

News Digest

By The Associated Press

U.S. won't occupy unsecure embassy

WASHINGTON — President Reagan promised quick action Tuesday to prevent "further damage to our national security" from a sex-and-spy scandal in Moscow and suggested that the unfinished, \$191 million U.S. Embassy there will be torn down if it cannot be protected from eavesdropping.

He declared that the Soviets will not be allowed to move into their new embassy on a Washington hilltop until Americans occupy a new embassy in Moscow.

The new U.S. facility under construction in Moscow is due for completion in 1989, but there are reports it already is riddled with bugging devices.

"The United States will not occupy our new embassy building in Moscow unless and until I can be assured that it is safe to move into a secure embassy environment," Reagan said in a brief appearance in the White House press briefing room.

Two Marines who served as guards at the existing embassy have been charged with espionage. They allegedly became sexually involved with Soviet women and allowed KGB agents into the embassy's communications center and other sensitive areas.

"I'm deeply concerned over the breach of security in our Moscow embassy," Reagan said, "and while all the facts are not known, it is clear that the security implications are widespread and that additional quick action is required to prevent further damage to our national security."

Reagan said he had directed Secretary of State George Shultz and the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board to "evaluate the condition of our new building and ascertain whether it will ever be secure or whether it may be necessary to destroy and rebuild it."

He said he wanted a report within 90 days.

Reagan acknowledged that the advisory board as far back as 1985 had raised alarms about the use of Soviet personnel at the U.S. Embassy.

"We immediately started and did accomplish a reduction in personnel, in stages, that were there," he said.

"And I must say we did run into some embassy problems and opposition because it isn't exactly a place where you can just go out and hire Americans to go and take jobs like that in the Soviet Union."

The president said he would not permit the rehiring of Soviet workers at the embassy, even if the Kremlin revokes an order banning their employment there.

Reagan rejected a suggestion by former Secretary of

State Henry Kissinger that Shultz abandon plans to hold talks in Moscow next week with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, meeting instead in Helsinki.

"I just don't think it's good for us to be run out of town," he said.

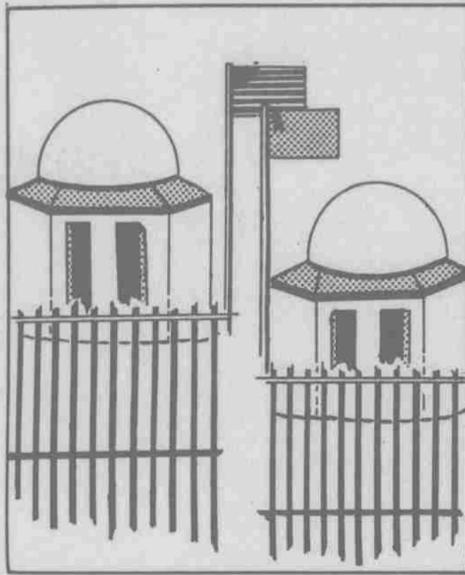
Frank Carlucci, the president's national security adviser, said Shultz will have a secure room in the embassy from which to work.

Reagan, asked how he could continue to hold arms talks with the Soviets in view of the spying, replied:

"I think the whole business of espionage worldwide is something that we have to recognize takes place, and counterespionage is employed by everyone, but at the same time, you don't stop doing business."

As for whether the incident had changed his view of the Soviets, Reagan said, "I think I've been rather realistic about the Soviet Union for quite some time and, believe me, it doesn't surprise me a bit."

Before his announcement, Reagan reviewed the embassy problem in a meeting with Shultz, Carlucci and other Cabinet members and advisers.



Children with aids

Mother blames apathy

PHILADELPHIA — A mother of a 4-year-old boy with AIDS said Tuesday she won't tell her son he has the fatal disease because if he told a schoolmate it "could ruin his life."

"I can't risk having him be a leper," she said.

The woman, who is using a fictitious name, spoke in an interview before participating in a closed workshop on AIDS in children. Her son contracted the disease, she said, through a blood transfusion shortly after birth.

Surgeon General C. Everett Koop invited the woman and the mother of a child who died of AIDS in 1983 to a three-day conference of physicians, social scientists and government health care experts.

People don't seem to believe scientists' claims that the disease cannot be

transmitted through casual contact, she noted.

"People are terrified," she said. "In science, things are never conclusive or final, so people aren't sure."

Earlier, a Los Angeles theatrical manager told the conference of the struggles faced by her family after her 3-year-old son died of AIDS in 1983. He, too, had received contaminated blood shortly after birth.

Helen Kushnick said a mortuary refused to dress her son's body for burial, and her healthy daughter was barred from a nursery school for fear she would contaminate the other children.

Ms. Kushnick blamed the government for "apathy" on AIDS research, blaming the slowness on the initial misperception that it was "a homosexual disease."

In Brief

Transient demands help from governor

LINCOLN — Albert Salazar, 40, who went to the Governor's Mansion and demanded help in visiting his brother in the Nebraska State Penitentiary, was fined \$100 in Lancaster County Court Monday for disturbing the peace.

Salazar, a transient, called the governor's office and allegedly threatened to harm anyone who got in his way. He showed up Friday at the mansion, police said. He was taken into custody by police and the Nebraska State Patrol.

Gov. Kay Orr was in Hawaii with her husband at the time.

Report: Tuition should replace state funds

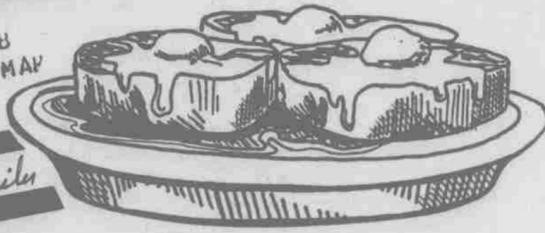
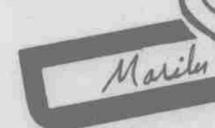
LINCOLN — The legislature should reconsider its policy of expecting student tuition to make up for declining state appropriations to higher education, says a study report submitted to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

The report recommends that the Legislature consider the burgeoning problem of student loan indebtedness, particularly in graduate education, and appropriate funds to a state financial aid fund to meet federal matching requirements.

Let's see some I.D.



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Hinckley wants to live with asylum friend

WASHINGTON — John C. Hinckley says he wants to live with a woman who once killed her sleeping daughter and is now "the biggest influence in my life," according to court papers filed Tuesday.

Hinckley, acquitted by reason of insanity of attempted murder charges stemming from the 1981 shooting of President Reagan, recently told a psychiatrist he hopes to eventually gain release from St. Elizabeths Hospital in Washington to live with Leslie DeVeau.

Ms. DeVeau, a one-time Washington socialite, was found guilty by reason of insanity of charges she murdered her child in 1982.

She met Hinckley at St. Elizabeths and there were published reports in 1985 that the two were engaged to be married.

Ms. DeVeau has since been released from the government-run mental hospital where Hinckley was committed after his 1982 acquittal.

Hinckley's statements were quoted by federal prosecutors opposing a hospital recommendation that Hinckley be allowed to make an unescorted Easter visit to his family.

Prosecutors quoted from one psychiatrist's Feb. 12 letter in papers filed in U.S. District Court.

Pope calls for fair bounty

VIEDMA, Argentina — Pope John Paul II on Tuesday called for fairer distribution of Argentina's natural bounty, advised gauchos and farmworkers not to migrate to the cities and told Indians to defend their heritage.

He also heard an outspoken local bishop imply this country's Roman Catholic establishment did not do enough to defend human rights during a 1976-1983 military regime that tortured and killed thousands of suspected opponents.

In Viedma, on the northern edge of the vast Patagonian scrubland, the pontiff encouraged development of the nearly empty region.

"Take advantage of the natural resources of this region . . . so as to achieve ever more human living conditions and populate more and more this extensive area," he said from an outdoor platform surrounded by sagebrush near the airport.

The democratically elected government of President Raul Alfonsin, whose December 1983

inauguration ended military rule, plans to transfer the national capital from Buenos Aires, with 10 million people, to Viedma, population 30,000. The transfer is intended to spur provincial development.

Local residents, their faces lined by the Patagonian sun and wind, reached out to touch the pope. John Paul paused to kiss babies, caress the heads of young people and extend his hand to wellwishers. One couple offered him a gourd of an Argentine herbal tea called "mate," which he sipped.

Viedma's bishop, Miguel Hesayne, told the pope and the crowd assembled to see him that the church in Argentina "does not always identify itself with the poor, the needy and the persecuted."

The crowd applauded as Hesayne said, "Let us never again have to lament the deaths of young people - soldiers or civilians, 'disappeared ones' or torture victims."

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Correction

The story, "Nebraska may be picked for nuclear-waste dump," Daily Nebraskan, April 2, incorrectly stated that 1988 was the year that low level nuclear waste could be first deposited in a selected dump site in Nebraska. The correct year is 1993.