

News Digest

By The Associated Press

'The run up to the summit' Reagan uses movies, books to prepare for meetings

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's staff has been loading him down with books, briefing papers, personality profiles, videotapes and even Russian movies to prepare him for his summit meeting next week with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

But aides say Reagan's own convictions and the almost daily talks they have had with him on other pre-summit events seem to have had the most effect on his thinking.

"He has read books for quite a while now," said one White House official involved in helping the president get ready for the summit. "We've given him books and articles on the Soviet economy, trade, historical, the role of the Soviet military, the KGB, domestic issues, foreign trade."

But that official and others, all of

whom agreed to discuss Reagan's pre-summit work on condition they not be identified, said the president's general views about the Soviet Union have been formed during a quarter century and aren't likely to be changed during the period they call "the run up to the summit."

The White House obtained a copy of a Russian movie called "Moscow Without Tears" for the president to watch.

Aides said Reagan also has been shown videotapes of Gorbachev's public appearances, particularly those he has made in Britain and France, and has seen videotapes "on the Soviet people and personalities."

"He is reading biographic assessments of each one of the people he's going to be meeting with," one official

said, and he has briefing papers on the Soviet Union's top leaders, Communist Party structure, the role of the party and how it interacts at the various levels of society."

In Geneva, the government announced Monday that 2,000 Swiss soldiers would join 1,400 policemen to beef up security and help insure that Geneva remains "an island of public peace" during the summit meeting.

State police director Guy Fontanet said border and airspace controls will be tightened and that soldiers are under orders to shoot at any trespasser not stopping on first warning.

Soldiers from German-speaking Switzerland also are getting a crash course in French, focusing on these four words: "Halte ou je tire" (Halt or I shoot).

Children lie less than adults about sexual abuse, study shows

CHICAGO — Children rarely make false allegations of being sexually abused even though the public generally will believe the adult being accused instead of the youngster, according to a study released Monday.

Children who made such allegations were lying or incorrect less than 2 percent of the time and made fewer false complaints about sexual abuse than adults, said Dr. David Young, clinical director of the Kempe National Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect in Denver.

"I found that children make false or fictitious accounts very rarely," said Young.

"Do they ever get it wrong? Yes, sometimes they do, but mostly they don't," said Young, who is to present his findings today at the Seventh National Conference on Child Abuse

and Neglect.

He said a study of 576 reports of possible sexual abuse of children to the Denver Department of Social Services in 1983 showed 267 of them were unfounded, either because there was insufficient evidence or because investigation determined the incidents did not happen.

Young said 45 of the unfounded cases stemmed from false reports filed by adults or children. Adults filed 36 false reports, or 6.25 percent of the total, and children filed nine false reports, or 1.56 percent.

Other studies have shown the public tends not to believe a child who claims to have been sexually abused when the accused adult denies it, unless there is other supporting evidence, Young said.

"In general, the public doesn't like to believe a child against an adult

unless there is some other evidence that helps them make that decision," he said.

There is no way for authorities investigating a child's complaint to determine if the child is lying, he said.

"I wish there was some sort of litmus test to determine if a child is telling the truth," Young said.

"There are indications that interviewers can watch for as the story unfolds. In my experience, children offering fictitious accounts showed an absence of any emotion," he said. "They weren't depressed or saddened or anxious."

The adults who made false reports of child sexual abuse were generally involved in custody disputes or had been victims of abuse as children, he said.

13 years later. . .

Nixon papers, tapes still under seal

WASHINGTON — Thirteen years have passed since Congress passed a law seizing Richard Nixon's presidential papers and tape recordings. Despite orders that documents dealing with Watergate be released "at the earliest reasonable date," not a single one has been made public.

Nor has anyone been able to listen to the 4,000 hours of tapes. Only 12½ hours of the recordings are public — because they were used in the criminal trials of Nixon's subordinates.

The latest attempt by the National Archives and Records Administration to provide for public access to the 40 million pages of Nixon materials is stalled in the bureaucracy, although the Reagan administration denies there is any political reason.

The archives sent a final draft of proposed regulations to the White House's

Office of Management and Budget for routine approval on July 11. Robert Bedell of OMB acknowledged receipt on July 23 and said without further explanation that "it has been necessary for us to extend our review period." Nothing has been heard about the regulations since then. No regulations, no public access.

The proposed regulations represent the sixth attempt to let the public see the Nixon documents. The first three sets of regulations were rejected by Congress, the fourth was submitted and withdrawn for legal reasons. The fifth set was ruled unconstitutional by a federal court.

One problem may be that many people who worked for Nixon are, or have been, associated with the Reagan administration.

Fred Fielding, the White House

counsel who worked in the same office in the Nixon administration under Watergate conspirator John Dean, said he has deliberately stayed out of the matter.

An associate counsel in Fielding's office, John Roberts, said "We don't want to create the appearance we are involved in this for some sort of political reasons. People on staff here, who were in the Nixon White House, have recused themselves. We have no reason to keep these things from coming out."

The Archives had been prepared in 1983 to begin making public 1.5 million pages of documents — those marked "special files" by the Nixon staff. These include internal memoranda, advice to the president, political and fund-raising memos and legislative problems — not Watergate related.

Newsmakers

A roundup of the day's happenings

William Schroeder, 53, the world's longest-living recipient of a permanent artificial heart, suffered a third stroke Monday and was readmitted to a Louisville, Ky., hospital. He is listed in serious condition.

Omaha businessman Willy Theisen, 40, says he will decide between Dec. 1 and Dec. 15 whether he will run for governor of Nebraska. Theisen, a Democrat, confirmed he is "very, very seriously" considering a bid for the office. He is founder of the Godfather's pizza chain and owner of Flakey Jake's restaurant in Omaha.

Art Carney, famous for his role as the zany swine worker on television's "The Honeymooners," says he decided to play a priest in a television movie about the Boys Town orphanage because it is "an uplifting story." Carney, 67, will star as Father O'Halloran in "Miracle of the Heart: A Boys Town Story," which is being filmed in Omaha.

Who do 4,000 American high schoolers consider their heroes? Comedian-actor Eddie Murphy, President Reagan and TV star Bill Cosby took top honors, followed by singer Prince and actor Sylvester Stallone (tied at 4th), actor

Clint Eastwood (5th), rock singer Madonna, dancer-actress Debbie Allen and basketball star Michael Jordan (6th), rock singers Bruce Springsteen and Eddie Van Halen (8th), and actor Harrison Ford (9th). The students were chosen by local newspapers in 145 cities in the World Almanac and Book of Facts' sixth annual poll.

Two California astronomers were the first to see Halley's comet (Friday) on its current visit without the aid of telescopes or binoculars, an astronomical reporting agency says. Astronomers Steve Edberg and Charles Morris say they saw the comet from the 7,000-foot level in the San Gabriel Mountains near Mount Waterman, about 30 miles northeast of Los Angeles.

Ezra Taft Benson, expressing love for everyone of "every color, creed and political persuasion," said he had been appointed by God as the Mormon Church's 13th prophet and president. Benson, 86, a former U.S. agriculture secretary whose ultraconservative politics made him the most controversial modern church apostle, said he planned no major changes as successor to President Spencer W. Kimball, who died last Tuesday.

In Brief

S. Africa may expel foreign workers

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — The government, declaring that "charity begins at home," said Monday it may have to send home thousands of foreign black workers if sanctions force more South Africans out of work.

Minister of Manpower Pietie du Plessis denied a report in an influential financial newspaper that the government already had approved the expulsion of some of the 1.5 million black foreign workers, many of whom work in the gold and diamond mines that supply much of South Africa's hard currency.

But du Plessis said "contingency plans" were being drafted to send home foreign blacks if necessary in the future. "This action has been forced on the South African government by those who favor sanctions and disinvestment without having regard for the detrimental effect on innocent people," he said.

"Since charity begins at home, the government has no option but to give preference to the needs of its own citizens as regards job opportunities," du Plessis said in a statement issued in Pretoria, the capital.

State organizes employee health plan

LINCOLN — Following the lead of many private companies, the state of Nebraska has organized a "Well-Team" to promote good health among its 13,500 employees.

Program coordinator Luanne Stock said the effort has received "tremendous support from top management," which includes Gov. Bob Kerrey and state Health Department Director Dr. Gregg Wright.

Stock and others said that promoting good health can be cost effective for an individual and an employer, such as the state.

"Wellness programs do pay in less absenteeism, less employee turnover, higher morale and higher production," said Jim Dills, director of health promotion and education in the state Health Department.

Two critical parts of the campaign, which began last spring, are about to begin, Stock said.

The first is a health-risk survey that will identify lifestyle risks such as smoking, seat-belt use and stress management. The other is a health interest survey.

Fewer high school dropouts reported

LINCOLN — The number of dropouts from Nebraska high schools has been declining gradually for the past five years, the state Department of Education reports.

The dropout rate for the 1984-85 school year was 2.9 percent of the total secondary school membership, or 3,748 of the 130,840 students in grades seven through 12.

While the dropout rate for the past two years is higher than the recent low of 2.6 percent in 1982-83, it has not reached the rates of more than 3 percent experienced in the late 1970s and the early 1980s, the department said.

In 1980-81, there were 5,531 dropouts out of 148,664 students in the seventh through 12th grades, or 3.7 percent.

A dropout is defined as a student who leaves school for any reason except death or expulsion, before graduation or completion of his or her studies, and who does not transfer to another school.

Lancaster County schools, including Lincoln, reported 445 dropouts during 1984-85, or 3.1 percent of the total secondary school enrollment of 14,344.

UPI, major creditors discuss buyers

WASHINGTON — United Press International and its major creditors sought Monday to agree on a prospective buyer from among three final bidders for the news agency.

UPI spokesman William Adler said the three finalists were Mario Vazquez Rana, a Mexican newspaper publisher; Joe Russo, a Houston real estate developer and a six-member consortium led by Financial News Network Inc. of New York, a cable TV company.

A news story that UPI transmitted to its subscribers Monday and made available to The Associated Press said the final bidders had made offers ranging from \$36 million to \$40 million in cash and working capital.

Immigration report under review

WASHINGTON — The Immigration and Naturalization Service has completed an internal probe into its handling of would-be Soviet defector Miroslav Medvid, and that report is being reviewed by the Justice Department, an administration official said Monday.

The official, declining to be identified publicly, said the INS report was being studied by high-ranking officials at the department, including aides to Attorney General Edwin Meese and Deputy Attorney General D. Lowell Jensen.

Meese will likely review the report before any final action is taken, the official said.

Meanwhile, Peter Roussel, a White House spokesman, declined to comment on a published report that the White House favors punishment for officials found responsible for prematurely returning Medvid to his ship.

AIDS victim dies in treatment

PARIS — An AIDS patient undergoing experimental treatment with the drug cyclosporine has died, one of the developers of the treatment announced Monday.

Dr. Philippe Even of Laennec Hospital in Paris said the 38-year-old male patient died Saturday night after about three weeks of treatment, but he said other patients were responding well to cyclosporine and that research and clinical tests of the treatment "would be expanded to several other French hospitals later this week."

Even said the death was not unexpected, given the advanced stage of the man's illness and his multiple infections. He said the treatment appeared "more and more promising" and that the number of patients undergoing it would be doubled to about 20.

Cyclosporine is normally used to prevent rejection of transplanted organs. The French researchers use it to paralyze cells containing AIDS, hoping to keep the disease from spreading and let the body build up its immune system.