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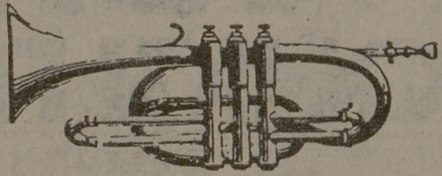
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WORLD AND NATION

Deliberation continues in libel case

Associated Press
NEW YORK — The jury in Ariel Sharon's libel lawsuit against Time Inc. began a second week of deliberations Monday, trying to determine if a Time article about Sharon was published with the knowledge it was false, or with reckless disregard of whether it was false.

The burden of proof in the \$50 million suit lies with the former Israeli defense minister, and in the first five days of deliberations the jury has found for Sharon on two issues: that a key paragraph of a 1983 Time magazine cover story about a massacre in Lebanon was defamatory, and that it was false.

To award Sharon a libel verdict, however, the federal jury still must rule on the question of "actual malice" — whether Time published the story knowing it was false or with reckless disregard of whether it was false.

The panel met for about nine hours Monday before recessing for the night at 7 p.m. They were to resume deliberations Tuesday.

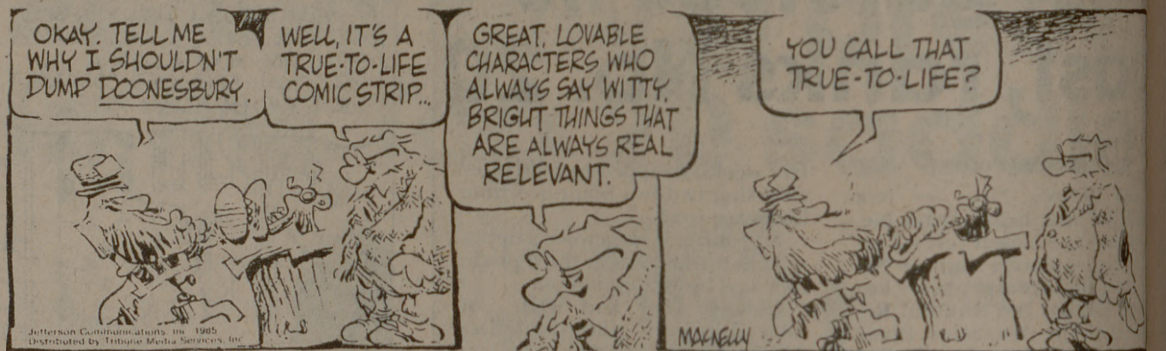
If the jury, which is sequestered, determines Time published the story without actual malice, the trial is over and Sharon loses his case, although he has called the jurors' first two findings against Time a "clear moral victory."

If the jury rules for Sharon, a mini-trial with more witnesses and evidence will be held during which Sharon must prove to the jury that his reputation was damaged and he should receive money.

Sharon was not libeled if his reputation was not damaged by the article about an Israeli inquiry into the massacre of hundreds of Palestinians by Israeli-allied Lebanese Christians while he was defense minister in 1982.

Sharon, now minister of industry and commerce, sued over Time's Feb. 21, 1983, cover story that in one paragraph said he "reportedly discussed" revenge for the assassination of Lebanon's Christian president-elect, Bashir Gemayel, with the Christian Phalangists. The next day, the massacre began at two West Beirut refugee camps.

SHOE



by Jeff MacNelly

SHOE



by Jeff MacNelly

Baker confirmation could bring up tough questions

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — James A. Baker III is a sure bet to win quick Senate approval for his move from the White House to the Treasury Department, but his confirmation hearing could hint at the kind of reception Congress will give President Reagan's second-term program.

Could, that is, if the members of the Senate Finance Committee choose to press the White House staff chief about just what the president has in mind for the next four years.

In this era of concentration of power in the White House, enormous authority rests with members of the president's staff — individuals who do not face Senate confirmation and who rarely, if ever, testify before Congress.

Probably more than any other person in the government, Baker could knowledgeably discuss the budget and taxes, where the admin-

istration is heading, as well as some of the decisions made during the first term.

The committee was taking up the Baker nomination just two days after Reagan's inaugural address calling for an "American renewal."

Like most inaugural addresses, the speech was long on rhetoric and short on specifics. The details presumably will appear Feb. 4, when the president's budget is made public and on Feb. 6, when Reagan delivers his State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress.

For example, when Reagan said he would "shortly submit a budget to the Congress aimed at freezing government program spending for the next year," many people watching the ceremony on television might have thought he meant putting a lid on all spending.

But the audience gathered in the Capitol Rotunda — the members of Congress and of the administration

— knew better. That freeze would include the Pentagon.

What will it include? Where is the \$50 billion come from?

Baker has never hesitated to say that the proposed freeze would include the Pentagon.

He was asked if the White House would be ready to make a deal — cut Pentagon spending if Congress made additional cuts in other programs.

"Well, I couldn't possibly judge that," Baker said. "I think the president would be very reluctant to come off of his defense position now, particularly until you really knew those spending cuts were going to be supplied."

The fact is that during the past three years, since the original Reagan honeymoon during which he got quick approval of his budget and tax cuts, Congress has worked its will on the Pentagon request, cutting back sharply.

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