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**Reuter Report** 

# **Speaker delivers letter** on summit to Gorbachev

MOSCOW — House Speaker Thomas O'Neill handed Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev a letter from President Reagan Wednesday reaffirming support for a summit, U.S. officials said.

O'Neill, heading a 13-member congressional delegation, met for more than three hours with Gorbachev, who has agreed in principle to a summit but set no date or site. His reaction to the letter was not immediately known.

It was not known if O'Neill and Gorbachev discussed Gorbachev's announcment Sunday of a freeze on deployment of medium-range SS-20 nuclear missiles in Europe until November. The announcement was cooly received by Washington and its allies.

#### Soviets say sentry to be disciplined

BONN, West Germany - A Soviet sentry who shot and killed U.S. Army Maj. Arthur Nicholson in East Germany last month is facing disciplinary measures and may be court martialed, according to informed Soviet bloc sources in Bonn.

The sources, who said their information came from Soviet military officers, reported that the sentry was under arrest and likely to be charged initially with violating guard duty regulations by using excessive force. But they added the Russian officers stuck by Soviet accounts that Nicholson was well inside a restricted military area at the time of the incident on March 24 and had ignored a warning shot from the sentry before he was fatally wounded.

The United States has described the officer's death as murder. While admitting he was photographing Soviet military facilities, it has said he was not in a restricted area at the time.

Western diplomats in Bonn said the sources may have been urged to leak the news that the sentry faced punishment in order to show Moscow was dealing with the case and to defuse Western outrage over the killing.

#### **Rulers reject rebels' ultimatum**

CAIRO, Egypt - Sudan's military rulers have rejected an ultimatum by southern rebel leader John Garang to hand power to a civilian government within a week, diplomats said Wednesday.

Western diplomatic reports from Khartoum said the military command said it would not be dictated to by Garang, who leads a rebellion in the mainly pagan and Christian south against the predominantly Moslem north.

The diplomats said Tuesday's ultimatum, which gave the generals seven days to resign or face continued rebellion, should not be taken too seriously as Garang could be seeking a seat in a future government and might want to strengthen his hand.

Gen. Abdul-Rahman Swareddahab, who selzed power in a coup Saturday that ousted President Jaafar Nimeiri, has named himself president of a 15-man transitional military council and appointed Gen. Taj al-Din Abdullah as vice president.

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#### Gandhi opposes U.S. aid to Pakistan

NEW DELHI, India - Growing U.S. arms supplies to neighboring Pakistan are affecting India's relations with both Washington and Islamabad, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said Wednesday.

"We are worried about the feverish purchases of arms by Pakistan," Gandhi was quoted as saying by the Press Trust of India.

He told Parliament the United States was also sending "huge quantities" of arms through Pakistan to Afghan rebels. India also feels the United States is not taking enough action on Pakistan's controversial nuclear program, seen by New Delhi as a potential threat to peace in the region. Gandhi said Pakistan had acquired an aircraft capable of carrying nuclear weapons. He did not elaborate.

Pakistan argued that the U.S. arms were for defense against Soviet troops based in Afghanistan, but New Delhi's experience had been that such sophisticated weapons were used against India, he said. Gandhi said he would take up the matter with President Reagan when he visits the United States in June.

## 140-year-old body oczes pus

LONDON - Archeologists have been ordered to suspend a dig in a London church after uncovering a 140-year-old corpse with signs of smallpox, the Employment Ministry said Wednesday.

A spokesman said archeologists recently uncovered a corpae covered with lesions and oozing pus in the crypt of Christ Church Spitalfields.

The ministry's health safety executive, which deals with workers' welfare, immediately suspended work on the site and closed the crypt. Samples of the body were flown to the United States to establish whether the smallpox virus was still active.

The World Health Organization declared that smallpox had been eradicated in 1969. Sporadic cases have been reported since, though none for the past five years.

### Court reinstates Newsweek suit

ST. LOUIS, Mo. - A Federal Appeals Court today reinstated a \$10 million libel suit filed by the governor of South Dakots against Newsweek magazine. Gov. William Jankiow sued the newsweekly in February, 1983, claiming that an article about Dennis Banks, a leader of the American Indian Movement, had libeled him.

It is the second major libel appeal decision this week, following a U.S. District court of Appeals reinstatement Tuesday of a lowen-court ruling that the Washington Post libeled former Mobil Oil Corp. President William P. Tavoulareas.

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