

News from around the world via our wire services

Tip O'Neill sees peace

WASHINGTON (UPI) — House Speaker-designate Thomas P. O'Neill foresees a period of peace between the new Congress and the new president, but he is concerned there may be a problem maintaining it.

The Massachusetts lawmaker, who will be elected the new speaker when the 95th Congress convenes on Jan. 4, said in an interview that President-elect Jimmy Carter has initial widespread support among the strong Democratic majorities of the House and Senate.

"There's going to be peace for awhile, but the problem will be holding it together as time goes along," said O'Neill, who has met at least three times with Carter.

"Even the conservatives in our party want to see Carter be a success. But how long is that going to last? That's

what we have to watch along the way."

O'Neill assumes the most powerful legislative office in the nation at a time marking the end of eight years of battle between a Democratic Congress and a Republican president — a fight that created a deep suspicion of the White House on the part of Congress.

Mars ships to activate

PASADENA, Calif. (UPI) — Viking's sleeping landers and quiet orbiters will be awakened this week to begin sending back more data from Mars following a month-long period of inactivity due to the sun's intervention between the planets.

The two orbiters looping above Mars are to be tuned up by computer today and tomorrow and data will be sent back to Earth beginning Wednesday.

Scientists spent four

months analyzing data from Mars in a search for some form of bacterial life. There were surprising results but no confirmation life existed on the dry, red planet.

The landers on the planet's surface will resume their transmissions Thursday and Friday.

Among the first data to be analyzed will be an indication from the one seismological instrument that works, on lander 2, that a Marsquake occurred sometime in November.

It would be the first indication of quake activity on the barren planet. Viking 1's seismology instrument was damaged in landing.

Cabinet job takes time

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Treasury Secretary William Simon says Congress demands too many time-consuming personal ap-

pearances by cabinet members, especially when they are coping with a crisis.

"When you're testifying three days a week on the average, sometimes four, then how in the world can one be expected to run a department of 120,000 people?" Simon asked in an interview.

"During the energy crisis," he said, "I was testifying sometimes twice a day and I remember on one or two occasions I testified three times, while running an agency at the same time in the midst of a crisis. And they wonder why things go wrong."

"I think there ought to be consolidation of the committees. I think when I'm called by every single committee on the hill just to have a show-and-tell, that's silly."

Simon said he has been told he has made more congressional appearances than any cabinet officer in history.

He said he benefited from some of those occasions and thinks congressmen

generally benefited too. But he would prefer something like the British system, where ministers explain policy before Parliament.

Guns kept by Rightists

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — More than 1,000 armed Lebanese Christians paraded through their sector of Beirut yesterday in defiance of a Syrian call to surrender weapons.

The Christian military commander said his forces would not give up their guns.

Lebanon's three-day-old cabinet met, and sources said Premier Salim el-Hoss was drafting emergency powers that would let him impose order on the war-torn country as soon as possible. An official announcement said the cabinet was considering "urgent matters."

Beshir Gemayel, the Christian rightist military leader, addressed a parade

that included 1,000 armed and uniformed militiamen of the Phalange party, the largest Christian force in the 19-month civil war.

"We will surrender our arms only when we feel the destiny of our civilization and our political entity is secure," Gemayel said. He was cheered by more than 10,000 Lebanese Christians in the main square of the Christian sector.

Syrian troops who occupied all but a small strip of southern Lebanon last month are under orders to disarm and arrest all Lebanese appearing in public with their weapons. But the crews of two Syrian tanks parked 200 yards away ignored the Phalange rally and parade.

Electors vote today

WASHINGTON (AP) — The much maligned but never seriously disturbed electoral college meets on schedule today in 50 states and the District of Columbia to elect Jimmy Carter of Georgia as President of the United States.

Under the Constitution, the Electoral College, the group which really elects presidents no matter what the voter may think, meets in the state capitals and the results will be sent to Washington, where the certificates will be opened by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller on Jan. 6 before a joint session of Congress.

If the electors follow the script, Carter will get the 297 electoral votes he won in the Nov. 2 election, and President Ford will get the other 241. Then Rockefeller will declare Carter the President-elect.

troops will be involved.

Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith met Richard, decried the lack of progress in the peace talks and flew home to Salisbury for the second time in the seven-week conference.

Smith said the prospect of any direct British involvement in Rhodesia's immediate future was "a ghastly thought."

"I heard a few new ideas and I like them no more than the others I had heard from the British," Smith said. "At the rate the conference is going, it is not going to get anywhere with or without me."

Richard, who returned to the conference from talks in London with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Foreign Secretary Anthony Crosland, said Britain is considering what kind of direct role it should play in Rhodesia during the changeover to black rule in the former colony.

Crosland and Kissinger reportedly agreed on a compromise Saturday to send a resident British commissioner to Rhodesia as chief of state during the interim period and place British nationals in charge of the key defense and justice ministries.

Canal work could stop

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — The 300-year old dream of a canal across the Florida Peninsula may be killed this week. The state Cabinet is scheduled to vote on whether to support completion of the controversial \$42 million waterway.

Several Cabinet members have indicated opposition to the canal, and around the Capitol speculation has it that after two days of hearings the Cabinet will vote 5-2 or 6-1 to withdraw its support when it meets Friday.

That probably would mean the end of the canal's Congress, besieged with requests for public works money, rarely spends on projects opposed by local officials.

Even staunch supporters of the canal who plan to turn out in large numbers at the hearings on Thursday and Friday, concede their prospects are grim.

The idea of a canal began 300 years ago when the Spanish were thinking of a short cut for their gold-laden ships.

Not until the Great Depression, however, did work begin, but Congress refused to continue the project and work stopped in 1936.

A small group of environmentalists had decided to oppose the canal.

decision.

The majority opinion by Justice William Rehnquist said the pregnancy exclusion in the General Electric Co.'s insurance plan is not based on sex and does not violate Title VII of the civil rights law. The plan is no more than a package covering some risks but not others, he said.

Congress can overcome the court decision by an amendment, since the ruling was based on an interpretation of law rather than on the Constitution.

Hawkins said the court appears to be retreating from its prior position of making employers prove the necessity of any policies having discriminatory results.

Court faces rights battle

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Women's groups and lawmakers, reacting quickly, are preparing a congressional campaign to overturn last week's Supreme Court decision allowing the exclusion of pregnancy from employer disability plans.

Leaders of the women's rights movement and some labor representatives will gather Wednesday in Washington to decide how best to legislate away the impact of the justices' 6-3 vote.

Rep. Augustus Hawkins, D-Calif., chairman of the House education and labor subcommittee on equal opportunities, already is working on a revision of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to counteract the court's

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR
Monday, December 13
SPECIAL EVENTS

Intramural Sports: Swimming tournament, undergraduate division, sing. elim. entry open.

Inter-Cultural Celebration, Trim the Tree Workshop, HUB north lounge. Re-Creation Concert, 12:15 p.m., Kern lobby. International films, 1 p.m., Kern lobby. Black Christian Fellowship Mass Choir, 7 p.m., Paul F. Robeson Cultural Center. Monte Bedford, oboe, 8:30 p.m., Music Bldg. recital hall.

UNIVERSITY SCHEDULE

Add deadline.

FILM

France Cinema, "Playtime," 7 and 9 p.m., Room 112 Kern.

MEETINGS

OTIS, 6:30 p.m., Room 307 HUB.
College of Education Student Council, 7 p.m., Room 104 Chambers.
USG, 7:30 p.m., Room 225 HUB.
Folklore Society, 7:30 p.m., Rooms 323, 324 HUB.
Volunteer Service Center, 7:30 p.m., Rooms 321, 322 HUB.
Women's Premed Society, 8 p.m., Room 151 Willard.

EXHIBIT

Museum of Art: Contemporary British Potters and Recent Accessions, Gallery B. From Gothic to Baroque, Gallery C. Contemporary Figurative Paintings from the Permanent Collection, Gallery A.

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