



world beat

House ready for budget battle with Reagan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Heading toward an expected showdown with President Ronald Reagan and Senate Republicans, the Democrat-controlled House takes up a plan this week to freeze defense spending while keeping Social Security benefit hikes.

The proposed Pentagon spending freeze is contained in a 1986 fiscal year budget blueprint that would cut government outlays by \$56 billion.

In an Armed Forces Day radio speech Saturday, Reagan warned House Democrats he would take his case directly to the American public if they approved tighter limits on Pentagon spending than those passed by the Senate.

The Senate, meanwhile, is set to

resume its consideration of a bill that holds Pentagon spending increases next year to the inflation rate. Debate began last Friday, but the Senate put off until this week votes on controversial issues such as chemical weapons, "Star Wars" and the MX missile.

Senators will first consider changes in Pentagon procurement procedures designed to prevent defense contractors from submitting exorbitant bills for such items as hammers, screwdrivers and coffee pots.

The budget plan on the House floor differs widely from the spending blueprint approved 10 days ago by the Republican-controlled Senate. Differences between the two measures

would eventually have to be ironed out by a conference committee.

The \$967 billion House spending plan, in addition to freezing spending for the Pentagon and many domestic programs, provides for inflation adjustments next year for Social Security payments as well as Medicaid and welfare.

Those benefit increases were knocked out of the Senate budget, and the Democratic plan now on the House floor has been criticized by Republicans.

They have vowed to fight the plan, but Democrats have a 71-seat margin and are expected to prevail. At the White House, spokesman Larry Speakes admitted as

much and said Reagan will seek a better package when the conference committee begins its work.

The Senate refused Reagan's request for a 5.9 percent hike beyond inflation for the Pentagon, but it did propose \$302 billion for defense that includes an increase to cover expected inflation. The total is about \$10 billion above current defense spending.

While the bill now on the Senate floor didn't give Reagan all he wanted, it would permit the purchase of tens of thousands of missiles, planes, ships, tanks and other weapons in the fifth year of Reagan's five-year plan to "rearm America."

O'Neill urges dialogue with Nicaragua; Duarte addresses Notre Dame seniors

(AP) — House Speaker Tip O'Neill urged the Reagan administration to resume direct negotiations with Nicaragua in a commencement speech at Tufts University in his home state of Massachusetts Sunday.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran President Jose Napoloen Duarte addressed the graduating class at Notre Dame University and said principles he learned as an undergraduate there are helping him lead his nation today.

O'Neill, a Democrat, said the administration should accept an offer from Nicaragua's Sandinista government to resume talks. Nicaragua is fighting rebels who have received aid from the United States.

Since the United States is willing to negotiate with the Soviet Union, O'Neill said, it should also be willing to talk "with our weakest adversary in the world; Nicaragua."

Duarte, a 1948 graduate of Notre Dame, said principles learn-

ed in his student years have guided his efforts to bring peace and democracy to his country, where a left-wing insurgency is battling his government.

"I come as the constitutional president of my country, freely elected, to carry out humane and Christian principles based on justice, liberty and democracy," he said, pledging to work for democracy and economic development in his Central American nation.

Outside the commencement hall, about 150 protesters demonstrated against Duarte, blaming him and the U.S. government for continued political killings and poverty in El Salvador.

Duarte, who was awarded an honorary degree in engineering during Sunday's ceremonies, told reporters Saturday that he will rely on the "political weapon" of his popular support, rather than military force, to combat a recent wave of urban attacks by guerrillas.

Gemayel unhurt as fighting rages

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — President Amin Gemayel's palace was hit by heavy machine gun fire Sunday as fighting between Christian and Moslem militias in Beirut entered its fourth week. Gemayel, a Christian, was not hurt, police said.

Police said three people were killed and 21 wounded in the night-long battles, which continued despite a Christian militia's move to appease neighboring Syria and its Moslem allies in Lebanon by cutting ties with Israel.

An anonymous caller claiming to represent the Islamic Jihad group told a Western news agency in Beirut that the fundamentalist extremists were responsible for two bomb explosions Saturday in the Saudi Arabian capital of Riyadh.

The Saudi Interior Ministry said one person was killed and three wounded when the bombs detonated in garbage trucks on a busy street.

The caller said Islamic Jihad, believed to be loyal to Iran's revolutionary leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, will unleash more attacks against Saudi Arabia "in order to shake up the retrogressive monarchy."

The official Islamic Republic News Agency in Tehran, however, blamed the bombings on Iran's enemy, Iraq.

Goode reveals threatening MOVE letter

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — MOVE threatened to burn its neighborhood, "with smoke, gas, fire and bullets," in a letter police received two days before bombing the radical group's headquarters, Mayor Wilson Goode disclosed Sunday.

The existence of the letter, from MOVE spokeswoman Ramona Africa, was revealed during Goode's appearance on the CBS News program "Face the Nation" the day the mayor designated as a time of prayer for the 11 people killed in the raid and those displaced when 61 rowhouses burned.

Church services were held throughout Philadelphia for the victims.

Threats and reports that MOVE had stockpiled incendiary materials in its fortified rowhouse have become a key issue in the controversy over the bombing of the compound a week ago. Goode said Sunday that while hindsight might make officials say "if in fact we had to proceed the same way again we would not," those involv-

ed in the assault decision should be judged by what they knew at the time.

The police department received the letter May 11, Goode said, and Police Commissioner Gregore Sambor saw it May 13, the day of the bombing and fire.

The mayor said the letter "contains threats against that neighborhood, threats against all law enforcement authorities, threats against the mayor and also says that if in fact there's an attempt to come in and remove them that the entire nation will bow down on its knees because of this."

CBS reporter Lesley Stahl quoted the letter as saying any move on the group's compound would result in "a mess."

"We're going to burn them" — meaning the people in the neighborhood," she said, quoting the letter. "We're going to burn them with smoke, gas, fire and bullets. We will burn this blank-blank house down and burn you up with us."

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