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The STARS and STRIPES

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Reagan, Gorbachev exchange telecasts

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev broadcast New Year's greetings to each other's nations Wednesday, promising to continue the search for peace but acknowledging differences over how to reduce the threat of nuclear war.

The unprecedented exchanges were in part last week and televised simultaneously at 1 p.m. EST in the United States on all the major commercial television networks and

at 9 p.m. Moscow time in the Soviet Union. Each talk lasted about five minutes, and each leader spoke in his native language in telecasts that featured simultaneous translations.

Roughly six weeks after the two met in Geneva, Switzerland, both Reagan and Gorbachev referred to that summit, saying they hoped the search for peace would grow and bear fruit in 1986.

Reagan's speech was the first by an

American president to the Soviet populace since a televised speech by former President Richard M. Nixon during his 1972 visit to Moscow. Never before, however, had the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union engaged in such a message exchange.

"Let's work together to make it a year of peace," Reagan said. "There is no better goal for 1986 or for any year."

Gorbachev said: "For the Soviet people, See TELECASTS on Page 24

Singer Rick Nelson, 6 others die in crash

DE KALB, Texas (AP) — The bodies of rock singer Rick Nelson, his fiancée and five other people remained Wednesday in the charred hull of a DC-3 while authorities waited for the debris of the plane that caught fire and crashed to cool.

Nelson, 45, and the others, including four members of his band, were flying from Guntersville, Ala., to Dallas to perform in a New Year's Eve concert when their plane crashed Tuesday in a northeastern Texas pasture, authorities said.

The dead were identified as Nelson's fiancée, Helen Blair, 27, of Los Angeles; band members Bobby Neal, 38, Patrick Woodward, 35, Rick Intveld, 22, and Andy Chapin, 20; and sound man Clark Russell, 35.

Pilot Brad Rank, 34, of the Los Angeles area, and co-pilot Kenneth Ferguson, 40, were critically burned and were hospitalized in Arkansas, said Trooper Ronnie Fincher in Texarkana, 40 miles to the east.

The bodies remained in the wreckage of See NELSON on Page 24



Rick Nelson

AP photo

U.S. considering ways to hit back at terrorists

WASHINGTON (AP) — A list of possible military actions aimed at Middle East terrorists — including U.S. air strikes against Libya — has been prepared for the White House, according to government sources.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff sent the list to President Reagan for possible military action in the wake of last week's bomb and gun attacks at airports in Rome and Vienna, Austria, the sources said Tuesday.

The list of options includes possible air strikes at Libya, but the Pentagon has not taken any major steps to prepare for such action, said the sources, who spoke on the condition they not be identified.

The sources stressed that effective attacks would be difficult to achieve without U.S. warplanes being shot down.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Monday that Libya is believed to be harboring Abu Nidal, the leader of a radical Pal-

estinian splinter group suspected of masterminding the airport raids in which 18 people, including four terrorists, were killed.

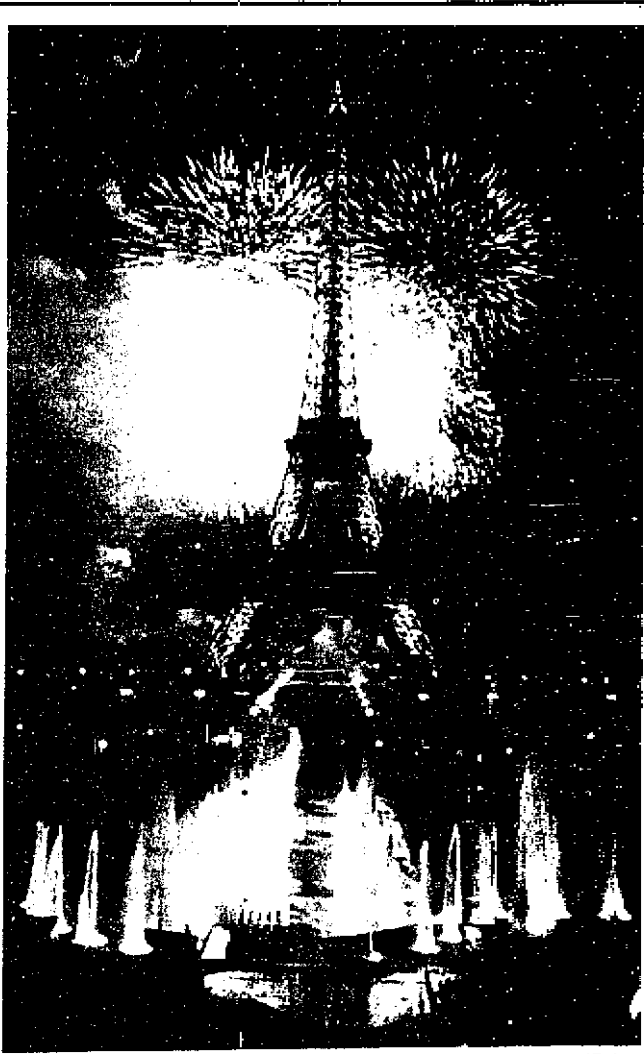
Speakes also said the United States is looking to its allies to support unspecified action to punish the Libyan government of Col. Muammar Khadafy. President Reagan and top administration officials have long singled out Khadafy as a chief supporter of international terrorism.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the shadowy terrorist group headed by Abu Nidal carried out nearly 20 other assaults in 1985. He said Nidal is believed to be operating from inside Libya.

In a brief report Tuesday, the State Department said the Abu Nidal group is "probably the best organized and most effective of the radical Palestinian terrorist groups."

"The group has repeatedly demonstrated See TERRORISTS on Page 24

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AP photo

Towering change for '86

Against a backdrop of fireworks and a winter night sky, the Eiffel Tower starts 1986 with a new gleam. Illumination of the Paris landmark was switched from

1,290 exterior lights to 290 high-density lamps mounted on the interior. The new lights are brighter and more economical. Related stories, photos on Page 3.