NATION IN BRIEF;

White House resists move to disband INS

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Body

The <u>White House</u> reportedly is preparing to reject a federal advisory commission's recommendation to abolish the troubled Immigration and Naturalization Service and assign its duties to other government agencies. Instead, the Clinton administration proposes reorganizing the agency to clarify its dual ---some say conflicting ---roles of battling illegal immigration and giving benefits to legal immigrants.

Toward that end, it has hired a consulting firm, Booz-Allen & Hamilton, to help work out details of the redesign, The New York Times reported today.

<u>White House</u> officials insist that President Clinton and his top aides have not made final decisions and that Clinton will outline his plan in the fiscal 1999 budget he will propose to Congress early next month. But other government and congressional officials say they have been notified that a <u>White House</u> review has decided in principle against splitting up the agency, as the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform recommended in September.

Even before the administration's plan was formally announced, Republicans on Capitol Hill who have been exploring the idea of *disbanding* the agency, expressed skepticism that a reorganization plan would solve the problems.

Former Georgia nurse pleads in killing

A former nurse from Marietta pleaded guilty in Birmingham to manslaughter in the death of a 32-year-old paraplegic. Joseph Dewey Akin was sentenced to 15 years in prison after entering the plea. He avoided a third trial in the 1991 death of Robert Price of Birmingham, who was in Akin's care at Cooper Green Hospital when he died. Akin was also suspected but never charged in at least 17 suspicious deaths at North Fulton Regional Hospital in Roswell. He worked there in 1990.

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