World

Soviets pledge Nicaraguan support
Back in Moscow after a trip to Moscow, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said the Soviets have promised continued aid to bolster the US-backed contras. Ortega said he made the trip to Moscow largely full well President Reagan would use it as a "pretext" to get Congress to approve another $270 million in aid for the rebels.

The House did approve more than $3 million in aid to the contras Wednesday, but the money is tied to only non-lethal purposes, the amount is included in a stop-the-battle plan signed by Central American leaders was supposed to be in effect, but peace has not arrived. Last night Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega told a rally in Managua that rebels who have not accepted amnesty by Saturday will be "fought to the death and nailed." Saturday ends a one month unilateral unilateral cease-fire by the Sandinista government, which refused to talk to the US-backed rebels.

US apologizes for killing civilian
The United States said it was sorry a civilian was killed during an attack on an Arab fishing boat last weekend in the Persian Gulf. But with the apology from the State Department came admission of guilt. The Pentagon said the US Navy frigate fired on what was thought to be a military target. Shipping sources say it was actually one of three fishing boats near an oil tanker under US protection.

Peace plan starts slowly
Yesterday the first of 30 diplomats arrived in Managua to begin negotiations. The talks are expected to last at least a month. However, the rebels have attacked a warehouse containing US military supplies and one of three fishing boats near an oil tanker under US protection.

US scales back Japanese sanctions
President Reagan is scaling back his economic punishments to Japan. On Monday the US set $84 million in trade duties, following word from the Commerce Department that Japan has stopped dumping certain computer chips on world markets. Reagan said other countries will not be as cooperative on Japanese goods, since Japan has maintained trade barriers against US firms.

New AIDS warning signs reported
A new warning signs of AIDS - including severe acne - were reported late earlier this year. The report is published in the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology.

Nation

Court nominee smoked marijuana
Supreme Court nominee Douglas Ginsburg admitted yesterday that he smoked marijuana a few times ending in the 1970s. The 41-year old jurist called his actions a "mistake." The confession was followed immediately by a reaffirmation of support by President Reagan, who nominated Ginsburg just last week after the Senate defeat of Judge Robert Bork.

Republicans for the most part are reacting with caution to Judge Ginsburg's admission. But one GOP senator - judiciary committee member Charles Grassley of Iowa - predicted he will lose Republican support. Judge Ginsburg just last week after the Senate defeat of Judge Robert Bork, complained that the report "had the political bite to the United States said it was sorry a civilian was killed during an attack on an Arab fishing boat last weekend in the Persian Gulf. But with the apology from the State Department came admission of guilt. The Pentagon said the US Navy frigate fired on what was thought to be a military target. Shipping sources say it was actually one of three fishing boats near an oil tanker under US protection.

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Duke added 10,000 to payroll
A state official said the Duke's administration has added 10,000 employees and 9000 million in payroll costs in four years. Retirement Law Commission Chairman Carmen Ellis told a legislative committee that payroll numbers are up 12 percent. He said the increase does not include any additional consultants. House Republican Steve Pierce said that Bork should impose fiscal discipline in the state and called on the governor to cut his 1988 budget. Duke press secretary James Dorsey countered that there will not be much expansion in the next budget.

Boston debates cancelled
The Boston Globe and ABC News have cancelled presidential debates that were to be scheduled for Dec. 7-8 because of the impending summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Globe Executive Editor Benjamin Taylor said the cancellation was due to "lack of time" for preparations.

Spurs sign Robinson
The San Antonio Spurs and their fans have the welcome mat out for seven-foot center David Robinson, who has agreed to a contract with the Western Conference Association.

According to Spurs Chairman Angelo Dessou, Robinson plans to sign the pact today at the convention center area, with the public invited. Despite the deal, the Spurs will have to wait until 1989 to get the former Navy star in uniform. San Antonio made Robinson the top selection in this year's draft.

Stouffer to sue Cardinals
Unable to find suitable work on the football field, holder soubiquette Kelly Stouffer said he plans to sue the St. Louis Cardinals and the National Football League in order to become reinstated. Stouffer in the opening round of the year's draft but has been unable to reach a contact agreement with the former Colorado State star.

Weather

Oh, Canada!
After the storms taunting earlier this season, the weather in much of the Middle East soldier, more November-like turn. A very strong low pressure system is bringing us a lot of air freezing from central Canada. This will bring us a predominantly sunny and cool weekend. Upper elevations of New England into northern New York can see a dusting of snow today.

Today: Sunny, maybe with a few clouds in the afternoon. Winds west 15-20 mph. High 43°F.

Tonight: Some clouds, cold. Winds west 15-20 mph. Lows 25°F.

Saturday: Clouds early in the day, then sunny. Winds east 10-15 mph. High 45°F.

Sunday: Sunny with winds 10-15 mph. Highs in the mid 40s, lows in the low 20s.

Forecast by Mark P. Lubart

Compiled by Andrew L. Fish