

News briefs

Castro may visit New York

NEW YORK (UPI) — Cuban President Fidel Castro reportedly is planning to come to New York City this fall to discuss reimbursing businessmen for property confiscated when his regime came to power 20 years ago and to possibly attend a World Series baseball game.

Look Magazine, in its "Political Ear" column in the May 14 issue, says "The main purpose of the trip, according to State Department sources, is to settle a billion dollar disagreement over (American businesses') property confiscated by Castro's communist regime following its 1959 takeover."

"To this end, plans for meetings between Fidel and American business leaders are in the works."

Castro is also said to be seeking better relations with U.S. government officials.

The column, which covers "people-type" news about international and national political figures, added, "There is an additional motive behind the fall date, the sources say: Fidel is dying to see a World Series game in person."

An avid baseball fan, Castro two years ago invited the New York Yankees to play exhibition games in Cuba but Baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn would not allow the team to go.

In Washington State Department officials on the department's Cuba Desk said, "We haven't heard anything about it."

Saudi relations hurt by treaty

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Secretary of State Cyrus Vance conceded publicly yesterday that the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty has damaged U.S. relations with Saudi Arabia, America's chief foreign oil supplier and key Arab world ally.

"There are (now) very sharp and clear differences between us," Vance said in becoming the first top ranking U.S. official to state for the record that the treaty has soured U.S.-Saudi ties.

Testifying in support of the special \$4.8 billion aid package the administration promised Egypt and Israel as a peace-making incentive, Vance told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that Saudi Arabi, in the U.S. view, remains "a good friend and ally."

But he added, "Saudi Arabia's position has changed" since the Arab summit conference in Baghdad, which voted to ostracize Egypt diplomatically and economically.

One result, he indicated, is that the United States has thus far been unable to get Saudi assurances they will continue to bankroll Egypt's

economy — and finance its purchase of U.S. F-5 warplanes — now that they have broken diplomatic relations with Cairo.

"We will continue to make our best efforts to urge them to continue their aid to Egypt," Vance said in response to questions.

But in the event that effort fails, he added, "We hope and expect that others will play their part to make up for the shortfall that would result."

Saudi Arabia has reportedly financed Egypt's faltering economy to the tune of between \$1 billion and \$2 billion in recent years. U.S. officials have made clear the administration would expect Western European allies and Japan to help make up the loss of that revenue.

Defense Secretary Harold Brown, who joined Vance in testifying on behalf of the special aid package, said the Saudis so far have not paid for any of the 50 U.S. F-5E jet fighters, valued at \$525 million, the administration is selling Egypt as part of a package warplane sale to Egypt, Israel and the Saudis themselves.

Court grants rights to Indians

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (UPI) — In a landmark decision, a federal judge ruled yesterday two 19th Century treaties grant Indians unlimited fishing rights which cannot be restricted by the state.

The decision was a broad affirmation of Indian treaty rights. Observers were unsure how widely it would be applied in other treaty-rights cases pending in courts across the country.

In a 131-page ruling, U.S. District Judge Noel P. Fox held that treaties signed in 1836 and 1855 give two Upper Peninsula Indian tribes unlimited fishing rights and that the

state cannot, in any way, abridge those rights.

"The mere passage of time has not eroded, and cannot erode, the rights guaranteed by solemn treaties," Fox ruled. "The Indians have a right to fish today wherever fish are to be found."

Fox, ruling in a 1973 suit filed against the state by two Chippewa tribes, held the state has no authority to impose regulations on Indians or limit treaty rights — that such regulation rests with Congress.

State officials were considering an appeal but no decision was made immediately.

Bell asked to resolve dispute

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Civil Rights Commission has asked Attorney General Griffin Bell to help resolve a 10-year-old desegregation dispute in the Pittsburgh School District.

The commission recommended earlier this week that Bell "intervene in litigation and take any other kind of action" to force the city school board to comply with state and federal desegregation requirements.

The board, whose proposed desegregation plans have been rejected by state and federal commissions since 1973, faces a class action suit demanding implementation of a satisfactory plan.

A commission spokeswoman said the civil rights panel is hoping that the Justice Department will join the suit, filed by 26 parents in the school district.

Though the class action suit has not come to trial, the government has cited the board for its allegedly

segregated schools since 1970. Last year, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ordered formulation of a satisfactory desegregation plan by July 1.

"We have long been aware of the lack of progress toward meaningful school desegregation in Pittsburgh," Commission Chairman Arthur S. Flemming said in a letter to Bell. Flemming's letter referred to the school board's "numerous delays and stall tactics" in the desegregation process.

A Justice Department spokesman said yesterday the commission's letter has not yet been received and that the department has been independently studying the city's schools since last fall.

"If we do come to the conclusion that the board is not in compliance, then we will look to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to see what to do," said Justice Department spokesman John Wilson.

Official expects more inflation

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Treasury Secretary W. Michael Blumenthal told Congress yesterday he expects several more months of severe inflation, but an improvement starting by the fall.

He said this probably will produce an overall inflation rate for the year (measured fourth quarter to fourth quarter) of 8 to 8.5 percent, perhaps a bit more "but hopefully not much more."

That would be a significant increase over the estimate of 7.4 percent inflation for 1979 which the administration made at the beginning of the year.

But it would be a big improvement over the 13 percent annual rate of inflation during the first three months

of this year.

Administration officials have been saying for some time their inflation estimate for 1979 would have to be revised upward. This was the first time the administration has offered a revised figure.

"The president is right when he says we can look forward to bad inflation figures for several more months," Blumenthal told a Senate appropriations subcommittee.

"I think that in all probability it will be summer or early fall before we can begin to see real improvement in the situation," he said.

But he said that if the pace of the economy slows down — and he believes that it is — then he looks for a slowing of inflation by the fall.

Committee completes aid bills

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday completed work on the last of five foreign aid bills that authorize a total of \$10.2 billion in spending on the Middle East, Turkey and other nations and programs.

"The decks are now cleared for the SALT treaty to be considered in June," Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, the committee chairman, told reporters.

Church said he had not been informed that the long-awaited SALT II accord has been completed, but said he is hopeful it soon will be.

The various foreign aid bills now

await full Senate action.

Staff aides said the panel sliced \$109.6 million off President Carter's original request for foreign military aid and \$204.6 off foreign economic development programs.

"This is a year of stringency to reduce federal expenditures on all fronts," Church said. "Foreign aid is not sacrosanct. We go to the floor (of the Senate) in a stronger position to resist meat ax cuts."

In completing work on the military bill, the panel quickly agreed to an increase of \$100 million in U.S. loans to Turkey as requested by the administration.

U.S. and Soviets agree on new SALT pact

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and the Soviet Union have reached basic agreement on a new treaty to limit strategic nuclear weapons, and the pact will be signed at a June summit meeting in Europe, according to administration sources.

Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance is expected to make the formal announcement on the treaty today at the White House after a meeting with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin.

If agreement is reached on the specific date and site for the meeting between President Carter and Soviet President Leonid I. Brezhnev, an announcement will be made later in the week.

The Soviets are understood to have proposed the summit be held in Helsinki, Finland. Other cities under consideration are Vienna, Austria; Stockholm, Sweden; and Geneva, Switzerland.

Vance told reporters on Capitol Hill that he and Dobrynin "have discussed in preliminary fashion the possible locations of a summit and, in addition, the date of a summit, but nothing has

been finalized."

The strategic arms limitation treaty, SALT II, will impose restrictions on U.S. and Soviet long-range bombers and intercontinental ballistic missiles through 1985. The accord has been under negotiation for nearly seven years.

This year alone, Vance and Dobrynin held 25 negotiating sessions at the State Department. Their talks on Monday produced the breakthrough, but administration officials withheld an immediate announcement.

White House press secretary Jody Powell said yesterday he hoped to have an announcement on SALT sometime this week. He also said two announcements were possible, with one focused on the treaty and the second on a date for a Carter-Brezhnev summit.

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR SPECIAL EVENTS Wednesday, May 9

- STS Annual Colloquy, 12:45 p.m., Room 101 Kern. Richard Barnett, Institute for Policy Studies, Washington, D.C., on "Ideologies of Scarcity."
- Sports: baseball, vs. Cornell (2), 1:30 p.m.; men's lacrosse, vs. Bucknell, 7 p.m.
- Human Development Lecture, 4 p.m., Room S-209 Henderson. Ramon Rueda, People's Development Corp., South Bronx, NY, on "The New Urban Pioneers."
- 5 O'Clock Playwrights' Theatre, Peter Michaelson, On A Ledge Sitting Sideways, and Paul Malluk, Doo Doo, 5:30 p.m., The Pavilion Theatre. Also May 10 and 11.
- White Band Concert, 7 p.m., Fisher Plaza. Rain, May 14.
- Science Fiction Society/STS, Tomorrows Program, 7:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall. Panel Discussion with Richard Barnett on "America's Future: The Avis of World Powers?"
- Penn State Thespians, Lil' Abner, preview, 8 p.m., Schwab, through May 12.
- University Theatre, A Midsummer Night's Dream, 8 p.m., The Playhouse, through May 12.
- Composers' Concert, 8:30 p.m., Music Bldg. Recital Hall.
- Meetings:
 - Student Branch, ASAE, 5 p.m., New Beaver Picnic Area.
 - REO, 6:30 p.m., Room 102 Chambers. Elections.
 - Delta Sigma Pi, 7 p.m., Room 265 Willard.
 - Pa. Legal Society, 7 p.m., Room 173 Willard.
 - PSORML, 7 p.m., Room 321 Boucke.
 - ACF, 7:30 p.m., Room 305 HUB.
 - Episcopal Student Assn., 7:30 p.m., Room 227 HUB.
 - Froth, 7:30 p.m., Room 314 Boucke.
 - Nittany Grotto, 7:30 p.m., Room 217 Willard.

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