

World and Nation

Avril names himself ruler of Haiti

From Associated Press reports
PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Brig. Gen. Prosper Avril, a former military adviser for the Duvalier dictatorship, declared himself president on Sunday after ousting Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy.

In an address on national television early Sunday, Avril said the Presidential Guard toppled Namphy on Saturday because it was "sickened" by the way Namphy governed. Namphy was sent to the neighboring Dominican Republic.

Residents reported hearing heavy gunfire Saturday night near the presidential palace in what appeared to be fighting between military factions.

Frantz Lubin, Haiti's director of information, said soldiers were killed,

but Avril mentioned no casualties. Namphy was head of the armed forces, and Avril was adjutant general of the army.

The coup came less than a week after Hurricane Gilbert, one of the most powerful storms on record, hit Haiti and killed about 30 people. Avril, who was adviser to ousted President Jean-Claude Duvalier, said Haiti will respect all international treaties, liberties and human rights and said that "dialogue will be honored for the sake of national reconciliation."

Lubin said Jean-Claude Paul, commander of the 700-man Dessalines Barracks, was named commander-in-chief of the army, but Avril did not mention Paul. Dessalines is the most feared unit in the

7,000-man army.

Paul, who has been indicted on federal drug trafficking charges in Florida, had been considered the most powerful figure in Haiti after Namphy. It was not known if Paul played a role in the coup, but sources said Namphy and Paul were at odds.

Namphy was arrested and escorted under guard to the airport late Saturday, a government spokesman said.

He arrived in Santo Domingo, the Dominican capital, early Sunday morning on a private plane, said Fabio Herrera Cabral, deputy foreign minister of the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti. He said Namphy, in a military uniform, was accompanied by his wife and daughter.

They were taken to the Dominican Concorde Hotel, where former President Leslie Manigat stayed after Namphy toppled him in a June 17 coup, Herrera Cabral said.

The Dominican Republic said Namphy and Port-au-Prince Mayor Franck Romain were granted political asylum in its embassy in Port-au-Prince.

A group of officers detained Namphy and prevented him from entering the palace at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, said a reliable source who quoted an army major.

Avril reported Namphy's ouster at about 2:30 a.m., several hours after shooting broke out at the main plaza in front of the presidential palace. The gunshots sent dozens of people fleeing for cover.

Pope calls for peace among factions in Mozambique

From Associated Press reports
MAPUTO, Mozambique — Pope John Paul II, his shoulders draped with a leopard skin, Sunday urged the Marxist government and rebels to end their 12-year civil war and called for international aid to rebuild the country.

"I felt the heart of the people bleed," the pope told Roman Catholic bishops, criticized by the government for advocating negotiations with the Mozambique National Resistance rebels.

During the last full day of a 10-day trip through southern Africa, the pope comforted victims whose limbs were blown off by land mines, celebrated Mass at a soccer stadium decked with political banners and was greeted by a boisterous crowd of 5,000 when he blessed an orphanage in a slum of reed huts.

Park fire revives landscape

CASCADE, Idaho — While many lament the fires that have charred much of Yellowstone National Park, a wilderness that went up in smoke just one year ago already displays lush and diverse greenery that attracts herds of elk.

"The fire created more wildlife habitat than anything we could have ever done," Forest Ranger Morris Huffman said of the Deadwood Summit fire in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness in the Boise National Forest.

The fire 250 miles west of Yellowstone burned more than 50,000 acres during the summer of 1987.

Federal land managers, rocked by criticism of their hands-off approach to dealing with naturally sparked wildfires in wilderness areas and parks, point to Deadwood Summit as an example of a good burn.

News in Brief

Presidential successor unknown

BEIRUT, Lebanon — The Christian-led army said Sunday it rejected what it called an attempt by the United States and Syria to name a new Lebanese president.

Christians and Moslems in the Lebanese Parliament, which is empowered to name a successor to President Amin Gemayel before his term ends Friday, have been deadlocked for five weeks over who will be the new head of state.

Disney trip earns Golden Fleece

WASHINGTON — Sen. William Proxmire gave his latest Golden Fleece Award to the Urban Mass Transit Administration (UMTA) for sending government officials to Disney World to learn how to motivate employees, his office said Sunday.

The September installment of the Wisconsin Democrat's monthly award for wasteful federal spending was for a four-day seminar that cost the agency \$68,160.

"UMTA apparently hopes that by sending mass transit officials from around the country to Disney World, Minnie Mouse, Goofy, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs will help them find out how to make transit employees whistle while they work," Proxmire said in a written statement.

Attending the Sept. 6-9 session in Orlando, Fla., were six top UMTA officials — including its chief, Alfred DelliBovi — and 47 local mass transit officials from around the country. The officials paid their own travel expenses, but UMTA picked up the tab for the \$110-per-night hotel rooms and the \$795 program fee for each.

Political overthrow in Burma incites riot

From Associated Press reports

RANGOON, Burma — Armed forces commander Saw Maung ousted the civilian president on Sunday, and thousands of people surged into the streets to demand democracy and protest the fourth change in the government in two months.

Gen. Saw Maung said in a statement broadcast by state Radio Rangoon that he overthrew President Maung Maung to halt economic and social chaos and to hold democratic elections after 26 years of authoritarian rule.

The fate of Maung Maung was not known, and no casualties or arrests

were reported.

Saw Maung, 59, immediately abolished key government institutions and slapped an 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. curfew on the capital, the country's largest city with 2.5 million residents. Public gatherings were banned, but it was not known whether the measures were only for Rangoon or for all of Burma.

Shortly after the 4 p.m. broadcast, thousands poured out of their homes, some bearing spears, knives and homemade crossbows, to protest the new regime. Protesters chopped down trees and threw them along with stones and bricks across roads to block military vehicles.

"I believe the people will rise up again, and this time they are going to be angrier," Burma expert Josef Silverstein of Rutgers University said by telephone. "It's going to be tragic."

But protest organizers persuaded the demonstrators to return home before the curfew began. They were asked to return to the streets Monday for further unspecified actions.

On Saturday, soldiers fired into a crowd and wounded two people during confrontations with protesters demanding an end to the repressive rule by Burma Socialist Program Party, the sole legal party.

Protests since July have forced the resignation of two leaders, and more recent strikes, demonstrations, looting and lawlessness have pushed the nation to the verge of anarchy. About 300,000 people marched Sunday in Rangoon before the coup was announced; other groups staged hunger strikes.

Saw Maung, who identified himself as chairman of the Peace Restoration Committee, has been defense minister since July. He is widely regarded as a hard-line officer and a right-hand man of the toppled President Sein Lwin.

Sein Lwin, whom demonstrators

called the most hated man in Burma, resigned Aug. 12 after a week of bloody clashes between troops and unarmed protesters left 112 dead by the government's count.

A later broadcast named the other 18 military officers in the committee, including the army, navy and air force commanders, eight of Burma's nine regional army commanders and the unpopular military intelligence chief, Col. Khin Nyunt.

The broadcast said all government and state bodies were dissolved, including local administrations. Striking government workers were told to return to work by Sept. 26 or face dismissal.

The initial broadcast, preceded by martial music, said the military took over state authority "to curb further deterioration of the general situation of the country."

It also said the election supervision commission formed by Maung Maung's government would be retained.

Maung Maung, a Western-educated lawyer, on Aug. 19 became the nation's first civilian leader since the 1962 military coup that installed the Burma Socialist Program Party.

Maung Maung bowed to protests and offered general elections under a multiparty system, but demonstrators say they do not trust the party and demand formation of an interim government to conduct the polling. The government gave no indication it would agree to this.

For the Record

In Tuesday's story, "Program to build relations between students, faculty," the number of monthly meetings in the Faculty Fellows

program was incorrect. The program will meet monthly or bi-monthly. The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

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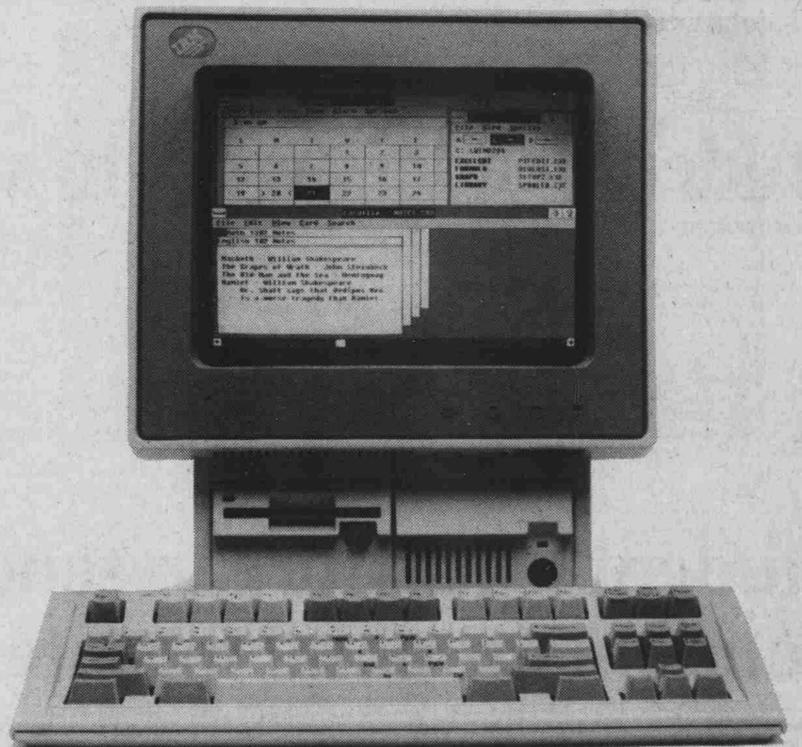
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