

# News Digest

By The Associated Press

## At The Summit: Day 1 'Star Wars' focus as meeting opens

GENEVA — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev joined President Reagan in this chilly seat of neutrality Monday, and on the eve of their summit the superpower chiefs squared off on "Star Wars," the anti-missile program that lies at the heart of lagging efforts to forge a new arms agreement.

American and Soviet officials were sharpening their proposals for today's first session between the 74-year-old Reagan and Gorbachev — a man 20 years his junior and still relatively untested in international affairs.

Both leaders pledged fidelity to efforts to end the superpower arms race, but discussed sharply divergent views on how to achieve the goal.

Gorbachev said he came to discuss "primarily the question of what can be done to stop the unprecedented arms race which has unfolded in the world (and) to prevent it from spreading into new spheres."

It was an unmistakable reference to Reagan's program to develop a defensive space shield that could bring down nuclear missiles before they reach their targets.

Reagan, questioned about the Soviet leader's statement, told reporters, "We both must have the same intentions. If he feels as strongly that way as I do, then we'll end the arms race."

But he remained determined to search for a space-based defense, best known as Star Wars despite his dislike for the term, saying, "Just wait'll he hears my proposal."

Reagan's national security adviser, Robert C. McFarlane, also defended the Star Wars research program, telling reporters "the Soviet Union has driven us to this" by building up its own offensive nuclear arsenal and conducting a defensive research program of its own.

The Soviet Union, he said, "could not reasonably expect any country to stand by idly and watch" while Moscow pursued a program of their own.

In a new development Monday, a Soviet official traced a possible Kremlin proposal to break the impasse on



Kurt Eberhard/Daily Nebraskan

space weapons by establishing a joint scientific panel for superpower intellectuals to consider "Star Wars" issues together.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he did not know whether Gorbachev might actually raise such a proposal to Reagan. But the source said that in Gorbachev's summit preparations on Star Wars, "the role of scientists was very important."

Official Soviet arguments, however, weren't presented Monday at the international press center in Geneva, where thousands of journalists have gathered to cover the first superpower summit in

six years.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman walked out of a news briefing there after being interrupted by a recent Soviet emigre who sought to challenge the Kremlin's human rights policies.

Reagan and Gorbachev, whose formal title is general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, begin their four two-hour formal discussions with a 15-minute tete-a-tete with only their interpreters present Tuesday morning in a small room at the Villa Fleur d'Eau, the lakeside mansion selected by the Americans for the first day of talks at which Reagan will play host.

## Trial opens in test of widely used IUD

BALTIMORE — The first major legal battle over the nation's most widely used intrauterine contraceptive device began Monday, with an attorney telling jurors that G.D. Searle & Co. rushed the Copper 7 to market on the basis of a "fatally flawed" study.

The 17 plaintiffs, women from all parts of the country, blame the device for pelvic inflammations, sterility and other gynecological problems. They are seeking unspecified damages.

In an emotional opening to the federal court trial, eight of the women were introduced from their front row seats as their attorney explained the medical problems he said they suffered from using the IUD. Several wept after they sat down.

The suit claims Searle was negligent, failed to adequately warn women of the IUD's dangers, knowingly withheld information about its risk, and

breached an expressed warranty about its safety.

In opening arguments, Searle's attorney, Paul F. Strain, countered that the Copper 7 has "the overwhelming endorsement of the American medical community" and is prescribed a million times a year.

In the first stage of the trial, during which none of the 17 women will be called to testify, the plaintiffs will have to prove that the Copper 7 does cause the kind of problems alleged. If they can prove that, they will then have to show it was responsible for each woman's specific problem.

Searle, a unit of Monsanto Co. that is based at Skokie, Ill., has won six of nine IUD lawsuits that have gone to trial since the Copper 7 was placed on the market in 1974, a company spokesman said. It lost two cases, and a third resulted in a hung jury.

## U.S., Hanoi begin MIA search

HANOI, Vietnam — Village children lined the road Monday and watched a gum-chewing U.S. soldier drive a tractor to the excavation site at Yen Thuong village on the outskirts of Hanoi, where remains of U.S. airmen may be buried.

In an unprecedented joint search, American and Vietnamese military men are to begin digging today for remains of the airmen, who the Vietnamese say bombed their cities 13 years ago.

Workers tore down a brick kitchen building so Sgt. Michael Dixon and his 7½-ton tractor could enter the village.

Dixon, from Oak Hill, W. Va., is attached to the 84th Engineering Battalion at Schofield, Honolulu.

Air Force Capt. Virginia Pribyla, spokeswoman for the U.S. team, said U.S. experts would use metal detectors to determine where and how far to dig. After the tractor clears the upper layer of earth, workers with hand shovels will probe for what the Vietnamese say may be the wreckage of a B-52 and the remains of four crew members, she said.

The 13-member U.S. military team includes explosives experts and specialists in locating and recovering human remains. Helping them will be 10 Vietnamese soldiers and civilians experienced in excavation work. The operation is expected to take 10 to 12 days.

## In Brief

### Majority of Nebraskans favor lottery

LINCOLN — A clear majority of Nebraskans who participated in a statewide poll say they like the idea of gambling to raise revenue, poll results show.

And some state senators say the odds are good that Nebraska will have a lottery by the end of the 1986 legislative session.

Results of the poll, conducted by Research Associates for the Lincoln Journal and The Lincoln Star, showed that 69 percent of the respondents favor a state lottery and 25 percent oppose the idea. Seven percent had no opinion.

The 448 respondents were asked: "Do you think Nebraska should implement a state lottery?"

The poll was conducted Nov. 5 through 12 during a special legislative session in which senators increased the state's individual income tax rate from 19 percent to 20 percent of federal tax liability to avoid further budget cuts.

Sen. James Pappas of North Platte, who introduced a bill that would create a statewide video lottery, said other polls show that 80 percent of the people support a lottery.

### Colombia death toll at 25,000

BOGOTA, Colombia — Soldiers patrolled the town of Armero with orders to shoot looters who roamed the sea of mud, stepping on the injured in their haste to rob the dead, officials said Monday.

Five more survivors were found, including a 7-year-old boy, according to rescue workers interviewed by Colombian radio.

Colombia's health minister said two cases of typhoid fever had been reported in the Andes Valley farming town destroyed by last week's volcanic eruption. He said the area would be fumigated to kill flies that carry the disease but the operation would not interfere with rescue operations.

Officials say about 25,000 people were killed when the Nevado del Ruiz volcano erupted last Wednesday, melting part of its snowcap and sending a 15-foot-high wall of mud down the Languilla River that buried Armero.

### U.S. envoy hurries back to Beirut

LONDON — The Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy left for Lebanon on Monday night to meet again with kidnappers of Americans whose release he is trying to arrange. He conferred with U.S. officials in London.

"I think there are certain things that I can now say (to the kidnappers), which I hope will take the conversations forward and help us in this long and difficult process of negotiation," Terry Waite told reporters at London's Heathrow Airport.

He left with obvious urgency less than 24 hours after arriving from Beirut. He went there last week after four of six missing Americans wrote an appeal for help to Archbishop Robert Runcie, spiritual head of the Anglican church. He left on a Paris-bound flight and was to fly on to the Lebanese capital today.

Waite spent the morning with U.S. officials who came to London for the meeting, and conferred separately later with British government officials.

### Vegetation returns to African area

NEW YORK — Newly analyzed satellite photographs of famine-torn regions of Africa show substantial increases in vegetation during the last year — a sign that the drought may be easing, a researcher says.

"Things are better in many places," said James Tucker of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. "It probably means that the natural conditions underlying the drought are somewhat better in many areas."

The satellite images show substantial increases in vegetation in many scattered areas in the Sahel — the semi-arid area lying along the southern border of the Sahara desert, Tucker said. The images were made in August and September of 1984, and again in August and September of this year.

The vegetation consists largely of grass, which is not edible but which will support livestock, Tucker said. "These areas are almost exclusively pastoral," he said. "Things are based on animals being the converter of energy for human uses, either through milk or meat."

Increased vegetation growth does not necessarily mean more rain has fallen, Tucker said. But it does suggest that the rain occurred at times that are best for nurturing plant growth.

### Postmen watch for pornography

OMAHA — An Omaha-based postal inspector says postal officials are monitoring publications of pedophiles — people who prefer children as sexual objects — in an effort to find major dealers of child pornography in the Midwest.

Inspector Arthur Thompson said postal inspectors often obtain pornographic magazines through seizures at homes and businesses of people accused of child pornography.

"There may not be a great number of big dealers, but there may be little guys out there," Thompson said.

Alan Steckman of Des Moines, Iowa, inspector in charge for Nebraska and Iowa, said, "The crime may be merely exchanging photos by mail. There doesn't have to be any profit involved."

Sometimes information on child pornographers comes from police and child protective services, Thompson said. Film services that receive pornographic film in the mail for processing also tip inspectors, he said.

### McGee tabbed NL's 'Most Valuable'

NEW YORK — Batting champion Willie McGee, the flashy center fielder of the National League champion St. Louis Cardinals, was named the NL's Most Valuable Player by the Baseball Writers Association of America Monday.

McGee received 14 first place votes from a 24-writer panel, two from each league city, and finished with 280 points.

Dave Parker of the Cincinnati Reds, who led the league with 125 runs batted in, finished second with six firsts and 220 points. Pedro Guerrero of the NL West champion Los Angeles Dodgers was third with three firsts and 208 points and pitcher Dwight Gooden of the New York Mets, who won the Cy Young Award last week, finished fourth with one first and 162 points.

## Cruise ship hijackers all convicted

GENOA, Italy — Four Palestinians accused of hijacking the Achille Lauro cruise ship were convicted with a fifth man Monday on charges of illegal possession of arms and explosives.

Three of the defendants said in written statements read in court that aides to PLO official Mohammed Abbas delivered the weapons used in the hijacking. Abbas has denied this.

The court ordered prison terms ranging from four to nine years for the five men convicted Monday. They face trial at a later date on charges of kidnapping and of murdering an American passenger aboard the Italian cruise liner during the Oct. 7-9 ordeal.

A panel of three judges convicted the five men after hearing testimony in the morning. There was no jury. The judges deliberated for two hours and 20 minutes before announcing the verdicts.

The five defendants greeted their sentences with an outburst of pro-Palestinian chants.

"We will defend with our blood and soul our country," they chanted in Arabic while waving victory signs.

The stiffest sentence of nine years plus a fine of 3 million lire (about \$1,700) was given to Abbas, identified previously as Mohammed Kalaf, who was arrested in Genoa carrying false passports before the Italian ship began its Mediterranean cruise.