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From Associated Press reports

Senate Republicans offer budget plan

WASHINGTON

Pres. Reagan, his original budget plan in shreds, challenged Democrats on Thursday to back an alternative shaped by Senate Republicans which calls for \$95 billion in new taxes and \$40 billion in Social Security cuts over three years.

Reagan, at a White House session with reporters, insisted that the new plan will "continue to protect" the basic benefits of Social Security recipients despite unspecified slashes in the Senate plan.

He added that the outline approved Wednesday by the GOP-controlled Senate Budget Committee, after talks between White House officials and

Republican leaders, will "put our country firmly on the road to economic prosperity" if congressional Democrats cooperate.

The Republican compromise was reached after the panel unanimously scuttled Reagan's original budget, in which Reagan promised virtually no new taxes.

The new plan would appear to set the stage for a repeat of last year's partisan battle over spending and taxes.

But "It will be rather difficult for them (Democrats) to explain how they did not want to be a party to a plan that was going to reduce the three-year deficit by \$416 billion," Reagan said.

House Speaker Thomas O'Neill, D-Mass., said it "provides for walloping defense expenditures and fails to correct the inequities and excesses of the Reagan-Kemp-Roth tax

bill. At the same time, it proposes deep cuts in Social Security and other vital programs."

Earlier, Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd of West Virginia said the compromise plan amounted to "mortgaging the economic future of the elderly of this country... to finance the economic folly of the Kemp-Roth tax scheme" of across-the-board tax rate cuts.

Peace talks stall; two Harriers lost

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Britain and Argentina failed to agree Thursday on a cease-fire in the Falkland Islands conflict and Britain's naval task force lost two more Sea Harrier fighter jets.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Britain will "continue with our military activities."

The two downed Sea Harriers disappeared for unknown reasons, although the cause could have been bad weather, Defense Ministry spokesman Ian McDonald said. They were the first losses for Britain since Tuesday, when an Argentine missile demolished the destroyer HMS Sheffield.

McDonald said the two fighter jets disappeared from radar screens at 7 a.m. EDT while patrolling in the British-imposed 200-mile exclusion zone around the Falklands.

There have been no reports of fighting in the area from either side since Tuesday.

Two different peace proposals were under consideration, one sponsored by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the other by Peruvian Pres. Fernando Belaunde Terry.

Foreign Secretary Francis Pym said that the Peruvian plan for a cease-fire at noon EDT Friday had collapsed.

The Peruvian plan included Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands, which were occupied on April 2.

Perez de Cuellar refused to make public his peace plan, but informed sources said it included a cease-fire, withdrawal of Argentine and British forces from the Falklands area and appointment of a U.N. administrator for the islands while negotiations resume to determine their future. The plan reportedly takes no position on the thorny question of sovereignty.

On Thursday, Britain announced 20 men from the Sheffield were "presumed dead," while Argentine naval sources were quoted as saying 240 from the torpedoed cruiser Gen. Belgrano were missing.

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