reagan.

Fischer's benefactor, Channell, has since fallen on hard times, as has Fischer's business associate, Richard Miller, but the ex-Reagan aide has no apparent legal problems, having been granted full immunity by Lawrence Walsh, the special prosecutor probing the Iran-contra affair.

But sources close to the President and his wife, Nancy, said that Fischer has probably seriously damaged the relationship he had built up over the past decade by allegedly taking large payments primarily for setting up meetings with the President for Channell's donors.

"I think they'd (the First Family) be offended at the idea of being sold, for sure," said a family friend. "I think it's frustrating and hard when you're in that position. You have to trust the people you work with, and when they don't measure up it's very frustrating.... It's really disheartening."

(Robert Timberg, Baltimore Sun, A3)

HASENFUS: STATE DEPT. BROKE PLEDGES OF AID

Eugene Hasenfus (and his wife)...accuses the State Department of reneging on pledges to ensure repayment of expenses connected with his trial in Managua.

Mrs. Hasenfus, who visited her husband several times in Managua, said Elliott Abrams...had told her over the phone, "Everything will be taken care of -- the tickets, your passport, a place to stay at the U.S. Embassy in Managua."

A State Department spokesman, who asked not to be identified, denied that any department official ever discussed bills with Mrs. Hasenfus, and Abrams' aide William Schofield acknowledged talking a half-dozen times with her but told UPI: "We never promised to pick up the tab or have someone else pick up the tab."

(Neil Roland, UPI)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Sunday Evening, June 21, 1987)

Editor's Note: ABC News was pre-empted due to a golf tournament.

PERSIAN GULF POLICY

CBS's Forrest Sawyer: As the U.S. edged closer toward putting American flags on Kuwaiti oil tankers in the volatile Persian Gulf, the Reagan Administration is tonight expressing optimism about a U.N. plan for a cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq War -- a plan that apparently has the backing of the Soviet Union.

(Michael Armacost, Undersecretary of State: "We have been discussing this for several months in New York. We've found them surprisingly cooperative. As I say, I think they don't wish to see a war which could end with Iran prevailing with the stimulus that gives to Islamic fundamentalism and the threat it poses to their own Moslem population in Central Asia.")

The plan would include mandatory sanctions against either side that violated the cease-fire. What those sanctions would be must still be negotiated. Numerous peace plans have failed in the past. The U.S. is prepared to act on its own in the Gulf with a dangerous new move that is only weeks away.

CBS's Alan Pizzey in Kuwait: American flags could be flying on Kuwaiti oil tankers by the first week of July -- a gesture that would mark a significant escalation of superpower involvement in the Gulf War. The flags entitle the ships to U.S. naval protection. The latest danger for Gulf shipping comes from under the water -- Iranian patrol boats have apparently laid mines just off Kuwait. The case is similar to the Red Sea three years ago.... The U.S. Gulf fleet does not include mine sweepers and adding them would mean an extra commitment that Congress has been less than eager to approve. Eleven American registered ships would carry up to 70 percent of Kuwait's oil exports.... The Kuwaiti economy is totally dependent on the tankers' safe passage. Virtually everything here is imported, paid for with oil money. Kuwait will be a target in the Gulf War as long as it continues to back Iraq. Running up the stars and stripes on Kuwaiti ships is seen by Western diplomats here as crucial to American credibility in the Gulf -- the signal that the U.S. will not back off from its commitment to friendly nations.

CBS's David Martin:

(The President from June 15: "In a word -- if we don't do the job, the Soviets will.")

That is the primary reason the U.S. is about to begin escorting Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Persian Gulf. It was not until after Moscow had agreed to lease three of its tankers to Kuwait that the U.S. rushed in with its offer to protect 11 Kuwaiti tankers.

Martin continues:

(Secretary Weinberger: "If we pull out completely and conclusively, there would be a vacuum that they would rush into very quickly. And they would do that, I believe they would, in the fulfillment of their centuries-old desire to have a warm water port and their somewhat more recent desire to make sure that they have the opportunity to block access of the oil to the Western free world countries.")

Despite the Reagan Administration's opposition to a Soviet presence in the Gulf, the short term goals of the two superpowers are remarkably similar.... The U.S. is in the Gulf to compete with the Soviets, not cooperate and so far it's no contest. While the Soviets have only three mine sweepers and an occasional warship in the Gulf, the U.S. has seven combatants with three more on the way, not to mention an aircraft carrier that will be stationed at the entrance to the Gulf. This makes the difference -- the port facilities in Bahrain, which the U.S. Navy has used for decades. The Soviets have no place to call home in the Gulf. The question is, "Can the Reagan Administration keep it that way?" ...The Reagan Administration is frequently accused of seeing every regional conflict from Lebanon to Nicaragua as a confrontation between East and West. The danger in the Persian Gulf is that with eyes fixed on Moscow, the U.S. will fall into a war with Iran. (CBS-Lead)

NBC's Garrick Utley: A senior state department official said today that the U.S. and the Soviet Union agree that Iran should not be allowed to win the war with Iraq. Michael Armacost, the undersecretary of state, said on television that Moscow and Washington are working at the U.N. to try to end the war. Today's statement comes after assertions by the Reagan Administration that the U.S. faces a Soviet challenge in the Persian Gulf. It all sounds rather confusing. So, what is the outlook in the Gulf? ...When the dead of the USS Stark came home, the dangers of the Persian Gulf struck home. For the President, it was time to comfort the afflicted.

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady comforting the families of the USS Stark victims.)

But a President's main responsibility is to define America's interests and then defend them. Jimmy Carter did that.... It was called the Carter Doctrine. Last week, President Reagan raised the Soviet challenge.

(The President from June 15: "In a word -- if we don't do the job, the Soviets will.")

But what is the job in the Persian Gulf? If it is to keep the oil flowing -- well, it is. About 300 ships have been attacked by Iraq and Iran, but that has not stopped the oil.... The danger, of course, is the war between Iraq and Iran. For most Americans, it is not a concern because we are not in it.... Some questions and answers now about what we face in the Persian Gulf. What is the real risk for the U.S.? Can we avoid getting involved in the war? And is there a Soviet threat? To help answer these questions we have Gary Sick, formerly of the National Security Council and a specialist on Iran and the Persian Gulf. How real is the danger?

(Sick: "I think the chances of a major military confrontation in the Gulf, deliberately started by somebody, are pretty slim. The chances that we would start one ourselves in response to something that happened accidentally or otherwise, it seems to me, is significant.")

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Utley continues:

The Reagan Administration is saying that we want to remain neutral in the war between Iran and Iraq, but in fact aren't we taking sides? Aren't we really on Iraq's side of the war?

(Sick: "If we do align ourselves with one side in this war, eventually we are not going to be able to avoid the consequences of that. If we are going to be on one side we're going to put ourselves between these two combatant parties which have been going at it for more than seven years. We're going to get caught up in it whether we like it or not.")

What is the real issue here? Is it free navigation? Is it keeping the oil flowing? Or is it that deeply rooted rivalry between two superpowers which happens to be taking place now in a place called the Persian Gulf?

(Sick: "That is where the superpower rivalry begins to come up. The two powers are being sucked into this war which neither party has any control. The Soviet military presence in that part of the world has stayed essential flat for the last ten years -- despite the fact that one of their ships has now been hit. So, the fact that the Soviets will sort of move in in mass on a military basis strikes me as very unlikely based on what they say themselves.")

Is this problem in the Gulf being hyped?

(Sick: "Yes. It is now so bound up in domestic American politics, and also the politics of the region where we are trying to prove that we didn't really mean it when we sold arms to Iran, and the President is trying to reestablish his credibility through this process, that I'm afraid that the reality of the tankers and the war in the Gulf have really receded in terms of the domestic politics.")

And domestic politics will play a role if one of the navy ships or tankers they are escorting hits a mine or is attacked or if Iran carries out a terrorist attack against some other American target. Then the President will be faced with a choice -- do nothing or retaliate and move even closer to war. That's what's known as a no-win situation. (NBC-4)

HOSTAGES

Sawyer: Syria today rejected an offer by kidnappers in Beirut to free the son of Lebanon's defense minister in return for keeping American journalist Charles Glass. But the defense minister says he is "very optimistic" both hostages will be freed soon. The two men and their driver were kidnapped five days ago. (CBS-2, NBC-3)

HAMADEI

Utley: West Germany's justice minister says accused terrorist Mohammad Hamadei will not be extradited to the U.S. The news came in an interview with a West German magazine. The U.S. wants Hamadei to stand trial for the 1985 hijacking of a TWA jet and the murder of an American sailor. (NBC-7)

ARMS CONTROL

Sawyer: The chief U.S. and Soviet arms negotiators are back in Geneva tonight to resume top-level talks tomorrow. Officials say proposals to scrap medium-range missiles have reached a crucial stage. In Moscow, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev brought up the arms talks after casting his ballot in a local one-candidate election. Talking with reporters, he accused Western leaders of not backing up their arms control words with meaningful actions. Gorbachev also chatted outside the polling place with Soviet citizens. He seemed to be asking for their support in what might be a bruising battle this week within the Soviet leadership.

CBS's Wyatt Andrews reports on the campaign for Gorbachev's economic reforms. (CBS-8, NBC-5)

SOUTH KOREAN PROTESTS

Utley: This is the day the government of South Korea may have blinked. As demonstrations continued and the police grew tougher, the government, which is dominated by the military, indicated it is preparing some proposals to end the confrontation. So, after 12 straight days of demonstrating, Koreans who want free elections may be getting somewhere.

NBC's Brian Stewart reports from Seoul on the demonstrations. (NBC-Lead, CBS-4)

-End of B-Section-

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

Moderator: David Brinkley. Panel: George Will, Sam Donaldson.
Guests: Edward Koch, Mayor of New York; Benjamin Hooks, NAACP
Executive Director; Roy Innis, CORE National Chairman; Alfred Messer,
psychiatrist.

Editor's Note: The June 21 edition of "This Week With David Brinkley"
focused on the decision of the Behnard Goetz case, the charges of
discrimination this decision has generated and public reaction to the
decision.

FREE-FOR-ALL DISCUSSION (Mary Anne Dolan joins panel.)

Brinkley: I'm sure we're all confident that President Reagan wishes he
had never heard of Col. Oliver North but he has.... Col. North says he
will not testify privately. What's he up to?

Will: He has a good lawyer who understands that his client will have an
advantage if he goes in fresh.... It would have served the national
interest to have North and Poindexter testify in February. I am told the
reason they did not vote them immunity [in February] was political fear --
fear that they could not explain to the country what they were doing and
why. I think the national interest has suffered.

Donaldson: I think Col. North's lawyer has every right to protect his
client's position.... But on the other hand, if these are tactics simply to
prevent Col. North from testifying before this committee, then, of course,
they ought not to be engaged in.

Dolan: In trying to limit the amount of time he exposes his client, Col.
North's lawyer is serving his client well and that's his job.

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CBS -- FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Lesley Stahl.

Guests: Michael A. Armacost, Undersecretary of State; Rep. Les Aspin; Gen. P.X. Kelley, retiring Marine Corps commandant.

Stahl: There are reports that the White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker has said that he would like to see the U.S. postpone the reflagging of the Kuwaiti ships in the Persian Gulf. Is there any chance that the reflagging will be put off until the decision can be thought out a little longer?

Armacost: We're been thinking about this decision for some months. We have no particular date on which it will go into the implementation phase.... We expect it to be implemented sometime in early July. That is the current plan.

Stahl: Any chance of postponing?

Armacost: It's not our plan. At the present time we expect to go into business in early July.

Stahl: Does Congress or do you have any suggestions that the Administration could accept [to justify postponing the reflagging of Kuwaiti ships]?

Aspin: I think it's going to be hard. Congress is put in a very tough position. A vote to go ahead with the reflagging carries a lot of risk. A vote against the reflagging carries enormous risk of Iranian terrorist actions and other things in the light of pulling back....

Armacost: To withdraw conveys an impression of inconsistency, and possibly unreliability. It reawakens questions about our will.

Aspin: I think there will be some form of a resolution that lays out what the Democrats would have done...that will be part one and rather general. We come to the second part which is rather specific -- what do we do about the reflagging right here? My guess is that the two extreme options are not going to be very popular.... We're looking at something in between and something dealing with the time and/or conditionality....

Stahl: The Soviets have a contract that they'll fly their flags on the Kuwaiti ships for one year. Is that something the Administration would like to have in our agreement?

Armacost: They haven't reflagged vessels -- they have chartered ships for a fixed term. We have not imposed a time limit on the reflagging. We're handling this as we've handled other reflaggings. An arbitrary time limit doesn't really address the circumstances which produced the request. The real risks to our interest in the Gulf arise out of war which can expand and it seems to me the best means of limiting the risks is to bring an end to the war....

Stahl: The U.S. and the Soviet, in effect, are negotiating a deal together to bring about an end to the world?

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Armacost: I think we share, at least temporarily an interest in the region -- an interest in preventing an Iranian victory in the Gulf War....

Stahl: Is U.S. policy to keep the Soviets out of the Middle East over?

Armacost: You can't keep the Soviets out of the Middle East. Our strategic interest in the Gulf has been to limit their role in relationship to oil...

Aspin: I think Congress would give full support to anything that would increase the chances in ending that war. On that the Administration and Congress are pretty close in accord.

Stahl: Charles Glass was taken hostage this week -- was that related? Did the Iranians instigate that as a signal to us?

Armacost: It's possible. I don't know.

Stahl: There are reports that Secretary of State Shultz is very much opposed to this reflagging policy. He has been basically silent on this whole issue...is that true?

Armacost: I don't believe so. He's spoken to the issue in Venice....

Stahl: What is American policy in Korea? Are we doing anything to pressure the government to move toward elections? To have more democracy in that country? If not, why aren't we?

Armacost: We've tried to avoid being too detailed in our suggestions. Surely it is our conviction that what is needed is a political solution to a political problem that requires dialogue between the parties.

Aspin: I don't see any other way to make it constructive.... If we get into a controversy with the executive branch, it does U.S. position in the world absolutely no good.

Stahl: Is there concern that the opposition will turn anti-American because we're not talking about democracy?

Armacost: We have talked about democracy....

Guest: Gen. P.X. Kelley

Stahl: Was there a breach of security at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow or not? Did the Marine guards take KBG agents on a stroll through secure areas of the embassy?

Kelley: That's what we're trying to determine right now. There were some confessions which certainly indicated that it did happen.... We're assuming the worst case.

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Stahl: There are reports that a third Marine who was a guard in Leningrad took Soviets agents on a walk through that U.S. facility. What can you tell us about those charges?

Kelley: I can't say anything publicly now. We're still looking into all those cases.

Stahl: There have been some suggests that the joint chiefs were not wholeheartedly in support of this [reflagging Kuwaiti tankers] policy.... Are there concerns that this decision was arrived at too quickly and maybe it isn't such a good idea?

Kelley: I have great concern that there is a growing attitude within our country that wants to automatically dismiss any military option. I think all military options, under any scenario when you're dealing with U.S. foreign policy, should at least be examined and just not automatically ruled out. If we keep automatically ruling out military options as being part of our U.S. foreign policy, soon we will become an isolationist country and when we do that we leave the rest of the world to the Soviet Union.

Stahl: Please respond to the question of the Persian Gulf.

Kelley: We debated within the joint chiefs of staff all facets of that. Our recommendations were provided to the President and I don't think we're against anything that will lead us to the ultimate objective of keeping the sea lanes open.

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NBC -- MEET THE PRESS

Moderator: Chris Wallace. **Panel:** Judith Miller, Robert Novak.

Guests: Gaston J. Sigur, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State; Rep. Stephen J. Solarz; Dick Pound, Vice President of the International Olympic Committee; Richard Holbrooke, former Assistant Secretary of State.

Wallace: Dr. Sigur, what is it that you think that the Chun government has to do to get those demonstrators off the streets?

Sigur: I'm going to Korea to assess the situation -- to look it over. I believe that we've got to have a reopening of the discussions and the negotiations between the various political elements -- the leadership of those elements. We have made that central to our policy. We believe that to broaden the political base in Korea, to move the country toward democracy -- which every political leader says it supports -- they've got to start talking to one another again.

Wallace: Will the U.S. oppose any crackdown on the protesters?

Sigur: As I understand it now the peace is being maintained, such as it is, through the police. The military's not involved. We do not want to see the military involved. Martial law, we think, would not be the proper approach. The proper approach is to have the political leaderships get together and reach understandings of ways in which democracy can come more rapidly and more appropriately in Korea.

Wallace: How serious do you think the situation is?

Sigur: It's obviously serious. It's a very difficult one for the Korean people....

Miller: Are you going to meet with the opposition leaders when you're in South Korea?

Sigur: I'm not sure of my schedule at this time. This is being worked out by the American Ambassador....

Solarz: I think it would be a very serious mistake for Secretary Sigur to go to South Korea at this time and not meet with the leaders of the Democratic opposition....

Sigur: I believe that there is a strong desire among the Korean people...to move toward a greater democracy. I am convinced of this. The problem here is how do you do it? How do you take these steps? What steps do you take first? At what pace do you go? That's what we're talking about and that's what the Korean people are trying to resolve. They've got to get together and talk about it.

Wallace: Is talk enough? Don't you have to have a promise of direct elections of the next President?

Sigur: I'm not sure about that -- what kind of a promise you have to have. That's up to the Koreans to make this decision. Talk must lead to action.

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MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Guest: Dick Pound.

Wallace: How concerned are you that the Olympics are going to have to be moved from Korea?

Pound: I wouldn't say that we are concerned at all at this stage. We're 15 months from the event and I think it would be very premature to even consider the possibility of having them move the games.

Wallace: If the situation 15 months from now were like the situation today, could you hold an Olympics with protesters in the streets?

Pound: ...I think there is one aspect the Koreans are totally united in and that is that they all want these games to be a success and I think they will pull together on their own to make sure the games are safe and successful.

PANEL DISCUSSION (Richard Holbooke joins panel.)

Wallace: Do you think Dr. Sigur is carrying the right message to Seoul?

Holbooke: I think he's carrying the right message in essence. I'm a little concerned by his ambivalence about who he is going to meet with.... He's seriously understating the dangers of a military coup from right wing generals who will think that the government has not been tough enough up to now. That would be, of all possible outcomes, the worst.

Wallace: Is that a legitimate threat at this point?

Holbooke: Absolutely.... It must be a primary objective of American foreign policy now to make sure that does not happen. We have 40,000 troops in South Korea and the troops and the command must do everything they can to make the Korean military understand that we do not want to see that happen.

Wallace: Isn't the U.S. again in that classic position...that if we push too hard there's a danger of a backlash, but if we don't say enough, then we appear to be anti-democratic?

Holbooke: Exactly. In this case I think the Administration reacted too slowly, with too little.... Now I think the Administration is headed in the right direction. We do not want to overreact. We shouldn't appear to take sides. What we want to support is a democratic process which builds a broader political base for the government in Korea.... We should not use our troops. We should make sure the U.S. command and every element of the American governments knows that they should discourage a coup....

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THE McLAUGHLIN GROUP

Moderator: John McLaughlin. Panel: Michael Kinsley, Robert Novak, Jack Germond, Morton Kondracke.

On Persian Gulf Policy:

McLaughlin: Are the Soviets really interested in gaining control of the Gulf?

Kinsley: I suppose they'd like to but that doesn't mean the policy Reagan is following here makes any sense whatsoever.

Germond: There is no connection between the judgment that the Soviet Union would like to control the Persian Gulf and the wisdom of the kind of foreign policy we have put together there in flagging those ships. They are not necessarily related. I would agree totally that we have to maintain freedom of navigation -- we don't necessarily have to do it that way.

Kondracke: The U.S. was very sloppy about getting into this. We did it because of the Iran arms sale -- we lost the credibility with the Arabs because we did that.... In the end it boils down to two things: do you want the Soviets to be the defenders of the Kuwaitis, and do you want Iran to scare us out of the Persian Gulf? ...We're not going to do a pre-emptive strike on Silkworm missiles. But if the missiles start shooting at shipping, then we're going to attack....

Novak: What is really at stake is the micromanagement of policy by Congress and it just shows how incapable they are. I guarantee you that Congress would never have made a peep about the reflagging had it not been for the accidental shooting of the Stark.

Germond: The fact that Congress got to this the wrong way doesn't change the legitimacy....

McLaughlin: Should the U.S. Congress exert pressure to prevent Ronald Reagan the right to reflag the Kuwaiti vessels?

Kinsley: We should find out a lot more before we let him do it.

Novak: No. I think Congress needs a very long vacation.

Germond: I think they should and I think they will.

Kondracke: I think they should do exactly what they're doing -- raise the questions, get the answers, make sure the Administration knows what it's doing and then agree to it. No.

McLaughlin: I agree with you Morton -- they should not do it.

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MCLAUGHLIN GROUP (continued)

On Iran-Contra Hearings:

McLaughlin: The word impeachment has now been lofted into public view.... Is this kind of speculation justified?

Kondracke: No, I don't think it's justified. Lee Hamilton was asked an "if" question and he gave an "if" answer.... I think this would not be grounds for impeachment -- this is not a high crime or misdemeanor. It would demonstrate that the President has been systematically lying to the American people -- but you don't kick Presidents out of office for that.

Novak: All these Democrats...are after Ronald Reagan's hide so they can win the presidency in 1988 and these hearings are an absolute attempt to destroy Ronald Reagan.

Germond: The Democrats on the Hill, as well as the Republicans, do not what to impeach the President. They think it's ridiculous.

Novak: They want to destroy him.

Germond: He's destroyed himself....

McLaughlin: Are we agreed that Charles Glass has no one to blame for his present plight but himself?

Novak: Absolutely. He had no business being there. The worse thing that could be done now is if they make the same mistake they made before and try to deal. It's his fault and it's a shame but nothing can be done about it.

Predictions:

Kinsley: By the end of the year there will be diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel.

Novak: To quiet things down in Korea, President Chun will agree to electoral reform. There will be a second presidential election after the Olympics by direct election.

Germond: Jesse Jackson is going to have the support of most of the major city black mayors in this country, but there will be two or three of them who will go with either Dukakis or Biden.

Kondracke: The U.S. is working on a peace settlement -- it's not going to achieve its end -- at the United Nations Security Council. It's a two-part requirement that the parties in the Middle East negotiate and any party that does not agree to negotiate is faced with arms sanctions and other economic sanctions.

McLaughlin: The U.S. Congress is now contemplating a \$4 billion foreign aid grant to Pakistan and I predict that that \$4 billion will go for the first two years.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Moderator: Martin Agronsky. Panel: James Kilpatrick, Charles Krauthammer, Elizabeth Drew, Strobe Talbott.

On Iran-Contra Hearings:

Agronsky: On Sunday Congressman Hamilton made the observation that if a smoking gun was found that involved the President, Congress would have to seriously consider the prospect of impeachment. The President said there ain't no smoking gun. Where is this back-and-forth moving?

Drew: The whole issue and preoccupation with whether or not there is a smoking gun...really is a diversion from the central point that the Administration violated the Constitution and not on a small scale.... There is very little thought or feeling or planning that it should move to impeachment -- mainly because Reagan is in the seventh of the eight years of his presidency. As of now there's not going to be an impeachment.

Krauthammer: I disagree that the smoking gun is not the relevant question -- I think it is.... There's a question of whether the trail leads to the President.... If it's only a question of misconduct by the NSC, I think it would be on the back pages of the newspapers.

Talbott: I really disagree with that -- this is a fundamental difference between Irangate and Watergate.... It's not just a case of there not being a will to push to impeachment, I think there's an absolute aversion to the idea of it both on the part of the committee, in the Congress, and in the country.

Kilpatrick: I have yet to be persuaded, let alone convinced, that there's been any violation of the Constitution or of any statutory law.

Agronsky: What we are dealing with here is an Administration that chose to go around the law and that had an ideological commitment to achieve a policy that the Congress of the U.S. said that it should not achieve....

Drew: Reagan is the President of the U.S. He is accountable for what happens in the executive branch and certainly within his own White House. He knew that there was this grand secret program.... He has to be held to account for this.

On Persian Gulf Policy:

Agronsky: Do you feel that the President had adequately explained his policy and that he has the support of the Congress in this situation?

Talbott: What he did do in his televised speech was make it both clearer and more persuasive what the overall geo-political rationale for the policy is.... Where controversy still haunts the policy is over actual implementation of it. I think he's a long way from having justified the device of reflagging the Kuwaiti ships.

AGRONKSY & COMPANY (continued)

Krauthammer: Essentially this is a tilt of the U.S. towards Iraq in the war. The reason that we're doing that is because Iran is winning on the ground.

Talbott: Iran has become a kind of great satan obsession of American foreign policy.

Agronsky: There are so many idiotic contradictions in this thing that need clarification that I think have not been adequately explained.

Drew: What you're seeing now is Congress raising a lot of questions, but they are not going to try to keep the Administration from doing it.

Kilpatrick: We need to have a look at the rules of engagement that will govern the operations of our naval vessels out there. Historically, rules of engagement have been very ambiguous rules.... Until we see these rules, we can't make a judgment.

Talbott: Congress is a source of anxiety, and a lot of it is justified, but it's not exactly a source of great wisdom about alternative policies that would work a lot better.

Drew: Congress is not willing to block the Administration on this. Congress doesn't like responsibility for foreign policy decisions. They might object to them, but they don't want to take responsibility for them.

Agronsky: President Reagan this week has been sharply critical of the Congress on the budget process.... How is this confrontation going to be resolved?

Drew: This is a coin that is wearing thin. It did, however, induce the Democratic leadership to finally get together and agree on a budget. But this is one that the President will not accept. So we're still a very long way from solving the problem....

-End of News Summary-



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1987 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S.-Soviet Effort To Avert Iranian Victory -- The U.S. and the Soviet Union now find themselves on the same side in a diplomatic effort to avert an Iranian victory over Iraq in the Persian Gulf war, a top Administration official says. (Washington Post, AP, UPI)

Chun Agrees To Hold Unprecedented Talks With Top Dissident -- President Chun Doo-hwan agreed to meet with top dissident Kim Young-sam to discuss ways of resolving political turmoil in South Korea, a spokesman for the ruling Democratic Justice Party said. (Washington Post, Washington Times, AP, Reuter)

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan's Trips To People Irk Democrats -- Congressional Democrats say President Reagan is attacking their \$1 trillion 1988 budget to divert attention from his foreign policy troubles, but GOP lawmakers say it's the Democrats who are using the budget deficit as a smokescreen for higher taxes. (Washington Times, AP, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Sunday Evening)

PERSIAN GULF -- The Reagan Administration is expressing optimism about a U.N. plan for a cease-fire in the Gulf War.

HOSTAGES -- Syria rejected an offer to free the son of Lebanon's defense minister in return for keeping American Charles Glass.

HAMADEI -- West Germany's justice minister says Mohammed Ali Hamadei will not be extradited to the U.S.

QUOTABLE QUOTES...

"Pope John Paul II is expected to be in New Orleans only three days in September, but he may stay an extra 30 days to hear Edwin Edwards' confession."

(Iris Kelso, New Orleans Times-Picayune)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CHINA TO BACK U.S. MOVE FOR IRAN-IRAQ CEASE-FIRE U.N. Security Council's Big Five Agree

China has informed the U.N. Security Council that it is ready to support a U.S.-backed resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq war and the opening of negotiations to end the conflict, a senior Administration official indicated.

Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost, appearing on CBS's "Face the Nation," said all five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council now agreed on the first of two resolutions the U.S. is sponsoring in a bid to force Iran into negotiations.

Armacost said the Reagan Administration has found, "to our surprise," that "all of the permanent members" are backing the resolution. "The question now is whether we can negotiate agreement on mandatory sanctions," he added referring to the thrust of the second resolution.

(David Ottaway, Washington Post, A17)

Administration Official Says U.S., Soviet Union Working On Peace Plan In Gulf

The U.S. and the Soviet Union are joining forces on a peace plan to end the 6½-year-old Iran-Iraq war and prevent an Iranian victory, a high-level Reagan Administration official says.

Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost said the U.S., Soviet Union and the other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council -- Britain, France and China -- have been discussing the plan "for several months in New York."

"We're working in the Security Council to engage the Russians and the other permanent members in a call for a cease-fire and return to boundaries, exchange of prisoners, other arrangements, backed by mandatory sanctions," Armacost said in an interview on CBS's "Face the Nation."

Armacost said U.S. officials working on the peace plan have found the Soviet Union to be "surprisingly cooperative." (Donna Cassata, AP)

U.S.-Soviet Effort To Avert Iranian Victory

The U.S. and the Soviet Union now find themselves on the same side in a diplomatic effort to avert an Iranian victory over Iraq in the Persian Gulf war, a top Administration official says.

"The threat of geographic and other expansion (by Iran) affects not only us, but others," Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost noted in an interview. "Therefore, we're working in the U.N. Security Council to engage the Russians and other permanent members in a call for a cease-fire...."

Appearing on CBS's "Face the Nation," Armacost asserted the U.S. and the Soviet Union "share, at least temporarily, an interest in the region, an interest in preventing an Iranian victory in the gulf war."

(Vincent Del Giudice, UPI)

U.S. OFFICIALS CALLED BITTERLY SPLIT OVER CONTINUING TRADE WITH IRAN

The Pentagon is locked in a bitter struggle with the State and Commerce Departments over whether the U.S. should continue to trade with Iran, according to Administration officials.

Secretary Weinberger is arguing strongly for a total ban on trade except for medical supplies and other items that he describes as humanitarian goods. Officials at the State and Commerce Departments believe that current trade levels, which include goods from caviar to oil, are reasonable, the Administration officials said.

In a letter several days ago to Frank Carlucci, the President's national security adviser, Weinberger objected to an interagency draft report on the Iran trade debate that was sent to the National Security Council early this month. He also strongly argued for his own position, according to Pentagon and White House officials.

(Elaine Sciolino, New York Times, A1)

U.S. REJECTS LIBERIAN PLEA FOR PROTECTION OF ITS TANKERS

The Reagan Administration, in an effort to clearly define the U.S. Navy's role in the Persian Gulf, has rejected an informal Liberian request for protection of tankers in the gulf flying that African nation's flag, officials said.

The Administration also will turn down similar requests expected from Panama and the Bahamas, two other countries where U.S. shipowners often register their vessels, the officials said.

(James Dorsey, Washington Times, A1)

DEMOCRATS TO OFFER KUWAITI TANKER REFLAGGING ALTERNATIVE

A leading congressional critic of a Reagan Administration plan to let 11 Kuwaiti tankers fly American flags has said Democratic lawmakers will soon unveil an alternative proposal.

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin said Democratic leaders from the House and Senate will try to hammer out a proposal tomorrow that he said would probably offer restrictions to the reflagging plan.

Among the reflagging alternatives likely to be offered by the Democrats are delaying the start of the plan or placing a time limit or conditions on it that may include a participation requirement by U.S. allies, who rely on Persian Gulf oil much more than the U.S. does, Aspin said.

(Reuter)

GHOST OF LEBANON HAUNTS U.S. BID TO REFLAG KUWAITI TANKERS

The ghost of the U.S. debacle in Lebanon is haunting the congressional debate over the Reagan Administration's plan to engage U.S. military forces in the notoriously unpredictable Middle East on behalf of a little-known Arab ally.

Once again, the same questions are being debated: whether U.S. military forces are in danger of "imminent hostilities" requiring the President to invoke the War Powers Resolution and whether the U.S. is not in fact committing its power and prestige to one side under other pretenses. Critics say the move represents a tilt toward Iraq, because Kuwait, a major financial backer of Iraq, is "neutral" in name only.

(News Analysis, David Ottaway, Washington Post, A13)

U.S. TO INVITE SOVIETS TO JOIN A MIDEAST PEACE PARLEY

The U.S. is now ready to agree to Soviet participation in an international peace conference on the Middle East (between Israel and its Arab neighbors), sources said.

"(Secretary) Shultz believes the U.S. must be seen to have an active, constructive role to play (in the area)," the source said. "He's afraid the Soviets may demonstrate that they can play a role without the U.S."

"So Shultz' thinking is, 'Let's preempt them.' We don't want to chase after them. So let's force them to address the agenda through us."

(Martin Sieff, Washington Times, A1)

OFFICIAL OPTIMISTIC THREE HOSTAGES WILL BE FREED SOON

BEIRUT -- Syria reportedly turned down a deal from Moslem kidnappers that would release two Lebanese but keep U.S. journalist Charles Glass a hostage, and sources said efforts to free the three have entered a "crucial stage."

"I expect the release of Ali, Charles and the driver very soon, Lebanese Defense Minister Adel Osseiran said Sunday. Asked what had raised his hopes, he said without elaboration: "New information. I'm very optimistic."

The kidnapers offered earlier Sunday to release the younger Osseiran and his driver but keep Glass, said sources close to the Syrian army command, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The sources said leaders of Syria's 7,500-strong army contingent in Moslem west Beirut insisted that all three captives be freed quickly and unconditionally.

One source also said, "The Syrians also warned that they would stiffen their stance by demanding the surrender of the kidnappers themselves unless the three captives are released soon." (AP)

Syrian Commander Meets With Hezbollah Leader To Seek Hostage Release

BEIRUT -- Syrian President Hafez Assad sent the commander of his forces to meet with the spiritual leader of Hezbollah -- the pro-Iranian group believed holding American journalist Charles Glass -- in an effort to gain Glass's release, a source said.

The Syrian source, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, also said Glass and two Lebanese kidnapped Wednesday were in "good health."

"Negotiations are still going on and there has been no stalemate in the issue," the source said. "The Syrians intend to solve this crisis diplomatically and so far do not consider a military solution."

Defense Minister Adel Osseiran told Lebanese television in an interview he learned that "Ali and his two companions will be released any day now."

He denied having accused Hezbollah of the incident, saying, "I do not accuse any side. I believe the kidnapers have made a mistake and were not targeting Ali in particular." (UPI)

Syrians Seek Cleric's Help On Hostages; Assad Moves To End Glass' Captivity

BEIRUT -- A senior Syrian official conferred with the religious guide of the militant Shiite Moslem group Hezbollah, in efforts to free kidnapped American reporter Charles Glass and two Lebanese.

Syria's military intelligence chief, Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kanaan, rushed from Damascus for a private meeting with Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, an influential Shiite cleric, apparently to ask for Fadlallah's intervention with Hezbollah, which is believed to hold the hostages. Defense Minister Adel Osseiran said it is Hezbollah that kidnapped Glass, along with Osseiran's son Ali, and his driver, last Wednesday. Security sources said they were being held in the mainly Shiite suburb of Bir Abed. (Nora Boustany, Washington Post, A17)

Syria's Credibility On The Line In Hostage Incident

BEIRUT -- The abduction of American journalist Charles Glass and the son of the Lebanese defense minister has embarrassed Syria and put its credibility in Lebanon on the line, political and military sources say.

"For some time now, the Syrians have been telling everyone that they came to Beirut to liberate it from various militias who were ruling the capital. This kidnapping is a true slap in the face for them, and they are bound to do something about it," said one Lebanese source.

"The issue here is not that Syria loves Charlie Glass or it too keen on helping (Defense Minister Adel) Osseiran. What this kidnapping translates into for the Syrian authorities in Lebanon is that anyone can still abduct a Westerner or a relative of a ranking Lebanese," a source close to the Osseiran family said. "Unless the Syrians crack down on this, and do it quickly, they lose not only the confidence of the Western world but also the trust of Syria's Lebanese allies."

(Peyman Pejman, UPI)

PAPER SAYS NO EXTRADITION FOR HAMADEI

HAMBURG -- A West German newspaper said federal Justice Minister Hans Engelhard has decided against extraditing suspected hijacker Mohammed Ali Hamadei to the U.S.

Welt am Sonntag made the statement in the first paragraph of a front-page story but provided no further information on the decision it said Engelhard had made.

A spokesman for the West German government declined to confirm or deny the Welt am Sonntag story and only repeated the announcement made last Friday by chief government spokesman Friedholm Ost that the government will decide the Hamadei case Wednesday. (UPI)

CHUN AGREES TO TALKS WITH OPPOSITION LEADERS

SEOUL -- President Chun Doo-hwan has agreed to meet with opposition leaders to try and end the political crisis, and he promised to consider the release of political detainees, a top official said Monday.

Roh Tae-woo, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, said after a meeting with Chun that the president had agreed to meet with top opposition leader Kim Young-sam, head of the Reunification Democratic Party.

The agreement appeared to represent a major turnaround by the government, which had repeatedly ruled out concessions. Roh said Chun made the decision after "frank talks."

The Reunification Democratic Party had no immediate comment on the government statement. (Barry Renfrew, AP)

Chun Agrees To Hold Unprecedented Talks With Top Dissident

SEOUL -- President Chun Doo-hwan agreed to meet with top dissident Kim Young-sam to discuss ways of resolving political turmoil in South Korea, a spokesman for the ruling Democratic Justice Party said.

Kim, leader of the main opposition Reunification Democratic Party, has long demanded a meeting with Chun but has set two conditions -- the release of all prisoners arrested since the most serious rioting began June 10, and the lifting of House arrest for fellow dissident Kim Dae-jung.

A spokesman for Kim Young-sam said, "If there is an offer of a summit, we assume that means our conditions have been agreed to." (Moon Ihlwan, Reuter)

S. Korea Considers Concessions; U.S. Official Warns Against Military Force

SEOUL -- South Korea's ruling party, confronted by the most serious challenge to its seven-year rule, met to consider what concessions, if any, it could offer the opposition to defuse political tensions that have fueled 11 days of street protests.

"We do not want to see the military involved," said Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur, speaking from Sydney, Australia on NBC's "Meet the Press." "The proper approach is to have the political leadership get together and reach an understanding of ways in which democracy can come more rapidly and speedily."

Sigur...said he will try to pressure the South Korean government to hold open elections and resume negotiations with opposition leaders.

(Lena Sun, Washington Post, A1)

Envoy To Push Chun On Talks As A Way To Quell Unrest

Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs Gaston Sigur travels to Seoul to press South Korean leader Chun Doo-hwan to reopen dialogue with his political foes on a democratic presidential succession in 1988.

Sigur...said in a television interview that such dialogue, broken off by Chun in April, must start anew. The shelving of talks triggered the most violent demonstrations since the Kwangju riots of 1980.

"We have got to have a reopening of discussions and negotiations" between the leaders of the government and opposition parties, Sigur declared.

(Richard Beeston, Washington Times, A1)

AUSTRALIA ISSUES SHARP CRITICISM OF U.S. PROTECTIONISM MOVES

SYDNEY -- Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden issued an urgent plea to the U.S. government to fight protectionist moves in Congress which he said could undermine Australian security.

Opening a day of talks with Secretaries Shultz and Weinberger, Hayden said: "Australians see economic well-being as a major component of security."

"I cannot stress too strongly the damage that would be dealt to the Australian and other non-subsidizing agricultural exporters by some of the protectionist measures now under consideration in the United States Congress."

Shultz replied that "Australia's economic and trade interests continue to hold our attention as we grapple with our own budgetary and trade difficulties."

(Michael Battye, Reuter)

REAGAN'S TROUBLES WORRY CENTRAL AMERICANS End Of Aid To Contras Could Leave Honduras Holding The Bag

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras -- As the Iran-contra affair drags on in Washington, the perception of a weakened Reagan Administration is causing increasing nervousness in Honduras and other Central American countries, according to diplomatic and Honduran sources.

The nervousness is leading to greater efforts by pro-U.S. countries in Central America to distance themselves from American policy in the region and from the Nicaraguan rebels known as counterrevolutionaries, or contras, the sources said.

The anxiety, among both the Honduras and the contras, stems from concerns that U.S. funding for the rebels will not be renewed, or will be severely restricted, leaving the contras unable to press their war inside Nicaragua and the Honduras forced to host them.

Costa Rican President Oscar Arias lately has been promoting a Central American peace plan that appears to be causing growing consternation in the Reagan Administration. According to diplomatic sources, a recent meeting between U.S. special envoy Philip Habib and Arias in the Costa Rican capital went badly when Arias flatly rejected entreaties that the plan be amended to include a call for negotiations between the Sandinista government and Nicaraguan rebels.

(William Branigin, Washington Post, A1)

LEADING U.S. SENATOR CALLS FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS IN PANAMA

HOWARD AIR FORCE BASE, Panama -- A U.S. subcommittee chairman said increasing military control over civilian affairs threatened to scuttle hopes for a return to full democracy in Panama.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs, spoke...after a three day fact-finding visit to this country....

"There is a danger right now (and) a strong impression, a very strong impression, that there are elements in this country that are leading this nation away from the family of democracies," Dodd told reporters.

(Tom Brown, Reuter)

SOVIETS HOLD MULTI-CANDIDATE VOTING Unprecedented Move Seen As Test Of Gorbachev's Reform, Drive

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union carried out its first experiment with multi-candidate balloting in scattered districts across the country during local elections that tested other themes of Kremlin leader Gorbachev's campaign for "democratization."

"The departure from old, overly rigid procedures for advancing candidates...sets apart the character of today's election practices, resulting in the increased involvement of the people," the government newspaper Izvestia said in an editorial today.

The most significant experiment involved multi-candidate lists, a practice already in place in several East European countries and announced here in April as a result of political reforms pushed by Gorbachev.

(Celestine Bohlen, Washington Post, A1)

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NATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT TAKES BUDGET SHOW ON ROAD

President Reagan is keeping his promise to put pressure on Congress, beginning a series of trips to argue against tax hikes and to make his case for overhauling the budget-making process.

Reagan, feuding with Democrats over a \$1 trillion spending plan for fiscal 1988, was traveling to Melbourne, Fla., to visit a Dictaphone Corp. plant and address the Chamber of Commerce.

In his weekly radio address to the nation Saturday, Reagan lashed out against the Democratic budget plan....

In his more than six years in office, Reagan said, his choice on congressionally approved budget legislation has been to "take it, pork and all, or veto it."

"This is no way to run a country," Reagan said. "This is why, in the coming weeks, I'll be taking my case to you, the American people, asking for your support to bring fiscal sanity back to our government."

(Merrill Hartson, AP)

Reagan's Trips To People Irk Democrats

Congressional Democrats say President Reagan is attacking their \$1 trillion 1988 budget to divert attention from his foreign policy troubles, but GOP lawmakers say it's the Democrats who are using the budget deficit as a smokescreen for higher taxes.

As Congress reconvenes its Iran-contra hearings and resumes debate over the U.S. role in the Persian Gulf this week, the President is embarking on a series of out-of-town trips to gain support for budget reform.

"It's an attempt at diversion, but I don't think it's diverting anybody," House Speaker Jim Wright said last week. "The President can control issues only to a limited extent."

"I believe the American people want us to spend more money, not less, on education, AIDS research, drug programs and some of the sad cases of the impoverished elderly," said Sen. Pete Dominici, ranking Republican on the Senate Budget Committee.

"But I also believe they want us to cut other programs to pay for a new set of national priorities." (Gene Grabowski, Washington Times, A2)

Reagan Takes Domestic Policy To The Road

The resumption of the Iran-contra hearings this week will find President Reagan waging political war with Congress over the budget as investigators continue digging into the worst scandal of his Administration.

Today Reagan was headed for Melbourne, Fla., to promote his domestic policies -- on the eve of another round of hearings into his foreign policy gone awry.

In remarks to employees at the Melbourne plant of the Dictaphone Corp. and to a local Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Reagan was expected to reinforce his opposition to a \$1 trillion budget approved last week by a Democrat-dominated House-Senate conference committee over Republican objections.

(Norman Sandler, UPI)

FIGHT SEEN RESULTING FROM REAGAN'S VETO OF BROADCASTERS' RULE

President Reagan's veto of legislation to write the fairness doctrine into law sets up a protracted fight with Congress, both sides agree.

In vetoing the legislation over the weekend, the President, once a sportscaster with radio station WHO in Des Moines, Iowa, accepted the arguments of broadcasters who protested that the rule compromised their First Amendment rights.
(Merrill Hartson, AP)

LIBERAL VICTORIES MARK FIRST YEAR OF REHNQUIST ERA

The first year of the Rehnquist Supreme Court is turning out to be, in the words of one chagrined conservative, "Bill Brennan's finest hour."

As the 1986 term draws to a close, with 80 percent of the cases decided -- including the most controversial before the high court this year -- the liberal justices have triumphed in all but two of the blockbuster cases.

The moderate-liberal coalition, led by Justice William Brennan, has prevailed in cases on affirmative action, pregnancy leave, discrimination against workers with communicable diseases such as AIDS, asylum for political refugees and the teaching of creationism in public schools.

The conservative wing, supposedly bolstered by the elevation of William Rehnquist to chief justice and the addition of Antonin Scalia, has managed to win significant victories only in the area of its traditional strength: criminal law. The court upheld the constitutionality of preventive detention of suspects before trial and rejected a challenge to the death penalty as racially discriminatory. Even in the criminal area, the conservatives lost a case involving the use of victim-impact statements in death-penalty cases.
(Al Kamen, Washington Post, A1)

ANTIABORTION GROUPS CONFER Unified Force Unlikely In '88 GOP Primaries

NEW ORLEANS -- The national "Right-to-Life" movement, a grass-roots force that swept like hurricane across presidential politics in the 1980 election, seems to have been sundered into smaller whirlwinds in these opening months of the 1988 campaign.

The 1,000 or so antiabortion leaders who gathered here this weekend for the annual convention of the National Right to Life Committee Inc. found themselves in general agreement on ultimate goals -- government prohibition of abortion and euthanasia -- but widely split on the means of getting there as well as on the choice of a presidential candidate to advance the antiabortion cause.

Other antiabortion groups are sniping openly at the Right to Life Committee, and at one another, in an argument over antiabortion legislation President Reagan sent to Congress earlier this year. Some abortion opponents support the so-called "Superbill." Others maintain just as strenuously that isn't worth the expenditure of time and energy.

(T.R. Reid, Washington Post, A2)

FIRST COUPLE TAKES PART IN ANNUAL FORD'S THEATER GALA

First Lady Nancy Reagan waltzed with ballet star Mikhail Baryshnikov at Ford's Theatre as an array of celebrities turned out for the historic landmark's annual benefit performance.

President Reagan watched with amusement as Baryshnikov held Mrs. Reagan.... The President later made a quip about a poll that showed a majority of the men responding thought Mrs. Reagan would be their ideal date.

Joining his wife on stage at the end of the more than two-hour performance, Reagan said "everybody knows that I'm with the hottest date around."
(Merrill Hartson, AP)

Nancy Reagan Says She Freezes At Sight Of Lincoln Murder Box

Nancy Reagan, receiving an award as a benefactor of historic Ford's Theatre where Abraham Lincoln was shot, said tonight she always feels a "tummy freeze" when she sees Lincoln's box.

"I don't think you can come in here without feeling a certain something," said Mrs. Reagan, whose husband, President Reagan, was the target of an assassination attempt in 1981.

Looking up awed at the box high above the stage and clutching at her stomach, she added, "When you look up there at that box you have to feel a certain tummy freeze."
(Bruce Russell, Reuter)

Ford's And The Famous; Celebrities Gather For Theater's Fundraiser

Yesterday, for a few hours, the White House became one more stop on the Ford's Theatre tour.

Midway through the weekend-long fundraiser "A Festival at Ford's," more than 200 top-dollar patrons found themselves waiting in the East Room for a handshake with the First Couple, nibbling on lobster tarts and fried cheese squares and maybe nabbing an autograph or two from the performers in town for Sunday evening's all-star show.

(Victoria Dawson, Washington Post, B1)

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IRAN — NICARAGUA

GOP CONSERVATIVES SEETHE OVER PROBE'S TACTICS

Anger is beginning to surface among conservative Republicans over what one termed the "lynch mob" tactics of Democrats and some Republicans investigating the Iran-contra affair.

A member of the investigative committee, Rep. Henry Hyde, accused some GOP members of the panel of taking delight in joining the Democrats "in piling on" during the hearings.

Said Rep. Robert Walker, "A few Republicans made the conscious decision that they'd get a better press by beating up on the Administration than in bringing out the facts on the issue."

Sen. Warren Rudman (a target of the attacks) called such accusations unfair. "People way out on the right have been critical of the hearings, but I have supported arms sales to the contras, which surprises them when they learn it," he said. (Ralph Hallow, Washington Times, A1)

MAGAZINE LINKS NORTH TO ASSASSINATION PLOT

Now added to the list of congressional questions for Oliver North in the Iran-contra scandal is the subject of his role in an alleged plot to assassinate Iranian leaders.

The alleged assassination plot is raised in this week's edition of U.S. News & World Report, which was published Saturday, the same day Sen. William Cohen...said in an interview that he thinks North is ready to go to jail rather than testify about the scandal.

Cohen, joining another member of the select committees probing the case, Sen. David Boren, on CNN's "Evans & Novak," said North's silence already has put the committees "at his mercy" as they bargain with his lawyers to get testimony that is considered crucial to tying up loose ends in the case.

In another development, Rep. Ted Weiss said in a UPI interview that he thinks Reagan "has probably committed impeachable offenses" related to the scandal by failing to execute laws of the land. However, Weiss said, he wants to see more information before deciding whether to call for Reagan's ouster. (UPI)

U.S. ADVISER PROTESTED DRAFT OF CASEY'S TESTIMONY ON ARMS SALES, SOURCES SAY

Reagan Administration officials prepared testimony for Congress last November that was so misleading regarding the U.S. role in arms sales to Iran that the State Department's legal adviser said he would resign if it were given.

The protest by Abraham Sofaer...was made indirectly to the Justice Department, according to sources familiar with the House and Senate inquiry into the Iran-contra affair. Sofaer succeeded in forcing corrections, the sources said, but investigators believe the incident also shows there was a concerted effort by some officials to contain the scandal and obscure the White House's early role in the arms sales.

(David Rogers, Wall Street Journal, A12)

CHANNELL AIDE UNSCATHED, BUT MAY HAVE PAID PRICE

David Fischer may not have cut a wide swath when he was at the White House, but he was later worth \$20,000 a month to conservative fund-raiser Carl Channell as a door opener, a job not so different from the one he handled for President Reagan.

Fischer's benefactor, Channell, has since fallen on hard times, as has Fischer's business associate, Richard Miller, but the ex-Reagan aide has no apparent legal problems, having been granted full immunity by Lawrence Walsh, the special prosecutor probing the Iran-contra affair.

But sources close to the President and his wife, Nancy, said that Fischer has probably seriously damaged the relationship he had built up over the past decade by allegedly taking large payments primarily for setting up meetings with the President for Channell's donors.

"I think they'd (the First Family) be offended at the idea of being sold, for sure," said a family friend. "I think it's frustrating and hard when you're in that position. You have to trust the people you work with, and when they don't measure up it's very frustrating.... It's really disheartening."

(Robert Timberg, Baltimore Sun, A3)

HASENFUS: STATE DEPT. BROKE PLEDGES OF AID

Eugene Hasenfus (and his wife)...accuses the State Department of renegeing on pledges to ensure repayment of expenses connected with his trial in Managua.

Mrs. Hasenfus, who visited her husband several times in Managua, said Elliott Abrams...had told her over the phone, "Everything will be taken care of -- the tickets, your passport, a place to stay at the U.S. Embassy in Managua."

A State Department spokesman, who asked not to be identified, denied that any department official ever discussed bills with Mrs. Hasenfus, and Abrams' aide William Schofield acknowledged talking a half-dozen times with her but told UPI: "We never promised to pick up the tab or have someone else pick up the tab."

(Neil Roland, UPI)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Sunday Evening, June 21, 1987)

Editor's Note: ABC News was pre-empted due to a golf tournament.

PERSIAN GULF POLICY

CBS's Forrest Sawyer: As the U.S. edged closer toward putting American flags on Kuwaiti oil tankers in the volatile Persian Gulf, the Reagan Administration is tonight expressing optimism about a U.N. plan for a cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq War -- a plan that apparently has the backing of the Soviet Union.

(Michael Armacost, Undersecretary of State: "We have been discussing this for several months in New York. We've found them surprisingly cooperative. As I say, I think they don't wish to see a war which could end with Iran prevailing with the stimulus that gives to Islamic fundamentalism and the threat it poses to their own Moslem population in Central Asia.")

The plan would include mandatory sanctions against either side that violated the cease-fire. What those sanctions would be must still be negotiated. Numerous peace plans have failed in the past. The U.S. is prepared to act on its own in the Gulf with a dangerous new move that is only weeks away.

CBS's Alan Pizzey in Kuwait: American flags could be flying on Kuwaiti oil tankers by the first week of July -- a gesture that would mark a significant escalation of superpower involvement in the Gulf War. The flags entitle the ships to U.S. naval protection. The latest danger for Gulf shipping comes from under the water -- Iranian patrol boats have apparently laid mines just off Kuwait. The case is similar to the Red Sea three years ago.... The U.S. Gulf fleet does not include mine sweepers and adding them would mean an extra commitment that Congress has been less than eager to approve. Eleven American registered ships would carry up to 70 percent of Kuwait's oil exports.... The Kuwaiti economy is totally dependent on the tankers' safe passage. Virtually everything here is imported, paid for with oil money. Kuwait will be a target in the Gulf War as long as it continues to back Iraq. Running up the stars and stripes on Kuwaiti ships is seen by Western diplomats here as crucial to American credibility in the Gulf -- the signal that the U.S. will not back off from its commitment to friendly nations.

CBS's David Martin:

(The President from June 15: "In a word -- if we don't do the job, the Soviets will.")

That is the primary reason the U.S. is about to begin escorting Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Persian Gulf. It was not until after Moscow had agreed to lease three of its tankers to Kuwait that the U.S. rushed in with its offer to protect 11 Kuwaiti tankers.

Martin continues:

(Secretary Weinberger: "If we pull out completely and conclusively, there would be a vacuum that they would rush into very quickly. And they would do that, I believe they would, in the fulfillment of their centuries-old desire to have a warm water port and their somewhat more recent desire to make sure that they have the opportunity to block access of the oil to the Western free world countries.")

Despite the Reagan Administration's opposition to a Soviet presence in the Gulf, the short term goals of the two superpowers are remarkably similar.... The U.S. is in the Gulf to compete with the Soviets, not cooperate and so far it's no contest. While the Soviets have only three mine sweepers and an occasional warship in the Gulf, the U.S. has seven combatants with three more on the way, not to mention an aircraft carrier that will be stationed at the entrance to the Gulf. This makes the difference -- the port facilities in Bahrain, which the U.S. Navy has used for decades. The Soviets have no place to call home in the Gulf. The question is, "Can the Reagan Administration keep it that way?" ...The Reagan Administration is frequently accused of seeing every regional conflict from Lebanon to Nicaragua as a confrontation between East and West. The danger in the Persian Gulf is that with eyes fixed on Moscow, the U.S. will fall into a war with Iran. (CBS-Lead)

NBC's Garrick Utley: A senior state department official said today that the U.S. and the Soviet Union agree that Iran should not be allowed to win the war with Iraq. Michael Armacost, the undersecretary of state, said on television that Moscow and Washington are working at the U.N. to try to end the war. Today's statement comes after assertions by the Reagan Administration that the U.S. faces a Soviet challenge in the Persian Gulf. It all sounds rather confusing. So, what is the outlook in the Gulf? ...When the dead of the USS Stark came home, the dangers of the Persian Gulf struck home. For the President, it was time to comfort the afflicted.

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady comforting the families of the USS Stark victims.)

But a President's main responsibility is to define America's interests and then defend them. Jimmy Carter did that.... It was called the Carter Doctrine. Last week, President Reagan raised the Soviet challenge.

(The President from June 15: "In a word -- if we don't do the job, the Soviets will.")

But what is the job in the Persian Gulf? If it is to keep the oil flowing -- well, it is. About 300 ships have been attacked by Iraq and Iran, but that has not stopped the oil.... The danger, of course, is the war between Iraq and Iran. For most Americans, it is not a concern because we are not in it.... Some questions and answers now about what we face in the Persian Gulf. What is the real risk for the U.S.? Can we avoid getting involved in the war? And is there a Soviet threat? To help answer these questions we have Gary Sick, formerly of the National Security Council and a specialist on Iran and the Persian Gulf. How real is the danger?

(Sick: "I think the chances of a major military confrontation in the Gulf, deliberately started by somebody, are pretty slim. The chances that we would start one ourselves in response to something that happened accidentally or otherwise, it seems to me, is significant.")

-more-

Utley continues:

The Reagan Administration is saying that we want to remain neutral in the war between Iran and Iraq, but in fact aren't we taking sides? Aren't we really on Iraq's side of the war?

(Sick: "If we do align ourselves with one side in this war, eventually we are not going to be able to avoid the consequences of that. If we are going to be on one side we're going to put ourselves between these two combatant parties which have been going at it for more than seven years. We're going to get caught up in it whether we like it or not.")

What is the real issue here? Is it free navigation? Is it keeping the oil flowing? Or is it that deeply rooted rivalry between two superpowers which happens to be taking place now in a place called the Persian Gulf?

(Sick: "That is where the superpower rivalry begins to come up. The two powers are being sucked into this war which neither party has any control. The Soviet military presence in that part of the world has stayed essential flat for the last ten years -- despite the fact that one of their ships has now been hit. So, the fact that the Soviets will sort of move in in mass on a military basis strikes me as very unlikely based on what they say themselves.")

Is this problem in the Gulf being hyped?

(Sick: "Yes. It is now so bound up in domestic American politics, and also the politics of the region where we are trying to prove that we didn't really mean it when we sold arms to Iran, and the President is trying to reestablish his credibility through this process, that I'm afraid that the reality of the tankers and the war in the Gulf have really receded in terms of the domestic politics.")

And domestic politics will play a role if one of the navy ships or tankers they are escorting hits a mine or is attacked or if Iran carries out a terrorist attack against some other American target. Then the President will be faced with a choice -- do nothing or retaliate and move even closer to war. That's what's known as a no-win situation. (NBC-4)

HOSTAGES

Sawyer: Syria today rejected an offer by kidnappers in Beirut to free the son of Lebanon's defense minister in return for keeping American journalist Charles Glass. But the defense minister says he is "very optimistic" both hostages will be freed soon. The two men and their driver were kidnapped five days ago. (CBS-2, NBC-3)

HAMADEI

Utley: West Germany's justice minister says accused terrorist Mohammad Hamadei will not be extradited to the U.S. The news came in an interview with a West German magazine. The U.S. wants Hamadei to stand trial for the 1985 hijacking of a TWA jet and the murder of an American sailor. (NBC-7)

ARMS CONTROL

Sawyer: The chief U.S. and Soviet arms negotiators are back in Geneva tonight to resume top-level talks tomorrow. Officials say proposals to scrap medium-range missiles have reached a crucial stage. In Moscow, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev brought up the arms talks after casting his ballot in a local one-candidate election. Talking with reporters, he accused Western leaders of not backing up their arms control words with meaningful actions. Gorbachev also chatted outside the polling place with Soviet citizens. He seemed to be asking for their support in what might be a bruising battle this week within the Soviet leadership.

CBS's Wyatt Andrews reports on the campaign for Gorbachev's economic reforms. (CBS-8, NBC-5)

SOUTH KOREAN PROTESTS

Utley: This is the day the government of South Korea may have blinked. As demonstrations continued and the police grew tougher, the government, which is dominated by the military, indicated it is preparing some proposals to end the confrontation. So, after 12 straight days of demonstrating, Koreans who want free elections may be getting somewhere.

NBC's Brian Stewart reports from Seoul on the demonstrations. (NBC-Lead, CBS-4)

-End of B-Section-

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

Moderator: David Brinkley. Panel: George Will, Sam Donaldson.
Guests: Edward Koch, Mayor of New York; Benjamin Hooks, NAACP
Executive Director; Roy Innis, CORE National Chairman; Alfred Messer,
psychiatrist.

Editor's Note: The June 21 edition of "This Week With David Brinkley"
focused on the decision of the Behnard Goetz case, the charges of
discrimination this decision has generated and public reaction to the
decision.

FREE-FOR-ALL DISCUSSION (Mary Anne Dolan joins panel.)

Brinkley: I'm sure we're all confident that President Reagan wishes he
had never heard of Col. Oliver North but he has.... Col. North says he
will not testify privately. What's he up to?

Will: He has a good lawyer who understands that his client will have an
advantage if he goes in fresh.... It would have served the national
interest to have North and Poindexter testify in February. I am told the
reason they did not vote them immunity [in February] was political fear --
fear that they could not explain to the country what they were doing and
why. I think the national interest has suffered.

Donaldson: I think Col. North's lawyer has every right to protect his
client's position.... But on the other hand, if these are tactics simply to
prevent Col. North from testifying before this committee, then, of course,
they ought not to be engaged in.

Dolan: In trying to limit the amount of time he exposes his client, Col.
North's lawyer is serving his client well and that's his job.

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CBS -- FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Lesley Stahl.

Guests: Michael A. Armacost, Undersecretary of State; Rep. Les Aspin; Gen. P.X. Kelley, retiring Marine Corps commandant.

Stahl: There are reports that the White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker has said that he would like to see the U.S. postpone the reflagging of the Kuwaiti ships in the Persian Gulf. Is there any chance that the reflagging will be put off until the decision can be thought out a little longer?

Armacost: We're been thinking about this decision for some months. We have no particular date on which it will go into the implementation phase.... We expect it to be implemented sometime in early July. That is the current plan.

Stahl: Any chance of postponing?

Armacost: It's not our plan. At the present time we expect to go into business in early July.

Stahl: Does Congress or do you have any suggestions that the Administration could accept [to justify postponing the reflagging of Kuwaiti ships]?

Aspin: I think it's going to be hard. Congress is put in a very tough position. A vote to go ahead with the reflagging carries a lot of risk. A vote against the reflagging carries enormous risk of Iranian terrorist actions and other things in the light of pulling back....

Armacost: To withdraw conveys an impression of inconsistency, and possibly unreliability. It reawakens questions about our will.

Aspin: I think there will be some form of a resolution that lays out what the Democrats would have done...that will be part one and rather general. We come to the second part which is rather specific -- what do we do about the reflagging right here? My guess is that the two extreme options are not going to be very popular.... We're looking at something in between and something dealing with the time and/or conditionality....

Stahl: The Soviets have a contract that they'll fly their flags on the Kuwaiti ships for one year. Is that something the Administration would like to have in our agreement?

Armacost: They haven't reflagged vessels -- they have chartered ships for a fixed term. We have not imposed a time limit on the reflagging. We're handling this as we've handled other reflaggings. An arbitrary time limit doesn't really address the circumstances which produced the request. The real risks to our interest in the Gulf arise out of war which can expand and it seems to me the best means of limiting the risks is to bring an end to the war....

Stahl: The U.S. and the Soviet, in effect, are negotiating a deal together to bring about an end to the world?

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Armacost: I think we share, at least temporarily an interest in the region -- an interest in preventing an Iranian victory in the Gulf War....

Stahl: Is U.S. policy to keep the Soviets out of the Middle East over?

Armacost: You can't keep the Soviets out of the Middle East. Our strategic interest in the Gulf has been to limit their role in relationship to oil...

Aspin: I think Congress would give full support to anything that would increase the chances in ending that war. On that the Administration and Congress are pretty close in accord.

Stahl: Charles Glass was taken hostage this week -- was that related? Did the Iranians instigate that as a signal to us?

Armacost: It's possible. I don't know.

Stahl: There are reports that Secretary of State Shultz is very much opposed to this reflagging policy. He has been basically silent on this whole issue...is that true?

Armacost: I don't believe so. He's spoken to the issue in Venice....

Stahl: What is American policy in Korea? Are we doing anything to pressure the government to move toward elections? To have more democracy in that country? If not, why aren't we?

Armacost: We've tried to avoid being too detailed in our suggestions. Surely it is our conviction that what is needed is a political solution to a political problem that requires dialogue between the parties.

Aspin: I don't see any other way to make it constructive.... If we get into a controversy with the executive branch, it does U.S. position in the world absolutely no good.

Stahl: Is there concern that the opposition will turn anti-American because we're not talking about democracy?

Armacost: We have talked about democracy....

Guest: Gen. P.X. Kelley

Stahl: Was there a breach of security at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow or not? Did the Marine guards take KBG agents on a stroll through secure areas of the embassy?

Kelley: That's what we're trying to determine right now. There were some confessions which certainly indicated that it did happen.... We're assuming the worst case.

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Stahl: There are reports that a third Marine who was a guard in Leningrad took Soviets agents on a walk through that U.S. facility. What can you tell us about those charges?

Kelley: I can't say anything publicly now. We're still looking into all those cases.

Stahl: There have been some suggests that the joint chiefs were not wholeheartedly in support of this [reflagging Kuwaiti tankers] policy.... Are there concerns that this decision was arrived at too quickly and maybe it isn't such a good idea?

Kelley: I have great concern that there is a growing attitude within our country that wants to automatically dismiss any military option. I think all military options, under any scenario when you're dealing with U.S. foreign policy, should at least be examined and just not automatically ruled out. If we keep automatically ruling out military options as being part of our U.S. foreign policy, soon we will become an isolationist country and when we do that we leave the rest of the world to the Soviet Union.

Stahl: Please respond to the question of the Persian Gulf.

Kelley: We debated within the joint chiefs of staff all facets of that. Our recommendations were provided to the President and I don't think we're against anything that will lead us to the ultimate objective of keeping the sea lanes open.

###

NBC -- MEET THE PRESS

Moderator: Chris Wallace. **Panel:** Judith Miller, Robert Novak.

Guests: Gaston J. Sigur, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State; Rep. Stephen J. Solarz; Dick Pound, Vice President of the International Olympic Committee; Richard Holbrooke, former Assistant Secretary of State.

Wallace: Dr. Sigur, what is it that you think that the Chun government has to do to get those demonstrators off the streets?

Sigur: I'm going to Korea to assess the situation -- to look it over. I believe that we've got to have a reopening of the discussions and the negotiations between the various political elements -- the leadership of those elements. We have made that central to our policy. We believe that to broaden the political base in Korea, to move the country toward democracy -- which every political leader says it supports -- they've got to start talking to one another again.

Wallace: Will the U.S. oppose any crackdown on the protesters?

Sigur: As I understand it now the peace is being maintained, such as it is, through the police. The military's not involved. We do not want to see the military involved. Martial law, we think, would not be the proper approach. The proper approach is to have the political leaderships get together and reach understandings of ways in which democracy can come more rapidly and more appropriately in Korea.

Wallace: How serious do you think the situation is?

Sigur: It's obviously serious. It's a very difficult one for the Korean people....

Miller: Are you going to meet with the opposition leaders when you're in South Korea?

Sigur: I'm not sure of my schedule at this time. This is being worked out by the American Ambassador....

Solarz: I think it would be a very serious mistake for Secretary Sigur to go to South Korea at this time and not meet with the leaders of the Democratic opposition....

Sigur: I believe that there is a strong desire among the Korean people...to move toward a greater democracy. I am convinced of this. The problem here is how do you do it? How do you take these steps? What steps do you take first? At what pace do you go? That's what we're talking about and that's what the Korean people are trying to resolve. They've got to get together and talk about it.

Wallace: Is talk enough? Don't you have to have a promise of direct elections of the next President?

Sigur: I'm not sure about that -- what kind of a promise you have to have. That's up to the Koreans to make this decision. Talk must lead to action.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Guest: Dick Pound.

Wallace: How concerned are you that the Olympics are going to have to be moved from Korea?

Pound: I wouldn't say that we are concerned at all at this stage. We're 15 months from the event and I think it would be very premature to even consider the possibility of having them move the games.

Wallace: If the situation 15 months from now were like the situation today, could you hold an Olympics with protesters in the streets?

Pound: ...I think there is one aspect the Koreans are totally united in and that is that they all want these games to be a success and I think they will pull together on their own to make sure the games are safe and successful.

PANEL DISCUSSION (Richard Holbooke joins panel.)

Wallace: Do you think Dr. Sigur is carrying the right message to Seoul?

Holbooke: I think he's carrying the right message in essence. I'm a little concerned by his ambivalence about who he is going to meet with.... He's seriously understating the dangers of a military coup from right wing generals who will think that the government has not been tough enough up to now. That would be, of all possible outcomes, the worst.

Wallace: Is that a legitimate threat at this point?

Holbooke: Absolutely.... It must be a primary objective of American foreign policy now to make sure that does not happen. We have 40,000 troops in South Korea and the troops and the command must do everything they can to make the Korean military understand that we do not want to see that happen.

Wallace: Isn't the U.S. again in that classic position...that if we push too hard there's a danger of a backlash, but if we don't say enough, then we appear to be anti-democratic?

Holbooke: Exactly. In this case I think the Administration reacted too slowly, with too little.... Now I think the Administration is headed in the right direction. We do not want to overreact. We shouldn't appear to take sides. What we want to support is a democratic process which builds a broader political base for the government in Korea.... We should not use our troops. We should make sure the U.S. command and every element of the American governments knows that they should discourage a coup....

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THE McLAUGHLIN GROUP

Moderator: John McLaughlin. Panel: Michael Kinsley, Robert Novak, Jack Germond, Morton Kondracke.

On Persian Gulf Policy:

McLaughlin: Are the Soviets really interested in gaining control of the Gulf?

Kinsley: I suppose they'd like to but that doesn't mean the policy Reagan is following here makes any sense whatsoever.

Germond: There is no connection between the judgment that the Soviet Union would like to control the Persian Gulf and the wisdom of the kind of foreign policy we have put together there in flagging those ships. They are not necessarily related. I would agree totally that we have to maintain freedom of navigation -- we don't necessarily have to do it that way.

Kondracke: The U.S. was very sloppy about getting into this. We did it because of the Iran arms sale -- we lost the credibility with the Arabs because we did that.... In the end it boils down to two things: do you want the Soviets to be the defenders of the Kuwaitis, and do you want Iran to scare us out of the Persian Gulf? ...We're not going to do a pre-emptive strike on Silkworm missiles. But if the missiles start shooting at shipping, then we're going to attack....

Novak: What is really at stake is the micromanagement of policy by Congress and it just shows how incapable they are. I guarantee you that Congress would never have made a peep about the reflagging had it not been for the accidental shooting of the Stark.

Germond: The fact that Congress got to this the wrong way doesn't change the legitimacy....

McLaughlin: Should the U.S. Congress exert pressure to prevent Ronald Reagan the right to reflag the Kuwaiti vessels?

Kinsley: We should find out a lot more before we let him do it.

Novak: No. I think Congress needs a very long vacation.

Germond: I think they should and I think they will.

Kondracke: I think they should do exactly what they're doing -- raise the questions, get the answers, make sure the Administration knows what it's doing and then agree to it. No.

McLaughlin: I agree with you Morton -- they should not do it.

-more-

MCLAUGHLIN GROUP (continued)

On Iran-Contra Hearings:

McLaughlin: The word impeachment has now been lofted into public view.... Is this kind of speculation justified?

Kondracke: No, I don't think it's justified. Lee Hamilton was asked an "if" question and he gave an "if" answer.... I think this would not be grounds for impeachment -- this is not a high crime or misdemeanor. It would demonstrate that the President has been systematically lying to the American people -- but you don't kick Presidents out of office for that.

Novak: All these Democrats...are after Ronald Reagan's hide so they can win the presidency in 1988 and these hearings are an absolute attempt to destroy Ronald Reagan.

Germond: The Democrats on the Hill, as well as the Republicans, do not what to impeach the President. They think it's ridiculous.

Novak: They want to destroy him.

Germond: He's destroyed himself....

McLaughlin: Are we agreed that Charles Glass has no one to blame for his present plight but himself?

Novak: Absolutely. He had no business being there. The worse thing that could be done now is if they make the same mistake they made before and try to deal. It's his fault and it's a shame but nothing can be done about it.

Predictions:

Kinsley: By the end of the year there will be diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel.

Novak: To quiet things down in Korea, President Chun will agree to electoral reform. There will be a second presidential election after the Olympics by direct election.

Germond: Jesse Jackson is going to have the support of most of the major city black mayors in this country, but there will be two or three of them who will go with either Dukakis or Biden.

Kondracke: The U.S. is working on a peace settlement -- it's not going to achieve its end -- at the United Nations Security Council. It's a two-part requirement that the parties in the Middle East negotiate and any party that does not agree to negotiate is faced with arms sanctions and other economic sanctions.

McLaughlin: The U.S. Congress is now contemplating a \$4 billion foreign aid grant to Pakistan and I predict that that \$4 billion will go for the first two years.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Moderator: Martin Agronsky. Panel: James Kilpatrick, Charles Krauthammer, Elizabeth Drew, Strobe Talbott.

On Iran-Contra Hearings:

Agronsky: On Sunday Congressman Hamilton made the observation that if a smoking gun was found that involved the President, Congress would have to seriously consider the prospect of impeachment. The President said there ain't no smoking gun. Where is this back-and-forth moving?

Drew: The whole issue and preoccupation with whether or not there is a smoking gun...really is a diversion from the central point that the Administration violated the Constitution and not on a small scale.... There is very little thought or feeling or planning that it should move to impeachment -- mainly because Reagan is in the seventh of the eight years of his presidency. As of now there's not going to be an impeachment.

Krauthammer: I disagree that the smoking gun is not the relevant question -- I think it is.... There's a question of whether the trail leads to the President.... If it's only a question of misconduct by the NSC, I think it would be on the back pages of the newspapers.

Talbott: I really disagree with that -- this is a fundamental difference between Irangate and Watergate.... It's not just a case of there not being a will to push to impeachment, I think there's an absolute aversion to the idea of it both on the part of the committee, in the Congress, and in the country.

Kilpatrick: I have yet to be persuaded, let alone convinced, that there's been any violation of the Constitution or of any statutory law.

Agronsky: What we are dealing with here is an Administration that chose to go around the law and that had an ideological commitment to achieve a policy that the Congress of the U.S. said that it should not achieve....

Drew: Reagan is the President of the U.S. He is accountable for what happens in the executive branch and certainly within his own White House. He knew that there was this grand secret program.... He has to be held to account for this.

On Persian Gulf Policy:

Agronsky: Do you feel that the President had adequately explained his policy and that he has the support of the Congress in this situation?

Talbott: What he did do in his televised speech was make it both clearer and more persuasive what the overall geo-political rationale for the policy is.... Where controversy still haunts the policy is over actual implementation of it. I think he's a long way from having justified the device of reflagging the Kuwaiti ships.

AGRONKSY & COMPANY (continued)

Krauthammer: Essentially this is a tilt of the U.S. towards Iraq in the war. The reason that we're doing that is because Iran is winning on the ground.

Talbott: Iran has become a kind of great satan obsession of American foreign policy.

Agronsky: There are so many idiotic contradictions in this thing that need clarification that I think have not been adequately explained.

Drew: What you're seeing now is Congress raising a lot of questions, but they are not going to try to keep the Administration from doing it.

Kilpatrick: We need to have a look at the rules of engagement that will govern the operations of our naval vessels out there. Historically, rules of engagement have been very ambiguous rules.... Until we see these rules, we can't make a judgment.

Talbott: Congress is a source of anxiety, and a lot of it is justified, but it's not exactly a source of great wisdom about alternative policies that would work a lot better.

Drew: Congress is not willing to block the Administration on this. Congress doesn't like responsibility for foreign policy decisions. They might object to them, but they don't want to take responsibility for them.

Agronsky: President Reagan this week has been sharply critical of the Congress on the budget process.... How is this confrontation going to be resolved?

Drew: This is a coin that is wearing thin. It did, however, induce the Democratic leadership to finally get together and agree on a budget. But this is one that the President will not accept. So we're still a very long way from solving the problem....

-End of News Summary-



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1987 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S.-Soviet Effort To Avert Iranian Victory -- The U.S. and the Soviet Union now find themselves on the same side in a diplomatic effort to avert an Iranian victory over Iraq in the Persian Gulf war, a top Administration official says. (Washington Post, AP, UPI)

Chun Agrees To Hold Unprecedented Talks With Top Dissident -- President Chun Doo-hwan agreed to meet with top dissident Kim Young-sam to discuss ways of resolving political turmoil in South Korea, a spokesman for the ruling Democratic Justice Party said. (Washington Post, Washington Times, AP, Reuter)

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan's Trips To People Irk Democrats -- Congressional Democrats say President Reagan is attacking their \$1 trillion 1988 budget to divert attention from his foreign policy troubles, but GOP lawmakers say it's the Democrats who are using the budget deficit as a smokescreen for higher taxes. (Washington Times, AP, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Sunday Evening)

PERSIAN GULF -- The Reagan Administration is expressing optimism about a U.N. plan for a cease-fire in the Gulf War.

HOSTAGES -- Syria rejected an offer to free the son of Lebanon's defense minister in return for keeping American Charles Glass.

HAMADEI -- West Germany's justice minister says Mohammed Ali Hamadei will not be extradited to the U.S.

QUOTABLE QUOTES...

"Pope John Paul II is expected to be in New Orleans only three days in September, but he may stay an extra 30 days to hear Edwin Edwards' confession."

(Iris Kelso, New Orleans Times-Picayune)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CHINA TO BACK U.S. MOVE FOR IRAN-IRAQ CEASE-FIRE U.N. Security Council's Big Five Agree

China has informed the U.N. Security Council that it is ready to support a U.S.-backed resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq war and the opening of negotiations to end the conflict, a senior Administration official indicated.

Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost, appearing on CBS's "Face the Nation," said all five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council now agreed on the first of two resolutions the U.S. is sponsoring in a bid to force Iran into negotiations.

Armacost said the Reagan Administration has found, "to our surprise," that "all of the permanent members" are backing the resolution. "The question now is whether we can negotiate agreement on mandatory sanctions," he added referring to the thrust of the second resolution.

(David Ottaway, Washington Post, A17)

Administration Official Says U.S., Soviet Union Working On Peace Plan In Gulf

The U.S. and the Soviet Union are joining forces on a peace plan to end the 6½-year-old Iran-Iraq war and prevent an Iranian victory, a high-level Reagan Administration official says.

Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost said the U.S., Soviet Union and the other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council -- Britain, France and China -- have been discussing the plan "for several months in New York."

"We're working in the Security Council to engage the Russians and the other permanent members in a call for a cease-fire and return to boundaries, exchange of prisoners, other arrangements, backed by mandatory sanctions," Armacost said in an interview on CBS's "Face the Nation."

Armacost said U.S. officials working on the peace plan have found the Soviet Union to be "surprisingly cooperative." (Donna Cassata, AP)

U.S.-Soviet Effort To Avert Iranian Victory

The U.S. and the Soviet Union now find themselves on the same side in a diplomatic effort to avert an Iranian victory over Iraq in the Persian Gulf war, a top Administration official says.

"The threat of geographic and other expansion (by Iran) affects not only us, but others," Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost noted in an interview. "Therefore, we're working in the U.N. Security Council to engage the Russians and other permanent members in a call for a cease-fire...."

Appearing on CBS's "Face the Nation," Armacost asserted the U.S. and the Soviet Union "share, at least temporarily, an interest in the region, an interest in preventing an Iranian victory in the gulf war."

(Vincent Del Giudice, UPI)

U.S. OFFICIALS CALLED BITTERLY SPLIT OVER CONTINUING TRADE WITH IRAN

The Pentagon is locked in a bitter struggle with the State and Commerce Departments over whether the U.S. should continue to trade with Iran, according to Administration officials.

Secretary Weinberger is arguing strongly for a total ban on trade except for medical supplies and other items that he describes as humanitarian goods. Officials at the State and Commerce Departments believe that current trade levels, which include goods from caviar to oil, are reasonable, the Administration officials said.

In a letter several days ago to Frank Carlucci, the President's national security adviser, Weinberger objected to an interagency draft report on the Iran trade debate that was sent to the National Security Council early this month. He also strongly argued for his own position, according to Pentagon and White House officials.

(Elaine Sciolino, New York Times, A1)

U.S. REJECTS LIBERIAN PLEA FOR PROTECTION OF ITS TANKERS

The Reagan Administration, in an effort to clearly define the U.S. Navy's role in the Persian Gulf, has rejected an informal Liberian request for protection of tankers in the gulf flying that African nation's flag, officials said.

The Administration also will turn down similar requests expected from Panama and the Bahamas, two other countries where U.S. shipowners often register their vessels, the officials said.

(James Dorsey, Washington Times, A1)

DEMOCRATS TO OFFER KUWAITI TANKER REFLAGGING ALTERNATIVE

A leading congressional critic of a Reagan Administration plan to let 11 Kuwaiti tankers fly American flags has said Democratic lawmakers will soon unveil an alternative proposal.

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin said Democratic leaders from the House and Senate will try to hammer out a proposal tomorrow that he said would probably offer restrictions to the reflagging plan.

Among the reflagging alternatives likely to be offered by the Democrats are delaying the start of the plan or placing a time limit or conditions on it that may include a participation requirement by U.S. allies, who rely on Persian Gulf oil much more than the U.S. does, Aspin said.

(Reuter)

GHOST OF LEBANON HAUNTS U.S.
BID TO REFLAG KUWAITI TANKERS

The ghost of the U.S. debacle in Lebanon is haunting the congressional debate over the Reagan Administration's plan to engage U.S. military forces in the notoriously unpredictable Middle East on behalf of a little-known Arab ally.

Once again, the same questions are being debated: whether U.S. military forces are in danger of "imminent hostilities" requiring the President to invoke the War Powers Resolution and whether the U.S. is not in fact committing its power and prestige to one side under other pretenses. Critics say the move represents a tilt toward Iraq, because Kuwait, a major financial backer of Iraq, is "neutral" in name only.

(News Analysis, David Ottaway, Washington Post, A13)

U.S. TO INVITE SOVIETS TO JOIN A MIDEAST PEACE PARLEY

The U.S. is now ready to agree to Soviet participation in an international peace conference on the Middle East (between Israel and its Arab neighbors), sources said.

"(Secretary) Shultz believes the U.S. must be seen to have an active, constructive role to play (in the area)," the source said. "He's afraid the Soviets may demonstrate that they can play a role without the U.S."

"So Shultz' thinking is, 'Let's preempt them.' We don't want to chase after them. So let's force them to address the agenda through us."

(Martin Sieff, Washington Times, A1)

OFFICIAL OPTIMISTIC THREE HOSTAGES WILL BE FREED SOON

BEIRUT -- Syria reportedly turned down a deal from Moslem kidnappers that would release two Lebanese but keep U.S. journalist Charles Glass a hostage, and sources said efforts to free the three have entered a "crucial stage."

"I expect the release of Ali, Charles and the driver very soon, Lebanese Defense Minister Adel Osseiran said Sunday. Asked what had raised his hopes, he said without elaboration: "New information. I'm very optimistic."

The kidnapers offered earlier Sunday to release the younger Osseiran and his driver but keep Glass, said sources close to the Syrian army command, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The sources said leaders of Syria's 7,500-strong army contingent in Moslem west Beirut insisted that all three captives be freed quickly and unconditionally.

One source also said, "The Syrians also warned that they would stiffen their stance by demanding the surrender of the kidnappers themselves unless the three captives are released soon." (AP)

Syrian Commander Meets With Hezbollah Leader To Seek Hostage Release

BEIRUT -- Syrian President Hafez Assad sent the commander of his forces to meet with the spiritual leader of Hezbollah -- the pro-Iranian group believed holding American journalist Charles Glass -- in an effort to gain Glass's release, a source said.

The Syrian source, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, also said Glass and two Lebanese kidnapped Wednesday were in "good health."

"Negotiations are still going on and there has been no stalemate in the issue," the source said. "The Syrians intend to solve this crisis diplomatically and so far do not consider a military solution."

Defense Minister Adel Osseiran told Lebanese television in an interview he learned that "Ali and his two companions will be released any day now."

He denied having accused Hezbollah of the incident, saying, "I do not accuse any side. I believe the kidnapers have made a mistake and were not targeting Ali in particular." (UPI)

Syrians Seek Cleric's Help On Hostages; Assad Moves To End Glass' Captivity

BEIRUT -- A senior Syrian official conferred with the religious guide of the militant Shiite Moslem group Hezbollah, in efforts to free kidnapped American reporter Charles Glass and two Lebanese.

Syria's military intelligence chief, Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kanaan, rushed from Damascus for a private meeting with Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, an influential Shiite cleric, apparently to ask for Fadlallah's intervention with Hezbollah, which is believed to hold the hostages. Defense Minister Adel Osseiran said it is Hezbollah that kidnapped Glass, along with Osseiran's son Ali, and his driver, last Wednesday. Security sources said they were being held in the mainly Shiite suburb of Bir Abed. (Nora Boustany, Washington Post, A17)

Syria's Credibility On The Line In Hostage Incident

BEIRUT -- The abduction of American journalist Charles Glass and the son of the Lebanese defense minister has embarrassed Syria and put its credibility in Lebanon on the line, political and military sources say.

"For some time now, the Syrians have been telling everyone that they came to Beirut to liberate it from various militias who were ruling the capital. This kidnapping is a true slap in the face for them, and they are bound to do something about it," said one Lebanese source.

"The issue here is not that Syria loves Charlie Glass or it too keen on helping (Defense Minister Adel) Osseiran. What this kidnapping translates into for the Syrian authorities in Lebanon is that anyone can still abduct a Westerner or a relative of a ranking Lebanese," a source close to the Osseiran family said. "Unless the Syrians crack down on this, and do it quickly, they lose not only the confidence of the Western world but also the trust of Syria's Lebanese allies."

(Peyman Pejman, UPI)

PAPER SAYS NO EXTRADITION FOR HAMADEI

HAMBURG -- A West German newspaper said federal Justice Minister Hans Engelhard has decided against extraditing suspected hijacker Mohammed Ali Hamadei to the U.S.

Welt am Sonntag made the statement in the first paragraph of a front-page story but provided no further information on the decision it said Engelhard had made.

A spokesman for the West German government declined to confirm or deny the Welt am Sonntag story and only repeated the announcement made last Friday by chief government spokesman Friedholm Ost that the government will decide the Hamadei case Wednesday. (UPI)

CHUN AGREES TO TALKS WITH OPPOSITION LEADERS

SEOUL -- President Chun Doo-hwan has agreed to meet with opposition leaders to try and end the political crisis, and he promised to consider the release of political detainees, a top official said Monday.

Roh Tae-woo, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, said after a meeting with Chun that the president had agreed to meet with top opposition leader Kim Young-sam, head of the Reunification Democratic Party.

The agreement appeared to represent a major turnaround by the government, which had repeatedly ruled out concessions. Roh said Chun made the decision after "frank talks."

The Reunification Democratic Party had no immediate comment on the government statement. (Barry Renfrew, AP)

Chun Agrees To Hold Unprecedented Talks With Top Dissident

SEOUL -- President Chun Doo-hwan agreed to meet with top dissident Kim Young-sam to discuss ways of resolving political turmoil in South Korea, a spokesman for the ruling Democratic Justice Party said.

Kim, leader of the main opposition Reunification Democratic Party, has long demanded a meeting with Chun but has set two conditions -- the release of all prisoners arrested since the most serious rioting began June 10, and the lifting of House arrest for fellow dissident Kim Dae-jung.

A spokesman for Kim Young-sam said, "If there is an offer of a summit, we assume that means our conditions have been agreed to."

(Moon Ihlwan, Reuter)

S. Korea Considers Concessions; U.S. Official Warns Against Military Force

SEOUL -- South Korea's ruling party, confronted by the most serious challenge to its seven-year rule, met to consider what concessions, if any, it could offer the opposition to defuse political tensions that have fueled 11 days of street protests.

"We do not want to see the military involved," said Assistant Secretary of State Gaston Sigur, speaking from Sydney, Australia on NBC's "Meet the Press." "The proper approach is to have the political leadership get together and reach an understanding of ways in which democracy can come more rapidly and speedily."

Sigur...said he will try to pressure the South Korean government to hold open elections and resume negotiations with opposition leaders.

(Lena Sun, Washington Post, A1)

Envoy To Push Chun On Talks As A Way To Quell Unrest

Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs Gaston Sigur travels to Seoul to press South Korean leader Chun Doo-hwan to reopen dialogue with his political foes on a democratic presidential succession in 1988.

Sigur...said in a television interview that such dialogue, broken off by Chun in April, must start anew. The shelving of talks triggered the most violent demonstrations since the Kwangju riots of 1980.

"We have got to have a reopening of discussions and negotiations" between the leaders of the government and opposition parties, Sigur declared.
(Richard Beeston, Washington Times, A1)

AUSTRALIA ISSUES SHARP CRITICISM OF U.S. PROTECTIONISM MOVES

SYDNEY -- Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden issued an urgent plea to the U.S. government to fight protectionist moves in Congress which he said could undermine Australian security.

Opening a day of talks with Secretaries Shultz and Weinberger, Hayden said: "Australians see economic well-being as a major component of security."

"I cannot stress too strongly the damage that would be dealt to the Australian and other non-subsidizing agricultural exporters by some of the protectionist measures now under consideration in the United States Congress."

Shultz replied that "Australia's economic and trade interests continue to hold our attention as we grapple with our own budgetary and trade difficulties."
(Michael Batty, Reuter)

REAGAN'S TROUBLES WORRY CENTRAL AMERICANS End Of Aid To Contras Could Leave Honduras Holding The Bag

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras -- As the Iran-contra affair drags on in Washington, the perception of a weakened Reagan Administration is causing increasing nervousness in Honduras and other Central American countries, according to diplomatic and Honduran sources.

The nervousness is leading to greater efforts by pro-U.S. countries in Central America to distance themselves from American policy in the region and from the Nicaraguan rebels known as counterrevolutionaries, or contras, the sources said.

The anxiety, among both the Honduras and the contras, stems from concerns that U.S. funding for the rebels will not be renewed, or will be severely restricted, leaving the contras unable to press their war inside Nicaragua and the Honduras forced to host them.

Costa Rican President Oscar Arias lately has been promoting a Central American peace plan that appears to be causing growing consternation in the Reagan Administration. According to diplomatic sources, a recent meeting between U.S. special envoy Philip Habib and Arias in the Costa Rican capital went badly when Arias flatly rejected entreaties that the plan be amended to include a call for negotiations between the Sandinista government and Nicaraguan rebels.

(William Branigin, Washington Post, A1)

LEADING U.S. SENATOR CALLS FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS IN PANAMA

HOWARD AIR FORCE BASE, Panama -- A U.S. subcommittee chairman said increasing military control over civilian affairs threatened to scuttle hopes for a return to full democracy in Panama.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs, spoke...after a three day fact-finding visit to this country....

"There is a danger right now (and) a strong impression, a very strong impression, that there are elements in this country that are leading this nation away from the family of democracies," Dodd told reporters.

(Tom Brown, Reuter)

SOVIETS HOLD MULTI-CANDIDATE VOTING Unprecedented Move Seen As Test Of Gorbachev's Reform, Drive

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union carried out its first experiment with multi-candidate balloting in scattered districts across the country during local elections that tested other themes of Kremlin leader Gorbachev's campaign for "democratization."

"The departure from old, overly rigid procedures for advancing candidates...sets apart the character of today's election practices, resulting in the increased involvement of the people," the government newspaper Izvestia said in an editorial today.

The most significant experiment involved multi-candidate lists, a practice already in place in several East European countries and announced here in April as a result of political reforms pushed by Gorbachev.

(Celestine Bohlen, Washington Post, A1)

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NATIONAL NEWS

PRESIDENT TAKES BUDGET SHOW ON ROAD

President Reagan is keeping his promise to put pressure on Congress, beginning a series of trips to argue against tax hikes and to make his case for overhauling the budget-making process.

Reagan, feuding with Democrats over a \$1 trillion spending plan for fiscal 1988, was traveling to Melbourne, Fla., to visit a Dictaphone Corp. plant and address the Chamber of Commerce.

In his weekly radio address to the nation Saturday, Reagan lashed out against the Democratic budget plan....

In his more than six years in office, Reagan said, his choice on congressionally approved budget legislation has been to "take it, pork and all, or veto it."

"This is no way to run a country," Reagan said. "This is why, in the coming weeks, I'll be taking my case to you, the American people, asking for your support to bring fiscal sanity back to our government."

(Merrill Hartson, AP)

Reagan's Trips To People Irk Democrats

Congressional Democrats say President Reagan is attacking their \$1 trillion 1988 budget to divert attention from his foreign policy troubles, but GOP lawmakers say it's the Democrats who are using the budget deficit as a smokescreen for higher taxes.

As Congress reconvenes its Iran-contra hearings and resumes debate over the U.S. role in the Persian Gulf this week, the President is embarking on a series of out-of-town trips to gain support for budget reform.

"It's an attempt at diversion, but I don't think it's diverting anybody," House Speaker Jim Wright said last week. "The President can control issues only to a limited extent."

"I believe the American people want us to spend more money, not less, on education, AIDS research, drug programs and some of the sad cases of the impoverished elderly," said Sen. Pete Dominici, ranking Republican on the Senate Budget Committee.

"But I also believe they want us to cut other programs to pay for a new set of national priorities." (Gene Grabowski, Washington Times, A2)

Reagan Takes Domestic Policy To The Road

The resumption of the Iran-contra hearings this week will find President Reagan waging political war with Congress over the budget as investigators continue digging into the worst scandal of his Administration.

Today Reagan was headed for Melbourne, Fla., to promote his domestic policies -- on the eve on another round of hearings into his foreign policy gone awry.

In remarks to employees at the Melbourne plant of the Dictaphone Corp. and to a local Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Reagan was expected to reinforce his opposition to a \$1 trillion budget approved last week by a Democrat-dominated House-Senate conference committee over Republican objections.

(Norman Sandler, UPI)

FIGHT SEEN RESULTING FROM REAGAN'S VETO OF BROADCASTERS' RULE

President Reagan's veto of legislation to write the fairness doctrine into law sets up a protracted fight with Congress, both sides agree.

In vetoing the legislation over the weekend, the President, once a sportscaster with radio station WHO in Des Moines, Iowa, accepted the arguments of broadcasters who protested that the rule compromised their First Amendment rights.
(Merrill Hartson, AP)

LIBERAL VICTORIES MARK FIRST YEAR OF REHNQUIST ERA

The first year of the Rehnquist Supreme Court is turning out to be, in the words of one chagrined conservative, "Bill Brennan's finest hour."

As the 1986 term draws to a close, with 80 percent of the cases decided -- including the most controversial before the high court this year -- the liberal justices have triumphed in all but two of the blockbuster cases.

The moderate-liberal coalition, led by Justice William Brennan, has prevailed in cases on affirmative action, pregnancy leave, discrimination against workers with communicable diseases such as AIDS, asylum for political refugees and the teaching of creationism in public schools.

The conservative wing, supposedly bolstered by the elevation of William Rehnquist to chief justice and the addition of Antonin Scalia, has managed to win significant victories only in the area of its traditional strength: criminal law. The court upheld the constitutionality of preventive detention of suspects before trial and rejected a challenge to the death penalty as racially discriminatory. Even in the criminal area, the conservatives lost a case involving the use of victim-impact statements in death-penalty cases.
(Al Kamen, Washington Post, A1)

ANTIABORTION GROUPS CONFER Unified Force Unlikely In '88 GOP Primaries

NEW ORLEANS -- The national "Right-to-Life" movement, a grass-roots force that swept like hurricane across presidential politics in the 1980 election, seems to have been sundered into smaller whirlwinds in these opening months of the 1988 campaign.

The 1,000 or so antiabortion leaders who gathered here this weekend for the annual convention of the National Right to Life Committee Inc. found themselves in general agreement on ultimate goals -- government prohibition of abortion and euthanasia -- but widely split on the means of getting there as well as on the choice of a presidential candidate to advance the antiabortion cause.

Other antiabortion groups are sniping openly at the Right to Life Committee, and at one another, in an argument over antiabortion legislation President Reagan sent to Congress earlier this year. Some abortion opponents support the so-called "Superbill." Others maintain just as strenuously that isn't worth the expenditure of time and energy.

(T.R. Reid, Washington Post, A2)

FIRST COUPLE TAKES PART IN ANNUAL FORD'S THEATER GALA

First Lady Nancy Reagan waltzed with ballet star Mikhail Baryshnikov at Ford's Theatre as an array of celebrities turned out for the historic landmark's annual benefit performance.

President Reagan watched with amusement as Baryshnikov held Mrs. Reagan.... The President later made a quip about a poll that showed a majority of the men responding thought Mrs. Reagan would be their ideal date.

Joining his wife on stage at the end of the more than two-hour performance, Reagan said "everybody knows that I'm with the hottest date around."
(Merrill Hartson, AP)

Nancy Reagan Says She Freezes At Sight Of Lincoln Murder Box

Nancy Reagan, receiving an award as a benefactor of historic Ford's Theatre where Abraham Lincoln was shot, said tonight she always feels a "tummy freeze" when she sees Lincoln's box.

"I don't think you can come in here without feeling a certain something," said Mrs. Reagan, whose husband, President Reagan, was the target of an assassination attempt in 1981.

Looking up awed at the box high above the stage and clutching at her stomach, she added, "When you look up there at that box you have to feel a certain tummy freeze."
(Bruce Russell, Reuter)

Ford's And The Famous; Celebrities Gather For Theater's Fundraiser

Yesterday, for a few hours, the White House became one more stop on the Ford's Theatre tour.

Midway through the weekend-long fundraiser "A Festival at Ford's," more than 200 top-dollar patrons found themselves waiting in the East Room for a handshake with the First Couple, nibbling on lobster tarts and fried cheese squares and maybe nabbing an autograph or two from the performers in town for Sunday evening's all-star show.

(Victoria Dawson, Washington Post, B1)

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IRAN — NICARAGUA

GOP CONSERVATIVES SEE THE OVER PROBE'S TACTICS

Anger is beginning to surface among conservative Republicans over what one termed the "lynch mob" tactics of Democrats and some Republicans investigating the Iran-contra affair.

A member of the investigative committee, Rep. Henry Hyde, accused some GOP members of the panel of taking delight in joining the Democrats "in piling on" during the hearings.

Said Rep. Robert Walker, "A few Republicans made the conscious decision that they'd get a better press by beating up on the Administration than in bringing out the facts on the issue."

Sen. Warren Rudman (a target of the attacks) called such accusations unfair. "People way out on the right have been critical of the hearings, but I have supported arms sales to the contras, which surprises them when they learn it," he said. (Ralph Hallow, Washington Times, A1)

MAGAZINE LINKS NORTH TO ASSASSINATION PLOT

Now added to the list of congressional questions for Oliver North in the Iran-contra scandal is the subject of his role in an alleged plot to assassinate Iranian leaders.

The alleged assassination plot is raised in this week's edition of U.S. News & World Report, which was published Saturday, the same day Sen. William Cohen...said in an interview that he thinks North is ready to go to jail rather than testify about the scandal.

Cohen, joining another member of the select committees probing the case, Sen. David Boren, on CNN's "Evans & Novak," said North's silence already has put the committees "at his mercy" as they bargain with his lawyers to get testimony that is considered crucial to tying up loose ends in the case.

In another development, Rep. Ted Weiss said in a UPI interview that he thinks Reagan "has probably committed impeachable offenses" related to the scandal by failing to execute laws of the land. However, Weiss said, he wants to see more information before deciding whether to call for Reagan's ouster. (UPI)

U.S. ADVISER PROTESTED DRAFT OF CASEY'S TESTIMONY ON ARMS SALES, SOURCES SAY

Reagan Administration officials prepared testimony for Congress last November that was so misleading regarding the U.S. role in arms sales to Iran that the State Department's legal adviser said he would resign if it were given.

The protest by Abraham Sofaer...was made indirectly to the Justice Department, according to sources familiar with the House and Senate inquiry into the Iran-contra affair. Sofaer succeeded in forcing corrections, the sources said, but investigators believe the incident also shows there was a concerted effort by some officials to contain the scandal and obscure the White House's early role in the arms sales.

(David Rogers, Wall Street Journal, A12)

CHANNELL AIDE UNSCATHED, BUT MAY HAVE PAID PRICE

David Fischer may not have cut a wide swath when he was at the White House, but he was later worth \$20,000 a month to conservative fund-raiser Carl Channell as a door opener, a job not so different from the one he handled for President Reagan.

Fischer's benefactor, Channell, has since fallen on hard times, as has Fischer's business associate, Richard Miller, but the ex-Reagan aide has no apparent legal problems, having been granted full immunity by Lawrence Walsh, the special prosecutor probing the Iran-contra affair.

But sources close to the President and his wife, Nancy, said that Fischer has probably seriously damaged the relationship he had built up over the past decade by allegedly taking large payments primarily for setting up meetings with the President for Channell's donors.

"I think they'd (the First Family) be offended at the idea of being sold, for sure," said a family friend. "I think it's frustrating and hard when you're in that position. You have to trust the people you work with, and when they don't measure up it's very frustrating.... It's really disheartening."

(Robert Timberg, Baltimore Sun, A3)

HASENFUS: STATE DEPT. BROKE PLEDGES OF AID

Eugene Hasenfus (and his wife)...accuses the State Department of reneging on pledges to ensure repayment of expenses connected with his trial in Managua.

Mrs. Hasenfus, who visited her husband several times in Managua, said Elliott Abrams...had told her over the phone, "Everything will be taken care of -- the tickets, your passport, a place to stay at the U.S. Embassy in Managua."

A State Department spokesman, who asked not to be identified, denied that any department official ever discussed bills with Mrs. Hasenfus, and Abrams' aide William Schofield acknowledged talking a half-dozen times with her but told UPI: "We never promised to pick up the tab or have someone else pick up the tab."

(Neil Roland, UPI)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Sunday Evening, June 21, 1987)

Editor's Note: ABC News was pre-empted due to a golf tournament.

PERSIAN GULF POLICY

CBS's Forrest Sawyer: As the U.S. edged closer toward putting American flags on Kuwaiti oil tankers in the volatile Persian Gulf, the Reagan Administration is tonight expressing optimism about a U.N. plan for a cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq War -- a plan that apparently has the backing of the Soviet Union.

(Michael Armacost, Undersecretary of State: "We have been discussing this for several months in New York. We've found them surprisingly cooperative. As I say, I think they don't wish to see a war which could end with Iran prevailing with the stimulus that gives to Islamic fundamentalism and the threat it poses to their own Moslem population in Central Asia.")

The plan would include mandatory sanctions against either side that violated the cease-fire. What those sanctions would be must still be negotiated. Numerous peace plans have failed in the past. The U.S. is prepared to act on its own in the Gulf with a dangerous new move that is only weeks away.

CBS's Alan Pizzey in Kuwait: American flags could be flying on Kuwaiti oil tankers by the first week of July -- a gesture that would mark a significant escalation of superpower involvement in the Gulf War. The flags entitle the ships to U.S. naval protection. The latest danger for Gulf shipping comes from under the water -- Iranian patrol boats have apparently laid mines just off Kuwait. The case is similar to the Red Sea three years ago.... The U.S. Gulf fleet does not include mine sweepers and adding them would mean an extra commitment that Congress has been less than eager to approve. Eleven American registered ships would carry up to 70 percent of Kuwait's oil exports.... The Kuwaiti economy is totally dependent on the tankers' safe passage. Virtually everything here is imported, paid for with oil money. Kuwait will be a target in the Gulf War as long as it continues to back Iraq. Running up the stars and stripes on Kuwaiti ships is seen by Western diplomats here as crucial to American credibility in the Gulf -- the signal that the U.S. will not back off from its commitment to friendly nations.

CBS's David Martin:

(The President from June 15: "In a word -- if we don't do the job, the Soviets will.")

That is the primary reason the U.S. is about to begin escorting Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Persian Gulf. It was not until after Moscow had agreed to lease three of its tankers to Kuwait that the U.S. rushed in with its offer to protect 11 Kuwaiti tankers.

Martin continues:

(Secretary Weinberger: "If we pull out completely and conclusively, there would be a vacuum that they would rush into very quickly. And they would do that, I believe they would, in the fulfillment of their centuries-old desire to have a warm water port and their somewhat more recent desire to make sure that they have the opportunity to block access of the oil to the Western free world countries.")

Despite the Reagan Administration's opposition to a Soviet presence in the Gulf, the short term goals of the two superpowers are remarkably similar.... The U.S. is in the Gulf to compete with the Soviets, not cooperate and so far it's no contest. While the Soviets have only three mine sweepers and an occasional warship in the Gulf, the U.S. has seven combatants with three more on the way, not to mention an aircraft carrier that will be stationed at the entrance to the Gulf. This makes the difference -- the port facilities in Bahrain, which the U.S. Navy has used for decades. The Soviets have no place to call home in the Gulf. The question is, "Can the Reagan Administration keep it that way?" ...The Reagan Administration is frequently accused of seeing every regional conflict from Lebanon to Nicaragua as a confrontation between East and West. The danger in the Persian Gulf is that with eyes fixed on Moscow, the U.S. will fall into a war with Iran. (CBS-Lead)

NBC's Garrick Utley: A senior state department official said today that the U.S. and the Soviet Union agree that Iran should not be allowed to win the war with Iraq. Michael Armacost, the undersecretary of state, said on television that Moscow and Washington are working at the U.N. to try to end the war. Today's statement comes after assertions by the Reagan Administration that the U.S. faces a Soviet challenge in the Persian Gulf. It all sounds rather confusing. So, what is the outlook in the Gulf? ...When the dead of the USS Stark came home, the dangers of the Persian Gulf struck home. For the President, it was time to comfort the afflicted.

(TV coverage: The President and First Lady comforting the families of the USS Stark victims.)

But a President's main responsibility is to define America's interests and then defend them. Jimmy Carter did that.... It was called the Carter Doctrine. Last week, President Reagan raised the Soviet challenge.

(The President from June 15: "In a word -- if we don't do the job, the Soviets will.")

But what is the job in the Persian Gulf? If it is to keep the oil flowing -- well, it is. About 300 ships have been attacked by Iraq and Iran, but that has not stopped the oil.... The danger, of course, is the war between Iraq and Iran. For most Americans, it is not a concern because we are not in it.... Some questions and answers now about what we face in the Persian Gulf. What is the real risk for the U.S.? Can we avoid getting involved in the war? And is there a Soviet threat? To help answer these questions we have Gary Sick, formerly of the National Security Council and a specialist on Iran and the Persian Gulf. How real is the danger?

(Sick: "I think the chances of a major military confrontation in the Gulf, deliberately started by somebody, are pretty slim. The chances that we would start one ourselves in response to something that happened accidentally or otherwise, it seems to me, is significant.")

-more-

Utley continues:

The Reagan Administration is saying that we want to remain neutral in the war between Iran and Iraq, but in fact aren't we taking sides? Aren't we really on Iraq's side of the war?

(Sick: "If we do align ourselves with one side in this war, eventually we are not going to be able to avoid the consequences of that. If we are going to be on one side we're going to put ourselves between these two combatant parties which have been going at it for more than seven years. We're going to get caught up in it whether we like it or not.")

What is the real issue here? Is it free navigation? Is it keeping the oil flowing? Or is it that deeply rooted rivalry between two superpowers which happens to be taking place now in a place called the Persian Gulf?

(Sick: "That is where the superpower rivalry begins to come up. The two powers are being sucked into this war which neither party has any control. The Soviet military presence in that part of the world has stayed essential flat for the last ten years -- despite the fact that one of their ships has now been hit. So, the fact that the Soviets will sort of move in in mass on a military basis strikes me as very unlikely based on what they say themselves.")

Is this problem in the Gulf being hyped?

(Sick: "Yes. It is now so bound up in domestic American politics, and also the politics of the region where we are trying to prove that we didn't really mean it when we sold arms to Iran, and the President is trying to reestablish his credibility through this process, that I'm afraid that the reality of the tankers and the war in the Gulf have really receded in terms of the domestic politics.")

And domestic politics will play a role if one of the navy ships or tankers they are escorting hits a mine or is attacked or if Iran carries out a terrorist attack against some other American target. Then the President will be faced with a choice -- do nothing or retaliate and move even closer to war. That's what's known as a no-win situation.

(NBC-4)

HOSTAGES

Sawyer: Syria today rejected an offer by kidnappers in Beirut to free the son of Lebanon's defense minister in return for keeping American journalist Charles Glass. But the defense minister says he is "very optimistic" both hostages will be freed soon. The two men and their driver were kidnapped five days ago.

(CBS-2, NBC-3)

HAMADEI

Utley: West Germany's justice minister says accused terrorist Mohammad Hamadei will not be extradited to the U.S. The news came in an interview with a West German magazine. The U.S. wants Hamadei to stand trial for the 1985 hijacking of a TWA jet and the murder of an American sailor.

(NBC-7)

ARMS CONTROL

Sawyer: The chief U.S. and Soviet arms negotiators are back in Geneva tonight to resume top-level talks tomorrow. Officials say proposals to scrap medium-range missiles have reached a crucial stage. In Moscow, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev brought up the arms talks after casting his ballot in a local one-candidate election. Talking with reporters, he accused Western leaders of not backing up their arms control words with meaningful actions. Gorbachev also chatted outside the polling place with Soviet citizens. He seemed to be asking for their support in what might be a bruising battle this week within the Soviet leadership.

CBS's Wyatt Andrews reports on the campaign for Gorbachev's economic reforms.
(CBS-8, NBC-5)

SOUTH KOREAN PROTESTS

Uteley: This is the day the government of South Korea may have blinked. As demonstrations continued and the police grew tougher, the government, which is dominated by the military, indicated it is preparing some proposals to end the confrontation. So, after 12 straight days of demonstrating, Koreans who want free elections may be getting somewhere.

NBC's Brian Stewart reports from Seoul on the demonstrations.
(NBC-Lead, CBS-4)

-End of B-Section-

ABC -- THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY

Moderator: David Brinkley. Panel: George Will, Sam Donaldson.
Guests: Edward Koch, Mayor of New York; Benjamin Hooks, NAACP Executive Director; Roy Innis, CORE National Chairman; Alfred Messer, psychiatrist.

Editor's Note: The June 21 edition of "This Week With David Brinkley" focused on the decision of the Behnard Goetz case, the charges of discrimination this decision has generated and public reaction to the decision.

FREE-FOR-ALL DISCUSSION (Mary Anne Dolan joins panel.)

Brinkley: I'm sure we're all confident that President Reagan wishes he had never heard of Col. Oliver North but he has.... Col. North says he will not testify privately. What's he up to?

Will: He has a good lawyer who understands that his client will have an advantage if he goes in fresh.... It would have served the national interest to have North and Poindexter testify in February. I am told the reason they did not vote them immunity [in February] was political fear -- fear that they could not explain to the country what they were doing and why. I think the national interest has suffered.

Donaldson: I think Col. North's lawyer has every right to protect his client's position.... But on the other hand, if these are tactics simply to prevent Col. North from testifying before this committee, then, of course, they ought not to be engaged in.

Dolan: In trying to limit the amount of time he exposes his client, Col. North's lawyer is serving his client well and that's his job.

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CBS -- FACE THE NATION

Moderator: Lesley Stahl.

Guests: Michael A. Armacost, Undersecretary of State; Rep. Les Aspin; Gen. P.X. Kelley, retiring Marine Corps commandant.

Stahl: There are reports that the White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker has said that he would like to see the U.S. postpone the reflagging of the Kuwaiti ships in the Persian Gulf. Is there any chance that the reflagging will be put off until the decision can be thought out a little longer?

Armacost: We're been thinking about this decision for some months. We have no particular date on which it will go into the implementation phase.... We expect it to be implemented sometime in early July. That is the current plan.

Stahl: Any chance of postponing?

Armacost: It's not our plan. At the present time we expect to go into business in early July.

Stahl: Does Congress or do you have any suggestions that the Administration could accept [to justify postponing the reflagging of Kuwaiti ships]?

Aspin: I think it's going to be hard. Congress is put in a very tough position. A vote to go ahead with the reflagging carries a lot of risk. A vote against the reflagging carries enormous risk of Iranian terrorist actions and other things in the light of pulling back....

Armacost: To withdraw conveys an impression of inconsistency, and possibly unreliability. It reawakens questions about our will.

Aspin: I think there will be some form of a resolution that lays out what the Democrats would have done...that will be part one and rather general. We come to the second part which is rather specific -- what do we do about the reflagging right here? My guess is that the two extreme options are not going to be very popular.... We're looking at something in between and something dealing with the time and/or conditionality....

Stahl: The Soviets have a contract that they'll fly their flags on the Kuwaiti ships for one year. Is that something the Administration would like to have in our agreement?

Armacost: They haven't reflagged vessels -- they have chartered ships for a fixed term. We have not imposed a time limit on the reflagging. We're handling this as we've handled other reflaggings. An arbitrary time limit doesn't really address the circumstances which produced the request. The real risks to our interest in the Gulf arise out of war which can expand and it seems to me the best means of limiting the risks is to bring an end to the war....

Stahl: The U.S. and the Soviet, in effect, are negotiating a deal together to bring about an end to the world?

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Armacost: I think we share, at least temporarily an interest in the region -- an interest in preventing an Iranian victory in the Gulf War....

Stahl: Is U.S. policy to keep the Soviets out of the Middle East over?

Armacost: You can't keep the Soviets out of the Middle East. Our strategic interest in the Gulf has been to limit their role in relationship to oil...

Aspin: I think Congress would give full support to anything that would increase the chances in ending that war. On that the Administration and Congress are pretty close in accord.

Stahl: Charles Glass was taken hostage this week -- was that related? Did the Iranians instigate that as a signal to us?

Armacost: It's possible. I don't know.

Stahl: There are reports that Secretary of State Shultz is very much opposed to this reflagging policy. He has been basically silent on this whole issue...is that true?

Armacost: I don't believe so. He's spoken to the issue in Venice....

Stahl: What is American policy in Korea? Are we doing anything to pressure the government to move toward elections? To have more democracy in that country? If not, why aren't we?

Armacost: We've tried to avoid being too detailed in our suggestions. Surely it is our conviction that what is needed is a political solution to a political problem that requires dialogue between the parties.

Aspin: I don't see any other way to make it constructive.... If we get into a controversy with the executive branch, it does U.S. position in the world absolutely no good.

Stahl: Is there concern that the opposition will turn anti-American because we're not talking about democracy?

Armacost: We have talked about democracy....

Guest: Gen. P.X. Kelley

Stahl: Was there a breach of security at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow or not? Did the Marine guards take KBG agents on a stroll through secure areas of the embassy?

Kelley: That's what we're trying to determine right now. There were some confessions which certainly indicated that it did happen.... We're assuming the worst case.

FACE THE NATION (continued)

Stahl: There are reports that a third Marine who was a guard in Leningrad took Soviets agents on a walk through that U.S. facility. What can you tell us about those charges?

Kelley: I can't say anything publicly now. We're still looking into all those cases.

Stahl: There have been some suggests that the joint chiefs were not wholeheartedly in support of this [reflagging Kuwaiti tankers] policy.... Are there concerns that this decision was arrived at too quickly and maybe it isn't such a good idea?

Kelley: I have great concern that there is a growing attitude within our country that wants to automatically dismiss any military option. I think all military options, under any scenario when you're dealing with U.S. foreign policy, should at least be examined and just not automatically ruled out. If we keep automatically ruling out military options as being part of our U.S. foreign policy, soon we will become an isolationist country and when we do that we leave the rest of the world to the Soviet Union.

Stahl: Please respond to the question of the Persian Gulf.

Kelley: We debated within the joint chiefs of staff all facets of that. Our recommendations were provided to the President and I don't think we're against anything that will lead us to the ultimate objective of keeping the sea lanes open.

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NBC -- MEET THE PRESS

Moderator: Chris Wallace. Panel: Judith Miller, Robert Novak.
Guests: Gaston J. Sigur, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State; Rep. Stephen J. Solarz; Dick Pound, Vice President of the International Olympic Committee; Richard Holbrooke, former Assistant Secretary of State.

Wallace: Dr. Sigur, what is it that you think that the Chun government has to do to get those demonstrators off the streets?

Sigur: I'm going to Korea to assess the situation -- to look it over. I believe that we've got to have a reopening of the discussions and the negotiations between the various political elements -- the leadership of those elements. We have made that central to our policy. We believe that to broaden the political base in Korea, to move the country toward democracy -- which every political leader says it supports -- they've got to start talking to one another again.

Wallace: Will the U.S. oppose any crackdown on the protesters?

Sigur: As I understand it now the peace is being maintained, such as it is, through the police. The military's not involved. We do not want to see the military involved. Martial law, we think, would not be the proper approach. The proper approach is to have the political leaderships get together and reach understandings of ways in which democracy can come more rapidly and more appropriately in Korea.

Wallace: How serious do you think the situation is?

Sigur: It's obviously serious. It's a very difficult one for the Korean people....

Miller: Are you going to meet with the opposition leaders when you're in South Korea?

Sigur: I'm not sure of my schedule at this time. This is being worked out by the American Ambassador....

Solarz: I think it would be a very serious mistake for Secretary Sigur to go to South Korea at this time and not meet with the leaders of the Democratic opposition....

Sigur: I believe that there is a strong desire among the Korean people...to move toward a greater democracy. I am convinced of this. The problem here is how do you do it? How do you take these steps? What steps do you take first? At what pace do you go? That's what we're talking about and that's what the Korean people are trying to resolve. They've got to get together and talk about it.

Wallace: Is talk enough? Don't you have to have a promise of direct elections of the next President?

Sigur: I'm not sure about that -- what kind of a promise you have to have. That's up to the Koreans to make this decision. Talk must lead to action.

MEET THE PRESS (continued)

Guest: Dick Pound.

Wallace: How concerned are you that the Olympics are going to have to be moved from Korea?

Pound: I wouldn't say that we are concerned at all at this stage. We're 15 months from the event and I think it would be very premature to even consider the possibility of having them move the games.

Wallace: If the situation 15 months from now were like the situation today, could you hold an Olympics with protesters in the streets?

Pound: ...I think there is one aspect the Koreans are totally united in and that is that they all want these games to be a success and I think they will pull together on their own to make sure the games are safe and successful.

PANEL DISCUSSION (Richard Holbooke joins panel.)

Wallace: Do you think Dr. Sigur is carrying the right message to Seoul?

Holbooke: I think he's carrying the right message in essence. I'm a little concerned by his ambivalence about who he is going to meet with.... He's seriously understating the dangers of a military coup from right wing generals who will think that the government has not been tough enough up to now. That would be, of all possible outcomes, the worst.

Wallace: Is that a legitimate threat at this point?

Holbooke: Absolutely.... It must be a primary objective of American foreign policy now to make sure that does not happen. We have 40,000 troops in South Korea and the troops and the command must do everything they can to make the Korean military understand that we do not want to see that happen.

Wallace: Isn't the U.S. again in that classic position...that if we push too hard there's a danger of a backlash, but if we don't say enough, then we appear to be anti-democratic?

Holbooke: Exactly. In this case I think the Administration reacted too slowly, with too little.... Now I think the Administration is headed in the right direction. We do not want to overreact. We shouldn't appear to take sides. What we want to support is a democratic process which builds a broader political base for the government in Korea.... We should not use our troops. We should make sure the U.S. command and every element of the American governments knows that they should discourage a coup....

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THE McLAUGHLIN GROUP

Moderator: John McLaughlin. Panel: Michael Kinsley, Robert Novak, Jack Germond, Morton Kondracke.

On Persian Gulf Policy:

McLaughlin: Are the Soviets really interested in gaining control of the Gulf?

Kinsley: I suppose they'd like to but that doesn't mean the policy Reagan is following here makes any sense whatsoever.

Germond: There is no connection between the judgment that the Soviet Union would like to control the Persian Gulf and the wisdom of the kind of foreign policy we have put together there in flagging those ships. They are not necessarily related. I would agree totally that we have to maintain freedom of navigation -- we don't necessarily have to do it that way.

Kondracke: The U.S. was very sloppy about getting into this. We did it because of the Iran arms sale -- we lost the credibility with the Arabs because we did that.... In the end it boils down to two things: do you want the Soviets to be the defenders of the Kuwaitis, and do you want Iran to scare us out of the Persian Gulf? ...We're not going to do a pre-emptive strike on Silkworm missiles. But if the missiles start shooting at shipping, then we're going to attack....

Novak: What is really at stake is the micromanagement of policy by Congress and it just shows how incapable they are. I guarantee you that Congress would never have made a peep about the reflagging had it not been for the accidental shooting of the Stark.

Germond: The fact that Congress got to this the wrong way doesn't change the legitimacy....

McLaughlin: Should the U.S. Congress exert pressure to prevent Ronald Reagan the right to reflag the Kuwaiti vessels?

Kinsley: We should find out a lot more before we let him do it.

Novak: No. I think Congress needs a very long vacation.

Germond: I think they should and I think they will.

Kondracke: I think they should do exactly what they're doing -- raise the questions, get the answers, make sure the Administration knows what it's doing and then agree to it. No.

McLaughlin: I agree with you Morton -- they should not do it.

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MCLAUGHLIN GROUP (continued)

On Iran-Contra Hearings:

McLaughlin: The word impeachment has now been lofted into public view.... Is this kind of speculation justified?

Kondracke: No, I don't think it's justified. Lee Hamilton was asked an "if" question and he gave an "if" answer.... I think this would not be grounds for impeachment -- this is not a high crime or misdemeanor. It would demonstrate that the President has been systematically lying to the American people -- but you don't kick Presidents out of office for that.

Novak: All these Democrats...are after Ronald Reagan's hide so they can win the presidency in 1988 and these hearings are an absolute attempt to destroy Ronald Reagan.

Germond: The Democrats on the Hill, as well as the Republicans, do not what to impeach the President. They think it's ridiculous.

Novak: They want to destroy him.

Germond: He's destroyed himself....

McLaughlin: Are we agreed that Charles Glass has no one to blame for his present plight but himself?

Novak: Absolutely. He had no business being there. The worse thing that could be done now is if they make the same mistake they made before and try to deal. It's his fault and it's a shame but nothing can be done about it.

Predictions:

Kinsley: By the end of the year there will be diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel.

Novak: To quiet things down in Korea, President Chun will agree to electoral reform. There will be a second presidential election after the Olympics by direct election.

Germond: Jesse Jackson is going to have the support of most of the major city black mayors in this country, but there will be two or three of them who will go with either Dukakis or Biden.

Kondracke: The U.S. is working on a peace settlement -- it's not going to achieve its end -- at the United Nations Security Council. It's a two-part requirement that the parties in the Middle East negotiate and any party that does not agree to negotiate is faced with arms sanctions and other economic sanctions.

McLaughlin: The U.S. Congress is now contemplating a \$4 billion foreign aid grant to Pakistan and I predict that that \$4 billion will go for the first two years.

AGRONSKY & COMPANY

Moderator: Martin Agronsky. Panel: James Kilpatrick, Charles Krauthammer, Elizabeth Drew, Strobe Talbott.

On Iran-Contra Hearings:

Agronsky: On Sunday Congressman Hamilton made the observation that if a smoking gun was found that involved the President, Congress would have to seriously consider the prospect of impeachment. The President said there ain't no smoking gun. Where is this back-and-forth moving?

Drew: The whole issue and preoccupation with whether or not there is a smoking gun...really is a diversion from the central point that the Administration violated the Constitution and not on a small scale.... There is very little thought or feeling or planning that it should move to impeachment -- mainly because Reagan is in the seventh of the eight years of his presidency. As of now there's not going to be an impeachment.

Krauthammer: I disagree that the smoking gun is not the relevant question -- I think it is.... There's a question of whether the trail leads to the President.... If it's only a question of misconduct by the NSC, I think it would be on the back pages of the newspapers.

Talbott: I really disagree with that -- this is a fundamental difference between Irangate and Watergate.... It's not just a case of there not being a will to push to impeachment, I think there's an absolute aversion to the idea of it both on the part of the committee, in the Congress, and in the country.

Kilpatrick: I have yet to be persuaded, let alone convinced, that there's been any violation of the Constitution or of any statutory law.

Agronsky: What we are dealing with here is an Administration that chose to go around the law and that had an ideological commitment to achieve a policy that the Congress of the U.S. said that it should not achieve....

Drew: Reagan is the President of the U.S. He is accountable for what happens in the executive branch and certainly within his own White House. He knew that there was this grand secret program.... He has to be held to account for this.

On Persian Gulf Policy:

Agronsky: Do you feel that the President had adequately explained his policy and that he has the support of the Congress in this situation?

Talbott: What he did do in his televised speech was make it both clearer and more persuasive what the overall geo-political rationale for the policy is.... Where controversy still haunts the policy is over actual implementation of it. I think he's a long way from having justified the device of reflagging the Kuwaiti ships.

AGRONKSY & COMPANY (continued)

Krauthammer: Essentially this is a tilt of the U.S. towards Iraq in the war. The reason that we're doing that is because Iran is winning on the ground.

Talbott: Iran has become a kind of great satan obsession of American foreign policy.

Agronsky: There are so many idiotic contradictions in this thing that need clarification that I think have not been adequately explained.

Drew: What you're seeing now is Congress raising a lot of questions, but they are not going to try to keep the Administration from doing it.

Kilpatrick: We need to have a look at the rules of engagement that will govern the operations of our naval vessels out there. Historically, rules of engagement have been very ambiguous rules.... Until we see these rules, we can't make a judgment.

Talbott: Congress is a source of anxiety, and a lot of it is justified, but it's not exactly a source of great wisdom about alternative policies that would work a lot better.

Drew: Congress is not willing to block the Administration on this. Congress doesn't like responsibility for foreign policy decisions. They might object to them, but they don't want to take responsibility for them.

Agronsky: President Reagan this week has been sharply critical of the Congress on the budget process.... How is this confrontation going to be resolved?

Drew: This is a coin that is wearing thin. It did, however, induce the Democratic leadership to finally get together and agree on a budget. But this is one that the President will not accept. So we're still a very long way from solving the problem....

-End of News Summary-