

World and Nation

Military barred from fighting drugs

From Associated Press reports
WASHINGTON — The idea of deploying America's military forces on the nation's streets to battle the scourge of drugs may be fodder for headlines and congressional demands, but Pentagon officials point out there are strict legal limitations on such a thing.

"It just makes hair stand on end here," said one senior Pentagon official. "Our primary mission is to prepare for any possible military threat — not to be a national police force ... There's been a lot of very loose talk about expanding our role."

To counter assumptions that U.S. troops could be used to patrol the streets and nab drug dealers, Pentagon officials point to a little-known law that prevents active duty troops from acting as law enforcement officers within the nation's borders.

It is known as the Posse Comitatus Act and was passed by Congress in 1878 as a post-Civil War reaction to the use of federal troops in enforcing the Reconstruction Acts.

Because it deals with the enforce-

ment of domestic law, the law does not affect U.S. forces overseas.

David Super, a Defense Department spokesman, said that while it may be enticing to think of the nation's military might as a machine to be turned against drug kingpins, the ramifications have to be taken into account.

"It's really a rather profound idea when you think about it," he said. "Posse Comitatus is a reflection on our free society."

"There are a lot of countries where the military is used to police the streets, but they aren't much fun to live in."

According to a common legal definition, the term "posse comitatus" means the power of the county and refers to the authority of the sheriff to call the male population above the age of 15 to his aid in capturing escaped felons and keeping the peace.

In effect, the law is interpreted to mean that military forces — the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines and their respective reserves — may be used in a support role for the battle against drugs, such as aiding in surveillance or interdiction efforts.

But they are prevented from adopting the role of law enforcement officials, tasks assigned to the local police or other officials, such as from the Drug Enforcement Agency.

For example, the military may provide boats to help interdict drug traffickers, or radar surveillance to spot a drug-transporting plane, but it is up to civilian law enforcement officials to seize evidence, make arrests and testify in court.

The law does not affect a state's National Guard when units are under the control of its governor, but the laws in each state vary, said Robert Dunlap, a spokesman for the National Guard Bureau.

The National Guard Bureau is the Defense Department agency that serves as a coordinating body for the Guard forces in the various states.

It is National Guard Bureau policy that its members "not be tasked" with enforcing civil law, officials point out.

"It's important, because we just don't have the training — we're not trained to do police work," Dunlap said.

Dunlap said Guard units have been

involved in helping local officials support drug interdiction efforts since 1977, and since 1983 they have been involved on the federal level.

In fact, the role of the Guard has been expanded in 21 states to allow them to aid customs officials in cargo inspections for illicit drugs, Super said.

"Guardsmen are happy to be involved. ... Guardsmen are all volunteers and part of the community they serve. But our proper role is in support of civilian law enforcement officials," Dunlap said.

Congress has been pressing the Pentagon to become more active on the home front in the war against drugs, despite concerns among the military brass about draining resources from their traditional defense mission.

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney is slated to outline an expanded military role this week. The secretary's plan is not expected to call for an enforcement role for the military, but rather emphasize increased interdiction and radar surveillance methods, among other things.

Hurricane hits Caribbean; 3,000 reported homeless

From Associated Press reports
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Hurricane Hugo lashed the resort islands of the northeastern Caribbean with 140 mph winds Sunday, tearing off roofs, knocking out communications and reportedly leaving 3,000 people homeless.

The region's most powerful storm in a decade then swept toward the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Both governments mobilized the National Guard, and residents rushed for last-minute supplies and taped and boarded windows.

At 3 p.m. EDT, Hugo's center was located near latitude 17 north and longitude 63.6 west, about 185 miles east-southeast of San Juan, said the National Weather Service in Miami.

The storm caused widespread damage early Sunday as it passed near the island of Guadeloupe, where 80 people were reported injured. Damage also was reported on the islands of Martinique, Antigua and Dominica.

The storm was moving at 12 mph and was expected to hit the Virgin Islands on Sunday night and Puerto Rico on Monday morning, the National Weather Service said.

American Airlines suspended all flights to Puerto Rico from the United States from 5:30 p.m. EDT Sunday until 6 p.m. Monday.

Parachutist dies

MELBOURNE, Australia — An experienced sky diver plunged to his death Sunday after his parachute failed to open, police said.

Andrew Scouller, 27, jumped from a twin-engine airplane at Pakenham outside Melbourne, a police spokesman said.

His parachute did not open until moments before he hit the ground. Scouller, a veteran of more than 100 jumps, was one of 10 sky divers to jump from the aircraft. The nine others landed safely.

News in Brief

Feud may get memorial

MATEWAN, W. Va. — The Hatfields and McCoys don't fight anymore and many of them would just as soon forget their ancestors' feud. But some in the community are trying to find a way to commemorate the bloodshed.

"There are a lot of grandsons of Devil Anse (Hatfield) and his brothers around here," said Paul McAllister, director of the new Matewan Development Center. "Most of them are in their 60s, and they're a little bit bitter about the reputations they had to grow up with and live with."

The Matewan Development Center, located in the only three-story building in the town of 800, features a photo display on the massacre and other incidents in the town's history.

It draws a few people a week. McAllister is hoping the National Park Service will help turn Matewan into a tourist attraction. He envisions a museum within 10 years.

It's been 100 years this month since a jury sentenced eight Hatfield clan members to life in prison and ordered a ninth hanged for the slaying of five McCoys, ending the bloodshed in which 10 to 20 people died.

But most participants died of old age. The Hatfields' patriarch, William Anderson "Devil Anse" Hatfield, found religion and gained community respect before he died in 1921 at the age of 83. His grave at Sarah Ann in Logan County is marked by a towering Italian marble sculpture of him.

The leader of the McCoys, Randolph "Old Ran" McCoy, embittered by the deaths of five of his 16 children, moved to town in Pikeville, Ky., dying in 1910 at age 85.

Buried with them are the real reasons behind the feud in the heart of Appalachia.

U.S. faces influx of Soviet emigres

From Associated Press reports
WASHINGTON — Now that the doors of the Soviet Union have opened after 20 years of American knocking, the United States is faced with the dilemma of handling an unprecedented surge of Soviet emigres.

Critics charge the administration's response, as presented this week on Capitol Hill after seven months of deliberations, is inadequate, unimaginative and risks missing a historic opportunity.

Some say the U.S. government could learn a thing or two from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's open door policy.

The administration argues it is doing its best in the face of shrinking budgets and the problem of dealing with 14 million refugees worldwide, many of

whom would like to move to the United States.

Of the 125,000 refugee slots allocated for fiscal 1990 — which starts Oct. 1 — 50,000 will be reserved for Soviet applicants, most of whom are Jewish.

The administration predicts as many as 150,000 Soviet Jews will apply for refugee status in fiscal 1990. Jewish groups say as many as 500,000 Jews may seek to come here in the coming years if the doors remain open, especially in light of rising anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union.

An internal State Department report used by Immigration and Naturalization officers in Moscow concluded that glasnost, with its liberalized rights to free speech and press, has spawned discrimination against Jews through-

out the Soviet Union.

Religious groups and many on Capitol Hill also argue that Gorbachev's reforms and his political future are by no means assured success, and their failure could strand thousands of persecuted people wishing to leave.

"Soviet history has painfully demonstrated that lulls in government repression are usually followed by harsh oppression," said a letter to Congress from World Relief, which represents Evangelical Christians.

The Evangelicals constitute a small percentage of those seeking to come here.

Members of Congress say if tight budgets are the problem keeping more Soviets from coming to the United States, "creative financing" should be considered.

Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, suggested the government help additional refugees by lending them money for their relocation, which would be paid back once they are settled.

"When the faucets start opening ... the United States finds itself totally incapable of dealing with the very policy it is demanding," said Rep. Howard Berman, D-Calif.

The administration agreed. "The United States is to some degree a victim of its own success," said Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger.

But he argued that although the demand for liberalized Soviet emigration was a cornerstone of U.S. policy for nearly 20 years, "never was it said that the U.S. has an obligation to take them all in."

China reprints article seeking expulsion of foreign journalists

From Associated Press reports
BEIJING — China stepped up its campaign against the Western press Sunday, reprinting a 65-year-old commentary calling for the expulsion of all foreign reporters.

Also Sunday, Premier Li Peng told a Japanese delegation that the government would not soon lift martial law in

Beijing because citizens seized many weapons from the army during the June crackdown on pro-democracy protesters.

The official Beijing Daily reprinted on its front page a 1924 essay by Li Dazhao, co-founder of the Chinese Communist Party, saying China was the victim of "journalistic invasion."

The article applauded the expulsion of a British reporter who erroneously reported the death of Sun Yat-sen, the man regarded as the father of modern China. Sun died in 1925.

But Li Dazhao said expelling one reporter was not enough. "The Chinese government ... should expel all foreign reporters, who spread rumors, make

trouble and insult China."

The article was accompanied by another commentary saying the article shows that foreign journalists have been spreading rumors in China for decades.

"The 'press freedoms' of imperialist countries haven't progressed at all," it said.

It said Li Dazhao's writings were

reprinted to show that the "rumor-mongering" of Voice of America, the American government-funded radio station, was not "an accidental mistake."

Voice of America, regarded by its large Chinese audience as one of the few independent sources of informa-

tion available, has been repeatedly attacked by the government for its reporting on the democracy movement.

China ordered seven reporters, including two from VOA, to leave during the crisis in June which led to troops firing on demonstrators, killing hundreds and perhaps thousands.

C-TOPS criticism spurs University investigations

Hix and the other 10 commissioners were told about the unpaid work when they were interviewed and hired in December, he said, but he argued that the unsalaried work was one factor contributing to an overall decline in applications for the position of orientation commissioner.

Hix said he told Wiggins, "If you don't do something next year, you're going to have problems."

Student government's investigation into possible problems with C-TOPS was spurred by both the complaints of orientation commissioners and those of freshmen who approached Davis in

the Pit during orientation.

"While I was there in the Pit, several freshmen came up to me," Davis said. "I asked if they were having a good time. They said, 'No.' They said, 'If I had come to orientation before I came to Carolina, I never would have come here.'"

Davis said several students were unhappy because they had come to orientation to take a math placement exam that was never given.

Hunter said that at the first C-TOPS on June 2, the graduate student hired to coordinate administration of the test had been ill the week before and had

not examined his package of materials. The student had assumed he had everything needed to administer the test, but discovered upon arrival that he didn't have enough answer sheets.

Hunter said that most students came to C-TOPS just to take placement tests and that many who arrived that day were from out of state. "I'm sure that any student (who couldn't take the test) that Gene ran into that day may have been upset."

Wiggins said: "I'm sorry that Gene only ran into those students in terms of evaluating the effectiveness of the C-TOPS program. You would expect with

over 3,000 freshmen, you will find a few who would find it didn't meet their needs. But most find it excellent."

Evaluation forms filled out by freshmen and their parents at the end of each of the nine C-TOPS sessions in June and July gave the program "very high marks" last year, she said.

Hunter said this year's evaluations, which her office is now collating, are also overwhelmingly positive.

"Most of them say the program met their needs, and they were looking forward to coming back in the fall."

Ruffin Hall, director of academic affairs for the executive branch of stu-

dent government, said he had just started his investigation into C-TOPS. He plans to talk to both this summer's orientation commissioners and those of past summers, as well as Hunter, he said.

Some of his suggestions to improve C-TOPS may include a three-hour credit course for commissioners during the spring semester and higher salaries.

"But for now, that's a little ways down the road," Hall said. "At this point, this is just an individual check by me into the problem. I'm simply an outside, unbiased observer trying to help."

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