

World and Nation

Meese charged with ethics violations

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department concluded Tuesday that former Attorney General Edwin Meese violated federal ethics standards five times in six years and that his relationship with E. Robert Wallach "dictated government action" in major cases.

Meese's assistance to scandal-plagued Wedtech Corp. and his efforts on behalf of a proposed Mideast oil pipeline involved "three instances in which friendship" between him and Wallach caused federal actions, said the report by the department's Office of Professional Responsibility.

Wallach, who collected \$1.3 million from Wedtech from 1982 to 1986,

is awaiting trial in New York on racketeering and other charges. He is accused of peddling his Meese connection.

"As a direct result of the preferential, improper efforts of Meese and his staff, the Army" awarded a \$32 million engine-building contract to Wedtech in 1982 while Meese was counselor to President Reagan, said the ethics report on Meese.

Meese also violated ethics requirements, the report said, by failing to report a stock sale on his 1985 federal tax return and by participating in a Justice Department decision favoring the regional Bell telephone companies in which he held \$14,000 in stock at the time.

If Meese were still attorney general,

"we would recommend (to the next ranking department official) that the president take disciplinary action," the report concluded.

A department statement said no further action against Meese is warranted because he is no longer a government employee.

Independent counsel James McKay decided last summer not to prosecute Meese, although McKay concluded Meese had probably twice violated conflict-of-interest laws in connection with his Bell holdings and had violated tax laws in connection with failing to report the stock sales.

McKay's report "far from vindicates Mr. Meese," the new Justice Department report said. "It details conduct which should not be toler-

ated of any government employee, especially not the attorney general of the United States."

Attorney General Dick Thornburgh disagreed with one aspect of the report, saying Meese's failure to dispose of his financial interest in the regional Bell companies resulted from a failure to get adequate legal advice rather than from intent to violate ethics standards.

At the White House, spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said President Reagan believes "this report was unnecessary, partly because Meese has not been in the office for some time and partly because it was unwarranted."

Fitzwater said Reagan believes his longtime friend did nothing wrong.

Israeli soldiers object to treatment of Palestinians

From Associated Press reports

NABLUS, Occupied West Bank — Angry Israeli soldiers told Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on Tuesday that they were being robbed of their values because they had been forced to mistreat Palestinians.

One after another, eight reservists rose to confront Shamir as he toured Nablus and visited an army tent camp outside the West Bank's largest city, which has 120,000 Arab residents.

The soldiers, in their late 20s and early 30s, said they had beaten innocent people to instill fear in them and enforce order. Several said they were ashamed of their actions and had difficulty facing friends and loved ones when they returned home.

"The basic values we grew up on changed whether we like it or not during our service here. Every day children are being hurt," said Capt. Ronnie Carmeli.

Biological weapons suspected

SAN FRANCISCO — A growing number of countries are suspected of developing biological weapons, and existing accords are inadequate to protect against further spread, researchers said Tuesday.

The use of biological weapons — deadly viruses and bacteria — is governed by two treaties: The post-World War II Geneva protocol and the biological weapons convention of 1972.

News in Brief

Citing Pentagon statistics, Barbara Rosenberg of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York said 10 nations are now suspected of developing biological weapons, up from four in 1972 when the biological weapons treaty was adopted.

"Something has to be done to assure the international community that the treaty is not breaking down," she said at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Gunman kills 6 students

STOCKTON, Calif. — A man fired several dozen shots from an automatic rifle in an elementary school Tuesday, killing six children, wounding at least 35 other people and then shooting himself in the head, authorities said.

"We have at least one suspect in custody who has a gunshot wound to the head," Deputy Police Chief Ralph Tribble said.

Bruce Fernandez, spokesman for the county office of emergency services, said six people had died.

Ellen Rich of St. Joseph's Medical Center said eight victims were being treated there and said the total, including those being treated at other hospitals, was 35 wounded.

Riots follow shooting incident in Miami

From Associated Press reports

MIAMI — Schools closed and police cordoned off a 130-block area Tuesday, warning motorists they could not be protected, following a night of rioting sparked by the fatal shooting of an unarmed black motorcyclist by a white policeman.

As city leaders sought to restore calm in the predominantly black Overtown neighborhood, a white man in a luxury car reportedly fired into a crowd of blacks in the area Tuesday afternoon, wounding one person before driving away.

"All I know is that one person was hit in the side," police spokesman Angelo Bitsis said, adding that the unidentified victim was hospitalized in fair condition.

The FBI announced it would open an investigation into Monday night's shooting to determine whether there were civil rights violations, Miami bureau spokesman George Kiszynski said.

"I can't tell you how long it will take, but it will be an extensive and thorough investigation and it will be done as promptly as possible," Kiszynski said.

Mayor Xavier Suarez, who was one of the targets of rock and bottle throwing Monday night, spent Tuesday meeting with black leaders and residents of Overtown, a neighborhood of rundown, low-slung apartment buildings and trash-strewn vacant lots, just north of downtown Miami.

"People are angry; people want a full explanation of what happened," said Suarez, who also expressed particular concern about the damage to Miami's image less than a week before the city hosts the Super Bowl.

At least two buildings and three cars were burned in the rioting, which broke out about two hours after a white police officer shot and killed a black motorcyclist being chased for a traffic infraction. No damage estimates were available.

Authorities said seven civilians and three of the 280 police officers called to the scene were injured.

The disturbance recalled the bloody 1980 riot in adjacent Liberty City that also was linked to the death of a black motorcyclist at the hands

of white officers. A similar disturbance broke out in 1982 when a black man was shot to death only a few blocks from where the latest incident began.

On Monday, Clement Lloyd, 23, died following a police chase that started just after 6 p.m.

Bitsis said Lloyd and a passenger on his motorcycle sped past a police officer, who gave chase. Then the motorcycle headed down a street where another officer, William Luzano, was taking a report from a crime victim.

"He heard the radio transmission and saw the motorcycle coming in his direction," Bitsis said. "As the motorcycle either approached him or went by him, he fired his shot."

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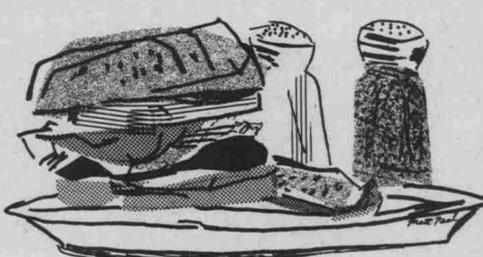
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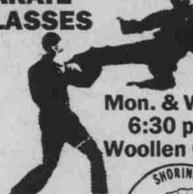
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