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FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
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Library Staff.**

Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Office of the President
Series: Daily Files
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 90529
Folder ID Number: 90529-001

Folder Title:
Tuesday, December 12, 1989

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
V	12	11	5	2

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Doc. No. / Type	Subject/Title	Date	Restriction	Classification
01. Schedule	Schedule of the President [redaction] (1 pp.)	12/12/89	(b)(3)	
02. Log	White House Telephone Log [President Bush] [redaction of personal information] (2 pp.)	12/12/89	(b)(6)	
03. Note	Handwritten notes of Presidential Phone call with J.A.B. [James A. Baker, III] Re: G-24, NAC, EC [double-sided] (1 pp.)	12/12/89	(b)(1)	
04. Message	From John Taylor of President Nixon's staff to Chen Mingming, PRC Embassy Re: advice (1 pp.)	12/12/[89]	(b)(1)	
05. Letter	From Margie and Dick Jenkins to Barbara and George Bush Re: 1945W Yale Reunion [redaction of personal information] (1 pp.)	12/5/89	C	

Page 1 of 1

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Office of the President
Series: Daily Files
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Tuesday, December 12, 1989

Pinksheet Number: dw1535
OA/ID Number: 90529-001
Date Closed: 11/23/2009
FOIA/Sys Case #: 2009-0166-S
Re-review Case #:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:

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Date Closed: 11/23/2009	OA/ID Number: 90529-001
FOIA/SYS Case #: 2009-0166-S	Appeal Case #:
Re-review Case #:	Appeal Disposition:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	Disposition Date:
AR Case #:	MR Case #:
AR Disposition:	MR Disposition:
AR Disposition Date:	MR Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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(b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
(b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
(b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information



SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT

Tuesday, December 12, 1989

7:50 am (5 min)	<u>USSS Photo</u> (Newman)	(TAB A)	Oval Office
8:00 am (15 min)	<u>Intelligence Briefing</u> (Scowcroft/Sununu)		Oval Office
8:15 am (30 min)	<u>National Security Briefing</u> (Scowcroft/Sununu)		Oval Office
8:45 am (30 min)	<u>Meeting with Governor Sununu</u>		Oval Office
9:15 am (30 min)	<u>Administrative Time</u>		Oval Office
9:45 am (60 min)	<u>Meeting with Secretary Cheney</u> (Scowcroft) (Distributed Separately)		Oval Office
10:50 am (5 min)	<u>Photo with Emma Marie Lopo-Sullivan</u> (Hagin)	(TAB B)	Oval Office
11:00 am (60 min)	<u>Budget Review</u> (Darman)	(TAB C)	<i>Cabinet Rm</i> Oval Office
12:00 pm (75 min)	<u>Lunch</u>		Oval Office
1:15 pm (30 min)	<u>Meeting with Core Business Group Leadership</u> (Demarest)	(TAB D)	Roosevelt Room
1:45 pm (15 min)	<u>Personal Staff Time</u>		Oval Office
2:00 pm (60 min)	<u>Budget Review</u> (Darman)	(TAB E)	Oval Office
3:00 pm (30 min)	<u>Personal Staff Time</u>		Oval Office
3:30 pm (20 min)	<u>Drop by Reception and Photo with Fundraisers for the Eagles' Inaugural Event</u> (Card)	(TAB F)	Roosevelt Room

UNP 12/11/89
6:00 pm



2:00 pm
(60 min)

Budget Review
(Darman)

(TAB D)

Cabinet Room

3:00 pm
(15 min)

Personal Staff Time

Oval Office

3:15 pm
(60 min)

NSC Meeting
(Scowcroft) (Provided Previously)

Cabinet Room

4:15 pm
(15 min)

Personal Staff Time

Oval Office

4:30 pm
(30 min)

Meeting with Governor Sununu

Oval Office

6:45 pm

B Christmas Reception
(Firestone)

(TAB E)

State Floor

7:14 Potus + Mrs. Bush in Oval 7:15 Mrs. Bush 7:26 add Rose Zornaria
7:45 Rose Zornaria out 7:49 add Capitol employees (see Tab A)
7:56 Potus + Capitol employees to Cabinet Rm 8:00 Potus to Oval alone
8:00 add Gates, Scowcroft, DCI + (b)(3) 8:20 DCI + (b)(3) out
8:02 (approx) add Sununu
8:59 Gates + Scowcroft out 9:01 add Scowcroft 9:09 Scowcroft out
9:13 Sununu out 10:00 add Scowcroft + Sununu
10:02 add Crown Prince et al to Oval 10:25 Potus + H.R.H. Hassan to Oval study
for private meeting
10:36 Conclude private meeting 10:37 all out except Scowcroft
10:49 Scowcroft out 10:53 Potus to Cabinet Rm -
12:06 Potus to Oval office, add Kathy Super 12:17 add Mrs. Bush
12:18 add Chase Untermeyer 12:20 add Petersmyer; Super out
12:20 Potus, Mrs. B, Untermeyer, + Petersmyer 1:14 Potus + Mrs. Bush to S. grounds
1:17 Potus to Oval alone 1:20 Potus to Roosevelt Rm 1:28 arr Oval
wellands signing
1:30 add Gates, Scowcroft, Haas 1:32 add Shakh Gadi al-Haz et al
1:45 all out except Haas, Scowcroft Gates 1:46 Haas out
1:47 Gates, Scowcroft out 1:52 add Generals et al for Truman award 6:00 pm
1:57 all out 1:59 add Steve Hart 2:02 add Boyden Gray
2:05 Hart out 2:07 Gray out 2:10 Potus to Cabinet Rm - Budget Brief
3:15 Potus to Oval w/ Sununu 3:16 add Fitzwater 3:18 add Scowcroft

UNP 12/12/89

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

3:37 add Eagles Reception guests to 2nd Flr Res.

4:15 ~~dpt~~ State Flr 4:17 an Oval 4:23 add Wally ~~Ganiz~~ GAN 21

4:25 Wally Ganiz out 4:38 add Sununu 4:55 Sununu out

5:53 dpt Oval → an Fitzwater off

5:57? dpt Fitzwater —? an Oval

6:40 (approx) Potus + Mrs. Bush to State Flr for Christmas Recept.

—? Potus to 2nd Flr Res. 8:32 Potus + Mrs. Bush to Motorcade

8:34 Dpt WH (see Tab "I")

9:15 an WH

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02. Log	White House Telephone Log [President Bush] [redaction of personal information] (2 pp.)	12/12/89	(b)(6)	

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TELEPHONE MEMORANDUM

DECEMBER 12, 19⁸⁹

PRESIDENT BUSH

	TIME		DISC	NAME	ACTION
	PLACED				
OUT	7:17 AM		7:22	AMBASSADOR LAWRENCE S. EAGLEBURGER OFC: WASHINGTON, D.C. WHITE HOUSE ADMIN EXT. 460	TLKD-OK 7:19AM
INC	PM				
OUT	AM				
INC	PM				
OUT	7:33 AM		7:37	MR. ORLANDO FRILLES WASHINGTON, D.C. 456-2760	TLKD-OK 7:37AM
INC	PM				
OUT	AM				
INC	PM				
OUT	9:28 AM		9:32	MR. JEB BUSH (b)(6)	TLKD-OK 9:31AM
INC	PM				
OUT	AM				
INC	PM				
OUT	9:32 AM		9:41	MR. JEB BUSH (b)(6)	TLKD-OK
INC	PM				
OUT	AM				
INC	PM				
OUT	11:04 AM		11:06	GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT OFC: WASHINGTON, D.C. WHITE HOUSE ADMIN EXT. 653	TLKD-OK
INC	PM				
OUT	AM				
INC	PM				
OUT	AM			CONGRESSMAN HAROLD ROGERS WASHINGTON, D.C. 994-1069	TLKD-OK 2:08PM
INC	2:07 PM		2:10		

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TELEPHONE MEMORANDUM

PRESIDENT BUSH

DECEMBER 12

, 19⁸⁹

	TIME		DISC	NAME	ACTION
	PLACED				
OUT		AM		SECRETARY JAMES BAKER HOTEL SHERATON BRUSSELS, BELGIUM	
INC	3:08	PM	3:19		TLKD-OK
OUT		AM		011-32-2-219-3400	
INC		PM			
OUT		AM		MR. BRUCE GELB OFC: WASHINGTON, D.C. WHITE HOUSE ADMIN EXT. 837	TLKD TO PATTY PRESOCK
INC	3:40	PM			
OUT		AM			
INC		PM			
OUT		AM		MR. STUART NORTHROP (b)(6)	LW ON ANSWERING MACHINE: PATTY PRESOCK TLKD TO HELEN MORGAN 5:33PM
INC	5:28	PM			
OUT		AM			
INC		PM			
OUT		AM		MR. BRUCE GELB OFC: WASHINGTON, D.C. 485-8742	TLKD-OK
INC	5:46	PM	5:49		
OUT		AM			
INC		PM			
OUT		AM			
INC		PM			
OUT		AM			
INC		PM			
OUT		AM			
INC		PM			

TELEPHONE MEMORANDUM
SIGNAL SWITCHBOARD

December 12 , 1989

[illegible]

PRESIDENTIAL MOVEMENTS

LOCATION Washington, D.C.

DATE 12 December 1989

TIME	MOVEMENTS
0710	Ground Floor
0712	Oval Office
1113	Cabinet Room
1234	Oval Office
1238	South Grounds
1318	Oval Office
1319	Roosevelt Room
1402	Oval Office
1413	Cabinet Room
1502	Oval Office
1532	Residence
1613	State Floor
1618	Oval Office
1803	Residence
1841	State Floor
1955	Residence
2032	South Grounds
2033	Depart South Grounds via Motorcade
2038	Arrive Pension Building
2112	Depart Pension Building via Motorcade
2115	Arrive South Grounds
2117	Residence
2123	South Grounds
2130	Residence



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1989 -- 6 a.m. EST EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bush Defends Decision To Send Aides To China As Democrats Blast It -- President Bush strongly defended Monday his decision to send two top aides on a surprise rapprochement mission to China, but Democrats blasted the visit as "embarrassing kowtowing" and HUD Secretary Kemp said he was "troubled" by the trip. (Boston Globe, USA Today, Washington Post, Washington Times, Copley)

Presidents Say Contra Aid Should Be Used For Demobilization -- Central American presidents agreed Tuesday that all aid to the U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels called Contras should be used for the disbandment of the rebels and for their repatriation to Nicaragua or third countries.

(Reuter)

Army, Facing Cuts, Reported Seeking To Reshape Itself -- The U.S. Army, facing major cuts in American forces stationed in Europe and a declining defense budget, has proposed reshaping itself largely into a fast-reaction force based primarily in the continental United States, according to senior Army officials.

(New York Times)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday evening)

CHINA/SCOWCROFT TRIP -- President Bush defended himself against criticism that he has capitulated to China's Deng Xiaoping.

BULGARIA -- The Bulgarian Communist Party has agreed to give up their constitutional guarantee of a monopoly on power.

WAR ON DRUGS/BENNETT -- Drug chief Bennett accused intellectuals of what he called a scandalous hostility to the war on drugs.

INTERNATIONAL...A-1

NATIONAL NEWS...A-10

NETWORK NEWS...B-1

EDITORIALS.....C-1

FOREIGN MEDIA...C-2

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CHINA TRIP DEFENDED BY BUSH

President Seeking 'Common Ground' With Beijing Leaders

President Bush Monday justified his decision to send a high-level mission to China on grounds that he wants to prevent China from remaining "totally isolated" following the Tiananmen Square massacre of pro-democracy demonstrators last June.

Facing a wave of criticism from Congress, Bush said he is "looking for ways to find common ground" with the Beijing regime and expressed hope that he could improve relations that were strained by the bloody crackdown in which hundreds were killed and wounded.

"I realize the difficulty of this relationship, but I don't want to make it any worse," Bush told a group of group of editorial writers at the White House. "I'd like to think it would improve. We have contacts with countries that have egregious records on human rights."

Bush, who reluctantly imposed sanctions on China last summer, said Sino-American relations had not been returned to normal in the wake of the visit by national security adviser Brent Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger. Other officials said, however, that the mission was clearly designed to move the countries toward more normalized relations.

(David Hoffman & Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A1)

Bush Defends Decision To Send Aides To China As Democrats Blast It

President Bush strongly defended Monday his decision to send two top aides on a surprise rapprochement mission to China, but Democrats blasted the visit as "embarrassing kowtowing" and HUD Secretary Kemp said he was "troubled" by the trip.

Bush said the weekend trip to Beijing by National Security Adviser Scowcroft and Assistant Secretary of State Eagleburger was already paying dividends: The Chinese said Monday that they would not sell missiles to any country in the Middle East.

"I do not want to isolate the Chinese people," Bush said at a meeting with about 100 editorial-page editors in the Executive Office Building. "I don't want to hurt the Chinese people."

However, critics said that did not excuse Bush from sending his emissaries to China in the wake of the June massacre in Tiananmen Square. Democratic leaders also revived Monday their criticism of Bush's veto of a bill that would have extended the U.S. visas of Chinese students who fear persecution if they return home.

"I condemn the President's veto of the Chinese students bill and this weekend's embarrassing kowtowing to the Chinese government," said Sen. Mitchell. "Those actions make a mockery of our profession of concern for human rights and are inconsistent with America's stated ideals."

(John Mashek & Michael Kranish, Boston Globe)

Bush Defends China Overture

President Bush, defending his weekend overture to China, said Monday he has not normalized relations with Beijing, and those who say he has "simply do not know what they are talking about."

Meeting with 85 newspaper editorial page editors, Bush said China responded to his initiative by saying they would no longer sell missiles to Middle Eastern countries, indicating a desire to regain contact with the U.S. that was suspended following the bloody repression of pro-democracy demonstrations last June.

"I do not want to isolate the Chinese people," said Bush. "I don't want to take any further steps that are going to hurt the Chinese people.... I am going to keep looking for ways to find common ground."

Congressional Democrats, however, were quick to criticize the weekend visit to China by National Security Adviser Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Eagleburger, who flew secretly to Beijing Friday.

Sen. Mitchell said the mission was an "embarrassing kowtowing" to Beijing, and Rep. Gephardt said "standing up for our principles is always the best policy."

Bush's desire for resuming contact with China also drew indirect criticism from Jack Kemp.

"It would be no secret that I am troubled," Kemp told reporters at a luncheon Monday, declining to elaborate. (Benjamin Shore, Copley)

Bush Defends China Visit as Hill Ire Grows

President Bush Monday defended his decision to send his national security adviser to Beijing, while the Senate majority leader lambasted him for signaling that the U.S. might be forgiving if the Soviets used tanks to quash democracy demonstrations in Eastern Europe.

"Those out there churning around saying we have normalized relations [with China] simply do not know what they are talking about," Mr. Bush said, as criticism mounted that the U.S. moved too quickly this weekend to extend its hand to the Chinese after the June massacre of democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square.

Mr. Bush said the weekend trip to Beijing by National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger was not an attempt to normalize relations but to ensure that China does not remain "totally isolated."

(Peter Almond & Chris Harvey, Washington Times, A1)

Bush Seeks 'Common Ground' With China

President Bush, acknowledging a shift in his cold-shoulder policy toward China, vowed Monday to search for more "common ground" with the People's Republic.

"I realize the difficulty with this relationship. But I don't want to make it any worse," Bush told newspaper editorial writers at the White House. In his first public comments about a high-level U.S. mission to China this past weekend, Bush stopped short of saying he'll withdraw the limited military and economic sanctions he imposed after June's Tiananmen Square massacre.

Asked if there are steps the Chinese government could take to get the penalties removed, Bush said, "Yes. But I'm not going to detail them." Bush hailed as "a good sign" China's announcement that it no longer will sell missiles to Middle East countries.

(Jessica Lee, USA Today, 4A)

Hill Democrats Condemn Bush Initiative to China

Democratic congressional leaders Monday sharply criticized President Bush's decision to initiate high-level talks with Chinese leaders six months after the Beijing government crushed a pro-democracy movement.

House and Senate leaders said the weekend talks between Chinese leaders and national security adviser Brent Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Eagleburger compromise the nation's commitment to democracy and send forth a confusing signal about American support for the political changes sweeping Eastern Europe....

"There are times when what America stands for and believes in is more important than economic or geopolitical considerations," said Sen. Mitchell. "This is one of those times."

Mitchell, in some of his sharpest criticism to date of Bush's foreign policy initiatives, accused the President of an "embarrassing kowtowing to the Chinese government."

(Tom Kenworthy & Kenneth J. Cooper, Washington Post, A22)

U.S.-SINO TIES SEEN LIKELY TO IMPROVE

BEIJING -- U.S. National Security Adviser Scowcroft's surprise weekend mission to Beijing will eventually be seen as the end to a sharp deterioration in U.S.-Sino relations that resulted from the Chinese army's suppression of a democracy movement last June, Asian and Western diplomats said Monday....

The only tangible evidence so far is at least a temporary halt to Chinese attacks on the United States, which imposed sanctions on Beijing to protest the army crackdown. China in recent months has portrayed the U.S. as an international villain attempting to subvert China's socialist system.

But the diplomats predicted that both the United States and China will make other concessions, resulting from Scowcroft's still largely secret talks here which may only become evident months from now.

The diplomats predicted, for example, that China may move more rapidly to lift martial law in Beijing...and offer a new deal to foreign investors.

These could prove to be only cosmetic gestures. But one diplomat said the Chinese might also be more willing to cooperate with the U.S. on more substantive issues, such as limiting Chinese weapons sales to the Middle East....

The still influential Deng [Xiaoping] asked Scowcroft to "tell President Bush there is a retired old man in the Orient, who is concerned about an improvement and development of Sino-U.S. relations."

This was taken in Beijing as a signal not just to Bush but also to Chinese hardliners that Deng has softened his anger toward the U.S. over the sanctions and intends to press for Chinese action to improve relations. (Daniel Southerland, news analysis, Washington Post, A20)

NEW LOOSENING OF RESTRICTIONS ON CHINA SEEN Technology, Loan Sanctions May be Eased

In the wake of the mission to Beijing by President Bush's national security adviser, the Administration is preparing to grant further concessions to China soon, easing the impact of some of the sanctions imposed in June.

According to knowledgeable U.S. officials and Washington diplomats, Mr. Bush is expected to clear the way within the next two weeks for satellites made by the Hughes Aircraft Co. to be launched in China. The export of the satellites would be the first to any communist country.

One U.S. official said that a decision was "imminent." An Australian diplomat said that he expected the Bush Administration to approve the export to China by the end of the week. (Jim Mann, Baltimore Sun, A1)

PRESIDENTS SAY CONTRA AID SHOULD BE USED FOR DEMOBILIZATION

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica -- Central American presidents agreed Tuesday that all aid to the U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels called Contras should be used for the disbandment of the rebels and for their repatriation to Nicaragua or third countries.

At the end of a two-day summit, the presidents also called on leftist guerrillas in El Salvador to publicly renounce all forms of violent action that affected the civilian population. (Reuter)

BUSH HOPEFUL OF COLOMBIA DRUG SUMMIT

President Bush said Monday "I'm very hopeful" a drug summit will be held in cocaine-ravaged Colombia, where a U.S. advance team this week is to help prepare a tentative agenda.

Bush said although he will weigh security concerns before making a final decision, he doesn't want to pull out and thus possibly undermine Colombia's "courageous president," Virgilio Barco, who has helped lead the drug war.

"I will listen to the experts; I will not do anything imprudent," Bush said during a press conference with newspaper editorial writers from around the country. Drawing laughter, he added, "No one has ever accused me of being too daring." ...

"I don't want to be the one who sends the signal that no one should go to Colombia because they can't be protected," Bush said, adding that "I don't want to undermine" Barco.

The White House has said that the Secret Service has concluded that Bush could be adequately protected in Colombia, but that it would continue to monitor the situation. (Thomas Ferraro, UPI)

Administration Eyes Feb. 15 Drug Summit

President Bush said Monday he wants to attend a drug summit in Colombia next year to show support for President Barco, and Administration sources said the conference is tentatively set for Feb. 15.

"Right now I'm very hopeful that it (the summit) will take place in Cartagena," a Colombian coastal city, Bush told a news conference with newspaper editorial writers.

Bush said although he will weigh security concerns before making a final decision, he does not want to pull out and possibly undermine Barco, Colombia's "courageous president," who has helped lead the drug war.

Administration officials who asked not to be identified said the summit is virtually certain and tentatively set for Feb. 15. They said as earlier indicated it would be held in Cartagena. (Thomas Ferraro, UPI)

BUSH URGES FAIR TRIAL FOR WOMAN IN EL SALVADOR

President Bush said yesterday he has personally asked Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani to insure a fair trial for Jennifer Casolo, a Connecticut woman arrested last month on suspicion of storing arms for leftist rebels.

"It's essential that a fair trial be granted," Bush said. "And having said that, I am satisfied so far that that will take place." ...

The President, answering questions from newspaper editorial writers, also said he had personally checked into allegations of mistreatment of a Salvadoran witness to the murder of six Jesuit priests. Bush said he had been assured the witness was not being mistreated....

Also yesterday, Bush indicated that he has not yet made a final decision to attend a summit with leaders of the Andean nations in Cartagena, Colombia early next year.... Bush said he did not want to "be the one that sends a signal that nobody should go to Colombia because they can't be protected."

Bush said he was particularly sensitive about not undermining President Barco, who has been battling the drug traffickers. "I will not do anything imprudent," he said. "Nobody has ever accused me of being too daring." (David Hoffman, Washington Post, A40)

BAKER URGES CRISTIANI TO SAFEGUARD RIGHTS OF CHURCH WORKERS

Secretary of State Baker expressed concern to Salvadoran President Cristiani Monday about church and humanitarian workers, who have been under attack recently on allegations of aiding rebels.

Baker, in a two-paragraph letter to Cristiani, also asked the Salvadoran president to give his personal attention to the welfare of humanitarian and religious workers in El Salvador.

"Over the last several weeks, a number of religious leaders in the U.S. have brought to the Administration's attention their deep concern over the fate of religious workers in El Salvador, both foreign and Salvadoran," Baker said in a letter.

"I share those concerns, as I know you do as well." (Reuter)

BOLIVIAN EX-INTERIOR MINISTER SENT TO U.S. ON DRUG CHARGES

MIAMI -- A former Bolivian interior minister, dubbed by U.S. authorities as the "Minister of Cocaine," was handed over to U.S. drug agents in La Paz and flown to Miami Monday to face trial on drug trafficking charges, officials said.

Luis Arce Gomez, a former army colonel who had been on the run since the early 1980s, arrived at Miami International Airport late Monday night and was then whisked away under heavy guard to a nearby federal prison, a U.S. law-enforcement source said.

Arce Gomez, interior minister in the military government of Gen. Luis Garcia Meza between 1980 and 1981, was indicted by a Miami federal grand jury in 1983 along with 17 others. He was charged with masterminding an operation that smuggled large loads of cocaine to the U.S.

The indictment alleged that while he was a government minister, Arce Gomez created "paramilitary enforcement groups" that seized cocaine from traffickers who failed to pay for protection and then handed the drugs over to smugglers who did pay. (Reuter)

U.S. TEAM SAYS VIOLENCE IMPERILS MANAGUA VOTE Melee at Rally Sunday Laid to Sandinistas

CORONADA, Costa Rica -- A delegation of American observers said Monday that Nicaraguan elections scheduled for February 1990 are unlikely to be fair unless the Sandinista government reigns in violence by its supports against the political opposition.

In a statement issued here at the site of a summit meeting of five Central American presidents, the Washington-based Center for Democracy blamed Sandinista supporters for a melee at an opposition rally in Nicaragua yesterday in which at least one person was killed and a dozen injured. (William Branigin, Washington Post, A40)

ARMY, FACING CUTS, REPORTED SEEKING TO RESHAPE ITSELF U.S. Focus Would Shift from Western Europe to World Trouble Spots

The U.S. Army, facing major cuts in American forces stationed in Europe and a declining defense budget, has proposed reshaping itself largely into a fast-reaction force based primarily in the continental United States, according to senior Army officials.

The officials say the proposed changes, which are subject to approval by Secretary Cheney, would transform the Army from a service with its primary focus on defending Western Europe with tanks and other heavy equipment into a lighter, more flexible force that can be rapidly deployed to trouble spots around the world.

The Army's plan offers the first glimpse of the kind of major adjustments the military services are likely to face as the Defense Department enters an era of falling budgets and a diminished threat from the Soviet Union.

(Michael Gordon & Bernanrd Trainor, New York Times, A1)

BAKER PROPOSES NEW STRUCTURES FOR UNITED EUROPE

Secretary Baker Tuesday proposed building a united Europe on the basis of a new political role for NATO and of closer formal ties between the U.S. and the EC.

In a speech to the West Berlin Press Club, Baker also proposed using the scheduled East-West ministerial meetings on open skies in Canada next February to speed up conventional arms reduction talks.

"As Europe changes, the instruments for Western cooperation must adapt. Working together, we must design and gradually put into place a new architecture for a new era," Baker said.

His speech, cleared by President Bush, brought together several themes Washington has been stressing as the pace of change in Eastern Europe accelerates.

These include the American insistence that German reunification must be a gradual process, accompanied by a strengthening of existing Western institutions.
(Alan Elsner, Reuter)

U.S. TO SHIP WEAPONS-GRADE URANIUM TO ROMANIA

Despite criticism of Romania's policies, U.S. officials say they will send weapons-grade uranium to the hard-line East Bloc country as soon as it comes up with a suitable way to ship the material.

Opponents of the sale, which was approved in 1988, call it "crazy" and say Romania can't be trusted with the dangerous material. The 16.4 kilograms of uranium are slated to be used at the Triga research reactor near Bucharest.

"In light of Romanians' increasing isolation and instability, this is not the time to be sending Romania the means to make an atomic bomb," said Gary Milhollin, director of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, a group that opposes nuclear proliferation....

"The exports of the...fuel met all the requirements of the U.S. Atomic Energy Act," the State Department said in a statement. Romania has pledged "no nuclear explosive use" for its nuclear program, it said.

(Joan Mower, AP)

4 POWERS STRESS 'IMPORTANCE OF STABILITY' AMID GERMAN CHANGE

Baker, Arriving in Berlin for Speech, Cites
Allies' 'Reserved Role, Responsibilities'

WEST BERLIN -- The four occupying powers of Berlin held their first formal conference here in 18 years here Monday and responded to changes in the two Germanys by issuing a statement stressing "the importance of stability."

The conference occurred hours before Secretary Baker arrived here to deliver a speech Monday that has been billed as a major statement of U.S. policy toward Europe.

While en route from London, Baker told reporters on his plane that in the speech, "we will be putting out some of our ideas with respect to the architecture for dealing with the future of Europe and we'll be putting forward our ideas about America's relationship thereto."

He added that the speech will spell out U.S. views on how "existing institutions that are involved in matters European" such as NATO, the European Community and Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe can be adapted to deal with the great changes sweeping Eastern Europe.

(Jackson Diehl & John M. Goshko, Washington Post, A37)

CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY PROPOSES ALLOWING DIRECT ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

PRAGUE -- The Communist Party Monday proposed changing the constitution to permit the people of Czechoslovakia to fill the vacant office of president by a direct, open election to be held quickly, a senior party official disclosed.

The proposal poses a test of the national popularity of the young pro-democracy group Civic Forum, whose candidate for the office is Václav Havel, a Prague playwright....

It is unclear whether Havel...could win a popular election. And his defeat could deal a setback to the whole democracy movement.

(Dan Morgan & Stuart Auerbach, Washington Post, A37)

BULGARIAN PARTY LEADER PROPOSES FREE ELECTIONS

SOFIA -- Communist Party chief Petar Mladenov proposed Monday that Bulgaria, a fortress of Stalinism only weeks ago, hold free elections by June and remove the party's guarantee of exclusive power from its constitution.

Meanwhile, a Sofia court registered Eco-Glasnost, an ecological group, as Bulgaria's first independent organization.

Mladenov said a new constitution should be drafted by the end of next year, leaving out any guarantee of Communist Party power.

"One cannot postulate the role of party in a democratic society or define it on command," he told the Central Committee. "This role can only be as a result of the people's trust."

(Teddy Weyr, Washington Post, A39)

'ONE GERMAN FATHERLAND!' Leipzig Marchers Demand Reunification

LEIPZIG, East Germany -- Shouting down appeals for calm, a huge crowd demanding a single Germany Monday marched through this cradle of the East German reform movement, waving West German flags and angrily hooting supporters of a separate Eastern state.

The weekly anti-government demonstration here began as a celebration of victory by as many as 200,000 Leipzigers whose persistent and moving calls for peaceful change helped spark the collapse of the East German Communist Party. But Monday's gathering quickly turned into a shouting match dominated by sometimes raucous supporters of quick and complete unification with West Germany....

The crowd shouted down speakers who called for East Germany to recreate itself as a democratic socialist alternative to the pushy, consumerist society they see in the West.

(Marc Fisher, Washington Post, A1)

BUSH REJECTED PLEA ON IRAN-CONTRA DATA, WALSH SAYS

The White House rejected a request from Iran-Contra prosecutor Lawrence E. Walsh that President Bush intervene to prevent the creation of "an enclave of high public officers free from the rule of law," the independent counsel said in a report to Congress released yesterday.

Walsh charged that senior intelligence officials motivated primarily by institutional self-interest can prevent the release of classified documents that could lead to exposure or wrongdoing by current or former officials of government intelligence agencies.

In an Oct. 19 letter to Bush, Walsh said only the President can force U.S. intelligence agencies to release classified information needed for Iran-Contra criminal prosecutions. Walsh asked for an opportunity to express his concerns personally to Bush....

But in an Oct. 25 letter to Walsh, White House counsel Boyden C. Gray said Bush is "fully confident" that the Administration's procedures for handling Iran-Contra cases is adequate, and a meeting between Walsh and the President "would not be appropriate."

(Joe Pichirallo, Washington Post, A5)

IRAN-CONTRA PROSECUTOR REBUFFED IN REQUESTED MEETING WITH BUSH

The Iran-Contra special prosecutor said Monday the White House had rejected a meeting with President Bush on how the U.S. intelligence agencies had hurt the probe by withholding secret material.

Independent special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh disclosed that he asked to meet with Bush in October out of concern that former high-ranking officials would not be brought to trial for alleged wrongdoing in the Iran-Contra scandal.

"I believe that concern for the preservation of secrets relating to national security is being used in exaggerated form and will defeat necessary prosecutions of high government officers," he said in the letter.

But White House Counsel Gray in a terse, three-paragraph response rejected the meeting as inappropriate and said Bush was "fully confident in the established procedures to handle the Iran-Contra litigation."

Walsh enclosed the letter to Bush asking for a meeting in a report to Congress saying how he has been increasingly stymied by U.S. intelligence agencies claiming the need to protect national security secrets in the scandal.

(James Vicini, Reuter)

U.S. SEEKING REPEAL OF U.N. TEXT ON ZIONISM

UNITED NATIONS -- Vice President Quayle said Monday the United States will campaign for a new General Assembly resolution nullifying a 14-year old assembly text equating zionism with racism.

"We feel this is the right time to pursue the resolution," Quayle told reporters during his first U.S. visit. "We feel this would send a positive signal to the Middle East peace process," adding "you can't move forward when you have these types of resolutions." ...

On other topics, Quayle said he discussed with Perez de Cueller U.N. efforts to negotiate peace in Central America and monitor upcoming Nicaraguan elections. Quayle said he reiterated the Administration's view Nicaragua's Sandinista government has "unilaterally violated" the regional peace plan by arming Salvadoran rebels.

(Ethan Schwartz, Washington Post, A42)

EDITOR'S NOTES: "U.S. Began Lifting Business, Military Sanction on China Months Ago," by George Lardner, Jr, appears in the Washington Post, A20.

"Ex-Klansman Loses in GOP Caucuses," by AP, appeared in the Washington Times, A6.

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NATIONAL NEWS

BUSH: S&Ls MAY NEED MORE HELP

President Bush said for the first time Monday that the government may need to provide more money to bail out the savings and loan industry.

"It's a whale of a mess, and we'll see where we go," Bush told a gathering of newspaper editorial writers. "We've had this one refinancing. I am now told that that might not be enough."

White House aides would not say who told the President that additional money might be needed and would not elaborate on his comment.

Savings and loan experts in Congress and the industry said they suspected all along that the \$164 billion bailout voted four months ago would not provide enough money but were surprised the President seemed to be acknowledging the need for more funds so soon.

(Jerry Knight, Washington Post, C1)

BUSH DENIES ABORTION STANCE HURTS GOP

President Bush Monday dismissed as "balderdash" suggests that the Republican Party is suffering politically for its opposition to abortion.

Speaking to editorial writers at the White House, Bush said: "I know there's a lively debate on some of these social issues, but I also know we're getting credit as a party for handling...some of the changes that are taking place in the world and having a global vision."

Bush chided Democrats for using the Virginia governor's race -- won by Democrat Douglas Wilder -- as a test of sentiment on abortion. "The Democrats...hold a gubernatorial seat, and they dance around the grave of what they hope is the Republican Party. (Bob Twigg, USA Today, 4A)

BUSH TO KEEP 'OFFERING HAND' TO HILL

President Bush cited "enormous frustrations" yesterday in dealing with the Democratic-led Congress but said he will hunt again next year for bipartisan support for his agenda.

"I'm disappointed in some ways with the Congress and with our progress," Mr. Bush told a group of editorial writers. He cited crime, clean-air legislation and child-care legislation as examples.

In a half-hour question-and-answer session, Mr. Bush cited "negative, highly partisan comments" from the Democrats in Congress.

Still, Mr. Bush, who began his term pronouncing an "era of the offered hand," said, "I'm determined, when the Congress comes back, to hold out the hand and try again."

(AP, Washington Times, A4)

GOVERNMENT SPENDING TOO LITTLE
ON EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS, HEARING TOLD

MEMPHIS -- The federal government spends too much money preparing for a diminished threat of nuclear war and not enough getting ready for earthquakes, elected officials and disaster-preparedness authorities said Monday.

At a Senate panel field hearing here, Sens. Gore and Ford heard appeals for more research funds for the New Madrid earthquake zone and money for a hazard center for Memphis.

The senators and other speakers criticized what they called the poor leadership of low budgets of preparedness efforts dealing with the threat of natural disasters.

Noting the Soviet-led reforms sweeping Eastern Europe, they suggested that the additional money could come from programs designed to help Americans survive a nuclear attack....

Gore described FEMA expenditures for earthquake-assistance programs -- about \$6 million annually -- as too low.

(Tom Charlier, Scripps Howard)

DRUG CZAR BENNETT LIKES IDEA OF TAKING
DRUG-INFECTED INFANTS FROM MOTHERS

BOSTON -- William Bennett, the nation's drug czar, embraced Monday the idea of taking custody away from women who give birth to children with traces of cocaine or other drugs in their systems.

Bennett, who joined Sen. Kennedy and Sen. Kerry, and Massachusetts Gov. Dukakis in Boston on the first leg of a national tour on health care crises, said he also believed the state should step in during pregnancy.

"The state says you don't get to keep that baby unless you get 'clean.' I don't think that's a bad idea at all," Bennett said.

Lorraine Carli, spokeswoman for the state Department of Social Services, said a child could be taken away from a drug-dependent mother only by court order. She said Massachusetts did not have an automatic authority to assume custody of newborns.

Bennett, Kennedy, Kerry and Dukakis began the morning at the Joseph Lee School in Dorchester, Mass., where they talked to fourth- and fifth-graders and watched a class perform an anti-drug play. The Lee has a federally assisted drug awareness curriculum.

(Dolores Kond & John Ellement, Boston Globe)

BENNETT REBUTS DRUG LEGALIZATION IDEAS
Harvard Speech Scores Liberal Intellectuals
For Betraying Poor

National drug policy director William J. Bennett Monday charged that liberal intellectuals have betrayed their traditional concern for the poor by ridiculing the nation's anti-drug efforts and advancing "morally scandalous" arguments for repeal of drug laws.

In a speech at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, Bennett challenged academics and intellectuals to "get with the program" and make serious contributions to solving the drug problem rather than succumbing to "surrender, despair and neglect."

"America's intellectuals -- and here I think particularly of liberal intellectuals -- have spent much of the last nine years decrying the social programs of two Republican administrations in the name of the defenseless poor."

"But today, on the one outstanding issue that disproportionately hurts the poor -- that is wiping out many of the poor -- where are the liberal intellectuals to be found? They are on the editorial and op-ed pages...telling us with an ignorant sneer that our drug policy won't work."

(Michael Isikoff, Washington Post, A10)

GREENPEACE TO RENEW TRIDENT MISSILE PROTEST

CAPE CANAVERAL -- Anti-nuclear activists said Monday they planned to stage a floating protest against a U.S. Navy test of the submarine-launched Trident 2 missile which they said was set for later this week.

In a written statement, the Greenpeace organization said a flotilla of sailboats and motorized rafts would begin a vigil Tuesday at Port Canaveral, where the nuclear submarine USS Tennessee is stationed.

(Reuter)

HIGHWAY OFFICIALS SEEK MORE FEDERAL FUNDS

The nation's largest organization of state highway and transportation officials Monday urged Congress to develop a new federal highway program that by 1995 would nearly double federal spending on roads, bridges and mass transit.

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials became the third major transportation organization in recent weeks to call for tax increases to finance higher federal spending on infrastructure, a position that puts the group at odds with the Bush Administration....

The organization did not endorse a specific tax increase, but highway officials generally support raising federal gasoline taxes.

The highway group said federal spending on mass transit should be increased to \$5 billion by 1995. The current level is \$3.1 billion.

(Stephen C. Fehr, Washington Post, A9)

HISPANIC SWORN IN AS U.S. TREASURER

Cathy Villalpando earned the right to sign U.S. currency Monday when she was sworn in as the 39th treasurer of the U.S., succeeding Katherine Ortega, a fellow hispanic.

Treasury Secretary Brady administered the oath at a White House ceremony, where President Bush saluted the long-time Republican official and former member of the Reagan White House.

"Her skills are formidable. Her administrative skills well-known," Bush said. "You will provide the kind of leadership that has a rich heritage dating back to September 1777," when the office of U.S. treasurer was created. (UPI)

EDITOR'S NOTES: "A Decade of Doubts About Social Policy," by Dan Balz, appears in the Washington Post, A1.

"USS Iowa Captain Calls Blast Deliberate," by Patrick E. Tyler & Molly Moore, appears in the Washington Post, A7.

"Decking The White House Halls," by Donnie Radcliffe, appears in the Washington Post on page D2.

"White House Tree Promotes Literacy Cause," by Marilyn Greene, appears in USA Today, 4A.

-End of A-section-

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Monday Evening, December 11)

CHINA/SCOWCROFT TRIP

CBS's Dan Rather: President Bush defended himself today against criticism that he has capitulated to China's Deng Xiaoping. The criticism came after Mr. Bush secretly sent a top-level mission to help China's communist leaders over the weekend. National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger suddenly turned up in Beijing. They exchanged warm greetings and encouraging words with the leading hardliners of Chinese Communism. To some, this represented a reversal of the President's own stated policies and undercut the U.S. commitment to human rights. The President insisted late today the mission was not meant to normalize relations with China.

CBS's Bruce Morton: Congressional leaders attacked the Scowcroft-Eagleburger visit as a betrayal of American values, of human rights, especially when those rights are making headlines in Eastern Europe.

(Sen. Nunn: "It's a particularly bad time for us to be sending a signal to China that we care less about the human rights in China.")

(Rep. Pelosi, D-Cal: "A life in Asia is as important as a life in Europe.")

(Sen. Mitchell: "The President now kowtows to that government in a most unseemly and embarrassing and unfortunate way.")

After the massacre last June in Tiananmen Square, President Bush announced a ban on high-level contacts with China. This weekend's visit ended that.

(Scowcroft toast: "And to U.S.-Chinese friendship.")

(Li Lu, student leader: "They are so hurried to mend relations, even when the blood of China's students hasn't yet dried.")

Presumably, other restrictions on credit and trade may be eased too. Some China watchers think that's wise.

(Thomas Robinson of American Enterprise Institute: "And I think we are trying to say that, look, here's a good chance for us to talk about this situation. So I think that, yes, they do pay a great deal of attention to what we say and do.")

But China has never voiced any regrets. A Chinese diplomat rewrites history in today's Washington Post. There was no massacre, he claims; only 36 students died -- a number no foreign observer of the massacre accepts.

(Doak Barnett, of Johns Hopkins: "If the U.S. keeps trying to punish China for something that took place six months ago, it is likely to reinforce hardliners in China and encourage what we don't want in China.")

Chinese students here say just the opposite: a softer U.S. stance will strengthen the elderly hardliners in Beijing.

(Hai Ching Zhao, student leader: "All they say, they say look, we just have to be tough...and then they'll give in.")

The Beijing regime can lie about the past, be pleased about the visiting Americans. But Congress may have the last word. In January, it's expected to override President Bush's veto of a bill allowing Chinese students to stay here. That will infuriate Beijing and turn U.S.-Chinese relations sour again.

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CBS's Wyatt Andrews: The President today was unrepentant about extending his hand to China, arguing that, human rights abuses or not, the U.S. cannot ignore a country of 1 billion people.

(President: "I don't want to see that China remains totally isolated. I don't want to take any further steps that are going to hurt the Chinese people.")

The White House made no claim today that the Scowcroft visit produced concrete progress on any human rights issue. Things may be in the works, one official said, but nothing yet. The only progress the President claimed was a Chinese promise not to sell missiles in the Middle East.

(President: "In my view, it's a very sound development.")

But not much of a development. According to the State Department, the Chinese gave essentially the same assurances more than two weeks ago. The Administration stressed that it has not normalized relations with China and that sanctions remain in place. But officials admitted that Scowcroft gave the Chinese a huge propaganda lift by toasting the leadership publicly. It is an act of faith with the President that breaking the ice with China now will earn a human rights payoff in the future. It has become one of Mr. Bush's most consistent diplomatic tactics: to give ground first, then hope that gift-giving grows contagious. (CBS-Lead)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: President Bush today defended his decision to send his National Security Adviser and the number-two man in the State Department to Beijing this weekend for high-level talks just six months after the Tiananmen Square massacre. NBC's John Cochran reports now the surprise mission has triggered some very sharp criticism.

John Cochran: National Security Adviser Scowcroft returned from China today to find that most of Washington thinks his boss made a colossal mistake by sending one of his closest aides.

(TV Coverage: Car entering White House grounds; Scowcroft enters White House.)

The image of Scowcroft toasting Chinese leaders has set off a round of anguished cries from Democrats, who have tried to take the moral high ground by accusing President Bush of giving in to the men who ordered the Tiananmen Square massacre.

(TV Coverage: Scowcroft toasting at a state dinner in Beijing).

(Sen. Mitchell: "The President now kowtows to that government in a most unseemly and embarrassing and unfortunate way.")

Some Republicans were unhappy, too.

(Sen. McConnell: "I would say that as the first senator to endorse George Bush, and one of those closest to him, this is the wrong message at the wrong time.")

The President fought back by telling editorial writers he has not lifted sanctions he imposed on China six months ago.

(President: "I would say to those who are out there churning around, saying that we have normalized relations with China, that they simply do not know what they are talking about.")

Chinese students in Boston watched Bush defending his mission to Beijing, but they were not impressed.

(Chinese student: "It's dangerous to Chinese people and it certainly will hurt the democracy movement in China.")

Former Secretary of State Kissinger and Richard Nixon urged Bush last month to renew high-level contacts with Beijing.

Cochran continues: The White House said democratic victories in Eastern Europe also convinced Bush that the time was ripe to send a delegation to China. Bush's critics say now is the worst time.

(Sen. Nunn: "I think that it's a particularly bad time for us to be sending a signal to China that we care less about the human rights in China.")

Bush offered a new defense for sending Scowcroft.

(President: "...I was very pleased today, in the wake of General Scowcroft's visit, to notice that the Chinese Foreign Ministry stated that they would not sell missiles to any Middle East countries.")

But a White House official admitted that China merely restated its old policy on missiles. The official said Bush was trying to set up a smokescreen to counter criticism of his mission to China.

Brokaw: The President was asked whether he thought that renewing ties with China would send the wrong signal to the Soviet Union, that the Soviets could now crack down on the reform that has been sweeping through Eastern Europe. The President said he was not concerned about that at all. (NBC-Lead)

ABC's Peter Jennings: You may have noticed or you may have not, which is perhaps what the Administration would have preferred, but there's been a shift in White House policy on high-level contacts with China. It was accentuated in a surprise visit to Beijing over the weekend by two of the President's most senior aides. And anticipating a lot of criticism for Mr. Bush, he got it.

ABC's Brit Hume: National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft slipped quietly back into the White House today, his surprise visit to China complete. Reporters had been forbidden to cover his arrival at the airport.

(TV Coverage: Car enters White House grounds; Scowcroft walks into West Wing.)

In an exchange with editorial writers this afternoon, the President insisted relations with China are not back to normal and that U.S. economic sanctions imposed after the Tiananmen Square massacre remain in force.

(President: "I realize the difficulty of this relationship. But I don't want to make it any worse, like to think it would improve. China is a billion-plus people. They have a strategic position in the world that remains important to us.")

Earlier, presidential spokesman Fitzwater acknowledged the Scowcroft visit was the result of changes elsewhere in the world, especially Europe, not changes in China's human rights policies. But as recently as last month, six months after the Tiananmen Square massacre, the President still insisted it was up to the Chinese to make the first move to restore relations with the U.S.

(President: "The Chinese still feel that we tied the knot and thus should untie it. I don't feel that way.")

But when Scowcroft appeared in Beijing, that position had changed and that Chinese leaders seemed to know it.

(Deng, through translator: "I believe this move of yours is a very important move.")

Hume continues: In case they missed the point, Scowcroft's Friday dinner toast left no doubt.

(Scowcroft: "My colleagues and I have come here today to resume our important dialogue.")

On Capitol Hill, Mr. Bush's opposition denounced the President's move as a cave-in to the men behind the Tiananmen Square massacre.

(Sen. Mitchell: "The President now kowtows to that government in the most unseemly and embarrassing and unfortunate way.")

The President did say Scowcroft had gotten the Chinese to promise not to send missiles to the Mideast, but he did not pretend that was the reason for the mission. Rather, the trip seems to have flowed from Mr. Bush's own deep affinity for China and its leaders. That feeling dates from his own days as emissary there and it seems more powerful than any outrage he or the American people might feel about last summer's bloodshed in Beijing. (ABC-5)

BULGARIA

Jennings: We begin with another challenging week for Mikhail

Gorbachev.... At home, his leadership faces a brand new challenge when the Soviet Parliament convenes tomorrow. And today Mr. Gorbachev had to witness another communist party -- in Bulgaria, this time -- being forced to give up its lock on power. And while he is surely the catalyst for so much change in Eastern Europe, it is getting a bit close to home. In Bulgaria, the Communist Party could simply no longer ignore where history was headed.

ABC's Mike Lee reports from Sofia that at a press conference, the Communist Party spokesman signaled the end of 45 years of communist rule with these words:

(Spokesman: "Free and democratic elections to be held next year.")

And it was announced the Communists have agreed to give up their constitutional guarantee of a monopoly on power. The party has also agreed to work toward eliminating food lines and shortages of other basic goods by adopting a Western-style market economy. Word spread that protest groups have been invited to face-to-face talks with Communist Party leaders and promised a direct role in carrying out reforms. (CBS-4, NBC-2, ABC-Lead)

GERMANY

Jennings reports in both East and West Germany, there was a lot of talk about the future of the two Germanys. Reunification was the theme of tonight's mass demonstration in Leipzig -- some demonstrators calling for reunification and others just as vehemently opposed. Secretary Baker, who arrived in West Berlin, is expected to ask Chancellor Kohl to tone down his call for reunification. Also in Berlin today, the first meeting since 1971 of the four powers which have controlled the city since World War II. The ambassadors of the U.S., Soviet Union, France and Great Britain said after the meeting they had agreed on the importance of stability.

(CBS-3, NBC-3, ABC-3)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ABC's John Donovan reports from Prague on the new non-Communist leaders being brought into the government. Czechoslovaks began dismantling their stretch of the Iron Curtain along the border with Austria. Today, there was a rush for books at a store when a shipment of previously-banned works arrived from West Germany. The Havel-for-President campaign continues to gain momentum. But the Czechoslovak parliament, still mostly Communist, meets to choose a president starting tomorrow. (NBC-4, ABC-2)

SOVIET UNION

ABC's Bob Zelnick reports on the continuing pressure on President Gorbachev from those who want more and faster reform. In the republics, there was more trouble. In Armenia, more anti-Gorbachev demonstrations. In local elections in Latvia and Estonia, early returns show heavy Communist Party losses. At the same time, party conservatives blame Gorbachev for failing to crack down on opponents, even betraying the 1917 revolution. At a party plenum this past weekend, conservatives attacked Gorbachev's foreign and domestic policies as too soft. According to some reports, Gorbachev even suggested he'd resign if someone else had better solutions. (ABC-4)

Brokaw reports that Andrei Sakharov had hoped to rally a general strike in the Soviet Union to demand an official end to the dominant role of the Communist Party there, but the strike was a bust. Only about 1,500 scientists walked off their jobs. (NBC-5)

IRAN-CONTRA

Rather reports Independent Counsel Walsh criticized President Bush and Attorney General Thornburgh, saying they were "undervaluing" the principle that all persons are accountable to the law. This follows Thornburgh's consistent refusal to supply what he called certain classified information to the courts. In a report to Congress, Walsh said many of the government's supposed secrets had been detailed in press accounts. Walsh also said his own attempt to get President Bush's help was rejected as "inappropriate." Tonight a Justice Department spokesman said the Attorney General was just following the law. (CBS-8)

WAR ON DRUGS/BENNETT

Brokaw reports that federal drug chief Bennett today accused America's intellectuals of what he called a scandalous hostility to the war on drugs. He made that charge in a speech at Harvard. Bennett also faces some opposition these days within the Administration to his hope of raising the war on drugs budget by a full 25 percent. (NBC-8)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

DEFENSE BUDGET

Defense Cuts: Follow A Cautious, Strategic Plan -- "Most Americans want to use the Soviet retreat in Europe as an opportunity to pare down military spending. Certainly such a peace dividend would go a long way toward easing the federal budget deficit. But it would be a mistake to simply take the defense budget and cut it in half -- however tempting that idea might be.... Fortunately, Secretary Cheney is developing a cautious, strategic plan for reducing military spending from 6 percent of the GNP to 4 percent by 1994. Congress must put politics aside and hear Cheney out. Across-the-board cuts are not the way to manage government.... Neither is pork-barrel in-fighting." (Charleston Daily Mail, 12/6)

Slimmer Military -- "...With democracy breaking out all over the Eastern bloc and our federal government desperately trying to get a grip on its own budget mess, Defense Secretary Cheney is ready to bite the military-spending bullet clean through.... Will the subsequent loss of jobs in the defense industry create a ripple effect that worsens our economic problem? Perhaps, in the short run, it will. But given the alternative of war and a job or peace and unemployment, most Americans surely would prefer the latter.... We trust the Bush administration to be prudent with whatever military cuts it settles on. Even if the Cold War is dead, it can't be too far removed from the possibility of resuscitation. However, a loss of jobs in the military-industrial complex should not deter us from taking advantage of the new global environment by cutting defense spending where feasible to raise our own sinking fiscal ship."

(Birmingham News, 12/4)

From Weapons To The Deficit: -- "After 40 years, the Cold War seems to be winding down. But will cordial and productive relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union lead to a 'peace dividend?' Yes and no. The biggest dividend will be a safer world.... Unfortunately, this shift from guns to butter, from conflict to cooperation, will produce few visible benefits for taxpayers.... Mr. Bush should work with the Soviets for even greater cuts in conventional forces. The mere presence of superpower troops in close proximity produces certain tensions. And cuts in conventional forces result in far greater savings than strategic cuts.... President Bush has said that any windfall from military cuts should go toward reducing the deficit. He is absolutely right.... The best place to invest the peace dividend is in rebuilding the financial soundness of America."

(New Jersey Record, 12/6)

Bush Must Head Off Stampede To Cut Defense Funds -- "...Bush must convince his own Congress that, despite the remarkable events taking place in Eastern Europe and despite the new face being presented by the Kremlin, the miracle of lasting peace has not yet been secured.... Some in Congress...are rushing pell-mell in search of the pot of gold. They're calling it the 'peace dividend' ...Thus far, the American response to the relaxation of the Soviet grip on Eastern Europe and the avowed good intentions of the Soviet Union has been wise and prudent.... It is vital that [the President's] position not be weakened now by a Congress rushing to rash actions that would result in premature unilateral reduction in our military forces.... Only strong leadership will prevent a stampede."

(Durwood McAlister, Atlanta Journal, 12/7)

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FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

THE CHINA TRIP

"Washington Breaks The Ice With Beijing"

"What is puzzling is why the United States should hand such a diplomatic prize to China at a time when the original strategic basis of the friendship, mutual hostility to the Soviet Union, seems more tenuous than ever. The specter of an isolated, xenophobic China is one that neither Washington nor Moscow welcomes. And, for all the cordiality surrounding the Malta summit, the United States is probably anxious to retain its satellite intelligence stations in China." (Guardian, Britain)

"Bush Restores Relations With China"

"Bush disagrees with Capitol Hill: China cannot be left alone. Washington needs a power to balance Japan.... The White House mainly hopes that such cooperation can put back in the saddle the most moderate Chinese leaders. Bush is good at imagining long-term diplomacy. Democrats on Capitol Hill are trying to find ways to attack such a popular President. The Chinese battle will be tough."

(Francois Hauter, Figaro, France)

"Washington Restores Dialogue With Beijing"

"The surprise visit marks a new turning point in relations between the two countries.... This policy of isolation appeared increasingly untenable at a time when the socialist world is engaging in radical reforms and a rapprochement with the West.... Now the Chinese leader will have to answer the goodwill demonstrated by the U.S. President before Congress convenes again at the end of January.... In taking the first steps, Bush has perhaps saved face for Deng Xiaoping and allowed him to soften his policy. A first Chinese answer could be the lifting of the martial law still in force in Beijing."

(Liberation, France)

"U.S. Moves To 'Mend The Fences'"

"Bush has played a masterly stroke by dispatching National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft to China at a time when Beijing is lambasting East bloc leaders, including the Soviet President, Mr. Gorbachev, for 'deviating from the Marxist path.' Washington is in a position to take advantage of Beijing's increasing isolation on the world stage to pressure the Chinese leadership into showing more flexibility in both diplomacy and domestic issues."

(South China Morning Post, China)

"Sino-U.S. Relationship Comes Out From Low Point?"

"The outstanding point of common interest is to acknowledge that a resumed positive Sino-U.S. relationship is significant for world peace and stability. It is also an inevitable development.... The '90s are coming. People want to see the Sino-U.S. relation leap up from its present abyss as the 80's disappear."

(Ta Kung Pao, Hong Kong)

Document Originally
Attached to
Following Page

b

call Condi
and say
POTUS enthusiastically
endorses adding
post-malta scene
and Condi should
tell Weintraub
that and then
work w/ him to
finalize
thanks p.

dme

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 12, 1989

Patty: *SIR*

✓ Condi Rice called -- she has been talking to Jerry Weintraub and the tape is about ready to go

Condi would like to end the tape with some "post Malta" (i.e. the President and Gorbachev waving, the waves crashing etc) Weintraub told her that he thought the President did NOT want this in the tape. Condi believes that the President probably said that before the Malta trip when he thought the tape was going to be given in Malta.

✓ She would like to put a brief "post" Malta scene but needs guidance.

Bridget

*Yes - OK -
since giving it "after
the meeting"*

Bush Library Photocopy
George Bush Handwriting

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

Presidential Phone Calls



DATE: 12-12-89

TIME: 2¹⁰
incoming/outgoing

WITH: Nat Rogers

SUBJECT: _____

wife broke hip at w/h
ball

GW - hospital

5-7 days in hospital

FOLLOW UP: _____

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

December 12, 1989

3:40 p.m.

PHONE CALL FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE GELB

1 year ago today you asked Bruce
Gelb to be Director of the USIA --
just calling to say "thank you"!

P.

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
03. Note	Handwritten notes of Presidential Phone call with J.A.B. [James A. Baker, III] Re: G-24, NAC, EC [double-sided] (1 pp.)	12/12/89	(b)(1)	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Office of the President
Series: Daily Files
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Tuesday, December 12, 1989

Date Closed: 11/23/2009	OA/ID Number: 90529-001
FOIA/SYS Case #: 2009-0166-S	Appeal Case #:
Re-review Case #:	Appeal Disposition:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	Disposition Date:
AR Case #:	MR Case #:
AR Disposition:	MR Disposition:
AR Disposition Date:	MR Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President
and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of
personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of
gift.

PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

(b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
(b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of
financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
(b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

John Taylor of President Nixon's staff to Mr. Chen Mingming.
Embassy of PRC, Tuesday, December 12

P
save
as
✓

"President Nixon instructed me to call with an urgent message for the leaders in Beijing.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

"As you know, upon his return from China he recommended to President Bush that high-level contacts with China be restored. In doing so he said that he was certain China would reciprocate. President Bush has now taken that action, and he is taking enormous heat from his and China's critics.

"President Nixon considers it a point of honor that China swiftly taken the second step. Possible steps include a further softening of martial law, amnesty for student dissidents, restoration of the Fulbright program, and a solution of the problem of the visitor in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. He told General Scowcroft this morning that he would be sending this message, and General Scowcroft strongly endorsed it."

Mr. Chen replied, "Excellent. Please tell President Nixon that this message will be on the desks of the Chinese leaders by this evening."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: December 12, 1989

TO: THE PRESIDENT

THRU: Jim Cicconi *Jim*

Attached are summaries from the Mail Analysis Unit and the Phone Comments Units on the public response to the recent initiatives toward China which you requested.

pmg
SHIRLEY M. GREEN
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence
Room 94-OEOB, 456-7610

Bush Library Photocopy
George Bush Handwriting

December 14, 1989

MAIL SUMMARY OF CHINA ISSUES

We have received 72 pieces of mail, most of which are telegrams. Of that total, four are positive and the remaining 68 are negative.

The prevailing theme in the con mail is that sending the envoy signals that the President was not as outraged as the American public over the Tianamen Square incident, and he is disregarding human rights in favor of placating Chinese leaders. The extremely negative mail accuses the President of hypocrisy in calling for human rights in Eastern Europe and elsewhere, while kowtowing to Chinese leaders.

The following are excerpts from some of the con mail:

"Sending US Reps to China is disgusting. Have you forgotten Tiananmen Square."

"Business as usual with the People's Republic of China is not the work of a President or Nation concerned with human rights."

"What about the promise of Democracy? Is money more important than human life."

"Stop selling out human rights and Democracy."

"You condoned the murders of hundreds of Chinese by sending envoys to China."

"We strongly resent your sellout of human rights in China."

Pro comments:

"Thank you for your politically brave move towards China. History supports you."

"We support your move to restore and normalize friendly and harmonious relations with the T.R.C." (from a firm that says it is doing business in China.)

COMMENTS OFFICE SUMMARY OF CHINA ISSUES

PRESIDENTIAL VETO OF HR 2712

The Chinese students and those calling for them on the veto did not understand that H.R. 2712 was unnecessary. They did not know of, or understand the protections the President had provided these students in June and again in November. They were angry with the President and his advisors.

Many professors called in expressing concern for the welfare of their Chinese students. The professors said they would personally hold the President responsible in the event the students were forced to return to China and then be persecuted, or executed by the Chinese Government. The telephone aides felt there was a general misunderstanding by the callers and especially by the students of how they would be handled and were fearful that they would be returned to China automatically. The aides were instructed to offer to mail the callers copies of the President's Memorandum of Disapproval and Statement of November 30th.

There was a definite daily pattern of callers from various parts of the country. The States were Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The callers said they had read about the veto or had heard about it on the networks and were told to voice their objections to the President.

ON THE DELEGATION TO CHINA ISSUE

Most callers seem to feel that the President has forgotten all about "the students" and the demonstrations in "Tiananmen Square".

They were extremely angry with the President and his team. Many said they were Republicans who had voted for him and approved of his performance to date, but would not vote for him again. They said they were agast at what the President had done - that is was a sad day for America. The telephone aides said the callers could not believe the President had done this, and made remarks such as sending the delegation was a stupid and ignorant move. Many callers felt, that by sending this delegation, the President was supporting China for slaughtering the students, and acted against the moral code of this country.

Many felt that the President sent a delegation to China to do business with a government that killed students who were looking for freedom and who were also looking to the U.S for help. They didn't seem to understand that the President was trying to keep the door open.



Dec. 12, 1989

My Friend -

His Majesty was too
kind to our son Teb; but
I was touched deeply
by this consideration.

Secondly, Barbara

loved being at your
side in Dallas

Warm Personal Regards
and Happy Holiday Season
to all your family -

Cyrus Teb



THE PRESIDENT

Dec. 12, 1989

Your Majesty,

Our son Jeb called
me to tell me that you
not only had received him
with great warmth and
hospitality, but also that

you had spent a lot of
time with him. He was
honored and overcome
with gratitude.

We have a very
close family and I am
most grateful to you for
this extraordinary courtesy.
I look forward to seeing you soon.
With Respect & Friendship Ag. Ben

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

President would like this sent over to Prince
Bandar -- unsealed.

thanks,

From the desk of
George Bush

done
bmw / Give cc, to
12/2/89 of both
Brent —

 / send over to
Bander — unsealed

BCC: ✓ Brent Scowcroft

BCC: ✓ Jeb Bush (fyi)

done

(family file)

FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

104895
ME001

Mr. Richard E. Jenkins
1810 E. Foothill Drive
Santa Rosa, California 95404



12-12-89

My Rich -

Loved your 12-5 letter
All our kids & grand
kids will be with us - Joy
to the world - Love to
"Purple Salad" the jello queen
C

✓ bcc:

incoming & outgoing

Mrs. Bush

891213

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
05. Letter	From Margie and Dick Jenkins to Barbara and George Bush Re: 1945W Yale Reunion [redaction of personal information] (1 pp.)	12/5/89	C	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Office of the President
Series: Daily Files
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Tuesday, December 12, 1989

Date Closed: 11/23/2009	OA/ID Number: 90529-001
FOIA/SYS Case #: 2009-0166-S	Appeal Case #:
Re-review Case #:	Appeal Disposition:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	Disposition Date:
AR Case #:	MR Case #:
AR Disposition:	MR Disposition:
AR Disposition Date:	MR Disposition Date:

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personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
(b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement
purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
(b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of
financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
(b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

RICHARD E. JENKINS

12/5/89
Santa Rosa, CA

My dear Barbara and George,

1945W Had a great Yale Reunion last month in New Haven. I read your excellent letter at the Class Dinner on Nov. 17 to 195 classmates - 340 total people and it got a great response (even in liberal old New Haven), especially the "... bury some old hatchets or compare old waistlines. Just remember, this is a Kinder, gentler America. "

Grimes, Clark, Moseley, Biglow & I had a great time!

C

Marge's feelings are hurt over the Dinner omission of her purple salad - but she will survive with the Holiday Cheer!

What an exciting series of events you are involved in and handling them so well for all of us Americans!

Have a great Holiday Season!

As Ever,

Margie & Dick J.

Where, oh where is the
purple salad?

Have a wonderful holiday-

PERSONALS

with Rose
LEAH GARCHIK
marque

The Bush Family Plans A Camp David Christmas

George and Barbara Bush will spend a wholesome family Christmas at Camp David with, according to the New York Daily News, five children, four of their spouses and 11 grandchildren.

→ The official Christmas menu is turkey, mashed potatoes, dressing and pumpkin pie, wholesome family stuff in comparison with the dainty dishes — cranberry-orange relish, monkey bread, roasted stuffed chestnuts, spiced squash, pearl onions 'n' peas and hazelnut mousse and meringue log — that were set before the Reagans.

After the holiday, the president is planning to take his rifle and go south to shoot things with Secretary of State James Baker. A post-Christmas hunting holiday is a Bush tradition.

CP

105160
SI 00



12-12-89

Dear Claude -

Will you give the attached
to the Sainthly Ones.

Bar - I will be
at St. Martins - (homecoming)

on Dec. 31st

I look forward to
seeing you.

Warm Regards,

Ay B

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC

891212

Reverend Claude E. Payne
St. Martins Episcopal Church
717 Sage Road
Houston, Texas 77056

✓ cc. Mrs. B. BUSH



THE PRESIDENT

Dec. 12, 1989

Dear Saintly Stitchers -

Soon you will be getting
pictures showing your
glorious work on proud
display in the White House.
But, for now, I want to

say "My Heartfelt Thanks"
for every loving stitch.

You have enriched
the White House - and you
have given us all a blessed
reminder of the True meaning
of Christmas -

May May Thanks,

C. Bush

Reverend Claude E. Payne
St. Martins Episcopal Church
717 Sage Road
Houston, Texas 77056

Thyia Lobby - Ag. Bunk



To the Southy Station
Love Ag. Bunk





THE PRESIDENT

December 12, 1989

Dear Susan,

Susan Biddle gave me those wonderful "cut-outs" and I just wanted to thank you for such a special gift. They will be enjoyed by the entire Bush family. That was so thoughtful.

With warmest best wishes to you and yours for a holiday season filled with happiness and peace.

Sincerely,

FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Ms. Susan Milhoan
225 Wall Street
Suite #210
Vail, Colorado 91657

done
B.Y. GIFT: 4 photo
12/12 cut-outs
value: \$75.00

POTUS TOOK GIFT
TO RESIDENCE FOR
MRS. BUSH

PHOTO CUT-OUTS
GIVEN TO POTUS
BY:

Susan Milhoan
((Daughter of
Amb. Keith Brown--
Denmark)

gift unit



THE PRESIDENT

December 12, 1989

Dear John:

Just a quick note to thank you for that thoughtful gift. Bruce Zanca gave me "The Guide to High Performance Powerboating" today and I can't wait to read it.

Barbara joins me in sending our warmest best wishes for a special holiday season.

Sincerely,

done { bcc: Marlin Fitzwater
B.Y. { bcc: Bruce Zanca } USE
12/12

Mr. John Balzar
Los Angeles Times
Times Mirror Square
Los Angeles, California 90053

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dec 12, 1989

Dear Barbara,

I was so
pleased to get
your letter of Nov. 10th
full of happy
memories. Love to you
and Ashley. Merry
Christmas -

Ag Bush

FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Ms. Barbara Richmond
Route 12, Box 265
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

daily

Document Originally
Attached to
Following Page

1:15 P.M. NEWS UPDATE

CHINA/CONGRESS (AP) -- Congress' first order of business when it reconvenes next month will be an attempt to override President Bush's veto of a bill permitting Chinese students to remain in the U.S. indefinitely if they fear retaliation at home, the bill's sponsor said today. Rep. Pelosi said she has received assurances of the top priority from House and Senate leaders that an override vote would be the first order of business.... Congressional Democrats, fuming over renewed high-level U.S. contacts with China's leaders, also are vowing to revive legislation imposing sanctions on the Chinese government as punishment for the killings of pro-democracy demonstrators. Pelosi, at a news conference, said she is gaining commitments to override now from Democrats and Republicans and is confident of a large bipartisan majority. "I think we have enough (votes) to override," she said. "We feel the president's actions this weekend are such a slap in the face to the forces of democracy and such an encouragement of a tyrannical regime that it is making our job easier." Haiching Zhao, chairman of the National Committee on Chinese Student Affairs, said the administration's high-level visit to China will strengthen the hardliners in Beijing and encourage a "slide into darkness" in China. "The situation in China has not been improved since the June 4th massacre," he said. "Taken together, the veto and the visit create a clear and present danger that the hardliners in the Chinese government will now feel free to impose more repression and further reprisals against the democracy movement." ...Republican Sen. McConnell joined Democrats in the criticism. "I think it's the wrong message at the wrong time, although I know what the president is trying to do," McConnell said this morning on NBC's "Today" show.

BAKER/EAST GERMANY (Potsdam/Reuter) -- Secretary Baker called Tuesday for a "new Europe" and then, matching words with deeds, drove into East Germany for an unprecedented meeting with reformist Prime Minister Modrow. "The meeting with Modrow was intended to extend legitimacy to him and by extension to the whole East German structure as it now exists," a senior U.S. official said.... According U.S. sources, the unscheduled meeting was arranged following an urgent plead from the ambassador to East Germany, Richard Barkley, for Baker to demonstrate U.S. support for a reformist government facing grave political and economic problems. The big American fear, according to these sources, is that East Germany could collapse completely, imperiling the whole process of reform in East Europe.

POLAND/WALESA (Warsaw/AP) -- Solidarity leader Walesa said today that the government should be granted special economic powers allowing it to restructure the economy without the approval of the Parliament. Walesa said he was "fully aware how controversial this proposal is. But I am forced to make it because of the ever-worsening situation in the country and the growing impatience of society." It was not known whether the Solidarity-led government of Prime Minister Mazowiecki supported Walesa's position.

ROMANIA/U.S. (AP) -- Despite criticism of Romania's policies, U.S. officials say they will send weapons-grade uranium to the hard-line East Bloc country as soon as it comes up with a suitable way to ship the material. Opponents of the sale, which was approved in 1988, call it "crazy" and say Romania can't be trusted with the dangerous material.... "In light of the Romanians' increasing isolation and instability, this is not the time to be sending Romania the means to make an atomic bomb," said Gary Milhollin, director of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, a group that opposes nuclear proliferation. "I think it's crazy," said Vladimir Tismaneanu, a resident scholar at the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia.

EL SALVADOR/CASOLO (San Salvador/Reuter) -- U.S. church worker Jennifer Casolo, arrested last month and accused of stockpiling arms for El Salvador's leftist guerrillas, will be released from jail Tuesday, her attorney said. Salvador Ibarra said would Casolo be released on a legal technicality stemming from the country's state-of-siege laws. "She's going to be released today," Ibarra told reporters. He said he had been informed by the military judge hearing the case that the 28-year-old Connecticut woman would be freed some time Tuesday. The information could not immediately be confirmed by court officials.

PLO/BRITAIN (London/UPI) -- A prominent PLO strategist and adviser to PLO Chairman Arafat has called on Britain to help secure lasting peace in the Middle East. U.S. peace initiatives will fail, Hani al-Hassan said Monday night in a speech to The Radical Society. He appealed to European nations, and Britain in particular, to intervene. "If you (in Britain) want peace in the Middle East -- for whatever reason, and if only to protect your own vested interests in the region -- please use your influence before it is too late for us all," he said. "My assumption is that the present peace process will lead nowhere," said al-Hassan.

VIETNAMESE REPATRIATION/THATCHER (London/Reuter) -- Prime Minister Thatcher defended Britain's forced repatriation of Vietnamese boat people from Hong Kong Tuesday and said that instead of condemning her, other countries should take their share of refugees. Refusing to bow to criticism by relief organizations and even her main ally in the U.S., Thatcher and British officials made clear repatriation would continue until 40,000 refugees in Hong Kong had been returned to the land they fled. Thatcher's junior Foreign Office Minister Francis Maude even cited the U.S. treatment of illegal immigrants from countries like Mexico as backing for the British action. "The fact is that what we undertook last night is no different from the process which the Americans take day by day in respect of people seeking to enter America illegally from Mexico, Haiti and a number of other places," Maude said in a television interview.

IRAN-CONTRA/NORTH (AP) -- Oliver North testified today that he was unable to recall crucial details that Iran-Contra prosecutors want to focus on in their criminal case against John Poindexter. At a pre-trial hearing in the Poindexter case, North said he was unable to remember telling Poindexter about false statements in letters to Congress denying that North was assisting the Contra rebels in Nicaragua. "Did you have discussions with Admiral Poindexter before the letter was sent...about the false nature of the response?" asked Iran-Contra prosecutor Dan Webb. "I don't recall," North replied.

4:00 P.M. NEWS UPDATE

CENTAM SUMMIT/FMLN (San Salvador/Reuter) -- Leftist Salvadoran guerrillas Tuesday rejected an agreement by Central American presidents backing El Salvador's right-wing government and calling on the rebels to immediately halt attacks. "We indignantly reject the declaration by the presidents because, contrary to the international trend and the demands of democratic, social and religious forces inside the country, it unconditionally supports the main violator of human rights in the region," the rebel FMLN said in a statement, referring to the government.

EL SALVADOR/CASOLO (Reuter) -- Sen. Dodd said Tuesday a report that Salvadoran authorities were to release American church worker Jennifer Casolo was not true. Dodd said the Salvadoran ambassador in Washington had told him the report was "a misunderstanding." ...He said Casolo...was still being held and he had no word that her status was being changed.

NICARAGUA ELECTION/U.N. (U.N./Reuter) -- A U.N. mission said Tuesday aggressive campaigning for Nicaragua's February election had "reached levels which would be unacceptable in other countries." The U.N. observer mission to verify the electoral process in Nicaragua, in a report covering October and November, also expressed concern about charges of biased use of the media by both sides in the race. But it said the voter registration process had concluded satisfactorily and the "electoral authority in Nicaragua has played a key role in ensuring the proper conduct of the electoral process in areas under its jurisdiction."

VIETNAMESE REFUGEES/U.S. (Reuter) -- The U.S. urged Britain Tuesday to halt the forcible repatriation of Vietnamese refugees from Hong Kong.... State Department spokesman Boucher said Washington regretted the British decision to repatriate the refugees.... "We believe British authorities should continue to grant asylum to all those persons from Vietnam who seek it in accordance with the comprehensive plan of action adopted in Geneva in June by the United States, the United Kingdom, Vietnam, the ASEAN countries and others," Boucher told reporters. As he was speaking, Britain announced in London that because of international protests it would suspend for one week repatriation from Hong Kong of Vietnamese boat people.

BAKER/MODROW (Potsdam/Reuter) -- Secretary Baker, calling for a new Europe, met East German Prime Minister Modrow in Potsdam Tuesday among the ruins of old-style Communism.... Baker told journalists after his meeting with Modrow: "We talked at quite some length about the importance of this reform effort moving forward in a peaceful and stable way." Modrow said: "This is satisfying; dialogue has begun. I assume that this dialogue will lead to cooperation."

MILITARY FORCE STRUCTURE (UPI) -- Bush administration officials, while saying the military is looking at the future, denied Tuesday that any decisions have been made to change or restructure America's armed forces [in response to a New York Times report Tuesday].... "Obviously a lot of military services are looking at the future, as we always do," said Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams. "There is no decision to restructure or change the fundamental role of any of the military services, not the Army or any of the other services."

-more-

MILITARY BUDGET (UPI) -- Former Defense Secretary McNamara told a Senate panel Tuesday recent changes in Eastern Europe should prompt deep, long-term Pentagon spending cuts as the nation rethinks its military needs. But a top defense official, testifying at another Senate committee hearing on the possibility of increased warning time before any Soviet attack, urged caution in cutting the Pentagon budget.... "Contrary to what President Gorbachev said following the Malta summit, the Cold War is not over," McNamara said. "However, I do believe President Gorbachev is presenting us with the greatest opportunity in 40 years to shift the basis for the formulation of U.S. foreign and defense policy from Cold War thinking to a totally new vision of superpower relations." ...But Undersecretary of Defense Wolfowitz told the Senate Armed Services Committee, "The timing of our reaction, however is delicate.... If we attempt to pocket too quickly the benefits that we anticipate, then we risk undercutting the very strategy that has brought us to the brink of success. If this sounds cautious, I plead guilty."

STEEL SUBSIDIES (UPI) -- President Bush signed legislation Tuesday to extend limits on steel imports, while the U.S. and major steel-producing nations completed talks to end subsidies and eventually ease restrictions. USTR Hills told a news conference that the negotiations have produced agreements to open markets, to eliminate government subsidies and to improve the overall health of the global steel industry. "The bilateral agreements restricting trade distorting practices are the cornerstones of the president's program to seek a consensus to address the causes rather than the symptoms affecting world trade in steel," Hills said.

U.S./ROMANIA/URANIUM (AP) -- A Senate committee will review the NRC's decision to sell weapons-grade uranium to Romania, a hard-line East Bloc country that has been harshly criticized by the U.S., a Capitol Hill source said Tuesday..... The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee will look at the sale to make sure the Romanians need the uranium to keep the Triga reactor [a research facility] operating rather than as a reserve supply, according to an aide, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

EXXON VALDEZ/HAZELWOOD (Anchorage/UPI) -- A judge refused Tuesday to dismiss criminal charges against the fired skipper of the supertanker Exxon Valdez, rejecting Joseph Hazelwood's claim that he is immune from prosecution because he reported the nation's worst oil spill. State Superior Court Judge Karl Johnstone ruled that the massive spill inevitably would have been discovered, and that it is therefore permissible to prosecute the skipper, even though federal law normally grants immunity to spillers who report their actions.

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10:30 A.M. NEWS UPDATE

EAST GERMANY/NATO/BAKER (West Berlin/AP) -- Secretary Baker today celebrated the opening of the Berlin Wall and made arrangements to cross over to East Germany for a meeting with Communist Premier Hans Modrow. Baker would be the highest-ranking U.S. official to visit the Communist state in nearly two decades. "I am glad to see there are a lot of openings in that wall," Baker said as he visited the Potsdamer Platz, where a new crossing point in the wall was opened last month. "It's pretty impressive," he said as he toured the site along with West German Foreign Minister Genscher.... [In a speech to the Berlin Press Club, Baker] proposed a larger role for NATO and deeper U.S. ties to the Western military alliance to anchor a reunified Germany as the Communist system in the East disintegrates.... Baker said "the United States and Canada share Europe's neighborhood" and intend to work with the Western Europeans in peacefully integrating a new Germany into a Europe in which East-West tensions are subsiding. Baker suggested NATO oversee reductions of troops and armaments in a treaty being negotiated with the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact and take new steps to build economic and political ties with the East. "As Europe changes, the instruments for Western cooperation must adapt," Baker said. "Working together, we must design and gradually put into place an architecture for a new era."

(West Berlin/UPI) -- Secretary Baker, in a surprise move, announced he would visit East Germany Tuesday to meet pro-reform Prime Minister Hans Modrow after talks in West Berlin with West German Chancellor Kohl. Baker visited the Berlin Wall and also addressed the Berlin Press Club, proposing a major overhaul of European organizations like NATO and the EC to adjust to the sweeping changes in Eastern Europe. U.S. officials and the East German news agency ADN said Baker would meet with Modrow in the small town of Potsdam, just outside Berlin Tuesday afternoon.... In his press club speech, Baker recommended NATO's non-military component become more important and said the Western alliance should build economic and political ties with the East. Baker proposed NATO form a permanent arms control verification staff to monitor compliance with disarmament agreements and that NATO become more involved with issues outside Europe. He also suggested a possible U.S. treaty alliance with the EC, although American officials said the U.S. has no intention of becoming a formal member of the 12-member EC. Regarding German reunification, Baker said it "will not be easy nor can it be rushed," and "must respect the legitimate concerns of all the participants in the new Europe."

EAST GERMANY (Leipzig/AP) -- The Communist Party today admitted that East Germany's socialist system has failed, and expressed support for a type of partnership with West Germany. The statement in the Communist Party Neues Deutschland was one of the bluntest official assessments to date of the country's increasingly troubled situation.... Neues Deutschland, in proposing a new party platform, said "socialism has definitely failed as a social system in our country" and acknowledged that the "popular revolutionary movement" of the past weeks had led to the scrapping of the old system. The paper repeated the Communists' promise to work for a new "democratic socialism" within a multi-party system.... Neues Deutschland urged a "qualified partnership of both German states" but rejected any suggestions of resolving the "German question."

SOVIET PARLIAMENT/COMMUNIST PARTY (Moscow/Reuter) -- The Soviet parliament, declining to follow Moscow's East European allies, rejected proposals Tuesday to debate the Communist Party's constitutionally guaranteed monopoly on power. Members of the Congress of People's Deputies, the country's supreme legislative body, heeded a call by Kremlin chief Gorbachev not to question the party's "leading role" as set down in article six of the constitution. Deputies voted by 1,138 to 839 with 56 abstentions to keep the debate off the Congress agenda. "We must approach the question of the constitution with great responsibility," Gorbachev told more than 2,100 members of the parliament in lengthy remarks opposing an amendment to the Congress' nine-point agenda.

CENTRAL AMERICAN SUMMIT (San Isidro de Coronado, Costa Rica/UPI) -- The five presidents of Central America, after a rocky 2½-day summit, signed an ambitious peace agreement Tuesday which, if enforced, could make it impossible for the U.S. to continue supporting Nicaragua's Contra rebels. The accord...also gave strong backing to the El Salvadoran government of President Cristiani in its effort to discredit a month-old military offensive by leftist rebels.... Paul Reichler, an American lawyer who advises Nicaragua, said the 13-point accord will obligate anyone who supports the Contras, including the U.S., to channel the funds through the International Commission for Support and Verification, CIAV. "The government of Nicaragua is extremely satisfied with this agreement," Reichler said. "The agreement virtually guarantees demobilization of the Contras." Mauricio Sandoval, El Salvador's information secretary, said his government was "very happy" with the accord.

VIETNAM/U.S. SERVICEMEN (Hanoi/UPI) -- Foreign Minister Thach denied that U.S. servicemen are still in Vietnam and challenged anyone with contrary evidence to "rent a helicopter" and search for them. "Anyone who gets some information on living MIAs can come here without telling me about the information they have," Thach said Monday in an interview with UPI. "They can come and rent a helicopter with the information in their pocket and they can ask the helicopter to go in any direction they wish to check whether there are any MIAs." ... "I know there are no (missing Americans here)," Thach said.

VIETNAM/REFUGEES (Hanoi/UPI) -- The first group of Vietnamese boat people forcibly returned to their homeland from Hong Kong arrived Tuesday at Noi Bai Airport amid a major international controversy over their involuntary repatriation. The 51 Vietnamese, mostly children, were roused from their beds in a refugee camp in Hong Kong before dawn, driven to the airport and put aboard a chartered jetliner, all within about two hours.

(London/UPI) -- Amnesty International appealed to the British government to stop the forced repatriation of Vietnamese boat people from Hong Kong, saying the procedure to determine political asylum was "critically flawed." ... Britain's process for distinguishing between economic refugees and those fleeing political tyranny would not prevent individuals at risk of human-rights violations from being returned to Vietnam, Amnesty said Monday in letters to Prime Minister Thatcher and Hong Kong Governor David Wilson.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
Bridget Montagne
West Wing

PRESS BRIEF
BY
MARLIN FITZWATER

December 12, 1989

The Briefing Room

11:13 A.M. EST

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11:49 A.M. EST

#135-12/12

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

PRESS BRIEFING
BY
MARLIN FITZWATER

December 12, 1989

The Briefing Room

11:13 A.M. EST

MR. FITZWATER: The President will travel to New York City on Friday, December 15th to attend the 80th Anniversary Dinner of the NAACP at the Waldorf Astoria. The President is scheduled to depart the White House at 6:10 p.m. and return at 10:40 p.m. Check-in for the White House press corp will be at 4:45 p.m. at Andrews Air Force Base. The press charter is expected to return to Andrews by 11:30 p.m.

And for those of you who would like to accompany us the next day to St. Maarten, there are hotels in the Andrews Air Force Base area. Check-in will be at 5:40 a.m. on Saturday, December 16th. (Laughter.)

Q At 5:40 a.m., did you say?

MR. FITZWATER: At 5:40 a.m. The President is scheduled to depart the White House at 7:10 a.m. and return at 7:55 p.m.

Q So this is p.m.?

Q What time will we return?

MR. FITZWATER: Leaving approximately one hour --

Q What time is the press charter due back?

MR. FITZWATER: Leaving approximately one hour and thirty minutes for filing time, the press charter will tentatively return to Andrews at 9:45 p.m. A detailed schedule will be available Thursday.

Q Marlin, are you planning a briefing before this meeting?

MR. FITZWATER: I will have to check whether we have a pre-brief or not. Nothing is scheduled at the moment, but I'll double-check that. The President does plan to have a press conference at the end of that meeting.

Q Is it joint?

MR. FITZWATER: In the afternoon. A joint press conference, yes.

Q Marlin, on the NAACP, will there be any particular focus to his remarks other than the obvious?

MR. FITZWATER: I have not seen his remarks, Steve. So I don't know. We'll try and do an advance text, too.

Q Do you know what time the press conference will be? Saturday?

MORE

#135-12/12

MR. FITZWATER: I don't know. I don't have an exact time for the meeting, I don't believe. But it will be immediately thereafter.

Q Marlin, since the President saw Mitterrand in Brussels, what exactly is the reason for this trip?

MR. FITZWATER: For President Mitterrand to discuss the Strasbourg meeting that just was completed on the 7th and 8th, I believe it is.

Q That's it?

Q Couldn't be done with a phone call?

Q Let's check this out. Maybe they can talk on the phone.

Q Why this place, Marlin? Why there?

MR. FITZWATER: Well, President Mitterrand wanted to have a meeting, wanted to be able to personally brief the President on the Strasbourg meeting. President Bush, of course, was eager to hear his views. St. Maarten is a kind of a mutual halfway point that has a -- (laughter) --

Q Does that mean Mitterrand will make it a day trip, too?

Q Somewhere between.

MR. FITZWATER: -- has a distinguished French climate there that made it extremely reasonable.

Q Are they meeting on the French or Dutch side, Marlin?

MR. FITZWATER: French side, French side.

Q Was Bucky down there? (Laughter.)

Q Was there a hurricane --

MR. FITZWATER: The President's schedule today. You know, it's one of those rare days when we don't have anything for coverage today.

Q Ooooooh.

MR. FITZWATER: He met with Secretary Cheney this morning.

Q How's his health?

Q What is this dinner tonight?

Q Yes, what about the dinner tonight?

Q Who are the Cardinals?

MR. FITZWATER: The Cardinals' dinner is the American Catholic Cardinals. And it is supported by Catholic University of America and will honor five active American Catholic Cardinals and will be the culmination of Catholic University's 100th Anniversary. The dinner was conceived last May by Mr. Smith Bagley.

Q Watch it. Wrong word. (Laughter.)

Q Was it an immaculate conception? (Laughter.)

MR. FITZWATER: Let me make a note of this. (Laughter.)

Q You don't want to say it was planned either.

MR. FITZWATER: What is this?

Q This is getting worse. (Laughter.)

Q Who wrote that guidance?

MR. FITZWATER: I see. I need to talk to the Office of Communications about this. (Laughter.)

Q You just read what's before you. Go right ahead.

MR. FITZWATER: All right. Attending will be Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago; Cardinal John O'Connor, New York; Cardinal Bernard Law of Boston; Cardinal James Hickey, Washington; Cardinal Edmond Szoka, Detroit; Cardinal John Krol, Philadelphia; Father Byron of Catholic University of America; and approximately 1,400 dinner guests.

Q Are they all already in town or is there any hope this whole thing might be scratched because of weather? (Laughter.)

MR. FITZWATER: I don't know, Brit, I don't know.

Q What's he going to talk about? Abortion?

MR. FITZWATER: I have not seen the text. We'll try to give you an advance text this afternoon.

Q Marlin, you said to honor five cardinals, but you named six?

MR. FITZWATER: Well, in that case -- (laughter) -- it was immaculate.

Q One of them had twins.

MR. FITZWATER: I don't know how that happened. That's a second point I better raise. Accuracy, as well as language.

Q Prepared speech tonight, Marlin?

MR. FITZWATER: All right. He will have a prepared text and we'll try to have an advance copy for you this afternoon.

Q The Mrs. going, too?

MR. FITZWATER: I believe so, but let me double-check that.

Q What time is he delivering that speech?

Q What's the coverage of that?

MR. FITZWATER: All right. Mrs. Bush will attend. And I guess I don't have an exact time of -- well, wait a minute, yes I do. Exact time of delivery is 8:38 p.m.

Q Is it open for coverage?

MR. FITZWATER: Eight-thirty-eight p.m. That's my understanding, yes.

Q Is it open for coverage?

MR. FITZWATER: Yes.

Q Can we take it live?

MR. FITZWATER: You can take it live. AP will carry that

live. (Laughter.)

All right, I guess that's it. Getting in the Christmas season; doing a lot of holiday shopping.

Q There have been a lot of stories about deals that we're making -- business deals with China -- the sending of satellites and so forth. Are they true and has the President put business ahead of principle?

MR. FITZWATER: We don't believe the sanctions have been violated in any way. We did -- in response to David's question yesterday, I put out a notice on the issue that he raised. There were stories this morning on the satellites. The answer is as follows: When the President suspended the export of weapons and defense articles to the People's Republic of China in June, the licenses for two Australian satellites which had been issued were suspended. And the pending license of an Asian satellite, which had not been issued, was put on hold. The manufacturer of these satellites, Hughes Aircraft, has informed us that it needs licensing decisions on these exports relatively soon in order to meet the manufacturing and delivery timetables and allow the launches to proceed on schedule. The U.S. government is reviewing these exports but it has not reached any decision on granting waivers so that they may proceed.

The President suspended the export of military weapons and defense articles to the People's Republic of China, but did not intend to disrupt normal civilian commercial relations. As an administrative measure to implement the President's decision, the U.S. suspended the export of all items on our munitions list, which includes satellites and other items that are not weapons. We recognize that some items captured in the suspension here have civilian applications and fall into the category of normal commercial exports.

So in other words, no decision has been made on these, but it is possible.

Q What about the F-A2?

Q And it is what? I didn't get the end.

MR. FITZWATER: No decision has been made on those satellites, but it is possible.

Q Marlin, that seems to work for the Boeing and the satellites, but what about the F-A2? That's not commercial.

MR. FITZWATER: That's the issue we talked about yesterday, isn't it? That's --

Q That was the F-8.

MR. FITZWATER: Well, then I guess -- do I have an answer on the F-A2? No.

Q Marlin, Grumman avionics upgrade package that the President allowed to move forward.

Q That's the F-8.

MR. POPADIUK: That's what we put out yesterday, isn't it?

Q Is this -- is there a deadline by Friday that Hughes has to know, or wants to know?

MR. FITZWATER: A deadline by Friday? Well, let's see. I don't have anything on a deadline.

Q But you indicate that it probably will go through.

MR. FITZWATER: Well, I'm just saying it hasn't been decided yet, but that it's possible.

Q Is this a first move toward dismantling what's left of the sanctions?

MR. FITZWATER: This doesn't alter the sanctions.

Q There are also reports the U.S. is considering dropping its opposition to World Bank loans for China.

MR. FITZWATER: No change.

Q No change yet, but is the consideration being made?

MR. FITZWATER: Not to my knowledge.

Q Marlin, does the President intend to talk to Maggie Thatcher about the boat people in Hong Kong -- a decision to send them back?

MR. FITZWATER: I don't believe so. He discussed that with the Prime Minister last June, you will recall, when we stopped there on the way back from NATO, so they have talked about it in the past.

Q Marlin, since the President's position has shifted as to who needed to make the first move to restore relations between the U.S. and China, has he now articulated through General Scowcroft or any other way what the Chinese must do to move him to lift the remaining sanctions? Or is this just kind of an I'll-know-it-when-I-see-it sort of deal?

MR. FITZWATER: The General, of course, had discussions with the Chinese on any number of areas, but we are not willing to specify any specific actions.

Q Does that mean you're not willing to specify them to the public of the United States and that they have been specified to the Chinese or does it mean we haven't even specified them to the Chinese either?

MR. FITZWATER: That we aren't willing to comment on either possibility.

Q Why?

MR. FITZWATER: Because we believe that, as the President said yesterday, that China needs to take certain actions to indicate a change in its repressive policies and we wait for those to occur, but without giving any public guidance as to what that might be.

Q Well, can you tell us at least whether we've told the Chinese what they might be?

MR. FITZWATER: We're not willing to say that. I'm sorry.

Q Marlin, you are saying that there have been in fact no steps, concessions, gestures toward the United States' position made at all, either before or after the Scowcroft meetings with the Chinese?

MR. FITZWATER: Except for the one reference by the President yesterday and --

Q To the Silkworm missiles, you mean?

MR. FITZWATER: Yes. And that's the only one I'm aware of.

Q Any movement in talks concerning Fang Lizhi?

MR. FITZWATER: I don't have any change.

Q Is he still in the embassy?

MR. FITZWATER: He's still in the embassy, as far as I know.

Q Marlin, the President this spring provided a fairly detailed list of changes he wanted to see the Soviet Union accomplish before relations would improve. Why is he so reluctant to offer some kind of similar yardstick for China? What's the difference?

MR. FITZWATER: It is a different situation. In this case, we have made our general views known and we have made an overture and we wait to see what their response will be.

Q Well, why is it different? I mean, I'm not sure I understand that.

MR. FITZWATER: Well, I don't know that I can go into that kind of analysis. And I'll tell you why we did what we did with China, why we did it with the Soviet Union, but I'm not going to be comparing countries.

Q Marlin, back on the boat people. The United States has said that it opposes the forced return. What, if anything, is the administration going to do about it now that that has started?

MR. FITZWATER: We continue to support the voluntary repatriation of asylum-seekers as proposed in the comprehensive plan of action adopted by the Red Cross. As an aside, I would say that we have already accepted 50,000 Vietnamese in the last year. And we believe that the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees should be provided with every opportunity to make voluntary repatriation programs function effectively. We recognize the large numbers of Vietnamese asylum-seekers in Hong Kong has strained their resources. However, we believe that these pressures are best alleviated through the type of concerted international action called for by the International Red Cross. The U.S. position is that involuntary repatriation is unacceptable until conditions improve in Vietnam. And that's the policy behind the 50,000 that we've accepted so far.

Q Well, do we want to see them stop this program and turn it over to the U.N.?

MR. FITZWATER: We've made our position clear. I mean, our policy is that the country of first asylum has responsibility. We have accepted 50,000. We believe the Red Cross has a plan that is reasonable and acceptable. And that's the course we are following.

Q Marlin, what does this administration want from China? I'm not talking about ending isolation or anything else. What is the pot at the end of the rainbow that you all are looking for?

MR. FITZWATER: I can't add anything to what the President said yesterday. We are not willing to talk about specifics.

Q In his toast, Scowcroft spoke about negative voices that are trying to frustrate cooperation between the U.S. and China.

Q That's you, kid. (Laughter.)

Q Who are these people? And you said on both sides -- they exist on both sides.

MR. FITZWATER: I don't know. I have not talked to him about that point.

Q Could we have him out here just to explain?

MR. FITZWATER: I'll put in your request.

Q Marlin, did the President personally make the decision to rebuff the request for a meeting from Lawrence Walsh about his frustration at getting the material for his prosecutions? And can you address the substance of his complaint that only the President can make the decision here that -- whether this information come out that other people in the government are intentionally frustrating it?

MR. FITZWATER: On the first issue, the response was the recommendation of counsel, which the President accepted and agrees with. On the substance, our responsibility is to protect classified information and protect the methods and sources and so forth that are a part of that. And we feel that we have to meet that responsibility, and have done so. But we are not -- should not be involved in the legal process and the court system and we think that the cases themselves and the legal ramifications are the subjects that should be discussed between the Attorney General, who is the President's lawyer, and the Independent Counsel.

Q When you say he accepted the advise of counsel, you're talking about Boyden and not the Attorney General?

MR. FITZWATER: Yes.

Q Marlin, the President doesn't think he --

MR. FITZWATER: Although, I'm assuming -- I'm sure the Attorney General agrees with that as well.

Q Marlin, the President doesn't think he has a responsibility to make sure that secrets aren't being protected unnecessarily and that those secrets that the Attorney General is blocking in fact effect the national security?

MR. FITZWATER: The President does have that responsibility and he is assured that is the case -- that we are not protecting secrets unnecessarily and that all of those we have said need to be protected need to be.

Q Is he going to review it himself or is he trusting Thornburgh?

MR. FITZWATER: This matter was made by the leaders of his intelligence community, and he fully agrees with their conclusion.

Q Wait a minute. What does that mean? Are you saying the leaders of the intelligence?

MR. FITZWATER: There's a group of people that meet and do -- the Secretary of Defense, Director of the CIA, National Security Advisor. I don't know who else. I remember in the last administration we went through this list. But they make the judgement, just as they have from the very beginning of the Iran-Contra affair.

Q But he hasn't reviewed any of the stuff himself, has he, Marlin?

MR. FITZWATER: Not the specific material, no. But he certainly supports their conclusion.

Q In the meeting with Secretary Cheney, did they reach any agreements about the defense budget?

MR. FITZWATER: Well, you know, this is the kind of thing where every budget meeting they have, they reach some agreements on some things -- numbers, pieces of it and so forth. And we won't

comment on any of the specifics until the budget comes out.

Q Marlin, I still don't understand why Walsh couldn't even get a meeting? I mean what's wrong with just talking to him rather than sending the letter?

MR. FITZWATER: Because we think it's appropriate that he meet with the Attorney General, as the President's lawyer.

Q But why?

MR. FITZWATER: Because he is the President's lawyer. He wants to talk about the court case. We don't think that it's appropriate for the President to be discussing with the Independent Counsel. I refer you to Boyden Gray's letter of October 25. And he said, "I can assure you that the administration takes seriously its role in balancing your need to use classified information with the need to protect National Security and the lives of our citizens. I have spoken with the Attorney General, the President's highest ranking law enforcement official, who continues to stand ready to meet with you on any questions regarding your handling of the Iran-Contra litigation, including the disposition of classified materials."

Q Does the President worry that his stand is constantly blocking these --

MR. FITZWATER: Let me -- I'll come back. Bob.

Q Other presidents have been given assurances that things were being followed as they should be, and we've all heard the national security arguments before. Why should this President accept the assurances; why should the public accept these assurances this time?

MR. FITZWATER: President Reagan accepted the assurances of this group that met any number of times. President Bush accepts the assurances of this group who after all are his Cabinet and leaders of his intelligence community.

Q What -- no why? Why?

MR. FITZWATER: Why?

Q Other presidents have been mislead.

MR. FITZWATER: Because the President trusts these men -- that's why they're in his Cabinet.

Q In this story this morning about the Pentagon giving its blessings to a Boston company to assemble computers in the Soviet Union, are there various kinds of technology that the U.S. is now considering selling to the Soviets or Eastern Europe? Can you give us some idea what's in the works there?

MR. FITZWATER: I don't have any idea. I'd refer you to the Commerce Department. They do the licensing and can go through those details with you.

Q Marlin, if I could just ask you, one of the main points in the Walsh letter is his claim that the work of his office is being seriously hampered by the lack of any point of contact in your administration. How do you respond to his complaint that there is no point of contact in the administration? He refers to Culvahouse and Ambassador Abshire as being the Reagan administration's contact.

MR. FITZWATER: It's our belief that the Attorney General is the appropriate point of contact and there is no reason why the lack of having someone else should hold up his work.

Q Yesterday the President indicated for the first time

that there may not be enough money in the S&L bailout to meet the goals. Is somebody telling him that and are there any figures out on that yet?

MR. FITZWATER: No, there aren't any figures. The President was referring to some conversations he had had about working capital and so forth but was not meaning to signal that there is any new overall figures or that we have any plans to take any action on that basis.

Q When were these conversations, because initially, when the S&L bailout was revealed, there was some discussion then about the capital accounts? But were these subsequent to that or are these recent conversations?

MR. FITZWATER: He has continuing conversations with Secretary Brady and others on these issues. Yes.

Q But were these raised as a red flag to be prepared for -- a request for more money for the S&L bailout? Would that be a correct characterization?

MR. FITZWATER: No. No, they were just raised in the course of reviewing the status of the thrift problem and which the President does that every week or two weeks with the Secretary of Treasury and others.

Q So he's not going to ask for any more money?

MR. FITZWATER: He was not signaling any new effort on our part either to come up with new money or develop legislation or even any new knowledge on the total cost.

Q On Central America what's the administration's reaction to the agreement by the presidents at their meeting yesterday, and specifically, about the recommendation that the U.S. funds -- aid to the Contras be diverted to the U.N. for demobilization efforts?

MR. FITZWATER: All right. There are several aspects of this. On the U.N. role that you refer to, we supported creation of the U.N. peacekeeping force, as well as it's rapid deployment to the region. The primary mission of this force is to patrol the borders and we believe it can have an important role in monitoring continuing Sandinista aid to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

The Nicaraguan resistance has already called for the U.N. to participate in policing a permanent cease-fire with the the Nicaraguan government.

What is important is that the Sandinistas cooperate and renew negotiations with the resistance. As you know, despite Sandinista propaganda, it was Nicaragua who walked out of the peace talks with the resistance in Washington recently.

I might comment on a couple other aspects of this. One was the stories on demobilization and repatriation. We do not believe that the presidents have backed away from the essential provision of the Esquipulas process that the resistance be voluntarily reintegrated into Nicaraguan society and that the conditions must be created to permit their return.

We are pleased to see the invitation for the resistance to register to vote. But as news reports on the opposition demonstration at Masatepe indicate, and which independent observers verified, the attacks of Sandinistas on peaceful opposition members. There is little to reassure the resistance that conditions are now fully adequate for their safe return for full political rights.

Q Marlin, are you saying that then you're not going to consider diverting the aid money to the Contras to the U.N.? That's out of the question? Because that's what the president's agreed in

their communique.

MR. FITZWATER: What this said -- the U. S. aid money? Does this go directly to the aid money question, Roman? I don't think it does.

ROMAN POPADIUK: The emphasis is on the conditions --

MR. FITZWATER: I'd have to double-check for you on the money. I don't think that is our plan, but I'd have to check for a direct response. We are still going through the agreement this morning. I have two or three responses, but I don't have all the details.

Q Marlin, on Good Morning America this morning, Representative Torricelli said that you owed an apology to the Casolo family for your remarks suggesting that the government had a good case against her. Do you have any comment or reaction to that?

MR. FITZWATER: I didn't suggest anything of the sort. I certainly apologize to anybody who feels that they were offended by that, but I didn't suggest anything of the sort. I think the President spoke out quite eloquently yesterday on the rights of Miss Casolo and the trial and progress.

Q Marlin, when you were talking about the export of the satellites, in that statement you talked about no intent to interfere with normal commercial exports. Were you including the satellites in that category of normal commercial exports?

MR. FITZWATER: Yes.

Can I just go back? You were -- I didn't get your response to this agreement that the presidents made in their meeting. Are you happy with it? Or do we feel this is progress? Do you have --

MR. FITZWATER: Well, we have concerns about it, partially, because we haven't had a chance to go through all of the details of it. But we would be concerned if the repatriation and mobilization did not -- was not accompanied by democracy changes in Nicaragua and some political freedom to integrate back into the process, as was promised in the Esquipulas Agreements and the Tela Accords.

I might read to you from The Washington Post this morning the comments of Robert Beckel who opposes aid to the Nicaraguan rebels, who said he "saw supporters of the Sandinistas taking machetes and directly attacking supporters of UNO." He and other observers said they saw two persons with arms severed and a man with a deep gash across his chest. Beckel said he expected to see a fair election campaign in Nicaragua, but came away deeply disillusioned. "What we saw was an outrageous display of the disruption of the free electoral process." That concerns us very much.

Q Do you feel then that the agreement that the presidents made is something that -- Nicaragua is not an honest participant? I mean, that they agreed to it, but you're saying based on what they're doing down there --

MR. FITZWATER: Well, based on what's happening, we are certainly skeptical, but we remain to be convinced. And we would like to see the cease-fire discussions be continued and we'd like to see more evidence of a free and fair election process.

Q The other part of the agreement is that Ortega sign the agreement saying that he will not support anymore of the guerrillas in El Salvador. Are you encouraged by that?

MR. FITZWATER: Yes, that was an encouraging aspect. And we hope that he lives up to that, and that that will have the effect of stopping Nicaraguan supplies to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

Q What was that that you were encouraged by?

MR. FITZWATER: The question was from Pascal about our reaction to President Ortega's commitment to -- what were the words you used Pascal?

Q To not support the guerrillas --

MR. FITZWATER: To not support the guerrillas in El Salvador.

Q Yes, Marlin. There was a report this morning that the administration is not going to change its economic forecast for 1990. Is that correct?

MR. FITZWATER: You know -- I asked Michael about that, but I didn't get a direct response. That we're not going to change it?

Q We've had that problem, too.

MR. FITZWATER: I thought the report was that we did change it. I thought The Wall Street Journal had the new forecast in it. Didn't you have it Michelle? I don't know. I'll have to check with you later. I guess -- the bottom line is always we don't comment on a forecast until it's out, but I thought it was -- I thought the problem was that we had a new one and it was out.

Q Can I ask a follow-up on the S&L question? You said that there's -- that the President wasn't signaling any new effort to come up with new money, new legislation, or new information about the cost. What was he signaling then by making that comment?

MR. FITZWATER: He was relating information he had received, but it was on a more narrow aspect of it that we prefer not to go into because we don't want to signal something that's not the case. Wait until they print that on the federal page.

Q Yea.

Q What was the narrow aspect?

MR. FITZWATER: Sorry, no comment.

Q When do expect to hear from the Aronson mission on Colombia?

MR. FITZWATER: I don't know what their return date is. They're going to all three countries, so my assumption is not until the end of the week, but I don't actually know the date of their return.

Q Do they report directly to the President, or how will they --

MR. FITZWATER: No, Aronson is Assistant Secretary of State. He would report to the Secretary of State.

Q Is he alive?

MR. FITZWATER: Yes.

Q Are we shaping -- new shaping of the Army, according to The New York Times?

MR. FITZWATER: New shaping of the Army. Well, we have talked about the budget process and how we work up a 1991 budget. And then you have five-year projections at various levels. And how the Army is -- and all the armed services are doing a consideration of what changes in force structures might be, both for the budget as well as the CFE process and so forth. And any force structure

changes would be considered in that category. There are -- I think a week or two ago, I got in trouble for saying here that you're going to be reading numbers of all sorts of various troop levels and force cuts as a part of this process, and that's exactly what we're seeing. This isn't the first and won't be the last, but it does not mean that decisions have made to make changes, because they have not.

Q On the drug summit, Bush was asked yesterday about security again. Didn't he effectively rule out cancellation of that trip though, Marlin? He just feels it would be a slap at Barco and he's going to go despite any dangers?

MR. FITZWATER: Well, he certainly wants to go. We have not confirmed it yet. We remain fluid in terms of analyzing the situation, but that clearly is our preference. And I might reiterate for those of you here who missed my private comments to various people in Houston, that we have had a security team visit two or three sites, among them Cartagena, and they feel that security can be provided for the President, for his staff and for the press corps. (Laughter.) And we do not intend to put anyone in jeopardy. And I want you to know that those surveys have been made. This trip by Aronson was portrayed incorrectly as a security visit. It is a drug strategy policy visit to go to the substance in the agenda. And basically, the security analyses have already been made and continue to be made on a continuing basis by the Secret Service.

Q Well, hasn't it been recommended already that it be held in Cartagena rather than Bogota, or any other location?

MR. FITZWATER: Well, Cartagena is one of the areas. There are other locations, again, that we have considered, but that is one of the recommendations.

Q Marlin, are you saying that the Secret Service does not object to the President going to Colombia?

MR. FITZWATER: I'm saying that the Secret Service will look at any situation that the President would go into to ensure that it can be done safely.

Q But you said that you got a report already. Did they not recommend against going to Colombia?

MR. FITZWATER: No, no. What they looked at was a specific situation and to come to the conclusion: Can we guarantee the President's safety in that situation or not?

Q And they concluded in part, maybe they could?

MR. FITZWATER: Well, I don't want to be too specific. But let's just say that everywhere we've looked, they have given that recommendation, yes.

Q Marlin, along those lines, what about the continuing little bits of word that seem to keep dribbling out that suggest that White House staffers and other officials have been advised privately to obtain soft-body armour for the trip?

MR. FITZWATER: Not true.

Q Not at all?

MR. FITZWATER: Who'd tell you a thing like that?

Q Is it just to keep face with Barco because he made a promise?

MR. FITZWATER: No, it's because -- for the reason the President spoke of yesterday --

Q Pardon?

MR. FITZWATER: For the reason the President said yesterday, that President Barco has undertaken a very courageous effort against the drug cartel. The other two countries are engaged in similar battles and the President feels he should be supportive in that effort.

Q But even at a price that where it can cost lives?

Q Will you wait to announce it until we're there?
(Laughter.)

MR. FITZWATER: I just said that the Secret Service would not approve a site if they couldn't provide security?

Q Marlin, one more on China. The Democrats spoke yesterday, but some on the Republican right are saying that this was basically a commercial decision that was recommended by international consultant Henry Kissinger up in New York. I wonder if you could characterize who -- did Kissinger and former President Nixon suggest to the President that this trip be arranged -- the Scowcroft trip be arranged? Or how did that come about?

MR. FITZWATER: They obviously talked to the President about their trips. I won't discuss their recommendations. It was the President's decision. Period. Final. Totally.

I'm sorry. You want to follow up?

Q Yeah. What's the reaction to the charges by those on the right that this was, basically, a commercial decision in the interest of Wall Street and big business to get back into China?

MR. FITZWATER: The decision was made for the reasons the President gave yesterday.

Q Marlin, on Colombia, what are the other two sites the security team visited? And if you won't tell us, why will you confirm that they visited Cartagena and not the other city?

MR. FITZWATER: I won't name the other two sites. I didn't -- Cartagena has been in the press and discussed by everybody from the Vice President on down. It didn't seem like any use of playing games.

Q Ooooooh.

MR. FITZWATER: Plus I want to be as forthcoming as I can about this. I know you're all concerned. I know there's a safety consideration, but I want you to know that it's being considered.

Q Are any sites outside of Colombia still being worked?

MR. FITZWATER: There are sites outside of Colombia that are being considered. And as I said, the situation remains fluid and subject to analysis.

Q Can't you be two-thirds forthcoming instead of one-third forthcoming?

MR. FITZWATER: There isn't a city name that hasn't been published in one way or another over the last six months, in your paper even.

Q You said that the President's remark on S&L dealt with a more narrow aspect of it. Are you indicating that it wasn't funding that he was concerned about?

MR. FITZWATER: It wasn't the overall funding situation, no. I'm not aware of any new numbers on that.

Q But you specifically said funding. Are you talking

about administrative funding?

MR. FITZWATER: Well, I'm not going to go into it any more because I don't want to lead you to conclusions that he was reaching some new judgment about the S&L situation, which is not the case.

Q My question is about the timing. You said -- concerning the defense budget and the new assessment -- strategic assessment that the administration is undertaking of Soviet military capability, which you said yesterday won't be ready until next March. And until then, we won't even know whether or not the Soviets are continuing to expand their modernization of strategic systems. How can we really make effective decisions about our defense budget and defense posture without really knowing what the Soviets are doing?

MR. FITZWATER: Well, first of all, that's not what I said. I said involved with the strategic evaluations that are going on as part of the CFE negotiations. Secondly, there are continuing discussions going on by NATO and others and analysis of the situation. Again, I refer you to General Galvin's comments over the weekend. So there is constant analysis that goes on, and I say all that without regard to the Defense Department study. When we get the Defense Department study, that should be helpful. And we're talking here about years-out anyway. We're not talking about something that's going to happen in the next three months.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

11:49 A.M. EST
#135-12/12

George Bush Presidential Library Transfer Sheet

COLLECTION:

Bush Presidential Records
Office of the President

ACCESSION NUMBER:

1993.001

FOIA/SYSTEMATIC
PROCESSING CASE
NUMBER (if app.):

☐ Transferred During Accessioning

☒ Transferred During Processing

2009-0166-S

The following material was transferred to:

☒ **Audiovisual Collection**

☐ **Book Collection**

☐ **Museum Collection**

☐ **Other**

Other (Specify):

DESCRIPTION:

White House Photographs: P008779-08A [Mrs. Carter]; P008785-23, P008785-24, P008785-28 [White House Christmas trees]; P008772-02A [Christmas tree in Oval Office]

When transferring
material to the
museum
collection,
complete the
following.

Donor:

Donor Org.:

Address:

Telephone:

Book Location:

Row:

Section:

Shelf:

Position:

Map Case Location:**Series:**

Daily Files

Box Number:

30

Folder Title:

Tuesday, December 12, 1989

OA/ID Number:

90529-001

Transferred by:

Deborah Wheeler

Date of Transfer:

11/24/2009

Received by:

Mary Finch

Date Received:

11/24/2009

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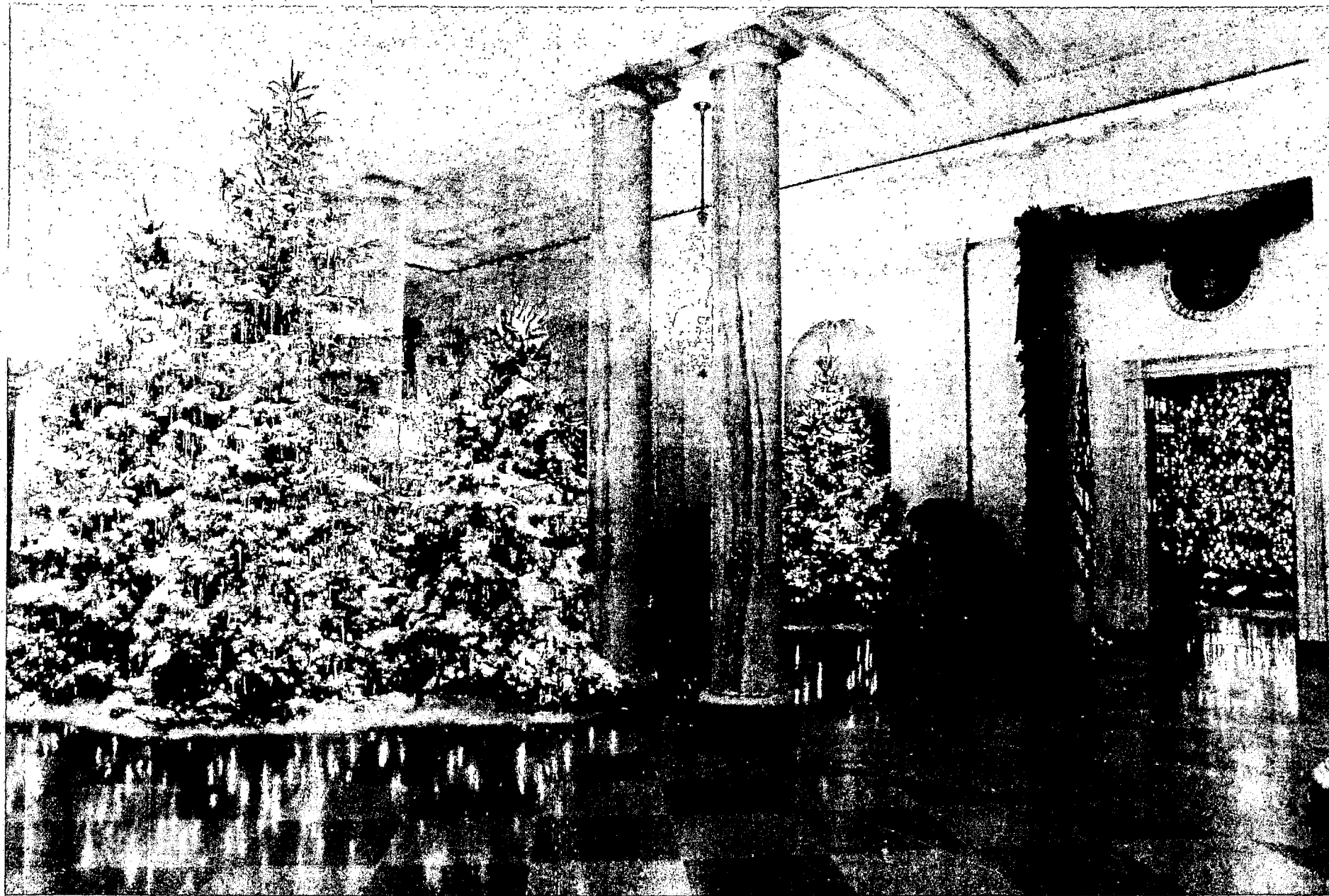
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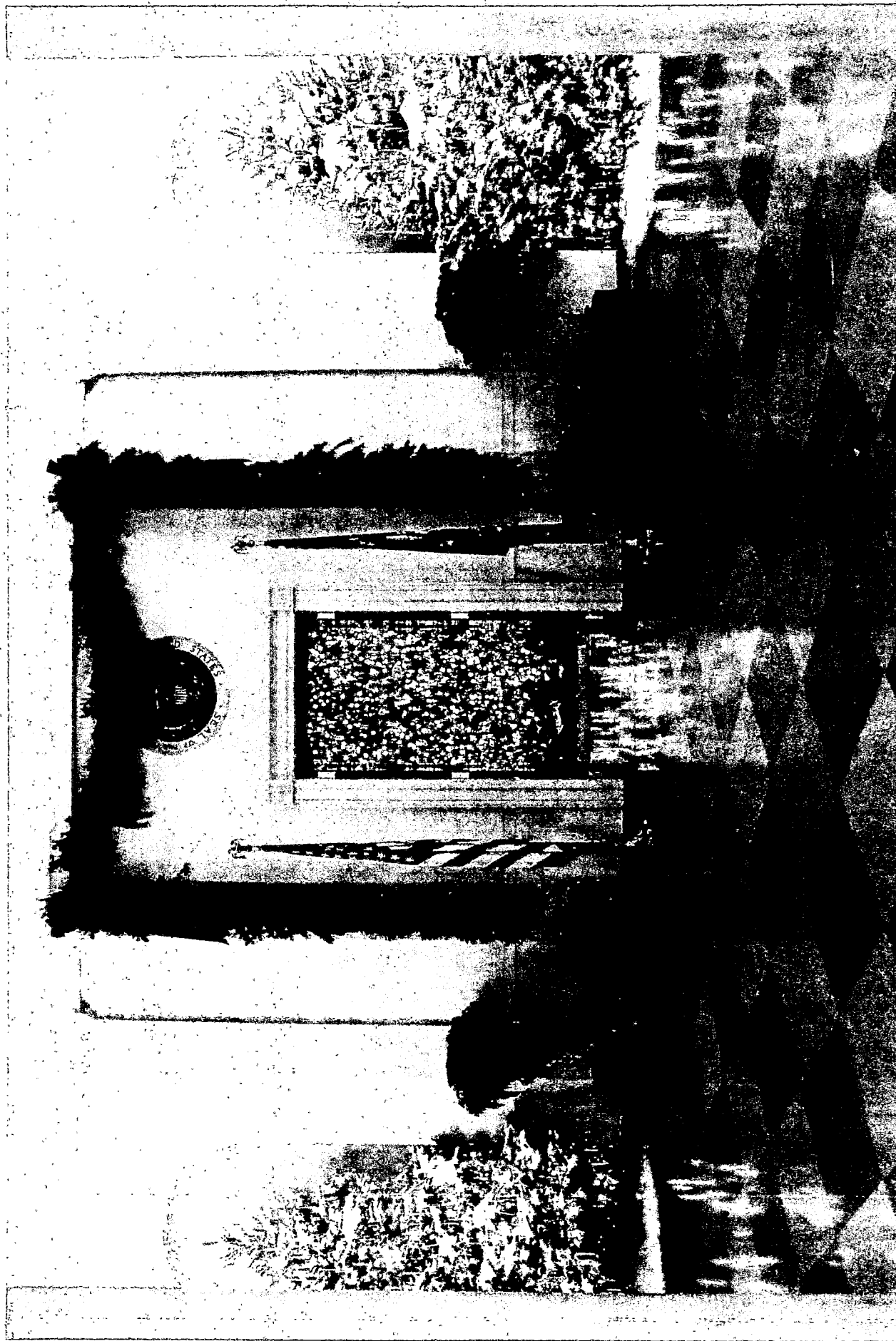


Mrs.
Carter

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