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Algeria	6.00	Iran	15.1700	Norway	7.00	N.K.
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Reagan's Health: Doubt Will Persist

By Lawrence K. Altman
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — For months and years to come President Ronald Reagan's physicians will be confronting the most important uncertainty in their patient's case: Has any cancer eluded their search? Does any still lurk in the president's body, seeding new growth elsewhere?

Those closest to the case, the experts at the National Cancer Institute and the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology who are part of the team caring for Mr. Reagan at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center, said they would not be able to tell for some time.

Although Mr. Reagan's doctors spoke with guarded optimism at a news conference Monday about his chances for cure, there were clues in their words that signaled concern that the cancer might have been caught too late to prevent spread elsewhere.

"It appears as if" the cancer was confined to the malignant polyp within the bowel wall, said Dr. Dale W. Oller, head of surgery at the Bethesda center, said.

Dr. Steven Rosenberg, chief of surgery at the National Cancer Institute, a member of the surgical

Bush Visits Rallying Reagan; Moscow Is Quiet on Ailment

BETHESDA, Maryland — Vice President George Bush visited President Ronald Reagan on Wednesday for the first time since the president's cancer surgery, as Mr. Reagan's recovery continued to advance.

White House officials said Mr. Reagan had had his "best night" since Saturday's surgery.

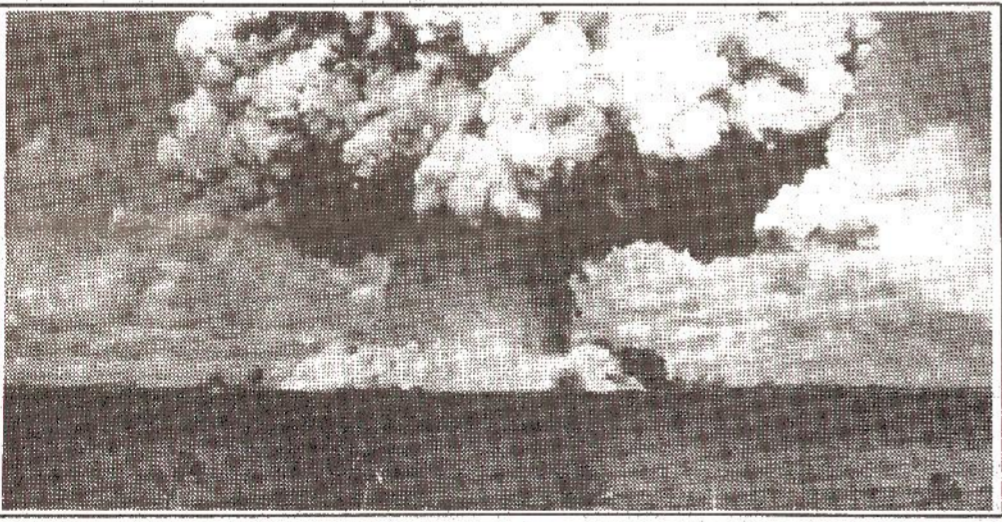
Doctors removed a tube running through his nose to his stomach, and Mr. Reagan joked that he felt as if it were "Christmas in July."

In Moscow, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to comment on whether Mr. Reagan's health could affect U.S.-Soviet relations, saying it was unethical to speculate about a leader's ailments.

Dollar Plunges in Europe

LONDON — The dollar fell Wednesday on European foreign-exchange markets to some of its lowest levels in a year. Analysts traced the decline to jitters over the U.S. economy and President Ronald Reagan's health.

The dollar declined in Paris to 8.631 French francs from 8.7575 francs on Tuesday. In Frankfurt it fell to 2.8518 Deutsche marks from 2.88 DM a day earlier, and in Zurich it dropped to 2.33 Swiss francs from 2.3915 francs on Tuesday. In London the pound gained to \$1.412 on Wednesday from \$1.3885 the day before. Details, Page 13.



The now-familiar mushroom cloud blossomed off Bikini after a test in the Pacific Ocean.

Los Alamos: 40 Years of Nuclear Age

By Malcolm W. Browne
New York Times Service

LOS ALAMOS, New Mexico — Forty years ago this week the flash of a hundred suns seared the New Mexican desert, the sand at Trinity Site fused into jade-green glass and the nuclear age was born.

Within 24 days after the Trinity test on July 16, 1945, two nuclear bombs, small and primitive by today's standards, had destroyed two large Japanese cities, killed 106,000 people and injured at least 100,000. The innocuously named Manhattan Engineer District, an ultra-secret scientific and industrial community, had unleashed the atomic bomb, forever changing the nature of war and politics.

Four years have elapsed without nuclear war, and neither the Soviet Union nor the United States has set off an above-ground nuclear test explosion since 1963. To be sure, the menace of nuclear holocaust still induces nightmares, but at Los Alamos, New Mexico, where nuclear weapons were invented and are still being perfected, people have learned to live with the bomb and to prosper from it.

Founded in an aura of utmost secrecy and urgency in 1943, Los Alamos was the home or mecca in World War II of a large proportion of the greatest physicists of the 20th century. Some had been born American citizens; some were refugees or immigrants from Europe. There were Christians, Jews and atheists among them, leftists and conservatives, prima donnas and team workers.

The Los Alamos pantheon included J. Robert Oppenheimer, the charismatic director of the laboratory; Edward Teller, the brilliant Hungarian immigrant who became Oppenheimer's ideological foe and won renown as the father of the hydrogen bomb; and Enrico Fermi, the legendary refugee from Mussolini's fascism whose many accomplishments included building the first nuclear reactor, at the University of Chicago. There were Robert Serber, who years later founded the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory; Hans Bethe, the great German-born theorist; and John von Neumann, whose thinking has profoundly influenced astronomy and other sciences.

Also affiliated with the laboratory were Ernest O. Lawrence, inventor of the cyclotron; Niels Bohr, the giant of quantum mechanics and atomic theory; Richard Feynman, later to become one of the great theorists in high-energy and particle physics; Glenn Seaborg, creator-discoverer of plutonium and other man-made elements; and Leo Szilard, George Kistiakowsky, Victor F. Weisskopf and scores of other leading scientists.

In the military secrecy and isolation of Los Alamos, they were deprived of quantum comforts, and had to change their names and conceal their identities to prevent word of their work from leaking out. In a pressure-cooker atmosphere they complained, argued, worked long hours and sometimes agonized about the ghastly character of the weapon they were forging. But they were united in their belief that the United States was racing Nazi Germany to develop the atomic bomb.

After the war, Los Alamos changed radically. The superstars departed; many have since died. Some, like Dr. Oppenheimer, would probably be horrified to

Surgery's Delay Is Defended

White House Says Campaign Was Not Factor

By Boyce Rensberger
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The question of interrupting President Ronald Reagan's schedule during the 1984 campaign year to perform a more complete examination of his colon, which is something many doctors outside the White House say should have been done then, never came up for discussion, according to White House officials.

Following Mr. Reagan's cancer surgery Saturday, there have been suggestions that the White House knew there were medical reasons for a more complete exam but that it was deferred for political reasons.

The Observer of London published a story Sunday claiming that Mr. Reagan's doctors knew he needed surgery but put it off for political reasons.

However, numerous sources close to the Reagan campaign and White House insisted Tuesday that this was not so. In fact, there was no way to know that Mr. Reagan would need surgery until he had his thorough colon exam Friday.

"His health never came up" during 1984, a senior official said. "We assumed he was in the best of shape because of the way he acted."

If there had been any hint that the president ought to have a more complete exam, said another official, Nancy Reagan would have taken her husband "by the ear" to the hospital.

Others close to the White House said that if a decision had been made to postpone a thorough examination until after the election, it would have made no sense to postpone it eight more months until last week.

The first indication of possible colon disease came in May 1984, when a routine medical examination found a small polyp in the president's lower intestine. It was removed and found to be benign.

Cancer specialists not connected with the Reagan case have said in recent days that the president should have received an immediate examination of his entire colon. Some doctors made that point last year. The 1984 exam involved looking only at the lower third of the colon.

These same specialists have said that an even stronger indication for a complete colon exam came in March, when another routine exam turned up a second benign polyp and, more ominously, evidence of blood hidden in the stool.

This stool test suggested that Mr.

U.S. Concedes Russian Arms Offers But Says They Maintain Soviet Edge

By Bernard Gwertzman
New York Times Service

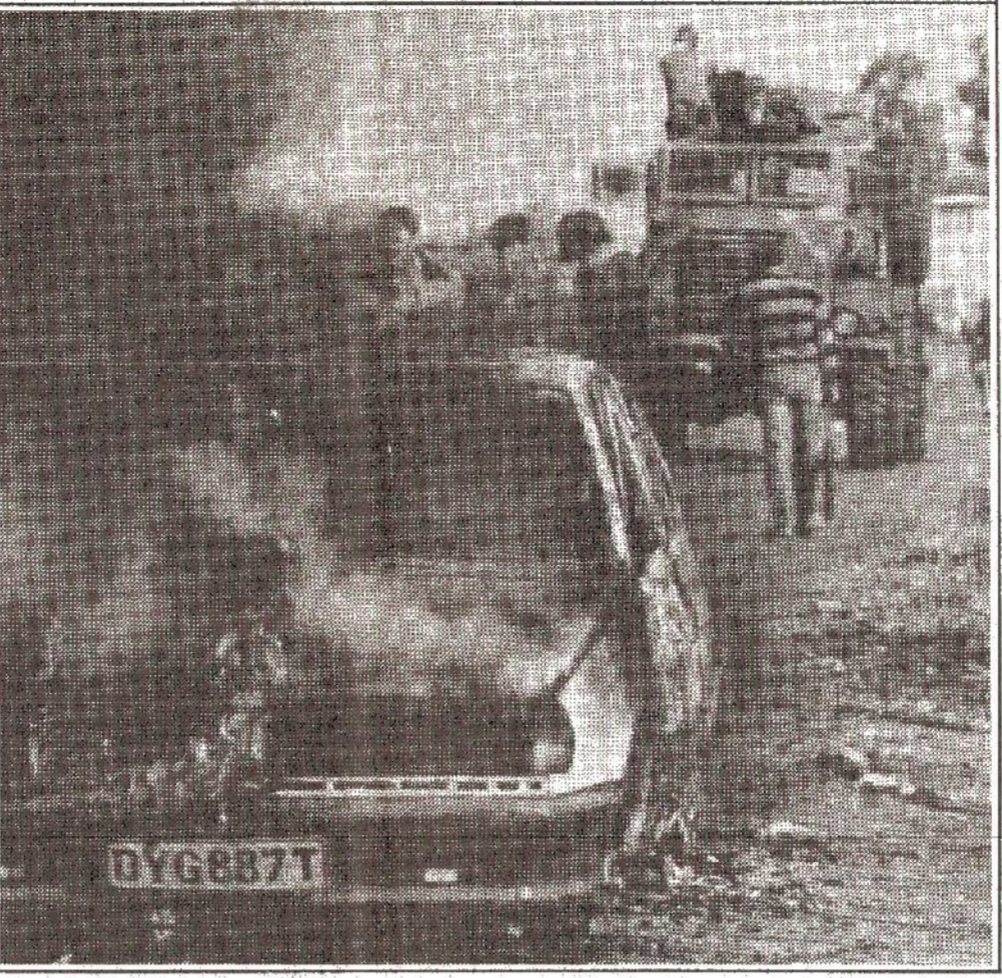
WASHINGTON — Reagan administration officials have acknowledged that the Soviet Union is offering some ideas in Geneva on reducing strategic arms. But they say the concepts seem vague and appear to be designed to maintain certain Soviet advantages in land-based missiles.

The disclosure of the Soviet proposal came as the second round of the strategic arms talks were adjourned Tuesday. A third round of the talks, which started in March, will begin Sept. 15.

The White House marked the occasion with a statement saying that the latest talks had ended just about "where we had expected to be, given that we are ending only the second round of negotiations of such complexity and importance."

The Soviet Union's statement about the adjournment was more negative. Tass, the official news agency, said in Moscow that the second round had been unsatisfactory as the first and had been marred by an American "smoke screen of empty words and indefinite promises."

The views were echoed in Geneva by Viktor P. Karpov, the chief



NEW SOUTH AFRICAN VIOLENCE — Troops standing by in the black township of Soweto as an Alfa Romeo burns, after an outburst of arson and stone-throwing. Residents also tried to set fire to the home of the mayor, Edward Kunene. Elsewhere in the country, three more blacks were killed in anti-apartheid protests. Page 5.

2 Palestinians Meet With Peres

By Thomas L. Friedman
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Shimon Peres met Tuesday with two West Bank Palestinian leaders to discuss ways of advancing the Middle East peace process, government sources said Wednesday.

The officials said Mr. Peres, Mayor Elias M. Freij of Bethlehem and the deputy speaker of the Jordanian senate, Hikmat al-Masri of Nablus, discussed a range of Arab-Israeli topics and the economic situation on the West Bank.

Also discussed was the list of possible candidates for the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, Yasser Arafat, has submitted to Jordan's King Hussein and to Washington for inclusion in a Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue with the United States.

Both of the West Bank leaders reportedly affirmed that on the basis of their recent discussions in Amman they were certain that the PLO was now willing to cooperate with Jordan and enter into negotiations for peace.

Mr. Peres is understood to have responded that any PLO participation in peace talks would only make Israeli participation impossible.

Describing the talks with the Israeli prime minister, Mr. Masri said on Israeli radio that Mr. Peres "wants negotiations and we want negotiations. But there are different views about it."

Mr. Freij declared that the session dealt with the economy and "prospects of beginning a political dialogue that would find an end to this tragic situation, that would bring peace to all people in the country."

The three-hour meeting at the prime minister's Jerusalem residence was shrouded in secrecy. There was no advance announcement and word of the session only leaked out Wednesday morning.

Mr. Masri left early in morning for Amman, ostensibly to take part in a meeting of the Jordanian Senate, but possibly also to convey the essence of his discussion with Mr. Peres to Jordanian and Palestinian officials.

It was not clear why the substance of the meeting was kept so secret, since Mr. Peres has met with both Mr. Masri and Mr. Freij before, and there is nothing unusual about such contacts. It may have been purely to give the meeting an air of drama.

In fact, judging from discussions with several senior officials, the meeting between Mr. Peres and the West Bank leaders, both of whom are political conservatives, was more important for its symbolism than anything actually discussed, particularly since Mr. Freij and Mr. Masri are not empowered to negotiate for anyone.

By meeting with Mr. Freij and Mr. Masri, both noted Palestinian "moderates" not directly associated with the PLO, Mr. Peres was also signaling Washington and Amman what kind of Palestinians he would like to see across the negotiating table.

It appears, however, that neither Mr. Masri nor Mr. Freij is on the list of possible Palestinian negotiators submitted by Mr. Arafat.

Key Israeli cabinet ministers, led by Mr. Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, held an unscheduled meeting Wednesday to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East peace process. Israel Army Radio reported that the cabinet "was presented" with a "tentative list of names" that the PLO has suggested take part in any Jordanian-Palestinian negotiating delegation.

Israeli officials said that no political figures living in the West Bank or Gaza Strip were on the list and that virtually all of the names mentioned, most of them little-known figures, were connected in one way or another with the PLO.

are at least dangling officially the possibility of moves on strategic weapons when the Geneva talks resume in the fall.

Strategic weapons are one of three parts of the talks. The other two parts deal with intermediate-range weapons and American research into space-based weapons, called the Strategic Defense Initiative.

It was reported last week that Soviet officials had informally raised the possibility of agreeing to the research provided that there was a ban on deployment of weapons in space. The Soviet Union and the United States both asserted.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

At Women's Meeting, Schism Over Abortion

By Elaine Sciolino
New York Times Service

NAIROBI — The exchange took place in a family planning workshop at the nongovernmental forum of the United Nations Decade for Women conference. An Indian who opposes abortion told the audience that the way to control population was "to get men to wait, to get their sexual desire under control."

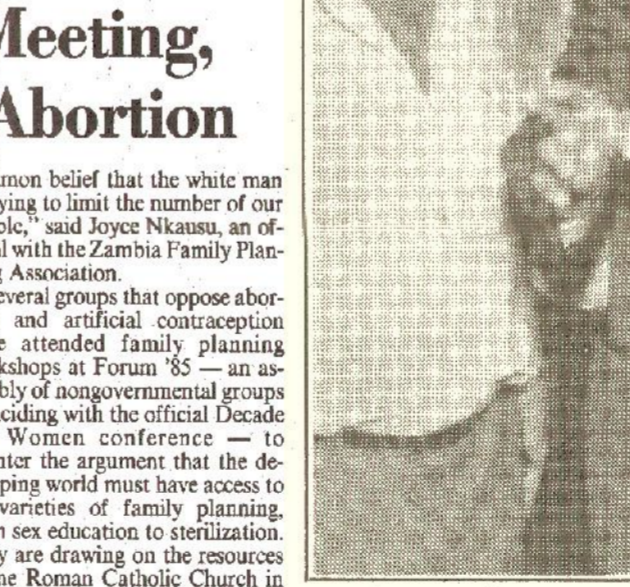
An American woman shot back, "What if we want sex, honey?"

The incident pointed up the dichotomy between those at the conference who assert that women must control their own body and a small but well-organized group that calls abortion murder and any artificial method of contraception "abortifacient" or abortion-making.

That dichotomy, in turn, reflects several divisions: between, for example, industrialized nations, where women usually have access to a variety of contraceptive methods, and developing countries, where such means are generally restricted; between well-financed, well-organized anti-abortion organizations in the West and family planning groups in developing countries, which assert that limiting family size is crucial to economic development and sometimes to survival itself.

"The fact of the matter is all the developed countries are using contraception in planning their families," said Avabai B. Wadia, president of the International Planned Parenthood Federation. "Why should there be any objection if developing countries voluntarily take up these programs and want smaller families that they can care for?"

In Africa, the debate over population control is complicated by the fact that many women oppose the use of drugs and are hostile to values they see as foisted on them by the West. "We are fighting the



Two Palestinian leaders, Mayor Elias M. Freij of Bethlehem, right, and Hikmat al-Masri, center, after talks with Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Shmuel Goren, left, is the Israeli official responsible for the West Bank. In the background is Mr. Peres's aide, Uri Savir.

Risky Job: Journalism in Philippines

By Steve Lohr
New York Times Service

ILOILO, Philippines — Severino Arcones, the star commentator and manager of radio station DYFM, is ready to leave the office on an afternoon reporting foray.

He stands up, yanks a 45-caliber pistol out of his desk drawer, stuffs it into his belt and says, "O.K., let's go hunting for news."

For additional firepower, Mr. Arcones has an M-16 rifle. Two bodyguards are his shadows. Death threats, he says, are part of the daily routine.

He has rarely slept at home recently for fear of placing his family in danger. He spends the nights on a cot in the station's well-guarded offices or at the homes of friends — a different place every night. A change of clothes is on the bookshelf behind his desk.

Such is the life of a muckraking

journalist at a provincial radio station in the Philippines.

"It's a good life, satisfying and exciting," says Mr. Arcones, 32. "But it can be dangerous sometimes."

Things have become increasingly dangerous for Filipino journalists in recent months. Eight have been killed this year, and another is missing and presumed-dead. Seven journalists were slain last year, compared with four in the previous seven years.

Many of the victims, including five since the start of last month, have been radio commentators in the provinces. Among them was Eduardo Suede, a close friend and colleague of Mr. Arcones at DYFM, who was shot at a restaurant July 1.

The death count this year in the Philippines puts it "way ahead of other countries," according to Miriam Lacob, an administrator for

the Committee to Protect Journalists, a nonprofit organization based in New York. The group wrote to President Ferdinand E. Marcos last month, appealing to him to protect journalists in the Philippines and to capture and prosecute their killers.

At a time of growing opposition to the Marcos government and an increased willingness by Filipino reporters to report on sensitive subjects, the slayings have brought charges that the government is behind the killings, trying to stifle dissent.

"For the military, this is the most expedient way of getting rid of a critical press," said Antonio Nieva, president of the Philippine National Press Club. "The killings eliminate a few people and intimidate many others."

Although killing journalists may not be a government policy, Mr. Nieva said, senior officials are indi-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

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