

U.N. Official Warns National Missile Defense Could Spur Arms Race

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS - U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Monday warned that growing pressure to deploy a national missile defensive umbrella "could well lead to a new arms race."

But Secretary of State Madeleine Albright countered that a way should be found to mount a limited defense against new threats.

Speaking at a conference of dozens of

non-nuclear nations as well as the handful of nuclear-armed states, Annan was responding to those who argue a 1972 treaty signed by the United States and the Soviet Union to ban anti-missile defenses should be overhauled or even scuttled.

Annan referred to the treaty as a cornerstone of strategic stability and called for "great care" before taking steps that "may well reduce, rather than enhance, global security."

The secretary-general made no direct

reference to President Clinton's consideration of a limited anti-missile defense against what administration officials say is a threat of a nuclear missile attack by North Korea and other so-called "rogue states."

But Albright stoutly defended amending the treaty to defend against "at most a few tens of incoming missiles."

"The treaty has been amended before and there is no good reason it cannot be amended again to reflect new threats from third countries," she said.

Later, at a news conference, Albright said North Korea and Iran posed the threats.

She said "there is not enough understanding" of the threats and how the 1972 treaty can be amended to cope with them without harming the accord.

Referring to Annan's views, Albright said "there doesn't need to be a confrontation."

Clinton is expected to urge Russian President Vladimir Putin at their summit in Moscow on June 4-5 to cooperate in

modifying the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

Many conservative Republicans in Congress would go further by scrapping the pact and proceeding with a spaced-based weapons program.

Putin has denounced tinkering with the treaty but in 1997 his presidential predecessor, Boris Yeltsin, agreed to take steps to destroy "strategic nuclear warheads" at a Helsinki, Finland, summit with Clinton.

American and Russian negotiators

opened talks last week in Geneva, Switzerland, on reducing nuclear stockpiles and defending against nuclear attack.

The U.N. conference was called to review a 1968 treaty signed by 187 countries in which non-nuclear states agreed not to try to develop or acquire nuclear weapons on condition the nuclear nations pursue disarmament.

The treaty was extended indefinitely in 1995 with the Clinton administration's strong support.

WRIGHT

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nines, changed into work clothes in and switched back to his nice attire when he clocked out.

"If you had a job, it meant something," Wright said. "When you get to make your own money, that's when you strut your stuff."

Now Wright uses his former childhood stomping ground as an outlet to display his keen fashion sense to the public.

"I have a gift ... for dressin'," Wright said as he walked into Julian's Home, where he was on display - literally.

Larger-than-life pictures of Wright speak to Franklin Street passers-by through the store's windows as the photos hang above wicker furniture.

Wright's high visibility is the reason local artist Artie Dixon chose to feature him in her photography exhibit.

The 39 vivid photographs hang in

Julian's and Julian's Home, a menswear store and the furniture counterpart.

Twenty photos are of Wright and his colorful suits alone in portrait shots, and the other 19 are shots of him at his favorite locales and former workplaces.

The pictures feature him in everything from a brilliant red hat to a light green suit.

But it was the man underneath the suit that kept Dixon interested in the project.

"If he weren't the gentle, selfless person that he is, I would not have been interested in doing the project," Dixon said.

Wright slowly entered the store, and it was not long before his was welcomed by fans and admirers.

A woman came off the street just to tell Wright what she thought of his get-up and pictures.

"You look great in those pictures," she said to Wright before turning to the other older women.

"He's genuine," she continued. "He

has that pizzazz because he stands out from the others."

A handful of older ladies from Dixon's church stood seemingly uninterested in Julian's furniture and more amazed at the subject of Dixon's pictures who had stopped in to visit.

Nearby, two ladies conversed. "I love the way he wears his hat," the shorter lady said.

"Yeah, yeah. Everything matches," the other responded, still eyeing Wright.

"My husband should take a look," the other said.

Even though the women thought he could teach others a thing about fashion, Wright is quick to name style influences from his earlier days.

He dishes out credit to various sources, including God and his mother. "My mother was the best-dressed woman in town," Wright said.

She bought him his first suit at age 8 - a purchase that was a catalyst of his desire to dress.

He also said God knew fashion was right up his alley.

"(Dressing is) one thing the Lord has blessed me with," he said, smiling. "He knows I like to dress."

Now he counts about 23 suits that he can wear on his Franklin Street runway. He shops in stores from Durham to Fayetteville and is always looking to acquire more suits.

But on this particular day, fashion accessories were on his mind.

He stood perched in front of Johnny T-Shirt on Franklin Street admiring a purple umbrella that was tucked under the display of UNC paraphernalia. He proceeded inside to buy it.

"Do you know who I am?" he asked the cashier, pointing in the direction of his display in Julian's before pulling a wrinkled \$20 bill out of a seemingly hidden pocket of his wallet.

This umbrella was worth \$16.99, but to Wright, it was priceless.

He was so impressed with his purchase, he wanted to get back on the

approaching TTA bus to go home to change into the purple ensemble.

"I'm a mean man," he said with a smile as he stared at his new purchase.

Then he rethought this epiphany and started debating whether to wear the white suit or the newly complete purple one the next day.

However, it didn't matter which ensemble Wright chose because people would still react the same way.

"People encourage me and help me to live," he said about what motivated him to go to Franklin Street every day.

Wright said his friends were also affected by the way he dressed.

"I've changed many of my friends - my friends who don't believe in dress-

ing," he said.

Wright said that when he was younger, his buddies didn't enjoy accompanying him out because they would be shown up by his style.

"(One friend) didn't want me to dress because he didn't want to dress," Wright said.

"Young men think I'm the hottest thing in town. They wouldn't wear the clothes I wear, but if they had to walk around with me, they'd change."

But it's hard for him to be incognito on Franklin Street.

"(Girls) gang up on me sometimes," he said about people wanting to take pictures. "They'll put their arms around me in a minute."

But Wright seemed to be surprised by all the hoopla surrounding him.

"I think people are looking for me," he said, later adding, "And if they don't know who I am, they find out."

But the reason Wright "dresses" is simple. He said he placed importance on appearance because it showed a lot about the person beneath the clothes.

"When you dress up, you show people you take care of yourself," he said. "People think clothes don't make you, but they do."

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FIRE

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Other residents at the complex expressed their uneasiness with the wiring in their own apartments.

"There's definitely a defect - you can't really blame it on yourself," said Gerri Suhadolink, who lives at 235 Butler Court. "I was just asking the police that they better come and check (all the apartments). It's really scary."

"I'm going to personally call the fire department to get (the wiring) checked."

Carol de Poix, who also lives at Butler Court, said this was not the first problem with the wiring.

"I've heard its at least the third electrical fire," she said. "You can't blame it on a cigarette or something too close to the stove catching on fire."

The Disaster Action Team of the Orange County Red Cross was dispatched shortly before 11:30 p.m. to bring support items to the firefighters and victims of the fire.

"Some (victims) have places to go for the night," said Brenda Phelps, the DAT coordinator. "Everyone is welcome to stay at the shelter for three days. The apartment complex has also offered to put people up."

Chapel Hill Deputy Fire Chief Caprice Mellon said all Chapel Hill units were dispatched to the scene, with assistance from the Carrboro, Parkwood and volunteer fire departments.

She said she did not suspect any foul play with the fire and was not sure when the investigation would be completed.

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PROPOSALS

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The faculty adviser and student instructors would each receive a \$500 stipend.

Physics Professor Lawrence Rowan said he endorsed the C-START proposal.

"I think it is a great idea," he said. "The more students know about teaching the better off they are. I certainly would be willing to work with students."

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FOUNTAINS

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there was no evidence linking Friday's events with the earlier vandalism incident.

Bresciani and Ellison said they were operating under the assumption that they would find the vandals and that they hoped the extra fee Morrison residents might face encouraged people to come forward.

"We're real hesitant to put a charge on student accounts unless it is absolutely necessary," Bresciani said. "Out of almost 1,000 students, it is almost inconceivable that no one saw the perpetrator."


Bresciani said another alternative was to adopt policies used at some UNC peer institutions and tack on an additional preset damage fee to housing costs for all housing residents. "(The fee) is a way to minimize costs to residents versus having to assume a level of vandalism and charge students regardless of whether it happens or not," he said.

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