

NATO Meeting to Discuss Status of Eastern Europe

BY GREGORY RAY
STAFF WRITER

U.S. Secretary of Defense Les Aspin is meeting with other defense ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Brussels, Belgium this week to discuss closer cooperation between NATO and the states of the former Warsaw Pact.

At the meeting, which will run through Dec. 12, Aspin and the other defense ministers will be discussing combined joint task forces, a Partnership for Peace to strengthen relations with Eastern European countries, and counterproliferation.

President Clinton is scheduled to attend a summit meeting with other NATO leaders in January in Brussels.

One of the proposals to be discussed during the meeting would allow Eastern European countries to ask for NATO military assistance in certain situations.

"NATO elements may be requested to be used by specific nations," Department of Defense spokesman Commander Keith Arterburn said in describing the proposed combined joint task force. "NATO (now) decides how it will use its own forces."

Arterburn emphasized that the idea of East-West military cooperation currently was no more than a proposal and that it would be reviewed at upcoming meetings. "Nothing has been decided," he said.

Partnership for Peace is "a way to work more closely with (the Eastern European nations)," UNC political science professor Eric Mlyn said. "It allows certain technical and political assistance."

Counterproliferation involves attempts to prevent weapons of mass destruction from becoming too easily obtained and used, Arterburn said.

Douglas Stuart, director of international studies at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania, said the meeting was an effort to stabilize relationships between NATO and members of the former Eastern bloc.

The meeting this week tackles proposals to strengthen the North Atlantic Cooperation Council, an organization of 38

NATO countries and former members of the Warsaw Pact, Stuart said.

"The issue is beefing up this institution," he said. Stuart said the proposals were the result of "steady pressure from the Eastern European states over the past year."

Nations such as the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland want to become members of the NATO alliance. But NATO is not ready to grant membership to those countries right now, Stuart said.

"NATO is going to reassure them by enhancing NACC," he said. Mlyn said NATO members were reluctant to grant membership to the former Warsaw Pact nations because of concerns about the state of affairs in politically unstable Russia.

"At this point, it's not a possibility because of Russian sensitivity," he said. Mlyn said he was not sure if the former Warsaw Pact countries were pleased with the measures, and he thought their goal to enter NATO would remain the same.

"Some of the Eastern European countries ultimately will want full membership," he said.

Laszlo Szoke, a member of the political section of the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, said that although Hungary had not officially applied for NATO membership, Hungarian leaders had been interested for more than a year. He said the proposed agreements were "a way to ensure the presence of (NACC) members in the decision-making forum."

Mlyn said the NACC was created by NATO at a 1991 summit in Rome and described the proposals as "giving (the former Warsaw Pact members) an 'in' to the club, but not membership."

multi-district prosecutions, and also because the conviction was a violation of postal regulations, not an obscenity violation.

PHE
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tion to keep PHE from relocating its headquarters from Carrboro to Hillsborough's Meadowlands Office Park.

Donald Boys of the anti-pornography organization Common Sense for Today said justice had not been served in the settlement.

"These pornographers should be put out of business," Boys said.

The intention of the First Amendment was not to protect these scam bags."

PHE attorney David Rudolph said the company was vindicated by the settlement because the government agreed to stop

workplace. The housekeepers have been a part of that movement and certainly had an impact on and encouraged people about their strength and perseverance.

"Another thing that comes out of that network is the possibility of linking up with the other UNC (system) universities which again have housekeepers, janitors or custodians and are probably in a very similar situation."

He added that the Friends of the UNC Housekeepers group was being formed to provide support and resources for housekeepers.

Rukiya Dillihunt, a member of the Rocky Mount-based Black Workers for Justice, said the UNC housekeepers were part of a growing movement across the state to organize workers. She added that the members of the UNC Housekeepers Association were instrumental in starting a movement among publicly employed housekeepers across the state to push for better working conditions and better pay.

"The UNC housekeepers in particular are the ones who began the movement around housekeepers," she said. "What we are looking at is the possibility of housekeepers at other (public and private) universities beginning to organize."

Experts: Escobar's Killing Won't Stop Drug Flow

BY ANNA BURDESHAW
STAFF WRITER

The Dec. 2 slaying of long-sought Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar apparently will not have much impact on the flow of drugs into the United States, experts say.

"Someone has already stepped in to take Escobar's place," said Les Stanford, a public information officer at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. "As long as there's a demand in this country, there's going to be someone in South America to fill it."

The Colombian and U.S. governments had offered an \$8.7 million reward for Escobar's capture before Escobar was shot

down by a Colombian security force on a building rooftop in Medellin.

Dewey Stokes, president of the Fraternal Order of Police, said the Colombian government had reason to celebrate despite the fact that Escobar probably had already been replaced.

"Anytime you can bring to an end the career of an individual (like Escobar), it's a psychological victory for the government and the legitimate authorities," Stokes said.

John Bizzack, an adjunct professor at a University of Kentucky community college, said the death of anyone in Escobar's powerful position could at least temporarily interrupt the drug trade. "It certainly disrupts the type of network ... that has been under their control for a long time,"

Bizzack said.

But he added that it was difficult to make a direct connection between the death of a particular criminal and drug activity in the United States. "I don't think it will ever be anything that can be effectively measured," Bizzack said.

Stephanie Greene, acting administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, said in a statement released Dec. 2 that Escobar's death was a positive step forward in the fight against drugs.

"Escobar's demise will now enable the Colombian government to focus its efforts on the Cali Cartel, the world's largest drug trafficking organization," the statement said. "This action proves once again that powerful drug trafficking lords are not in-

vincible."

But Stokes said that many Colombian farmers were dependent on the income they received for growing plants used to make illegal drugs. "It's virtually an economic issue with them," he said. "The way to get away from that is to deviate farmers, to pay them for legitimate products."

He said he thought drugs would continue to flow into the U.S. at the same rate.

"We can't completely let our enforcement down on drug interdiction as some are talking about doing," Stokes said.

In the long run, Stokes said, Escobar's death might create a drug trafficking organization that would be harder to track.

"It may give an opportunity to divide (the cartel) up."

U.S., Europe Enter Final Stages of GATT Talks

BY WARD CONVILLE
STAFF WRITER

After seven years of arguing over agricultural subsidies and movie exports, the United States and the European Community are hammering out the final details of their section of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs this week in Brussels, Belgium.

Trade representatives from 116 nations have assembled in Geneva, Switzerland to conclude the Uruguay Round of GATT talks before the Dec. 15 deadline set by U.S. Congress.

"The U.S. and the EC coming to terms is critical to the whole process when the

talks move to Geneva," said Dennis Lamb, a Washington representative of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, an international economic-monitoring organization.

Lamb said the OECD had predicted world income would increase by at least \$200 billion a year if GATT was ratified.

Although most of the media attention has been focused primarily on the agricultural subsidy discussions between the U.S. and the EC, the negotiations have actually been very broad.

"Part of this negotiation is about tariff and quota reduction, but much of what's being done in these talks is dealing with intellectual property protection," he said.

HOUSEKEEPERS
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"It's my impression that the things that you have seen or heard about from years ago are being worked on and are changing."

"Part of that is training," he said. "We have additional training (for housekeepers) in the last several years. That was nonexistent previously."

Barbara Prear, a UNC housekeeper and member of the association's steering committee, said the housekeepers' complaints had implications for all University employees. "If you look at the University and you look at the whole setup, the majority of the black people they have working is all in housekeeping," she said. "The state was mandated to hire so many black people and they did ... as housekeepers."

"Basically, all your black people are hired in the lower-paid jobs." According to the 1993 UNC Staff Work Force Analysis in the Affirmative Action Plan for Staff Employees, almost 76 percent of the staff work force in the service and maintenance category, which includes housekeepers, are black.

All UNC employees other than faculty members are defined as staff members. In the next-highest staff category, skilled crafts, 17 percent of employees are black, while almost 83 percent are white. The skilled-craft category includes those in occupations such as carpenters, electricians and type-setters.

Jack Stone, UNC director of employment, said the University employed blacks in all job categories. "There are more black people in other jobs on campus than there are in housekeeping."

UNC employs 1,423 black staff members of a total of 5,741. Of the total staff employees, 591 are classified in the service and maintenance occupation category.

Stone said the University had a legal obligation to ensure that the applicant pool for staff positions was representative of the demography of the surrounding area.

"For example, we as a federal contractor must demonstrate our commitment to affirmative action," he said. "We are to make good-faith efforts in terms of having a work force, by job category, that is representative of the labor market."

Stone added that the pay grades for UNC staff were assigned according to the responsibility involved in the job, not according to the job classification.

"It's a misnomer to assume that be-

cause you are in this category, you are the lowest paid," he said.

According to the UNC's Affirmative Action Plan, the executive administrative and managerial category includes occupations with salary grades ranging from 62 to 84, the highest grade. The service and maintenance category, which includes housekeepers, includes salary grades ranging from 50, the lowest pay grade, to 67.

Labor organizers across the state have said the UNC Housekeepers Association also has had implications for other university employees and public workers.

Ray Euruqhurt, a Durham city worker and a member of the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, said UNC Housekeepers had been communicating with other state workers, and housekeepers and state workers were learning from each other's experiences.

"We have been building a North Carolina public employees network or employees assembly, and the housekeepers have participated in that," he said. "That's where we try to connect all public employees, whether they work for the state, county or municipalities, to come together to share stories, share resources and to see how far they are along in getting established in the

workplace. The housekeepers have been a part of that movement and certainly had an impact on and encouraged people about their strength and perseverance.

"The student government at CHHS passed a bill earlier this year that stated their support for sexual orientation education in the high school."

The CHHS student government also submitted a list of more than 500 student names who supported sexual orientation education to the Chapel Hill-Carrboro school board.

Touw said he was pleased with the committee's accomplishments and with the results of the mission statement.

"We wanted to accomplish something that was very clear," Touw said. "Something that everyone could understand and live with. Homosexuality is a difficult issue, and things are changing."

"But not everyone is ready for that change. We want to people to know that everyone ought to respect each other, regardless of their behavior."

MULTICULTURAL
FROM PAGE 3

ting people to accept homosexuality as a lifestyle," Alexander said. "To me, there is a big difference between tolerance and acceptance. I can tolerate homosexuality, but I cannot stand to have somebody make me accept it."

But Jones said the multicultural plan should be used as a vehicle to celebrate diversity. "To me, homosexuality is a lifestyle. I would rather celebrate diversity. I don't think it's right to exclude sexual orientation from the mission statement."

Many members of the opposition argue that homosexuality is not a culture. "The school system has not answered the question yet that asks if homosexuality is a culture," Alexander said. "The issue still is being discussed."

Jones said homosexuality should be taught, regardless of the definition.

"I take the broader view of the definition of multiculturalism," Jones said. "We want people to know that there is much more to cultures than what the strict definition states."

Touw said he fully supported sexual orientation education in the school system. "I feel that sexual orientation needs to be included," Touw said. "The school

board has said that sexual orientation will be included with the plan, but we need to work out the presentation of homosexuality so that it will not offend people's religion or culture."

Alexander agrees that tolerance should be taught in the school district and suggested that a tolerance plan would solve the system's problems.

"Children should be taught not to tease homosexuals, just like they are told not to tease fat or handicapped people," Alexander said. "Tolerance needs to be taught. We really need to sit down and write a tolerance policy."

Touw said the multicultural education plan was aimed more at teachers than at students, but added that student involvement in the process had been remarkable.

"We currently have three high school students on the committee," Touw said.

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