

# President axes wage council

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pres. Reagan, saying there has to be "a change in direction" in the country, announced Thursday he is abolishing the Council on Wage and Price Stability and prohibiting federal agencies from implementing new regulations for 60 days.

In an opening statement at his first news conference since taking office, Reagan said the Council on Wage and Price Stability, which administered the Carter administration's anti-inflation program "has been totally ineffective in controlling inflation and has imposed unnecessary burdens on labor and business."

As for budget cuts, Reagan said no area of government will be exempt and he added that

"the time has come where there has to be a change in direction in this country."

"We have lived beyond our means," he said. "We must gain control of this inflationary monster."

On Iran, Reagan said "I'm certainly not thinking of revenge."

The president said he expects the United States will honor the agreements that led to release of the U.S. hostages.

A day after his secretary of state sounded a new hard line toward the Soviet Union, Reagan said that "so far, detente has been a one way street that the Soviet Union has used for its own ends."

As for his own view of Soviet intent, Reagan said, "I know of no leader of the Soviet Union

since the revolution, including the present leadership, that has not repeated more than once ... that their goal must be world domination."

Announcing the freeze on pending federal regulations, the new president said the action would give his administration time "to start a new regulatory oversight process and also prevents certain last-minute regulatory decisions of the previous administration — the so-called 'midnight regulations' — from taking effect without proper review and approval."

Abolition of the Council on Wage and Price Stability would cut 120 persons from the federal payroll. He said he will ask Congress to rescind its budget of \$1.5 million.

# Reagan refutes revenge motive

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pres. Reagan said Thursday he is "certainly not thinking of revenge" against Iran for the ordeal suffered by hostage Americans, but neither does he see a reconciliation with the revolutionary government in Tehran.

"What good would just revenge do and what form would that take?" Reagan asked. "I don't think revenge is worthy of us. On the other hand, I don't think we should act as if this never happened."

In his first nationally broadcast news conference since taking office 10 days ago, the president said he would not encourage American business to resume trade with the Persian Gulf nation "at this point" and cautioned anyone against traveling there.

Though his administration has not finished reviewing the hostage settlement negotiated by the Carter administration, Reagan said, the United States probably would honor the agreement. He added that the most important obligations already have been carried out since the release of the 52 Americans in the first hour of his presidency.

Reagan said he was "certainly not thinking of revenge and I don't know whether reconciliation would be possible."


Reagan urged Americans to "think long and hard before they travel to Iran because we

don't think their safety can be guaranteed there."

He joked that he hoped that any businessmen eager to deal with Iran would consult "by long distance. We wouldn't want to go back to having just a different cast of characters but the

same show going on."

To many questions, such as whether he will lift the grain embargo against the Soviet Union, and whether he will abolish draft registration, Reagan said he had no answers yet.



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