

From the Press Office

SUMMARY OF ABC'S 7:45 am NEWS

Relations between Iran and the United States are worsening. In the latest development, Ayatollah Khomeini is refusing to meet special emissaries sent by President Carter. In a radio broadcast the Ayatollah has warned that there will be no contact with the Americans until the Shah is returned from New York. He also supported the Muslim students holding the hostages but criticised them for threatening to kill the Americans. The American mission on its way to Iran has been told to remain in Athens until the State Department clarifies whether Iranian authorities will receive them.

The Minister for National Development, Mr. Kevin Newman, says any limitations on exports of crude oil from Iran will have very little immediate impact on Australia's crude oil supplies. Mr. Newman said Australia was 70 per cent self-sufficient in crude oil and imports from Iran so far this year represented less than 1 per cent of the total Australian requirements.

Senator Edward Kennedy has announced formally that he will be standing for the Presidency of the United States. Senator Kennedy made the announcement in Boston and used the occasion to deliver a blunt attack against the Carter administration. His formal announcement is to be followed by a similar declaration tomorrow from another Democrat, Governor Gerry Brown of California. President Carter is expected to announce his candidacy early next month.

Mrs. Roslyn Carter is on her way to Thailand. The American President's wife will be away for four days, inspecting refugee camps on Thailand's border with Kampuchea and conferring with the Thai Government.

Britain is to abandon Australia's Woomera Testing Range. The Ministry of Defence in London has announced that missile testing at Woomera will end from June next year.

Queensland Senator George Georges has undergone a number of tests after being admitted to hospital suffering from a heart attack. He was admitted to Woden Valley Hospital with chest pains early yesterday. He is expected to remain in hospital for some time.

There is speculation about the health of the Soviet Prime Minister. For the first time in 15 years he has missed the parade to mark the 62nd Anniversary of the October Revolution.

The Defence Department is considering court martialling an army officer alleged to have released details of Dr. Peter Solomon's military career.

The next national wage case is due to begin in Melbourne on Tuesday. The ABC's Melbourne Office says the ACTU and other union groups are expected to seek a full flow-on of 5.1 per cent in the CPI. The employers are expected to argue that no wage increase is justified. In line with a decision by its Executive last week, the ACTU will also press for an unspecified catch-up claim to make up for money lost by previous partial wage indexation hearings.

Authorities in Darwin are having difficulty processing the number of Taiwanese fishing boats arriving to fish in Australian territorial waters under the new fisheries agreement. The boats are arriving at such a rate that officials have run into unexpected delays into completing formalities because of communication difficulties.

The CSIRO is to charter a commercial fishing vessel to carry out research in the 200 mile Australian fishing zone. The Minister for Science and the Environment, Senator Webster, says the vessel will be chartered for 5 years at a cost of nearly \$6 million.

A challenge to Commonwealth sovereignty over land in the Northern Territory will be discussed in Canberra today by the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Anthony, and the Chief Minister of the Territory, Mr. Paul Everingham. The meeting stems from an option by the Territory Government two weeks ago in proclaiming 52 sq. kms. of the Commonwealth-controlled Kakadu National Park as a town area.

The functions of the former Federal Narcotics Bureau, which was disbanded on Tuesday by the Government, will be formally transferred today to the Federal Police Force. The decision to do away with the Bureau followed a recommendation by a judge heading the Commonwealth's Royal Commission into Drugs. In a brief statement last night, the Minister for Administrative Services, Mr. McLeay, said the formalities relating to the transfer had been completed and the new arrangements would take effect from today.

Cricket: India has won the series against Australia.

The President of Zambia is flying to London to discuss Zimbabwe-Rhodesia with Mrs. Thatcher. The British Prime Minister invited the President to stop in London on his way to a conference in Rome.