World and Nation

Drug state rising in Latin America

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — A troubling challenge facing President Bush as he gropes for ways to combat drug smuggling is the emergence of a drug "super state" in Latin America, an entity with many of the trappings of a nation-state. The drug "super state" - a term once used by a Colombian attorney general shortly before drug traffickers murdered him last year - has a defense establishment, controls large swaths of territory, issues communiques and even boasts what amounts to a "commerce department," which assiduously promotes the export of cocaine and other illicit drugs.

It also has what its defenders regard as a progressive political philosophy.

Diego Cordoba, a lawyer employed by Colombian drug barons, contended in an interview with a Brazilian newspaper last year that drug trafficking has done more to alleviate poverty and hunger in Latin America than has any government in the region.

Another lawyer for the traffickers,

In her original written request for the

Step 4 hearing, Edwards, the only black

female police officer in the department's

history, said black females had applied

but were turned down or never given an

1987, the department has hired four

white females, Edwards said. "And then

(UNC Public Safety Director) Robert

Sherman has the nerve to put in the

paper that he doesn't look at race, only

Sherman could not be reached for

comment, but said last week that race

was not a factor in evaluating applica-

Since she first filed her grievance in

findings by Sept. 20.

interview.

experience."

Mario Arango, wrote in a best-selling book that the drug business has opened new opportunities for the underprivileged classes.

"The money from the drug traffic has acted as a brake on the social and political deterioration of the country," Arango says.

According to U.S. government figures, as much as \$1.7 billion in cocainegenerated revenues last year bolstered the economies of Peru and Bolivia, the two largest cocaine producers in the world.

The figure for Colombia, the conduit for 80 percent of the cocaine consumed in the United States and Europe, is estimated at \$4 billion. The super state boasts a formidable defense establishment. While the underfunded Colombian police have about 30 helicopters at their disposal, one single trafficker, Jorge Luis Ochoa, reportedly has 50 aircraft and an arsenal of weapons.

Unlike the Colombian government, which requires months and sometimes years to acquire weaponry for its mili-

tary, the drug traffickers - unhindered by red tape - can get what they want in days or even hours.

Another characteristic drug lord power reminiscent of a nation-state's is the ability to declare war. After Colombian President Virgilio Barco ordered a crackdown on the drug traffickers two weeks ago - confiscating millions of dollars in property and arresting 11,000 suspects - the cartel issued a statement asserting the existence of a state of "absolute and total war" with the government.

If the drug super state has a capital, it is, of course, Medellin, a city located about 150 miles northwest of Bogota.

Douglas Payne describes Medellin as the central star of a sprawling, fluctuating constellation. Payne is director of hemispheric studies for the prodemocracy research organization Freedom House.

The super state has numerous branch offices, including one in Panama where a key ally, Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, from time to time has welcomed Colombian drug kingpins needing a safe haven.

With the combined economic, political and military powers of a government, Payne says, the cartel is now acting like a state and asking to be treated like one.

He asks: "Will Diego Cordoba some day be addressing the United Nations, offering proposal for cooperation in alleviating the social and economic problems of Latin America?

"Will he present the first drug-based development model?"

The drug barons for some time have sought what amounts to "state-to-state relations" with the Colombian government, and some prominent politicians are advocating a dialogue with them.

Thus far, at least, Barco has held firm to his hard-line, no-negotiations stance.

"We will not be cowed," he has said. 'We shall prevail over the forces that would destroy our democracy and enslave our nation."

NAACP official calls response to Virginia Beach riot overkill

From Associated Press reports

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. - An NAACP official Monday accused authorities of overreacting during two nights of clashes between black college students and police - an allegation this resort city's mayor denied.

Up to 23 people were injured and more than 100 stores looted in the bottle-throwing melees, which disrupted the Labor Day holiday in this resort of 250,000 and left miles of normally busy beaches nearly empty.

Police said up to 100,000 young people, many here for an annual fraternity festival of students from mostly black colleges, were on the streets when rioting broke out early Sunday. Violence resumed Sunday night and police, backed up by state troopers and National Guardsmen, imposed an overnight curfew.

Police reported arresting 160 people and issuing 395 citations through Sunday afternoon. Arrest figures overnight were not immediately released.

Jack Gravely, president of the state chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), said police reaction would have been different if the students had been white.

"Their response was to confront the students from a position of power," Gravely said. "The Virginia NAACP strongly condemns the overzealous, overpowering and overreactive actions of the Virginia Beach police."

Cuban jetliner crashes

MEXICO CITY - Cuban press reports said Monday that as many as 137 people may have died when a passenger jet bound for Italy crashed in a thunderstorm shortly after leaving Havana's airport.

News in Brief

were missing.

At least 63 people were injured, and 15 were reported in critical condition.

The plane crashed during a heavy thunderstorm after takeoff from Jose Marti airport, sending flaming debris plummeting into neighborhoods on the southern outskirts of the capital.

The chartered Cubana de Aviacion jetliner en route to Milan was carrying 113 Italians, two Cubans and a crew of 11, said the Cuban ambassador to Rome, Javier Ardizones. He confirmed there was one survivor.

The cause of the crash was not known, but a Foreign Ministry employee in Rome said the weather appeared to be a factor.

10 injured in demonstration

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa - Police opened fire Monday on a crowd of protesters who defied a ban on rallies and gathered at a Durban university, and 10 people were reported injured in a stampede that followed, witnesses said.

A police official warned that the escalating series of protests keyed to Wednesday's parliamentary elections, which exclude blacks from either seeking office or voting, would be dealt with "mercilessly."

About 2,500 students at the multiracial University of Natal later design fied a police ban on the meeting and gathered to protest the elections.

Police arrested 18 protesters after

allegations and would notify her of its fied. But the white female who worked under her was."

Hearing delayed for UNC police officer

Officer Lonnie Sexton Jr., who is also white, said: "There was this other black female that was working as a security guard. She went to the Carolina Inn, worked there, then went back to the traffic department. She applied twice to this department and never got an interview. She went to North Carolina Memorial, went to rookie school, and now she works there."

Many black men in the department are also unhappy with promotion procedures, Sexton said. "Most of the blacks in the department, except for one that I know of, have filed grievances or threatened to file them."

Bowler said the police department

"They're trying to correct a mistake that should have been corrected a number of years ago," Bowler said. "I've been here since 1981. This has been an ongoing thing."

Edwards said mounting legal fees, which will be reimbursed if she wins

Trolley

charged 10 cents a ride.

Howes called Joe Hakan, president of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Downtown Commission, the "guiding spirit" in bringing the trolleys to Chapel Hill.

"Joe Hakan and the Downtown

her appeal, have made carrying on the fight difficult.

"You have to have a lawyer if you think you're going to get a halfway fair shake in the whole thing. That's very unfair. You have to have money to continue the process."

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The trolleys were purchased from Chance Coach of Wichita, Kan., and delivered July 29.

UNC Chancellor Paul Hardin said the trolleys were the kind of low-cost mass transit the University and the town

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Officer Ollie Bowler Jr., who is white, said he continued to see examples of racist hiring practices at the department. "We had a black female from over at (North Carolina Memorial) Hospital put in an application. She has a bachelor's degree, (and has) been a police officer for quite a number of years. She was a supervisor."

He said a white female who worked under her at the hospital applied for the same job and was hired. "They told her (the black woman) she wasn't qualiwas putting together a new hiring board, on which Edwards would be a member. Edwards said she unsuccessfully sought to get on such boards in the past.

A black female has applied to the department and been "pretty much guaranteed" of getting a job there, Bowler said.

Bowler said he felt the hiring was in response to public pressure brought about by Edwards' grievance, but he added that it was too little, too late.

Commission have really brought us to this day," Howes said.

Hakan said the trolleys were only the first step in achieving the commission's goal of encouraging people to spend more time and money in downtown Chapel Hill.

The commission planned to extend the trolleys' route into Carrboro along Weaver and Main streets but chose to limit service to Chapel Hill after the Carrboro Board of Aldermen decided this summer not to fund the project.

need to alleviate parking problems.

The trolleys were paid for by local, state and federal funds, Howes said. The Downtown Commission and the University also helped pay for the shuttles.

Howes also thanked the director of Chapel Hill's transportation department, Bob Godding, for his work with the trolleys.

"Now he's responsible for the most expensive trolleys in the world."

Italian and Cuban officials worked together yesterday to identify the victims of Sunday's crash.

All but one of the 126 people on the Soviet-made jetliner were killed. Cuban news reports said 10 people were believed to have been killed on the ground, and Radio Havana said another two people on the ground

firing on the crowd with tear gas and bullets, witnesses said, speaking on condition they not be identified. They, said 10 people were hurt during the stampede to escape.

In a similar rally at the nearby University of Durban-Westville, eight people were arrested when police swinging batons dispersed 500 students at a banned demonstration.

Police had no immediate comment on either of the protests.



The Godfather Sun., Sept. 17 8:00 The Godfather, Part II Tickets at **Union Desk *** Admission Night Sponsored by **Film Committee**

"Dances From The Diamond Realm"

Monks from the Namgyal Monastery perform ancient ritual dances, some never before seen in the West. 8:00 PM **Memorial Hall** Tickets at the Union Box Office

UNC Students \$5 • General Public \$8 Sponsored by the Performing Arts Committee

ground. We are looking for interested and diverse students to join our 1989-90 committees.

Applications are available at the Union desk until Sept. 15. Application procedures vary, so pick one up today!

Fri., Sept. 15 • 9:00 **Dillon Fence** rock n' roll...\$2.00 Sat., Sept. 16 • 9:00 **Jim Troy Group** jazz...FREE! all ages admitted, beer & wine permitted with ID tickets at Union Desk Sponsored by Cabaret Committee