

## World and Nation

# Agreement nears in Afghan civil war

From Associated Press reports

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union and Afghanistan said Thursday agreement is at hand in ending the Afghan civil war and urged that a formal accord be signed in Geneva so the Kremlin can begin withdrawing its troops May 15.

The target date is two weeks before Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan begin their summit in the Soviet capital. Agreement on Afghanistan would resolve an issue that has troubled relations for nearly a decade, promoting a U.S. grain embargo and keeping Americans home from the 1980 Olympics in Moscow.

Gorbachev and Afghan leader Najib issued a joint statement after meeting in the Soviet Central Asian

city of Tashkent.

"There is certain to be a signed agreement on political normalization," the Tass news agency quoted Gorbachev as saying while he toured a collective farm near Tashkent after the meeting. "I think both Pakistan and Afghanistan will come to agreement, and that we and the Americans will agree to be guarantors."

The joint communique, distributed by the Tass agency, published on the front page of the government newspaper Izvestia and read during the nightly news program "Vremya," omitted the usual criticism of positions taken by Pakistan and the United States at the Geneva peace talks. This omission could mean some behind-the-scenes compromise has been forged.

President Mohammed Zia ul-Haq said the Geneva accords were ready for signing, but U.N. mediator Diego Cordovez indicated problems remained.

"There are very difficult decisions and the only good thing — I think that is important — is that the political will is obviously there to take them," he told reporters in Geneva after the Soviet-Afghan statement was issued.

Gulbaddin Hekmatyar, head of the seven-party Afghan guerrilla alliance, said in Islamabad, Pakistan, it was the "first step toward victory" and a "defeat for the Russians." He said the guerrillas "will try to intensify" the war.

Draft documents in Geneva call for an end to outside aid for the rebels, and U.S. officials have pressed for

"symmetry," a simultaneous end of Soviet military aid to Najib's government.

Zia, quoted by Pakistan's official news agency, said: "According to unofficial reports, the two superpowers have agreed on the symmetry under which both would be able to provide continued assistance to their respective allies in Afghanistan." No details of the alleged agreement were given.

Sources in Washington called the Gorbachev-Najib statement a positive sign of accommodation on the symmetry question, but the State Department's public comment was limited to: "We have not yet received a response from the Soviet government on our proposal. Until it's received, we must reserve judgment."

# Kuwaiti jet refueled in Iran after hijackers fire at guards

From Associated Press reports

NICOSIA, Cyprus — Workers refueled a Kuwaiti jetliner Thursday after its Arab hijackers fired at security guards and threatened to force the pilot to take off with little fuel, Iran reported.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency quoted the hijackers as saying they would take off at midnight (4:30 p.m. EDT) with about 50 hostages, but did not give a destination. The hour passed with no indication as to whether the plane had left.

When it reported the development only two minutes before the announced departure time, IRNA said, "there are still obstacles on the runway," placed there earlier by airport officials to keep the jet from taking off.

The hijackers said they placed explosives throughout the jet, which still had 55 passengers and crew aboard, IRNA reported.

## News in Brief

preparing for a weekend war on violent, drug-dealing street gangs with overwhelming support from political and community leaders whose attention has suddenly focused on a long-festering problem.

The sweep by as many as 1,000 police officers will be the biggest in a series of mass patrols in gang-ridden neighborhoods. A 13-hour sweep which ended Thursday morning resulted in the arrest of 128 suspected gang members.

Violence has continued despite the sweeps, with five people wounded Wednesday in three "drive-by" shootings, a common style of attack in gang turf wars.

Gangs were blamed for 387 killings in Los Angeles County in 1987, and as many as 85 so far this year.

## Brooks gets endorsement

LUMBERTON — Pembroke attorney Dexter Brooks, a Lumbee Indian who wants to be appointed to a second judgeship in Robeson county, has won the endorsement of Julian Pierce's campaign committee.

About 15 members of the Committee to Elect Julian Pierce offered unanimous support for Brooks on Wednesday night, said Harvey Godwin, Pierce's campaign manager.

Pierce was killed March 26 in an apparent domestic dispute. His death meant that District Attorney Joe Freeman Britt, Pierce's opponent, would automatically become the nominee of the Democratic Party. Since there is no Republican in the race, Britt would then gain the judgeship.

But the seat was created in Robeson County to give minority candidates a better chance to become judge. Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan and local legislators met with Pierce supporters and agreed to back a second judgeship that would allow the appointment of a minority judge.

Britt has opposed the second judgeship, saying Indian activists bluffed the politicians into backing it. He called the judgeship a waste of taxpayers' money.

## Israeli teenager interred

KARNEI SHOMRON, Occupied West Bank — Armed Jewish settlers vowed revenge Thursday and shouted "Expel the Arabs!" as they buried an Israeli girl stoned to death by Palestinians. Troops killed a man in the town where she was slain.

An army announcement said the Palestinian fatally shot in Beita was a suspect in the attack on a group of Israeli teenagers Wednesday in which 15-year-old Tirza Porat was killed. It said he did not obey an order to halt.

Two other Arabs were wounded in separate incidents in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which have been swept by violence since Dec. 8.

Soldiers arrested hundreds of Arabs and blew up five homes in Beita. Israeli settlers attacked two nearby Arab villages, beating residents, breaking windows and firing shots in the air.

The girl, killed during the week-long Passover celebration, was the first Israeli civilian victim of the 4-month-old violence in the territories Israel captured in the 1967 war. At least 141 Arabs have died, according to U.N. figures, and an Israeli soldier was stabbed to death.

Police plan weekend gang raid  
LOS ANGELES — Police are

# Noriega opposition divides into factions

From Associated Press reports

PANAMA CITY, Panama — A major rift appeared Thursday in the opposition to Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, who is getting tough with critics in defiance of the U.S. economic squeeze and a buildup of American forces in Panama.

Two parties split from the opposition alliance to form their own anti-government movement. Their leaders argued that the economic sanctions are hurting Panama's people more than they are damaging Noriega and

the civilian government he controls.

Roberto Arosemena and Mauro Zuniga, leaders of the Popular Action Party, announced formation of the Popular Civic Movement in a break with the National Civic Crusade, an alliance of about 200.

They told a news conference their movement also is backed by the Authentic Panamanian Party, the largest opposition political party.

Washington has supported the Civic Crusade in its effort to remove Noriega as chief of the 15,000-

member Defense Forces, which include the military and police. Noriega is under indictment in the United States on drug trafficking charges, which he denies.

"For us, no recipe that comes from Washington has been favorable to the Panamanians," he said. "The people of the world know that the recipes formulated in the imperial capitals, the United States and the Soviet Union, never are favorable to the interests of the people."

He added, "It is absolutely neces-

sary for Gen. Noriega to abandon his post. For us, this is fundamental."

Leaders of the two parties have joined demonstrations, strikes and other protests of the Civic Crusade, while differing with some of its policies and generally favoring a harder line.

The last of 1,300 additional U.S. soldiers arrived Thursday at Howard Air Force Base outside Panama City.

Late Wednesday, the government said it had issued arrest warrants for three leading opponents, including deposed President Eric Delvalle, who has been in hiding in Panama.

It also asked Interpol, the international police organization, to arrest Gabriel Galindo, a former ambassador to the United States, and Juan Sosa, Delvalle's envoy in Washington who remains there.

In Washington, the State Department said Thursday that the United States "would regard any efforts by the Noriega regime to attempt arrests or prosecutions of President Delvalle and the others for their activities in urging and supporting U.S. sanction as the unlawful acts of an illegitimate regime."

## For the Record

In the photograph accompanying Wednesday's story "Assessing legal issues for homosexuals" Benjamin Shatz was incorrectly identified as Jeffery Levi. The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

## PI KAPPA PHI'S 12th Annual

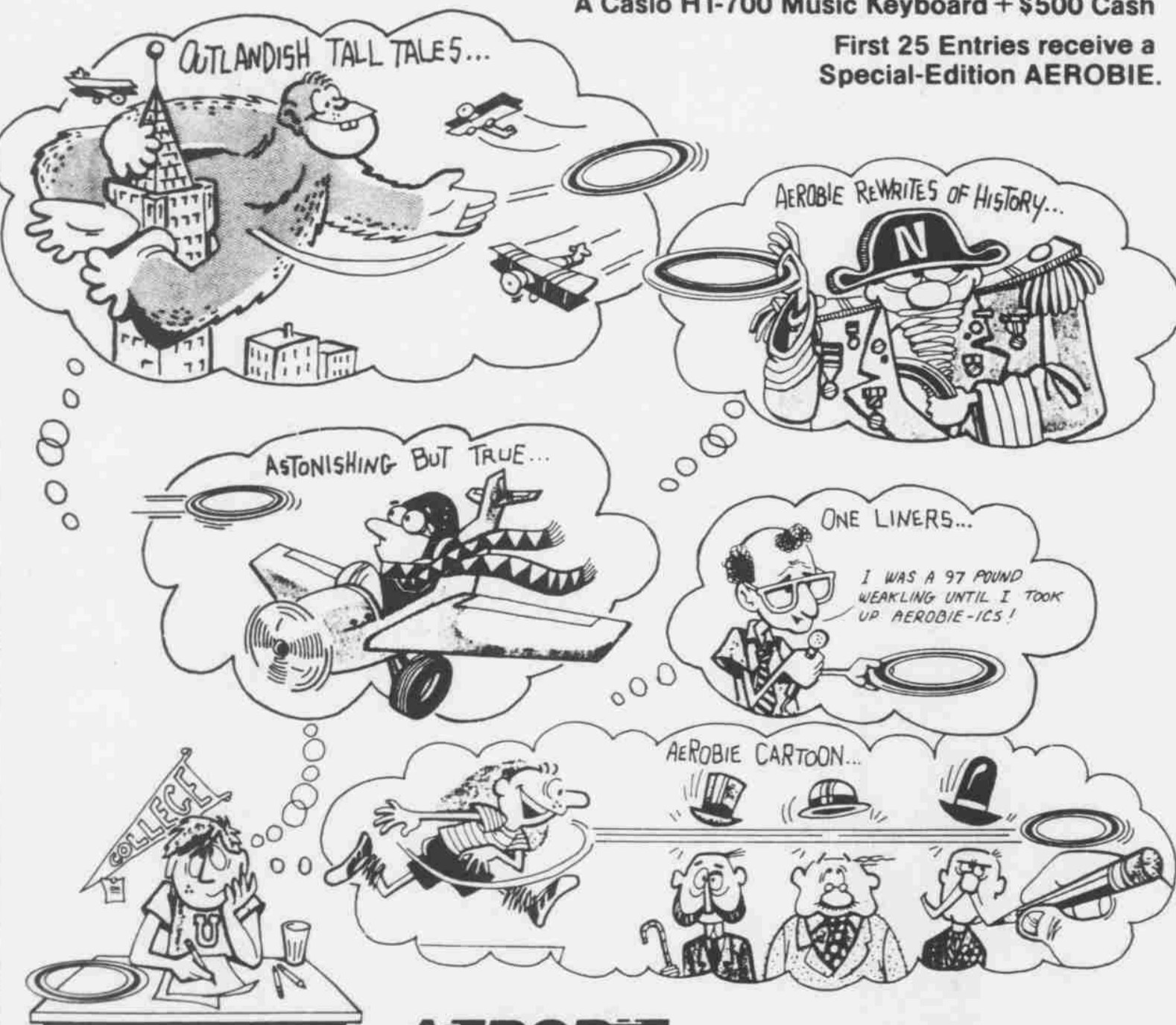
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