

# News Digest

By The Associated Press

## Counsel wants at least 90 days before Congress grants immunity

WASHINGTON — Lawrence E. Walsh, the independent counsel investigating the Iran-Contra affair, asked Congress on Tuesday to wait at least 90 days before granting limited immunity to key witnesses. He vowed to challenge in court any attempt to act sooner.

"The danger is substantial," Walsh said, that his probe would be compromised by any effort to move quickly to grant immunity to former National Security Adviser John M. Poindexter or his fired aide, Lt. Col. Oliver North.

Key lawmakers in the House and Senate have said in recent days they hoped to move quickly to grant limited immunity from prosecution

to Poindexter and North in order to compel their testimony.

But Walsh, speaking with reporters after a two-hour session with the House panel, said if Congress moves before 90 days, "we would then have to do whatever we could to get ourselves as much time as possible to perfect our case" against anyone who might be indicted.

Walsh said he will deliver a similar message when he meets with the Senate investigating committee on Wednesday.

Under federal law, Walsh would be able to delay a grant of immunity for roughly 30 days. Any court challenge by him would create a conflict with congressional investigators that

both sides have carefully sought to avoid.

Earlier Tuesday, Senate committee chairman Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, said, "We should not wait until July" to arrange immunity to force testimony by North and Poindexter and perhaps others. "If you want the full story, there's no question" that immunity will have to be granted to key figures, he said.

Rep. Dick Cheney, R-Wyo., the senior Republican on the House panel, said he was keeping an open mind on the immunity issue. But he has expressed reservations about going forward with immunity for high-ranking officials before lower-level witnesses are interviewed.

## Former Arizona governor to run on Democratic ticket

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Former Gov. Bruce E. Babbitt of Arizona, drawing applause when he criticized "amateurs in charge of the White House," declared his candidacy Tuesday for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination.

Moving quickly to try to separate himself from his rivals for the nomination, Babbitt proposed increasing the tax on Social Security benefits for higher-income Americans, capping the mortgage interest deduction, and writing new rules for world trade.

The 48-year-old former governor also pledged he would "never trade anything of value for a hostage," even if it meant some would be killed.

With his wife and two sons on the platform, Babbitt declared his candidacy before about 200 supporters at Science Enrichment Encounters, a display of science and industrial exhibits geared to children.

His speech contained several allusions to the Iran-Contra affair although

he never referred directly to the investigations that are bedeviling the Reagan White House.

Babbitt drew his loudest applause when he said:

"America does not have to leave arms merchants in charge of our diplomacy, terrorists in charge of our security, soldiers of fortune in charge of our Central America desk, Japanese traders in charge of our markets, embezzlers in charge of Wall Street, bigots in charge of our social agenda, pollsters in charge of our politics, and amateurs in charge of the White House."

He said Reagan has run a "government by TelePrompTer in which words and deeds seem to have lost all logical connection."

He added, "For years we've heard courageous words about terrorists from a president who sends them missiles for ransom and then he pleads amnesia when he's called to account."

## Vatican against artificial creation

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican warned against "unforeseeable damaging" consequences of artificial procreation Tuesday, condemning surrogate motherhood, test-tube births, cloning and experiments on living embryos.

In setting out the Roman Catholic church's position on rapidly developing techniques of fertilization, the Vatican also called for laws against embryo banks, attempts to fashion animal-human hybrids and the planting of human embryos in artificial and animal uteruses.

It left the door open to research on helping sterile couples conceive and withheld judgment on fertilization techniques in use or development that neither substitute for marital intercourse nor result in deaths of "spare" embryos.

"We encourage scientific research... but science is not absolute, to which everything must be subordinated and eventually sacrificed, including the dignity of man," Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, told a news conference.

The church position is contained in a 40-page document written by the Congregation, the guardian and promoter of Roman Catholic orthodoxy, and approved by Pope John Paul II.

Vatican officials said the Pope was consulted at every stage about the document, titled "Instruction on Respect for Human Life in its Origin and on the Dignity of Procreation — Replies to Certain Questions of the Day."

Some Vatican officials described it as the most important pronouncement on human procreation since the 1968 "Humane Vitae" encyclical of Pope Paul VI, which banned artificial birth control.

Any Catholic who "willingly and knowingly" violates the directives will be committing a sin, Vatican officials said. The document asks all church-run hospitals and Catholic doctors and scientists to follow the directives.

Ratzinger said the document was a response to requests and queries from national bishops' conferences, individual prelates, doctors and scientists. He described it as the result of "vast consultations" with experts and church officials.

Central to Vatican reasoning are two time-honored church principles: that every human life must be respected from the moment of conception, and that the only acceptable way to give birth to a child is through sexual intercourse between married spouses.

## Heart balloon use swelling

NEW ORLEANS — The use of tiny balloons to unclog heart arteries is growing dramatically, but it seems to have done little to cut into the high prevalence of expensive coronary bypass surgery, a study has found.

The non-surgical procedure, known as angioplasty, is being done on increasingly sicker patients with better results, researchers found.

However, the researchers say that while angioplasty was used on 150,000 Americans last year, bypass surgery was performed on 250,000 Americans in the same period.

The first angioplasty was performed 10 years ago.

In several papers presented this week at the annual meeting of the American College of Cardiology, re-

searchers described the results of a large followup of angioplasty sponsored by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute that examined differences in angioplasty between 1980 and 1985.

Dr. Katherine Detre of the University of Pittsburgh said the statistics show that angioplasty is being performed on people with far more advanced heart disease than it was in the early days, and that results continue to improve.

The procedure was successful 87 percent of the time in 1985, compared with 67 percent five years earlier.

Despite the more complicated cases, the death rate is the same — about 1 percent. And the need for emergency bypass operations to rescue patients from unsuccessful angioplasty fell from 6 percent of cases to 4 percent.

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**In Brief**


**Morning caffeine jolt good for extroverts**  
 CHICAGO — That jolt of caffeine in a morning cup of coffee or tea improves an impulsive, extroverted person's work on complex reasoning tasks, but does the opposite for thoughtful introverts, two psychology professors said Tuesday. Caffeine in doses equivalent to one to three cups of coffee helps both types of people perform simple mental jobs, the psychologists said they have found in research over seven years.

**Waitress receives tips to visit sister**  
 EAST HARTFORD, Conn. — The no-tipping policy at a doughnut shop was loosened to give 80 customers the chance to give waitress Isabelle Dillon \$1,000 so she can visit a sister she hasn't seen in 60 years. Mrs. Dillon, 70, was surprised with the gift Saturday at the Dunkin' Donuts shop where she has worked for 25 years. A relative recently discovered that her 86-year-old sister, Grace Gates, was living in Edmonton, Alberta. Mrs. Dillon said she may use the money to bring Mrs. Gates from Canada to Idaho, where another sister, Ina Low, 77, is hospitalized. The three sisters are the living siblings of 10 children.

**Another Soviet dissident released**  
 MOSCOW — Dissident scientist Andrei Sakharov said that a human rights activist whose freedom Sakharov had sought was released from a prison in the Ukraine. Sakharov told The Associated Press by telephone that he received a call Monday night from Genrikn Altunyan, who said he had been released earlier in the day and was at his home in Kharkov. Altunyan, 53, was among the founders of the Initiative Group for the Defense of Human Rights, one of the first Soviet dissident networks established to monitor the government's compliance with international accords on personal freedoms.

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