

World and Nation

Bush sends officials to oil spill site

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — President Bush dispatched three high-ranking officials to Alaska on Tuesday to "take a hard look" at the nation's worst oil spill and judge whether the government should take over the massive cleanup job from Exxon.

With an oil slick spread across 100 square miles of Prince William Sound, Bush said the first priority is to protect the environment and "clean up this disaster." Then the government will decide on any penalties for the spill.

"This is a matter of tremendous concern to Alaskans and, indeed, to all of us," Bush said. "The conservation side is important. The energy side is important."

Bush was briefed on the disaster by Transportation Secretary Samuel

Skinner. Environmental Protection Agency chief William Reilly and Coast Guard Commandant Paul Yost. Immediately after the meeting in the Oval Office, they left for Alaska.

The oil spilled into the water after the 987-foot tanker Exxon Valdez, trying to avoid ice, rammed a reef and ran aground Friday. Fewer than 135,000 gallons of oil have been recovered from the 10.1 million-gallon spill.

The ship's captain, Joseph Hazelwood, was not on bridge when the accident occurred. Instead, the third mate, who did not have proper certification, was in charge, according to Exxon Shipping Co., which owns the tanker.

The harbor reopened Tuesday, tankers anchored offshore churned in

to pick up oil, and winds which had been moving the oil died down. The port had been closed since the accident, reducing the flow of oil through the Alaska pipeline. Coast Guard Lt. Ed Wieliczkiewicz said the oil slick spreading across the sound was clear of shipping lanes.

Commenting on reports that Hazelwood had a drinking problem, National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Bill Woody said, "We look at all areas in an investigation and that's an area of concern."

Bush and Skinner hinted Exxon could face big civil penalties.

"There are a variety of legal options that are available. But right now the primary consideration is to make sure everything possible is being done," Skinner said.

"And the president has directed us

to assess that, that oil is being contained and that the oil that remains on the tanker is being offloaded as quick as possible. That is our primary objective as mandated by the president . . . We'll then later on worry about who is going to pay for the damage.

"But there are significant penalties and provisions for reimbursement," Skinner said.

Bush said, "the thing is to get it cleaned up, to protect the very precious environment out there, to make sure everything is being done to clean up this disaster. And then we'll have all these penalties and all that later on."

At this point, Exxon is in charge of the cleanup in one of the world's most environmentally sensitive and biologically rich marine waters.

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Jackson

hard to achieve it, her friends said. "If she feels something is right and she wants it, she'll get it," said Pam Palladino, a junior biology major from Lancaster, S.C.

Watkins said, "Any time she does something she does it right, even if it means staying up 'till three or four in the morning."

A sincere desire to help others has also emerged through her work, Jackson said in an interview Monday. "The things I am able to do well are the things that help people. They are the things I get excited about. It's a natural inclination or role."

Watkins said, "She is definitely a caring person — about people, about treating people fairly and about doing

the right thing."

Jackson's volunteer work, including two summers with retarded children in Georgia, shows her desire to help others, he said. "She really enjoys that kind of work. She developed a lot of good friendships through that."

Jackson's most gratifying RHA experiences have come from helping others, she said. "The best part was getting to be friends with those people and to work with them and to help work things out."

"It's neat to have people come and ask for my help, to actually have a conflict and think that I could solve it."

Another key to Jackson's success-

ful RHA leadership is a friendly, people-oriented style, friends and family say.

Her father said, "She's not flashy, but extremely dependable and sincere in dealing with people. She's not a political person; she's a people person."

"I never have known Liz to be very shy," said Palladino, who has worked with Jackson in RHA and worked on Jackson's presidential campaign. "If there is someone she wants to meet she makes a point of meeting them."

Besides spending time with Watkins, Jackson said she liked to spend time with people. "I'd rather sit down and talk to somebody rather than going out and partying."

Being personable is an important quality for RHA members, Jackson said. "I think that's a big part of working a floor — to be able to convey to new people that this is an exciting thing and that it's a worthwhile activity, not just a line on your resume."

Part of Jackson's friendly style is knowing when to admit fault, Palladino said. "She's considerate. If she knows she's done something wrong, she apologizes if she's overstepped her bounds."

Jackson said she has gained self-

confidence and emotional strength from working in RHA government. Because she was never involved in high school student government, she hesitated at first when encouraged to run for Morrison Residence Hall floor president as a freshman.

"But once you sit one-on-one with somebody and they say, 'Okay, I really think you can do this, and this is what you need to do,' you start thinking, 'Hey, I can see myself doing that well,'" Jackson said.

"I'm able to feel like if I can do something, I can do it well. It's good to know that whether I do well in class or not I can still do something well."

Palladino said she has also noticed a change in Jackson. "She has definitely grown through RHA a great deal, especially over the last year."

Jackson's father agreed. "She seems to have grown a lot in confidence over the years. It's from accepting responsibility and seeing what you can do with it."

Jackson said she also enjoys the day-to-day work of RHA. Dealing with the daily operation of the office, working with administrators and finding out she "isn't allergic to numbers" sometimes makes her wonder if she would like a career in business, although she will probably stay with physical therapy.

Jackson said she might like to use her managerial and organizational skills to work for an organization such as the Red Cross or the United Way.

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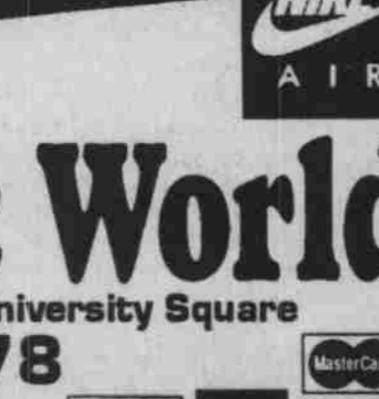
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Iraq's compensation plan for Stark attack called fair

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials said Tuesday that Iraq's agreement to pay \$27.35 million to the families of the 37 sailors killed in the attack on the USS Stark is a satisfactory and fair settlement, but it is unclear when Iraq will make the payments.

The agreement, formally announced by the State Department, represents about 92 percent of the \$29.6 million the United States had requested for the families of those who died in Iraq's unprovoked missile attack on the Stark in 1987.

Bush administration officials privately described the agreement as "satisfactory" and a "fair settlement." The sources, speaking on condition they not be identified, also said it remained unclear when Iraq would hand over the money. They said Iraqi officials had offered the settlement in a take-it-or-leave-it manner.

The officials said Americans who were in Baghdad to settle the matter were called in to see Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz on Monday "and told that this was what (Iraqi) President (Saddam) Hussein had decided."

Meese testifies in North trial

WASHINGTON — Former Attorney General Edwin Meese testified Tuesday that Oliver North assured him a plan for using Iran arms sales profits to aid the Contras was Israel's and U.S. involvement was "none."

Meese, testifying as a prosecution witness at North's trial in federal court, said North appeared surprised when Meese confronted him with a memo outlining the plan. The memo was found by Meese's aides when they searched North's White House office on Nov. 22, 1986, the day after North, his secretary Fawn Hall and an aide had shredded massive amounts of documents.

"I believe he asked where we had gotten the memo," Meese said.

News in Brief

A former North deputy told the jury earlier that the National Security Council aide still carried sensitive documents to a shredder even as Meese's investigators were taking a lunch break from searching his office.

Marine Lt. Col. Robert Earl said North slipped through an alleyway to a White House shredder that day. Earl said he believed the papers North took virtually from under the investigators' noses were "documents that should have been sanitized but weren't."

Ueberroth may bid for Eastern

NEW YORK — Texas Air Corp. directors met Tuesday and were expected to consider offers to buy strike-crippled Eastern Airlines, sources said.

Peter Ueberroth, whose term as baseball commissioner ends Saturday, may offer \$300 million to \$500 million during the meeting that ends Wednesday, said baseball and airline industry sources. Takeover specialist Carl Icahn hoped union concessions would persuade Eastern creditors to let him take control.

Sources said substantive discussions in the regularly scheduled meetings probably wouldn't get under way until Wednesday. Texas Air spokesman Art Kent in Houston said the company wouldn't comment on whether a meeting was being held.

"There are a lot of those rumors going around," Kent said.

Indications of Ueberroth's interests came as Icahn, owner and chairman of Trans World Airlines Inc., resumed talks with Eastern's unions about a possible takeover. Icahn hoped to win concessions, said Brian Freeman, an investment banker with close ties to the Machinists union.

Counselor

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The office's influence on campus has not been reduced because of last year's proposal, but its power depends on the role the office's staff chooses to play, Crosland said. "If you had a passive administration, that would be the attitude that would prevail on campus."

Fake IDs

year, Wasiolek said. The students involved were put on probation and given community service hours, she said.

A criminal offense will be placed on the students' police records, and the offense will be noticed when they seek employment, O'Brien said.

"It's more than just trying to have a good time. It's a very big problem. Sometimes I think half of the students at Duke have fraudulent IDs."

The problem stems from the legal

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Indians

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to them.

"Our main problem, though, is recruitment and retention. We have started the North Carolina Native American Council on Higher Education, an organization created to get more Indian students in the UNC system."

Native American Culture Week week will last until April 1. For a list of events, contact the Carolina Indian Circle at the Campus Y.

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