

World and Nation

Shultz, Shevardnadze talk of arms reductions

MOSCOW (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz held three rounds of talks Monday with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze, taking up the critical issue of nuclear arms reductions at an unscheduled late-night session.

There was no immediate word on the outcome. At the California White House, meanwhile, presidential Chief of Staff Howard H. Baker Jr. said he would not be surprised to see a decision on a super-summit emerge by the end of Shultz' three-day visit.

The Soviet news agency Tass, however, accused Washington of "a fresh cock-and-bull story" of Soviet espionage at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. The dispatch said the Pentagon came up with the "spy scare" in an effort to undercut the State Department.

The meeting was held after a Pasover Seder attended by Shultz at the U.S. Embassy with about 40 prominent Jewish "refuseniks," —

people who have been refused permission to emigrate.

Shultz attended the Seder, which recalls Jewish deliverance from slavery under the Egyptian pharaoh, to demonstrate continued U.S. support for Soviet Jews. He told them U.S. citizens are praying for them.

Shultz and Shevardnadze held two rounds of talks Monday morning and afternoon to try to stabilize relations in the midst of a bitter exchange of spy charges.

Those sessions and a working lunch were held at a Foreign Ministry guest house about a mile from the Kremlin.

A special van was set up to provide secure communications for Shultz to Washington and for meetings with his staff. The United States has accused the Soviets of infiltrating the embassy with the collusion of some U.S. Marine guards and gaining access to classified materials.

About three dozen reporters and photographers were taken on a tour

of two rows of red-brick townhouses where American diplomats have lived since late last year. Construction on the new embassy building stopped in 1985.

Shultz planned to complain to Shevardnadze about a "pattern of intrusiveness and hostility." But he also said before coming to Moscow on a three-day visit that he wanted "to find our way to a more constructive relationship" and to lower the level of nuclear weapons.

No details of Shultz's talks with Shevardnadze were made public. The Soviet news agency Tass reiterated its critical view of Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative and said "nuclear and space arms" were on the Shultz-Shevardnadze agenda.

The brief Soviet report said Shultz and Shevardnadze were "considering in a concrete way prospects for working out an agreement between the U.S.S.R. and the United States on removing medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe."

IRS braces for late flood of tax returns

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service, heading down the homestretch of a successful tax filing season, is bracing for a flood of last-minute returns and reminding procrastinators they'll have to wait a bit longer for their refunds.

"We're on target and our inventories (of unprocessed returns) are especially low," IRS spokesman Larry Batdorf said Monday. The filing deadline is midnight Wednesday.

Although the agency has been processing returns at a pace that has produced refunds in four or five weeks, the big end-of-season push means a wait of six to 10 weeks, Batdorf said.

Through April 3, the latest figures available, the IRS had received 58.1 million returns. The agency is forecasting 105.5 million returns for all this year, although many of them will be delayed in filing by several months. From last Friday through the deadline, the IRS was expecting 23 million returns.

"This is not an unusual crunch and we expect no problems in dealing with the last-minute filers," Batdorf said.

From all accounts, there has been no recurrence of the computer problems of two years ago in the 10 service centers where returns are processed. Those breakdowns were responsible for the worst filing season in IRS history and required millions of people to wait 10 weeks or longer for their refunds.

On the other hand, tax advisers and return preparers say that passage of the big tax overhaul last year has many taxpayers confused, and that may be responsible for some of the late returns.

Whether late filers run into trouble with the IRS could depend in large part on how carefully they fill out their returns. Year in and year out, the most common errors found in the forms are in arithmetic.

To avoid such mistakes — which can delay refunds for another two or three weeks — the IRS recommends that once taxpayers complete their returns, they put them aside for a few hours and then recheck the math.

Tutu, other clergy push for resistance to limits on speech

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other clergymen urged people at a special prayer service Monday to defy new limits on speech and assembly. The U.S. ambassador was among 700 people in the congregation.

Ambassador Edward Perkins issued a statement saying: "It is sad that a government which claims to uphold the values of human dignity, and which portrays itself as secure and strong, should be so intimidated by the peaceful protestations of its citizens that it declares those protestations to be illegal."

Perkins' attendance and his statement represented one of his most vivid gestures since he became the first black American ambassador to South Africa last November.

The ambassadors of Canada, Sweden and Austria also attended the ecumenical service dedicated to people detained without charge under a nationwide state of emergency the white government imposed 10 months ago.

Regulations issued Saturday by Police Commissioner Johan Coetzee make it a crime to call for release of detainees by word, action or in writing.

Population bureau reports world birth rate on the rise

WASHINGTON (AP) — The rate at which people are being born is speeding up again, just as the planet's population edges past the 5 billion milestone, a population study group reported Monday.

The private Population Reference Bureau cited an easing of strict birth limits in China as a prime reason for the turnaround in population growth.

The Bureau's new World Population Data Sheet for 1987 estimates that the July 1 population of the world will be 5.026 billion.

The United Nations has projected that the world will pass the 5 billion milestone early in July, while another private study group, the Population Institute, calculated that the event occurred last year.

In its new report, the Population Reference Bureau estimated the

worldwide birth rate at 28 births per 1,000 people, up from 27 last year. The world's rate had been 27 for two years, down from 28 in 1984 and 29 in 1983, the group said.

"If Beijing continues to ease up on its population policy, it will shatter current assumptions about a continuing slowdown in the global population's growth rate," bureau specialist Carl Haub said. "China's sheer size dominates the entire demographic picture."

China's policy of one child per family had been very effective in reducing growth in recent years, but that has not been stressed as heavily this year, said Mary Kent of the bureau.

As a result, China's birth rate jumped from 18 per 1,000 people in 1986 to 21 this year.

presidency of the United States in 1988 and I do so for one single reason: and that is because I love my country." Hart said as he stood in Red Rocks Park for the morning announcement.

Later, Hart asked several thousand supporters at a rally in downtown Denver to give him their help and their time: "You give me 20 days in the next 20 months and I will give you a presidency you can be proud of."

Invoking the idealistic rhetoric of John F. Kennedy, Hart concluded: "Let us go forward from this day committed to restore this land to all of its people, to restore a sense of genuine true patriotism to America. And if we do, we will have done the

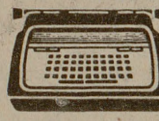
greatest thing for this country any of us could ever do.

"March on!" His formal announcement at Red Rocks, a park 16 miles from downtown Denver, was before his wife and daughter, reporters, cameras and staff. Hart said the park, begun with federal funds during the Depression, "is a symbol of what a benevolent government can do."

"Sadly, in recent years we've fallen far short of the ideal of America," Hart said. "We've let personal greed replace a sense of social justice and equity and the national good. We've let right-wing ideology skew this nation's basic priorities. We've increasingly let narrow special interests finance our campaigns and control our political process."

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Hart formally announces plans to win '88 Democratic nomination

DENVER (AP) — Gary Hart, standing coatless before the snow-capped Rocky Mountains, announced his bid for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination Monday and promised a return to American ideals and a "presidency you can be proud of."

The 50-year-old former Colorado senator opened his second presidential candidacy stressing idealism and the power of ideas — themes that almost wrested the 1984 Democratic nomination from former Vice President Walter Mondale.

"This time it is Hart who is ahead in the early polls, with the rest of the still-increasing field of candidates hunched far back.
"I intend to be a candidate for the