

## World and Nation

# Grand jury indicts Poindexter, North

**From Associated Press reports**  
**WASHINGTON** — A federal grand jury today indicted former national security adviser John Poindexter, Lt. Col. Oliver North and two arms dealers on conspiracy charges in the diversion of Iranian arms sales profits to the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

The long-awaited 23-count indictment — which also named retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard Secord and his business partner, Albert Hakim — culminated a 14-month grand jury investigation into the arms-for-

hostages deals with Iran and the diversion of profits to the Nicaraguan rebels at a time when Congress banned direct U.S. military aid to the contras.

North was named in nine counts charging him with obstruction of Congress, making false statements, obstructing the presidential inquiry into the Iran-contra affair in November 1986, and concealing, falsifying and destroying official documents.

counts of obstructing a congressional inquiry and two other counts of false statements.

Hakim and Secord, among other things, were charged with conspiracy to pay illegal gratuities to North and his family to further the sale of arms to Iran so Secord and Hakim "would continue to receive opportunities for substantial revenues and profits" from "lucrative activities referred to them by North and facilitated by him."

The three counts in which all four were charged — conspiracy to defraud the United States and commit offenses against the government, theft of government property and wire fraud arising from the diversion of the arms sale proceeds — carry together maximum penalties of 25 years imprisonment. Each charge carries a maximum fine of \$250,000.

Poindexter was named in two

Each of the obstruction and false statement charges against North and Poindexter carries a five-year sentence and \$250,000 fine. The destruction of documents charge against North carries a three-year term.

# Noriega regime quells takeover attempt

**From Associated Press reports**  
**PANAMA CITY, Panama** — Soldiers loyal to Panama's military strongman, Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, put down an apparent attempt to take over his headquarters and force him from power Wednesday.

Residents of the area near the Panama Defense Force headquarters said they heard heavy shooting inside the walled compound starting at about 8:15 a.m. and continuing for at least half an hour.

"They were kisses," Noriega said

about an hour after the firing ended. He appeared at the top of a stairway on one side of the headquarters building along with members of his high command.

To reporters' shouted questions about what had happened, the general responded: "What happened is that you are visiting me here."

Two Associated Press reporters and a photographer were stopped by soldiers as they approached the headquarters, forced from their car and marched into the compound at gunpoint.

As they were being held inside, they saw at least one officer with his hands behind his head being taken into a barracks behind the headquarters building. But a captain told them the apparent prisoner was simply taking part "in a simulated exercise."

The captain, who declined to identify himself and wore no name tag, said units at the headquarters periodically conduct training exercises aimed at halting coup attempts.

"Everything is normal," he said.

It was not known if Noriega was inside the compound during the

shooting. Telephone calls to the headquarters went unanswered.

Hundreds of soldiers in battle gear surrounded the headquarters, located in one of the older sections of Panama City. Residents were kept at least a block away from the compound.

Reports said a coup attempt was led by the 3rd Infantry Company of the 5th Battalion from Chiriqui Province, bordering Panama's frontier with Costa Rica. The light infantry company is known as the "Diablos Rojos," or Red Devils.

# Group marks anniversary of journalist's kidnapping

**From Associated Press reports**  
**LORAIN, Ohio** — A small group of people dedicated to Terry Anderson's release from captivity in Lebanon hoisted an American flag and tied a yellow ribbon to the flagpole at City Hall on Wednesday to mark the third anniversary of the capture of Anderson, who was born in Lorain.

Anderson, 40, chief Middle East correspondent for The Associated Press, was abducted March 16, 1985. He is the longest-held of 22 foreign hostages in Lebanon. There has been no word of him for three months.

## News in Brief

**Shamir rejects peace plan**  
**WASHINGTON** — President Reagan said Wednesday he will not revise or abandon an American plan for Mideast peace talks even though Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir apparently rejected the plan.

Reagan said Shamir did not specifically say no to an international peace conference demanded by Jordan's King Hussein with U.S. support.

However, Shamir made it clear that he rejected the idea. "I have strong reservations concerning the proposed international conference, which in my view is not conducive to peace," he told reporters.

**Carlucci-Yazov talks friendly**  
**BERN, Switzerland** — U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci and Soviet Defense Minister Dmitri Yazov today held the first such high-level military talks in an atmosphere characterized as friendly and non-pressured.

The two discussed the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, implementation of the treaty to eliminate medium-range superpower nuclear missiles, and the size of the respective armed forces, said

# Nicaraguans invade Honduras; Reagan considers military options

**From Associated Press reports**  
**WASHINGTON** — The White House said today it was considering "everything . . . short of invasion" after national security officials met to discuss a Nicaraguan attack on contra rebel positions in neighboring Honduras.

Presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said the Nicaraguan moves amounted to a "very serious breach of regional borders."

He said 1,500 Nicaraguan troops were already inside Honduras and an additional 4,500 appeared to be in a staging area to cross the border.

President Reagan may send up to 4,000 troops from the Army's 82nd Airborne Division to southern Honduras to counter the reported incursion of Nicaraguan forces, administration officials said Wednesday.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, said the U.S. forces would

not engage in combat with the leftist Sandinista troops, but instead would be part of a broader strategy designed to encourage their withdrawal from Honduras.

At the White House, presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said, "The matter is still under discussion. The president reserves all his options at this point."

A series of national security meetings had been held over the last 24 hours, Fitzwater said, and "all

options are under consideration. At this moment, everything is being considered short of (U.S.) invasion."

Reagan himself told reporters "obviously we're concerned" about the incursion reports — confirmed by the Honduran ambassador to the United States and denied by Nicaragua. But he also sidestepped questions about possible use of U.S. military forces.

CBS News reported that Reagan already had decided to send 2,000

troops, probably from the 82nd Airborne, to Honduras in a non-combat role as a show of force to the Sandinistas and a sign of support to Honduras.

Fitzwater met with reporters one day after Reagan met with Democratic and Republican congressional leaders to discuss a new humanitarian aid package for the contra rebels.

Today, he said, "The situation has changed."

this operation.

"In the last several hours, the United States government has been in contact with the presidents of the other three democratic governments in the region," he said. "We've had discussions concerning their response to this incursion and its meaning for the Guatemala peace plan."

"The United States government today is examining its options," he said.

When word of the Sandinista operation came Monday night, Democratic sources in Congress portrayed it as a Nicaraguan attempt to strengthen their position in advance of cease-fire talks with the contras, scheduled to begin Monday.

House Majority Leader Thomas Foley, D-Wash., acknowledged that "there is some military activity" underway but he declined to elaborate.

A Democratic congressional source said, "We don't know their intentions and they (the administration) don't know their intentions."

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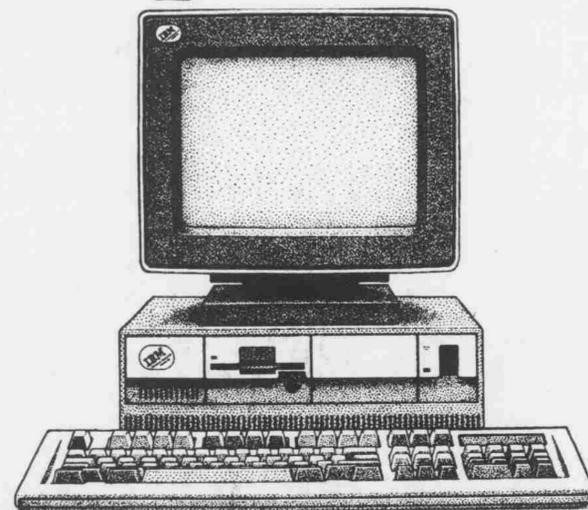
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