

Lebanon seen as key to peace

By CHUCK BURNS
Staff Writer

The possibility for peace in the Middle East may hinge upon settling the conflict in Lebanon between Christian rightists and Moslem militia, according to two speakers of a discussion on "The Lebanese Civil War in Perspective" Monday at UNC.

Nafhat Nasr, professor of International Relations at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, said Israel could use the Lebanese conflict to destroy the peace agreements with Egypt.

"Israel wants through its intervention in the Lebanese civil war to develop and maintain a process to disrupt the Camp David accords if necessary," he said. "Israel had always wanted to find a loophole to intervene in Lebanon, but before the civil war found it extremely difficult to do so," he said.

He also said the breakdown in Lebanon reinforces the Israeli claim that minority states are the rule rather than the exception in that region of the world.

Former ambassador William Dale spoke about the U.S. position and attitudes toward Lebanon. He said the United States always has supported the Lebanese government.

Dale said U.S. policy towards Lebanon did not change because of the influx of Palestinians into that country after the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, or because of the 1975 revolution. He added, however, that reforms are needed to reflect the changes in population between Christians and Moslems in order to avoid further conflict.

Nasr also cited the influx of Palestinians and the revival of Islam as factors causing conflict between Christians and Moslems.

"The Arabs suddenly developed a feeling of influence...and the Christians became fearful of their future. Then they began to think in terms of partitioning the country."

Dale said the United States would do everything possible to maintain the territorial integrity of Lebanon. He said one of the reasons the State Department was



William Dale

accepting a Syrian peacekeeping force in Lebanon was to keep the country from splitting into Christian and Moslem factions.

Oil well contained after nine-month effort

MEXICO CITY (AP)—After a nine-month effort, engineers finally capped an oil well in the Gulf of Mexico that had fouled beaches in southern Texas, Mexican officials said Monday.

A spokesman for Pemex, the government petroleum monopoly, said engineers plugged Ixtoc 1, the runaway oil well 50 miles offshore, that had spewed more than 3.1 million barrels of crude oil since blowing up June 3—the most oil in a spill in history.

Initially, Ixtoc 1 spewed 30,000 barrels of oil and billows of natural gas a day. About half of it was burned off, but the rest spread out—despite efforts to collect it with flotation collars—and much of it reached beaches in southern Texas.

The flow was reduced to negligible

amounts March 18 by pumping sea water, mud and thickening substances through two directional wells drilled over a period of months. Capping operations started last Friday.

The Pemex spokesman said a third and final cement plug was placed into the well shortly before midnight Sunday.

"Thus ended the life of the test well that permitted discovery of one of the richest offshore oil deposits," said a statement read by the Pemex spokesman.

Ixtoc 1 exploded and went out of control at a depth of 6,207 feet below the seabed, uncovering a deposit in the Bay of Campeche that Pemex estimated contains at least 800 million barrels of crude oil.

A drill-bit collar dropped several

hundred feet, cracking the floor under which lay huge quantities of oil and gas, and setting off the explosion and fire that wrecked a \$22 million drilling platform under rental by Pemex from a Texas company. The 64 men on the offshore platform at the time were evacuated unharmed.

Four months later, engineers managed to reduce the flow by approximately half, pumping in canvas plugs and tennis-size lead and steel balls at high pressure, while two platforms nearby started drilling "relief" wells to intercept the rogue well at the base.

A further effort to cap the well by lowering a huge steel funnel to collect the flow at the wellhead failed, mostly because of the debris and twisted steel

lying along the bottom of the ocean. Meanwhile, an explosion and fire scared an offshore drilling platform in the Gulf of Mexico early Monday, killing two men, injuring 29 and leaving four persons missing, officials said.

The rig, drilling a gas well about 100 miles off the upper Texas coast, erupted into flames in the pre-dawn hours, sending men in the crew of 41 scurrying for safety. Only six escaped injury.

The Coast Guard in Galveston, Texas, said a fixed wing aircraft, a helicopter and the cutter Point Monroe were searching for the missing crewmen.

Wild well fighter Red Adair put a crew on a nearby rig to assess the damage and determine how best to put out the raging fire.

News In Brief

Condominium decision prompts suit

Graham Court Associates of Charlotte has filed suit against the town of Chapel Hill challenging the Chapel Hill Town Council's February decision denying a request to convert Graham Court Apartments to condominiums.

The suit was filed last week in Orange County Superior Court. The town has not answered the suit. The council was expected to discuss the Graham Court lawsuit and other suits pending against the town in executive session Monday night.

In February, the Town Council refused to grant a special use permit to Graham Court Associates, who planned to convert their 24 apartment units on McCauley Street to condominiums. Council members said they denied the request to protect the rental housing supply in Chapel Hill.

Poll shows low opinion of Carter plan

NEW YORK (AP)—Americans have a low opinion of President Carter's new anti-inflation program, judging that he is not doing all he can to cure the nation's economic ills, a new poll says.

The public, convinced inflation will continue for years to come, agree with Carter on cutting back on credit card use, but they oppose his oil import fee that will raise the price of gasoline.

Nevertheless, they do not blame Carter for inflation as they wonder just how much any president can do to fight the wage-price spiral.

Twenty-eight percent of those interviewed Thursday and Friday said Carter's new anti-inflation program will be at least moderately successful in curbing inflation. But 35 percent said it will not be successful.

Tape causes embarrassment for Carter

WASHINGTON (AP)—If the Republicans needed any help in lampooning President Carter, they could have gotten it last weekend from none other than Democratic Party headquarters.

Callers who dialed a certain telephone number at the Democratic National Committee heard a recorded spoof of the president, complete with background banjo music, taped excerpts from Carter speeches and at least one raw expletive from a country-rock star at a Carter concert.

Embarrassed Democrats said the message, entitled "Quest for the Presidency 1976," was all a terrible mistake.

It was a party tape, they said, and was being used in a live test of telephone equipment for a dial-in message service at the Democratic National Convention in New York next August.

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Soul

and that the HUD funds were needed to pay off the debts. "HUD guaranteed the loan," he said. Of the more than \$29 million which Soul City has received, McKissick and Diehl said most of the money was not used for the community, but spent for projects in the surrounding area. "Very few of those funds came to the Soul City Co.," McKissick said. He said much of the aid was spent on a regional water system that now serves three counties. "When we came in here, this region was dying from a lack of water," McKissick said.

McKissick also said until recently, Soul City had never defaulted on any of its loans, as other projects around the country had. He said that by not defaulting on loans until federal aid was cut demonstrated Soul City's ability to meet its financial obligations if given federal support. According to HUD officials, Soul City has little to show for its seven year existence. McKissick said there are still fewer than 200 people living at the development and that construction has not been rapid. In addition to Soultex I, the administrative building, there are tennis courts and a swimming pool, but Shaughnessy said such facilities were deceptive. "I thought the swimming pool was frivolous at first, but then one has got to realize that it is the only one in three counties," he said.

McKissick said he was confident about the future growth of Soul City, and said growth will resume as soon as the disputes with HUD are cleared up.

"The project will continue, though maybe not in the same way," he said. "People are still here. They have not lost faith. This is a successful project, no matter what anybody says."

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stores

items. There's a very basic line of merchandise, though we can change our designs." The success of the sports teams usually determines what new designs and stock the store will order. This method usually proves to be an effective one, though in some cases what is anticipated and what actually happens are quite different. "When we were up against Marquette for the NCAA championship, we ordered shirts, bumper stickers, and 2,500 posters," Freed said. "State made \$150,000 to \$200,000 when they won before, and we anticipated the same amount of sales." When UNC lost that game, the "number one" had to be eliminated from the designs for the posters and bumper stickers. "Five thousand shirts were canceled," Freed said. With its present stock of Carolina items—from baby bottles to pendants—the store attracts both UNC students and visitors. To attract an even greater clientele, the Student Stores should perhaps consider selling UNC diplomas. Now that would be a money-maker.

business

students would be better than now," said Gary Bowers, a senior accounting major. Rankin Harris, a University Placement Center counselor, attributes the growth of business majors to students' beliefs that a degree in business makes them more marketable. If business school officials decide not to reduce the number of students enrolled in the school, they could also bring down the faculty-student ratio by reducing the number of hours a student is required to have to major in business and/or the number of courses a student is allowed to take in business, Evans said. The easiest solution to the problem would be to allow the business school to hire more faculty, Elvers said. But that would only be possible if budgeted enrollment for the school was increased or some UNC faculty members resigned or retired, Elvers said. However, projections from the provost's office indicate only a very slight increase in budgeted enrollment through 1982, and since the business school received four new faculty positions last year, its chances of getting any more faculty members are slim. Other possible directions the school could take would be to raise admission standards or offer more courses that are exclusively for non-majors, Elvers said. "A high student-faculty ratio is a burdensome problem for both students and faculty," Elvers said, "and we are exploring every measure available to correct the situation."

aid

employment to the control of the student aid office. Complicating the report's data even more is the inclusion of private donations over which the student aid office has no control. For example, the report contains statistics on awards made by the Morehead Foundation, which in 1978-79 gave scholarships to 39 men and 22 women. The selection process for Morehead scholars which Mehane Pritchett, executive director of the foundation, outlined Monday shows the difficulty in identifying reasons for the disparity in financial aid between men and women at UNC. After individual high schools make recommendations, Pritchett said, candidates are reviewed by county, district and central selection committees before awards are made. And because the foundation is private and does not receive funds from the federal government, it is not subject to affirmative action guidelines which direct that discrimination on the basis of sex is illegal. Pritchett said the foundation constantly is trying to improve its program and the trustees will take into account recommendations made by the Committee on the Status of Women. It is ironic that a controversy exists because both Geer and members of the Committee on the Status of Women seem to want the same thing—an equitable distribution of student financial aid. Both parties have expressed fear that qualified women may be discouraged from applying to UNC. Geer says the report's implication of a discriminatory student aid office will deter applicants; committee members say an unnecessary controversy will do the same.

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