



### Resolution condemning Iraqi force debated

UNITED NATIONS — The Security Council began private debate Thursday on a resolution that would condemn Iraq's military onslaught against its Kurdish minority as a threat to international peace and security.

The fate of the French-sponsored resolution seemed to rest with China, believed to strongly oppose any precedent for having the council examine the internal affairs and human-rights abuses of U.N. member states.

A copy of the draft text has the Security Council saying it is "alarmed" about Iraq's campaign against the Kurds, "which threatens international peace and security in the region."

Turkey also is pressing the Security Council to demand an end to what it calls Iraqi atrocities against its Kurdish minority and to provide major humanitarian aid to refugees.

An Iraqi official said in Baghdad Thursday it was "still early" for the government to respond but complained that the measure "aims at humiliating Iraq and clearly weakening its regional role and stripping it of its military power." The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

If Saddam Hussein's government fails to comply, there will be no formal cease-fire, no withdrawal of allied troops from southern Iraq and the gulf region, and no lifting of economic sanctions.

### Soviet parliament gives Yeltsin rule by decree

MOSCOW — Russian leader Boris Yeltsin on Thursday won sweeping powers to rule by decree in the largest Soviet republic, greatly increasing his

ability to implement reforms and to stand up to his rival, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The breakthrough on the eighth day of the stalemated Russian Congress of People's Deputies gives Yeltsin the means to try to override opposition in his own republic and to face Gorbachev on a more equal footing.

However, Yeltsin was given no enforcement powers, such as a long-discussed Russian army, and there was no assurance local officials would obey his decrees.

The rivalry between Yeltsin and Gorbachev, former allies who split three years ago over the pace of economic reform, has hobbled any significant reform progress since Yeltsin ascended to the Russian leadership last year.

### Gates forced to take paid leave of absence

LOS ANGELES — Police Chief Daryl Gates was forced to take a 60-day paid leave of absence Thursday pending completion of key investigations in the videotaped beating of a black motorist by white policemen.

"I feel that I have been disgraced and defamed," Gates said after emerging from an 80-minute, closed-door Police Commission meeting. "I have no idea why this is happening. I'm very controlled. I always have been."

A statement issued by the commission said, "We emphasize this action is not punitive in nature and results in no loss of pay or benefits for Chief Gates. More importantly, it should not be taken by the public as reflecting any conclusion as to whether the chief should be charged or disciplined in the future."

Mayor Tom Bradley on Tuesday asked for Gates' resignation.

— The Associated Press

# Nicaraguan schools lack adequate facilities

By Anna Griffin  
Staff Writer

The biggest problem facing students in Nicaragua today is not finishing their homework or getting good grades, but instead whether or not they can find a desk to sit in or a textbook to study from.

In the seventh part Thursday of the UNC School of Education's 1990-91 Symposium on International/Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Child Development, Nicaraguan Minister of Education Humberto Belli explained the massive changes needed to improve the Nicaraguan school system.

"Half of those who enter first grade never make it to second grade," Belli said. "And only 3 percent of those who enter the school system graduate from high school."

"These children are termed 'at risk' because they come from broken homes, are the victims of father absenteeism or suffer from psychological or physical injuries from the civil war," he said.

The purpose of the symposium, a yearlong event run by the School of Education, is to bring together educators, government officials and graduate students to discuss the current state of education in the world and in the United States.

Despite a \$12.5 million contribution by the U.S. Agency for International Development and recent donations made by Italy, Norway, Spain and UNICEF, more than half the schools in Nicaragua are in need of major repairs, and one-third of those are probably beyond repair, Belli said.

Many Nicaraguan schools have no shelter to protect them from the rainy season, which begins in a month, he said.

These problems stem back to the 11-year reign of the Sandinista government and to the civil war that followed the overthrow of the Sandinistas in 1988. Many students left school to go into hiding. Most of the certified teachers went into exile or left the profession to seek higher-paying work.

Today more than 50 percent of the Nicaraguan students are deemed "at risk," and almost 50 percent are malnourished.

"We inherited a system full of mas political indoctrination after the war," Belli said. "Textbooks would teach kids to count by adding grenades or by subtracting rifles."

Despite receiving 18 percent of the annual national budget, the Nicaraguan education system remains in shambles. Currently, Belli and his director of special education, Carmela deBarbosa, are asking other governments and foreign educators to help analyze ways Nicaragua can improve its curricula.

The primary task facing Belli, however, is the task of satisfying the students' basic needs. "Our very urgent priorities include fixing the roofs of our schools, providing seats for the children ... and certifying teachers."

Currently, only 30 percent of all Nicaraguan teachers are certified, and some have not even completed elemen-

tary school.

"In many cases you have teachers who have not progressed beyond the third or fourth grade teaching fifth- and sixth-grade students," Belli said.

Due to Nicaragua's economic difficulties, there are no immediate plans to improve teacher training beyond implementing summer training sessions of four or six weeks.

The Nicaraguan officials were in the United States this week looking for economic and intellectual aid from the Agency of International Development and from American educators, according to Rune Simeonsson, head of the symposium and chairman of the School of Education's department of special education.

"We bring in people from different countries to raise our awareness about issues of international importance," Simeonsson said. "Obviously, because we are in the School of Education, we are particularly interested in issues for children and involving education."

# State leaders consider gubernatorial veto, limited terms

By Sabrina Smith  
Staff Writer

In the midst budget debate, N.C. legislators must also contend with numerous proposals to amend the state Constitution, the most significant possibilities affecting gubernatorial veto power, judicial appointment and legislators' term length.

Attaining veto power is a top priority of Gov. James Martin, said Nancy Pekarek, spokesperson for the governor. North Carolina is the only state whose governor does not have veto power.

When Martin first campaigned for governor in 1984, he saw no need for veto power, but upon assuming office he realized a distinct imbalance of power between the executive and legislative branches of government, Pekarek said.

The veto would mean the governor could temporarily prohibit the passage of bills he opposes, she said. A vetoed bill would be sent back to the General Assembly for reconsideration and a new vote.

Without veto power, the governor is merely an administrator of legislation, Pekarek said. Once he presents his budget to the General Assembly, he has no further control over the decisions made by legislators, she said.

Support for veto power has been slow

to come because it is not an issue directly affecting the people, Pekarek said. "People didn't realize the problem until Gov. Martin started pushing for it," Pekarek said.

Lt. Gov. James Gardner also supports veto power, but more specifically line item veto, said Tina Wilson, Gardner's press secretary. Line item veto would allow the governor to cut specific parts of a bill rather than oppose the whole package. Forty-three other states have this power.

Gardner supports line item veto because it would create a check and balance system between the legislative and executive branches, Wilson said. Gardner also thinks this veto power would make the budget process more efficient.

The likelihood that Gardner will win the governor's race in 1992 may hurt efforts to establish gubernatorial veto, Pekarek said. The predominantly democratic General Assembly is not likely to be adamant about giving their opponent more power, she said.

One of the bills is amended to prohibit the governor and the lieutenant governor from serving successive terms, Pekarek said.

Rep. H.M. "Mickey" Michaux, who chairs the House committee that first considers constitutional amendments, explained that amendments like these are designed to limit the governor's increased power provided by the veto.

"If you give the governor that much

power, you've got to spread the power somewhere," Michaux said. The passage of the veto may hinge on whether the other bills are also amended, Michaux said.

### Changing the appellate judge selection process

Another proposed constitutional amendment would change the way North Carolina chooses its appellate judges. This bill would change the present system of public election of judges to a system of gubernatorial appointment.

This bill is expected to pass easily through the General Assembly. It already has the unanimous support of the N.C. Supreme Court and the N.C. Court of Appeals.

Chief Justice James Exum, who strongly supports the bill, pointed out that the governor already has the power of selection in the event a judge dies. During a March speech to a House committee, Exum said the present system allows public opinion to sway judges court rulings. The independence of the judges is stifled because he or she must worry if court decisions will affect re-

election efforts, Exum said.

Under the new system the governor would propose candidates and submit their names to a judicial selections committee for evaluation. Based on the evaluations, the governor would then finalize his decision. The chosen candidate must then appear before the General Assembly for the governor's appointment to be ratified.

### Limiting the terms of legislators

Following a nationwide trend to restrict the length of time officials can remain in office, three N.C. bills are under consideration to limit the terms of office for legislators, Michaux said.

"Some believe representatives become too comfortable in their position and may ignore their constituency," he said.

Michaux pointed out the trend of most bills coming from the Republicans. He sees their efforts to be an attempt to regain control of the primarily Democratic General Assembly.

One bill limits legislators to six consecutive two-year terms, while the others limit legislators to four consecutive two-year terms.

# Driver ed dropped from school day

The Associated Press  
RALEIGH — Driver education will be removed from the school day under a recommendation approved Thursday by the State Board of Education.

Teena Little, chairman of the program committee, which recommended the change to the full board, said the issue had been debated for two years and should be no surprise to local school officials or driver ed teachers.

"I hope we are clarifying it for everyone concerned," she said.

The change calls for driver education to be a part of "school life," but not part of the state-mandated 5.5-hour instructional day.

The changes do not address questions of who would teach driver education courses or how funding would be handled.

The changes will become effective this fall, although school systems have the option of a one-year delay in moving the courses out of the instructional day.

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