

# National

## \$30 billion in defense cuts expected

United Press International  
LOS ANGELES — A top White House aide says President Reagan is prepared to cut planned defense spending by up to \$30 billion annually to achieve a balanced budget by 1984.

In an interview Monday, White House chief of staff James Baker also acknowledged publicly for the first time soaring interest rates may push the deficit for the current 1981 fiscal year beyond the administration's \$42.5 billion estimate.

Baker said Reagan is ready to slash the Pentagon budgets for the 1983 and 1984 fiscal years by \$20 billion to \$30 billion to achieve his goal of balancing the budget by the end of his presidential term.

It marked the first time an aide has said Reagan is willing to make major cuts in his ambitious program to increase the nation's military might.

There was no immediate comment from members of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Baker said Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger will submit proposals for major spending cuts to Reagan by mid-week. He acknowledged Weinberger has been reluctant to propose any reduction in the Pentagon's \$222 billion budget authority for fiscal 1982, which begins Oct. 1.

The Washington Post reported the Defense Resources Board met Monday to consider the armed services' lists of programs that could be cut or delayed to defer or reduce spending. Among the steps the Air Force said might be needed, the Post reported, are cutbacks in the nation's strategic defenses.

Reagan also has directed his Cabinet members to search for more possible spending cuts in social programs.

Baker said the Office of Management and Budget still holds to its forecast of a \$42.5 billion 1982 deficit, but added there will be another projection made in a month to six weeks.

"When it's done, they will have to take a look at their assumptions, and one of the assumptions that has not been met is the interest rates," he said.

"The interest rate has remained higher than when the OMB originally projected the 1982 budget deficit, and therefore, assuming all other economic factors are constant, you might see the OMB have to increase its estimate of what that estimate will be," Baker said.

"But how much, I can't tell you," he added.

Baker said Reagan remains totally committed to the concept of a balanced budget in 1984.

He said the president feels the recent drop in stock prices should not be interpreted as a lack of confidence in his economic recovery program.

The effectiveness of the administration's economic programs cannot be judged before they are put into effect Oct. 1, the beginning of the 1982 fiscal year, he said.

Citing inflation as the "No. 1 problem facing the country," Baker argued the stock market slowdown is a function of inflation moderating.

As inflation is reduced, "interest rates will come down," Baker said. "We'll begin to see some relief by the first of the year."

Baker said Reagan remains firm in his resolve to not resume negotiations with striking air traffic controllers. If the administration gives in to the strikers' demands, "the message might be lost on other government unions," he said.

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## U.S., Japan to discuss oil swapping scheme

United Press International  
TOKYO — The United States and Japan are expected to begin discussions next week on an oil swapping scheme that would send Alaskan oil to Japan in exchange for oil from Mexico, Japanese officials said Monday.

Washington — The weighted averaged international price of a barrel of crude oil fell 11 cents to \$34.13 the week ending Aug. 26, continuing a slide that began last winter, the Energy Department said Monday.

Washington — The screening process used by the Energy Department to award \$125 million in alcohol fuel project subsidies was riddled with doctored records and inconsistency, a congressional watchdog agency said Monday.

New York — Diamond Shamrock Corp. Monday announced a "significant" oil discovery that produced high-quality crude at the rate of 866 barrels a day in the Williston Basin.

## Woman asks to be taken off life support systems

United Press International  
HUNTINGTON, W. Va. — Dr. Donald Klinestiver turned off Golda Yoder's respirator Monday — as she had requested — and nine minutes later the 76-year-old woman was dead. He was not sure if he had done the right thing.

"I hope it's a very long time before I have to face anything like this again," Klinestiver said Monday outside Yoder's Huntington Hospital room. "It's not exactly what you're trained for, but (it's) a patient's right."

Six weeks ago, Yoder, who was suffering from cirrhosis of the liver compounded by a painful infection, had asked doctors to let her die. A son and other relatives had sought, however, to keep Klinestiver from honoring Yoder's documented request.

Nine hours before Yoder died, Klinestiver told her relatives she was "brain dead." The family then was convinced to drop their petition aimed at blocking her voluntary death.

"I believe in life," Klinestiver said. "I'm terribly opposed to the idea of death. I feel a doctor is in a position where he's the patient's agent, and he should do basically what the patient desires. It's a real tough philosophical question."

"People say they'd know what to do in this kind of a situation," said a daughter, Mary Fisher, who sided with her mother in the controversy. "But they really don't know until they experience it."

Had the respirator and other life-sustaining aids been continued, Klinestiver said Yoder would have lived only another day or two at the most.

Cabell Circuit Judge D.B. Daugherty said he was set to rule in Yoder's favor when word came 40 minutes into the proceeding her condition was deteriorating rapidly and she had lapsed into a coma.

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Klinestiver informed Fisher in a note "the pupils are dilated and fixed. This is an indication of brain death."

"I suggested the physician follow her expressed wishes," said Daugherty. "That would have been my decision anyway, considering the fact she, in writing and in conversation with me, conveyed her desires."

Six weeks ago, she underwent surgery and afterward, when she was weakened by persistent infection, she called on doctors to stop medical care.

"She said something like: 'I want all the life support systems removed so I can die,'" the judge said. "She's not beating around the bush or kidding. She was rather insistent, rather pitiful."

Attorney Frank Armada, who represented Fisher, noted that in all cases involving adults declared competent, the courts have upheld their wishes.

## Saudis to cut oil production in effort to curb crude surplus

United Press International  
JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia — Saudi Arabia, which engineered the current oil glut by flooding the world market with OPEC's cheapest crude, has cut its production by a million barrels a day, industry sources said Tuesday.

After the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries failed to reunify its chaotic prices at a meeting in Geneva earlier this month, Saudi Arabia said it would lower its output by 1 million barrels daily as a "gesture of good will."

Saudi Arabia said the production cut would be initiated Sept. 1. Government sources had no immediate comment on the production cut.

Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest producer and America's main foreign oil supplier, has been producing a record 10.3 million barrels a day since last fall in an effort to force the cartel to reduce its crude prices.

OPEC prices range from \$32 a barrel for Saudi crude to \$40 a barrel for Libyan and Algerian oil.

Saudi Arabia, saying overpriced OPEC crude speeded the search for alternative fuels and triggered a sharp drop in world oil demand, has been under pressure from some OPEC nations to cut production.

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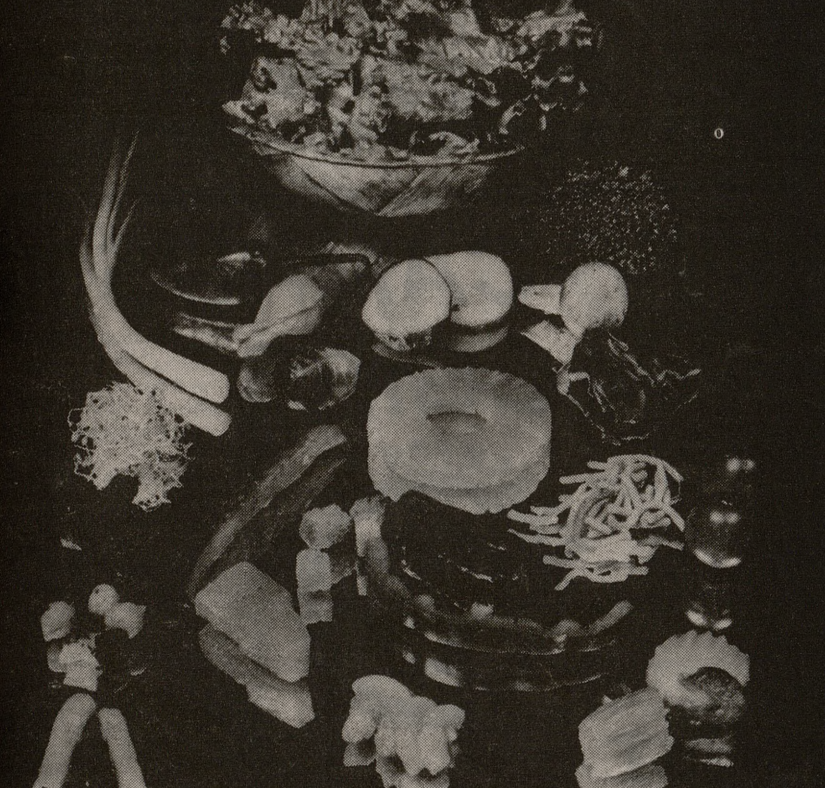
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