News Digest

CIA cables subject of probe

WASHINGTON — The chief of the

CIA's clandestine service told Congress that Iran-contra independent counsel Lawrence Walsh is probing the mystery of missing CIA cables alerting the spy agency in late 1985 that U.S.made missiles were being shipped to Iran, according to testimony released Wednesday.

Clair George, the CIA's deputy director for operations, raised the possibilty the cables could have been destroyed in a cover-up, but he discounted the

Nebraskan

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and 6 before the congressional Iran-Wednesday although some sensitive portions remain classified and were blacked out.

In addition to his comments on the missing cables, George also:

Tesitified that the White House military precursor to the CIA. and the late CIA Director William J. Casey ignored his strong complaints diversion of arms-sales profits to aid that unsavory and untrustworthy peo- the contras was something the CIA ple were helping run what George viewed as a total "arms for hostages deal" with Iran.

North's engaging personality won him fit," he said. "That's the gospel.

friends at the CIA but a tendency George's private testimony on Aug. 5 toward exaggeration and melodrama kept even those who like him skeptical contra committees was distributed about things he told them. Still, he said, North had endeared himself to. Casey, in part because he was "action oriented" and reminded Casey of his own exploits during World War II with the Office of Strategic Services, the

Declared that the North-directed could not properly be involved in.

"You cannot take United States weapons and just go out and sell them for a Suggested that Lt. Col. Oliver profit and use the profits as you see

Iran refuses bargain in 7-year-old Iraq war

the United States and Arab nations Wednesday of trying to impose an "ignominious peace," and rejected any compromise in its 7-year-old war with Iraq.

Sandstorms swept the Persian Gulf, drastically reducing visibility. Shipping executives puzzled over the whereabouts of another convoy of Kuwaiti tankers and U.S. Navy escorts, or whether it was underway at all.

The comments by Prime Minister Hussein Musavi of Iran appeared to be a reaction to an Arab League ultimatum Tuesday that Iran accept a July 20 cease-fire resolution by the U.N. Security Council by Sept. 20 or risk a mass break in relations by Arab nations.

His remarks, reported by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, made no direct reference to the demand.

NICOSIA, Cyprus — Iran accused Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said Wednesday: "Unless the Iranians officially indicate their acceptance very soon, we believe the U.N. Security Council must move ahead to consider enforcement measures.

U.S. delegates are consulting with other members of the 15-nation council about imposing sanctions on Iran for failing to comply with the resolution, which the Reagan administration shepherded through the council.

Iraq has not attacked shipping in the gulf since the resolution was passed. Its news agency praised the Arab League action and called Wednesday for a boycott of Iran that would force it "to accept a comprehensive and lasting peace" in line with the U.N. resolution. President Saddam Hussein started the war with an invasion of Iran in September 1980, but has been seeking a In the United States, deputy State negotiated settlement for several years.

In Brief

By The Associated Press

Reagan urges open military policy debate

LOS ANGELES - President Reagan on Wednesday challenged the Soviet Union to openly debate its military policies and said that while Soviets have shown "movement toward more openness," their actions still are cause of "fears and deep concerns."

Reagan spoke to the Town Hall of California, a civic organization celebrating its 50th anniversary, in a ballroom of the hotel where he is staying during a five-day Los Angeles visit.

A senior administration official said the president's speech showed "that we are at a point where we can have some new hope in our relationship" with the Soviets.

Lottery may select radioactive dump site

A lottery is one option the Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Compact Commission has in selecting a host state for a five-state regional waste disposal site.

The lottery and four other options are described in a discussion paper. submitted to the compact commission this week by US Ecology Nuclear of Lousiville, Ky.

Federal appeals court reverses textbook ban

ATLANTA — A federal appeals court on Wednesday reversed an Alabama judge's order that had banned 44 textbooks from state public school on the grounds that the books improperly excluded references to religion or promoted the belief in "secular humanism."

Army grounds fleet of helicopter gunships

WASHINGTON --- The Army on Wednesday grounded its entire fleet of new AH-64 Apache helicopter gunships, describing the action as a precautionary measure in the wake of a fatal crash last week.

The service said the directive applied to all 264 Apaches now in the inventory and would remain in effect until an investigation was completed of the Aug. 21 crash at Fort Rucker, Ala., that killed Ronald, Rivera, chief warrant officer 4th Class, of Brentwood, N.Y.

Army officials said in a statement that they were still investigating the cause of the helicopter's mechanical failure and would issue instructions when the investigation is complete on what would be needed to bring the AH-64 back into service.

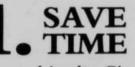
Magazine awards journalism college

NEW YORK - The Reader's Digest Foundation has awarded \$41 million to 16 graduate journalism schools. Each school will receive \$412,500 a year for five academic years beginning in September.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Journalism wasi selected as one of the recipients for its overall excellence, said George V. Grune, chairman and chief executive officer of Reader's Digest.

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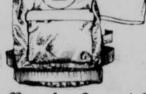
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