

World and Nation

North defends order to stay quiet

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — Oliver North, testifying in his own defense, said Thursday Reagan administration superiors told him "not to tell anybody" about his role in funneling aid to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua.

North took the stand shortly after George Bush was identified in court as an intermediary in President Reagan's secret plan to aid the Contras.

North, who faces a dozen charges in connection with his role in the Iran-Contra affair, said, "I was particularly admonished" to keep secret "that another country was providing millions of dollars to help the Contras."

Saudi Arabia supplied some \$32 million in aid to the Contras, beginning in mid-1984.

Under questioning from his lawyer, the former White House aide depicted himself as a Marine officer with plans to take command of a battalion at Camp Lejeune when top officials in

the Reagan administration enlisted him to run the secret Contra operation in 1984.

North testified in his own defense after his attorneys read into the record a lengthy account of the Reagan administration's efforts to keep alive the Contra struggle against the leftist government of Nicaragua.

The account, a legal "admission of fact" read to the jury with the agreement of the prosecution, said Bush personally told the president of Honduras in 1985 that extra aid was being funneled to his country as payment for helping the Contras.

The account also said a representative of Panamanian military leader Manuel Noriega offered in a meeting with North to assassinate the Sandinista leadership in Nicaragua. North was said to reply that the United States wanted no part of any such plans.

Deputy White House press secre-

tary Stephen Hart said, "I have no comment" on the developments, adding that "this is part of an ongoing trial."

A short while after the "admission of fact" statement was read, North was on the stand and fielding questions from his own attorney.

"Was there a time when you were stepping in" to help the Contras, asked North lawyer Brendan Sullivan.

"I was not stepping in, I was brought in," responded North.

Asked by Sullivan who told him he was going to be running the operation, North identified then-national security adviser Robert McFarlane, his deputy John Poindexter, and CIA Director William Casey.

"I was told not to tell anybody" about his role in taking over from the CIA in overseeing the Contras' needs, North testified.

Prosecutor John Kecker objected

when Sullivan asked whether North "understood" that President Reagan had designated him as the Contras' new provider. U.S. District Judge Gerhard Gesell sustained the objection and North didn't answer.

North said he ended up handling "everything that had been coming from the CIA."

"Everything that they had, from the little tents that they lived in . . . to food, to bullets, to intelligence" had come from the CIA, said North.

"I don't recall there was any specific break point" when all the Contras' needs fell on his shoulders, but he was carrying the load by the time the cutoff in military aid went in effect in October 1984, North testified.

North recalled how he went to Casey to get bank account numbers so he would know where money to the Contras was to be funneled and which factions of the splintered Contra movement to contact.

Brief cease-fire ends abruptly as fighting renewed in Beirut

From Associated Press reports

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Syrian and Christian gunners dueling with mortars and rockets across Beirut on Thursday, shattering a short-lived cease-fire and forcing panicked civilians back to basements and bunkers.

Gen. Michel Aoun's Christian Army claimed its troops held their fire.

Police said 15 people were wounded, bringing the toll to 177 people killed and 591 wounded since March 8, when Christian troops clashed with an alliance of Syrian army and Druse militia forces.

Police said Syrian gunners fired 50 rockets and mortar rounds against the Christian enclave east and northeast of Beirut, starting 11 hours after the cease-fire was called at midnight.

Poland legalizes Solidarity

WARSAW, Poland — A government minister said Thursday the seven-year ban on Solidarity would be lifted immediately, and Lech Walesa urged supporters to put their "political victory" into action by organizing nationwide.

"The process of legalization of Solidarity should be completed between April 15 and April 20," said Sports Minister Aleksander Kwasniewski, a chief negotiator for the communist government in the two months of talks with the opposition. The talks concluded Wednesday in a broad accord.

Kwasniewski said the Sejm, or parliament, would meet Friday to enact the agreements on trade union freedoms, economic reforms and political changes, including creation of the first freely elected legislative body in the East bloc.

Marcos excused from trial

NEW YORK — Federal prosecutors agreed Thursday to temporarily drop former Philippine

News in Brief

President Ferdinand Marcos from a racketeering case because he is too ill to stand trial in the foreseeable future.

In a letter to the judge presiding over the case against the deposed ruler, his wife and several co-defendants, prosecutors acknowledged that Marcos' health has deteriorated since a medical examination by a government doctor last fall.

"Based upon Mr. Marcos' repeated bouts of pneumonia and his susceptibility to other infection since January 1989, the government is no longer able to represent to the court that Mr. Marcos is now able to stand trial," Assistant U.S. Attorney Debra Livingston wrote U.S. District Judge John Keenan.

Nuclear fusion experiment fails

BOSTON (AP) — At least one independent attempt to produce nuclear fusion in a jar of water has fizzled so far, diminishing hopes raised two weeks ago of an amazing and limitless source of power, scientists said Thursday.

"We are very skeptical," said chemist Mark Wrighton of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "We've done the experiment now for 10 days, and we don't see anything exceptional."

Wrighton began his experiment March 27, four days after a researcher at the University of Utah and a colleague from England announced a breakthrough in fusion. However, Wrighton said his work does not conclusively prove their approach is worthless.

"If nuclear fusion occurs, it is at a very low level and our detectors aren't sensitive enough, or it takes longer than 10 days, or it doesn't work," Wrighton said.

Group plans purchase of ailing airline

From Associated Press reports

NEW YORK — A group led by former baseball commissioner Peter Ueberroth agreed to buy Eastern Airlines for about \$463.9 million in a deal that would give the strike-riddled carrier's employees a major share of the company, the parties announced Wednesday.

The deal, subject to approval by Eastern creditors and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, followed lengthy negotiations with Eastern's parent, Texas Air Corp.

Texas Air Chairman Frank Lorenzo told a news conference the agreement includes about \$200 million in cash and the rest in securities.

"Under this agreement Eastern can

be back flying in very short order," he said.

The purchase was contingent, however, on Eastern reaching new work agreements with its striking unions by April 10.

About 500 joyous striking Machinists jammed their union hall in Miami, chanting and cheering as they heard the news about Eastern's sale.

There were cries of "Hey, hey! Ho, ho! Lorenzo's got to go!" and "Take me out to the ballgame."

Frank Ortis, vice president of Machinists local 702 and Miami strike coordinator, said it was impossible to tell whether unions would fare better under the new proposed

ownership "until we get into dealings with Commissioner Ueberroth."

"However, we're willing to give it a shot."

"To sum it up, it's a mammoth challenge," Ueberroth said. "I'm convinced that there is a spirit amongst the people in the company that I can help bring together to help this airline."

Miami-based Eastern has been virtually paralyzed since March 4 by a Machinists union strike that has drawn the support of pilots and flight attendants. Eastern filed for reorganization and protection from creditors in U.S. bankruptcy court in New York on March 9 as its cash diminished.

Lorenzo said if the unions agreed to the deal the nation's seventh-largest airline could resume flying within 24 hours. He also said the airline intended to file a reorganization plan that would pay creditors 100 percent. Lorenzo will remain in charge of

Eastern until the deal is approved, but Ueberroth will participate in formulating the plan.

Texas Air would get \$200 million cash, Eastern notes worth about \$185 million, and Eastern assets valued at about \$79 million, including Eastern's Miami-London and New York-Montreal routes plus eight landing slots and one gate at New York's LaGuardia Airport.

Ueberroth, who flew to New York late Tuesday night from his California home, began personal negotiations with Lorenzo early Wednesday morning and continued them until about 8 p.m., resuming talks early today.

Ueberroth's group made a \$464 million offer for Eastern last week and then withdrew the bid after being told by Texas Air that it had been topped by another suitor, identified by sources close to the situation as billionaire hotel executive Jay Pritzker.

Week

from page 1

handle the issue of race.

"After I went to a forum, it really opened my eyes to the problems on this campus. I think the week will be beneficial even to those people who are truly ignorant of the problem."

Faculty and students who have been trained to handle seminars on the issue will facilitate the forums.

In addition to the forums, various leaders in the area of race relations will present lectures.

Several sources, including the UNC administration and many student groups, will fund the event. "We've had some financial problems, but as of this week they have been eliminated," Mumford said.

The event became more of a logistical nightmare as planning progressed, Mumford said. "What started out as a couple of speakers

and some forums has grown into a big event that will encompass all aspects of race on this campus."

Along with the educational seminars and lectures, different groups on campus will display their talents. These will include the BSM Ebony Readers, the Carolina Indian Circle and the Loreleis.

"The cross-cultural week of entertainment will educate people about different cultures," Latimer said.

The week's activities will conclude with a "Greek-Freak" step show on April 15 featuring some of the leading steppers in the area, as well as with parties that will foster race relations.

Mumford said, "Realistically, in dealing with the concept of race relations, we won't get to the crowd we want to immediately, but three or four years from now we will."

Race Relations Week Schedule

Monday, April 10

2-4 p.m. **The Orientation Commission** will present a workshop celebrating our differences and promoting racial awareness. Union, TBA.

8 p.m. **Julian Bond**, a former Georgia State Senator and a leader of grassroots civil rights efforts, will address "Racism on College Campuses." Hamilton 100.

Tuesday, April 11

7 p.m. An evening of **Race Relations Workshops** will follow a viewing of Frontline's Racism 101. Small discussion groups will be led by professional facilitators. Expect open, direct communication and a unique opportunity to examine your feelings about prejudice, race and change. Union Auditorium.

Wednesday, April 12

8 p.m. **Understanding through Entertainment.** Come and enjoy this celebration of cross-cultural performances. Experience song, dance and dramatic monologues by the Carolina Indian Circle, the Ebony Readers, Loreleis and more. Union Auditorium.

Thursday, April 13

8 p.m. **Valerie Batts** will speak on "Personal Strategies for Changing Racism." Ms. Batts was a founder of the UNC Black Student Movement, and is currently the director of Visions, an organization providing race relations workshops to universities, schools, and companies across the nation. Union Auditorium.

10 p.m. Dance the night away at an **Interracial dance.** Carmichael Residence Hall.

Friday, April 14

7 p.m. **Race Unity Round Table Discussion.** Frank Porter Graham Lounge, Union.

9 p.m. **Interracial Great Hall party.** All are welcome.

Saturday, April 15

9 p.m. **Step show.** Race Relations Week finishes with a stepping extravaganza by the top step teams in the region. Tickets: \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. Available at the Union Desk and Campus Y office. Carmichael Auditorium.

Bush urges land letgo in Israel

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — President Bush gave qualified support Thursday to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's idea for elections among Palestinian Arabs on the West Bank and Gaza. The president emphasized that Israel eventually must give up the occupied lands.

Bush said he told Shamir "we do not support an independent Palestinian state, nor Israeli sovereignty over or permanent occupation of the West Bank and Gaza," which Israel won in the 1967 Six-Day War.

By mentioning Israeli "sovereignty," Bush went a step beyond his statement Monday that Israel must end the "occupation" of the seized territory.

Bush, standing alongside Shamir and reporting on their talks, said he was confident an "acceptable formula" could be produced for holding elections in the West Bank and Gaza.

Shamir's election proposal is the centerpiece of his government's effort to resolve conflict in the West Bank and Gaza, torn by more than 15 months of Palestinian revolt.

The election would determine the makeup of a Palestinian delegation to negotiate with Israel for "an interim period of self-governing administration," Shamir said.

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