

Sunday, January 21, 1996

Weather: Partly to mostly cloudy. Temp from 18 to 35 degrees.

News...

- **Floods ravage parts of U.S.**
Swollen rivers and streams across the New York and Mid-Atlantic regions receded yesterday as tens of thousands evacuated residents returned to flood-ravaged homes and businesses in eight states, and public officials began to assess the costs of the worst flooding in decades. (NYTimes)
- **Default Threat is Weilded by GOP in Budget Battle**
In the latest Republican effort to revive the party's stymied economic and social agendas, the House majority leader, Dick Armey, said Congress would refuse to extend the nation's ability to borrow money to meet its bills unless President Clinton yeilds to the party's budget-cutting initiatives to decrease "the size and intrusiveness of government."

-- The position outlined signalled that the Republicans might be willing to use the threat of national default to force Mr Clinton to give more ground. (NYTimes)
- **Islamic Group Vows Revenge on Americans**
The most powerful group of Muslim militants have vowed to strike at American "interests and people" in revenge for the life sentence for Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman.
- **State Department official investigates atrocities in Bosnia**
Asst. Secretary of State for Human Rights, John C. Shattuck said he and his officials had seen enough evidence in their first visit to Srebrenicia to corroborate reports of widespread mass executions.

Allegations of mass killings around Srebrenicia are not new, but were first made in July, 1995 when the U.S. released satellite photographs that purported to show grave sites. Those killed were Muslims captured in or near the United Nations-designated "safe haven," of Srebrenecia by the Bosnian Serbs when it fell to Bosnian Serb forces on July 11, 1995

- **President Declares Disaster Assistance for Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**
ordered federal aid to supplement state and local recovery efforts in areas struck by flooding beginning on 1/19/96 --can include housing, grants, low cost loans to cover uninsured property losses

Major streets in Harrisbury remained underwater
state office building in Pittsburg and all government offices in Harrisburg expected to remain closed through first of the week.

- **Steve Forbes Campaigns on his Flat Tax ideas.**
- **Arafat becomes Palestian's first elected leader.**
- **Five U.S. Servicemen infected with heterosexual AIDs.**
Public health officials are concerned a non-native strain of the AIDS virus that recently turned up in the servicemen in San Diego may turn into a new epidemic. Researchers fear the strain could more easily be transmitted during heterosexual sex.
- **Hearing Approach Harassment of First Lady, Clinton Aide says**
President Clinton's chief of staff said today that a Republican Congressional inquiry into Hillary Rodham Clinton's role in Whitewater affair was getting dangerously close to political harassment. Clinton's chief of staff Leon Panetta spoke on NBC's "Meet the Press" on Sunday.
- **Congresswoman Faces Increasing Skepticism**
In polls conducted for the Deseret News, portions of voters who says she should retire after her term ends in January climbed from 57 percent in November to 75 percent in Jan.
- **Public Shows Rising Concern over Quality of Education**
The flat tax and balancing the budget may be dominating the news from the campaign trail, but in America's living rooms, offices and supermarkets, voters are focusing on the quality of the nation's schooling. A recent USA Today/CNN/Gallop Poll found.

Today at the White House...

- The President and his family took a private tour of the Johannes Vermeer exhibit at the National Gallery of Art (NGA). Earl A. Powellk, III the gallery director, led the Clintons, family friends and a former room mate of Mrs. Clinton on the tour of the Dutch painter's works.

The first family was there for about one hour and fifteen minutes. Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea were there about 45 minutes before the President arrived.

The President went to the oval office carrying a satchel of work after the tour.

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