World and Nation

Memo says U.S. sought arms deal with radicals

eorge Bush last July that deals for the sale of U.S. arms were being ought with Iranian radicals, a secret nemo says, contradicting claims by resident Reagan that the adminis-ration dealt only with so-called

"We are dealing with the most dical elements, . . ." the Israeli told ish according to the memorandum, first reported in Sunday's edi-tions of the Washington Post. "They can deliver . . . that's for sure. . . . We've learned they can deliver and the moderates can't."

The memo, written by a Bush ide, said Israeli contacts with Iran were aimed in part at freeing Americans held in Lebanon. And it shows a more active Israeli role than Jerusa-lem has acknowledged in the U.S.-Iran arms dealings.

Stephen Hart, a spokesman for would not comment on the memo beyond saying it is authentic.

In other news related to the sale of U.S. arms to Israel and the diver-

sion of the proceeds to the Nicara-

William Casey, the former di-rector of the CIA, was closely in-volved with Lt. Col. Oliver North,

the fired National Security Council adviser, in efforts to supply military help to the Contras while such assistance was banned by Congress, according to a report in Sunday's Miami Herald. • North met several times with a

wealthy Connecticut woman who bankrolled at least part of a pro-Contra lobbying drive, the woman, Barbara Newington of Greenwich, Conn., said. The meetings suggest a close link between North and the ef-

forts of Newington's friend, Carl
"Spitz" Channell, to put together a
costly public relations blitz.

Channell, through a network of
conservative groups he controls, financed speaking trips by Nicaraguan rebels and a television ad campaign of at least \$1 million that targeted congressional opponents of President Reagan's plan to give \$100 million in military and other aid to the Contras. The source of the funding has come into question, with conexamining a report in the Lowell (Mass.) Sun that North provided profits from Iranian arms sales for

The secret memorandum provides details of a July 29 meeting between Bush and Amiram Nir, terrorism adviser to Shimon Peres, then the Israeli prime minister, held at the King David Hotel in Jerusa-

Marlin Fitzwater, Bush's spokesman at the time of the vice president's meeting with Nir and currently Reagan's spokesman, declined to comment on the memo.

Reagan has repeatedly insisted that dealings with Iran were aimed at establishing contacts with so-called moderates in Tehran. In his State of the Union address Jan. 27, the president for the first time acknowledged a link between the contacts with Iran a link between the contacts with Iran and the American hostages, saying, "Certainly it was not wrong to try to secure freedom for our citizens held in barbaric captivity."

60-day truce terminated in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A 60-day truce with Communist rebels formally expired Sunday without hope of extension, and the government said it would step up military patrols while pursu-ing peace talks on a regional level.

A rebel umbrella group urged its members to "wage militant and unremitting struggles on all fronts." Some groups have said they opposed regional talks. The head of the committee

that monitored compliance with the cease-fire urged President Corazon Aquino to intervene to prevent a civil war.

The truce had paved the way for peace talks in January, but the negotiations were suspended indefinitely on Jan. 30 after the rebels accused the government of acting in bad faith.

The government responded by saying it would not agree to an extension of the cease-fire unless the rebels agreed to resume "substantial negotiations" to end the

18-year insurrection. The rebels said new talks would be fruitless because the new constitution, approved last

week, imposed too many limita-tions on what is negotiable.

In announcing the end of the truce, chief government negotia-tor Teofista Guingona blamed "a hardline posture of a few Com-munist leaders."

Weinberger presses phased deployment for 'Star Wars' project

tary of State George P. Shultz said Sunday a decision on early deployment of "Star Wars" would not come soon, although his remarks were made as Defense Secretary Caspar

Made as Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger continued to press for phased deployment of the antimissile shield as quickly as possible.

Shultz, speaking on ABC-TV's "This Week with David Brinkley," said the sophisticated defense system should not be started "until you are dear and confident about what you clear and confident about what you where you're going."

"So that's where we stand," Shultz said. "And so there isn't any early deployment decision in the offing."

Shultz said President Reagan's po-sition on early deployment was that "it's not possible to make any such decision this year or next year." Shultz said he was echoing remarks made by Weinberger in a taped in-terview with the British Broadcast-

ing Corp.

However, Weinberger's comments in the BBC interview appeared to refer to the actual phased deployment of Star Wars, not the specific decision on early deploy-

"We don't really know," the defense secretary said, when asked about a timetable. "We know we can't do it now. We know we can't do it next year. But we also know that it takes a fair amount of time to plan

anything as important and far-reaching as that."

Weinberger also repeated his po-sition that "I want to deploy it. I be-lieve the president wants to deploy, just as soon as we can."

Shultz defended a broad interpre-tation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Mis-sile. Treaty with the Soviet Union as

sile Treaty with the Soviet Union as necessary for further Star Wars test-ing, which is needed for deploy-

However, Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn, D-

Committee Chairman Sam Nunn, D-Ga., reiterated his warning that a unilateral reinterpretation of the treaty by the Reagan administration would jeopardize congressional funding of the missile shield.

Weinberger, in the BBC interview, said the United States is not yet ready to make a final decision. During congressional hearings last week, he said the Pentagon was "close to being able to recommend deployment decisions" to President Reagan.

He told the BBC that, following the presidential decision, the first phase of Star Wars, formally known as the Strategic Defense Initiative, could be deployed "somewhere in the 1993-1994 range." Star Wars is an effort to develop

lasers and other types of exotic weapons that could be deployed in space or on the ground to shoot down nuclear missiles fired at the

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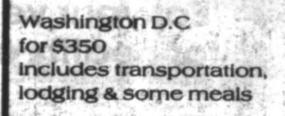
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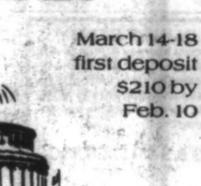
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Proposed cuts in education blamed on college dropouts

on Secretary William Bennett, defending plans to make major budget cuts in higher education, claims that colleges are unproductive because half of all college students drop out. But educators call his criticisms

misleading and inappropriate, and there appear to be no statistics that entirely support Bennett's claim. "We are concerned about productivity," Bennett told a House Appro-priations subcommittee last Wednes-

"Almost half the students who enter four-year programs . . . do not complete those four-year pro-grams," he said. "We think that's a problem."

A day earlier, after making the same point to the House Budget Committee, he asked, "What kind of movie is it we're running that people want to leave halfway through An incomplete analysis by the de-

search and Improvement indicates that 50 percent to 60 percent of students who started four-year programs in 1980 graduated at the end of four years, with others presu-mably finishing their degrees later.

A consultant hired to analyze the same data found that 42 percent of students who started two- and fouryear programs in 1980 finished them in four years - compared with 51 percent in 1976.

And 26 percent had dropped out in 1984, compared with 19 percent in 1976.

Jay Noel, a program analyst in the department's planning and evalua-tion service, said those numbers show a "deterioration of college attendance, graduation and comple-

tion" that concern Bennett. However, Noel did not have numbers just for the four-year programs Noel also said Bennett may have been thinking of another educational research office study - this one howing that there were 1.9 mi first-time college enrollees in 1980 and about half that many bachelor's degrees awarded four years later.

The ratio backs up Bennett's completion rate, but not his growing concern — because it has been virtually the same for 30 years.
"I'm astonished," Noel said when

Educators like to cite another educational research office study, this one of 1972 high school graduates who entered college immediately and finished.

The November 1986 study found that 49 percent finished in four years and another 27 percent in five.

The rest took six to 11.5 years to earn their degrees.

U.S. 'careless' in keeping secrets

WASHINGTON (AP) - Despite a flurry of serious spy cases in recent years, the U.S. intelligence apparayears, the U.S. intelligence appara-tus is almost lackadaisical about guarding the nation's most sensitive ecrets, according to a new congres-

The House Intelligence Committee, in terms far more harsh than those used by its Senate counterpart in a similar report last year, found "a litany of disaster" and called for ma-jor overhauls reaching deep into the

"Our hope is that the criticisms will be taken as drawing attention to something that needs to be im-

proved," said Rep. Louis Stokes, D-Ohio, the new chairman of the com-mittee. "We hope the executive branch will clean up its act."

Among the panel's findings were:

• Carelessness in hiring for sensitive intelligence posts. For example, the CIA hired Edward Howard despite "an extensive history of using hard drugs." Howard seriously damaged the agency's operations in Moscow by giving secrets to the Soviets.

• Failure to take seriously the im-

plications of the arrests of 27 U.S. tizens for spying from 1984 to

· A relaxation of strictures that

should govern the most highly classified information. "There seems to be a widespread attitude within some U.S. intelligence agencies that once an employee has been granted a Top Secret clearance... strict adherence to the 'need-to-know' principle is not required," the panel said.

Relatively indiscriminate issuance of security clearances. Of 200,000 applications for Top Secret status in 1984, only 1 percent were denied. Currently more than 5 million Americans hold some level of security clearance. "The chances of a few spies having received clearances among so many are high," the report states.