



Armenia, Azerbaijan agree to cease-fire

MOSCOW — Armenia and Azerbaijan took a step Thursday toward resolving their bloody fight for control of the mountainous enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh by agreeing that an immediate cease-fire was needed.

A seven-hour meeting between foreign ministers of the two neighboring states marked the first high-level effort to end the fighting since Russia and Kazakhstan tried to broker a peace settlement in September. Russia's foreign minister, Andrei Kozyrev, mediated Thursday's talks.

Fighting began four years ago for control of Nagorno-Karabakh, an area populated mainly by Armenians but located inside the borders of Azerbaijan, which has controlled the enclave since 1923. More than 1,000 people have died in the bloodiest ethnic dispute in the former Soviet Union.

In a four-point communique issued after Thursday's talks, Armenia and Azerbaijan agreed on the "necessity for an immediate cease-fire in the zone of the Karabakh conflict."

The communique said the two countries had agreed to consider allowing United Nations peacekeeping forces to go to the region to help restore order.

Israeli troops and tanks penetrate U.N. barrier

TYRE, Lebanon — Israeli troops and tanks breached U.N. barricades in south Lebanon Thursday, going after Shiite Muslim guerrillas who have been rocketing Israel. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Israel would keep up the attacks "until we quiet them."

The Israeli incursion, just north of its self-declared security zone, drew a sharp protest from U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who called for an immediate pullout. The Bush administration expressed "deep concern."

U.N. sources said it was the first time since 1985 that Israelis had crossed the security zone and taken up positions.

Before smashing the U.N. barricades with a bulldozer, the Israeli troops got in fist fights with the peacekeepers, a U.N. spokesman said.

Despite fears that violence would derail the next round of peace negotiations, the State Department said all parties had indicated they would be on hand for talks starting Monday.

Still, there was a threat that fighting could widen. Syria's military chief, Gen. Hekmat Shehawi, said on Thursday that his country would help defend Lebanon against Israeli "trespassing."

— The Associated Press

Thornburg hunting for primary victory

By Anna Griffin
Assistant State and National Editor

Lacy Thornburg doesn't consider himself an underdog.

Despite recent polls that show former N.C. Gov. Jim Hunt running ahead of Thornburg in the race for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, the two-term state attorney general remains confident that his record will carry him over the top in the May 5 primary.

"Jim Hunt is a tough opponent," Thornburg said in an interview Monday. "(But) I don't see his candidacy as one that is invulnerable. He has a record that he has to be concerned about."

"It rings very hollow to me to be saying what you're going to do about the very problems you faced for eight years and didn't change. Right now we're talking about the very same issues; he had 12 years (as governor and lieutenant governor) to solve them and he didn't."

"My record is one of integrity, sincerity, honesty and hard work in each of the branches (of government) and achievement in each of the branches."

Thornburg served as a member of the N.C. House of Representatives from 1961-1967 and as a state Superior Court judge from 1967-1983. A UNC and Mars Hill College graduate, he said his experience makes him the best candidate for the job.

The attorney general's platform includes making the state judicial and penal systems more effective, improving N.C. education and cleaning up and maintaining the environment.

State leaders must work to strike a



delicate balance between industrial needs and environmental protection, Thornburg said.

"You don't see businesses and industries coming into a state that ignores its obligation to the next generation," he said. "We want high-paying jobs and clean industry."

The state's continually poor education system must be improved and upgraded for North Carolinians to have any hope of competing in the 1990s economic world, Thornburg said.

"What you have is a population that isn't qualified to handle the jobs that are available," he said. "Most of the labor-intensive jobs have gone offshore. Jobs that were previously available to the poorly educated just aren't there anymore."

"We have to turn out more trained people."

To improve the quality of the N.C. work force, Thornburg proposes expanding the state community college system and offering more technical education programs, he said.

"We have to beef up the community college system," Thornburg said. "TechPrep programs need to be implemented in every school across the state."

TechPrep, already implemented in Richmond County schools, is a program designed to prepare high school



Lacy Thornburg

students for technical or community colleges.

The attorney general said he had short- and long-term plans for curbing the state's rising crime rate. North Carolina is becoming a more dangerous place to live, especially in urban areas, Thornburg said.

"I would immediately move, with already approved money, to provide a maximum number of beds and to increase the capacity for confinement within prison," he said. "That's not an answer in itself; over the larger term we have to improve mental health and drug

treatment facilities."

Raising the standard of living for members of the middle and lower classes also would curb crime, Thornburg said.

"Education and jobs have a major impact on increases in your prison population," he said. Only 2 percent of the state's inmates graduated from college, while 4 percent to 5 percent of N.C. inmates have high school diplomas, he said.

Thornburg said he would encourage drug awareness programs, such as Drug Abuse Resistance Education, at the high school level. As attorney general, Thornburg helped bring the national DARE program into N.C. elementary schools.

Although several state candidates advocate dropping the positions of state superintendent of education, labor commissioner and insurance commissioner from the election ballot, Thornburg said the officials needed to be elected.

"I certainly want to see them at maximum productivity," he said. "But I think these officials should be elected, just like I am. To think that not electing them would take the politics out of the offices is naive."

Although he considered running for governor in 1984, Thornburg said 1992 presented the perfect opportunity.

"I'd been considering the opportunity to run for a number of years," he said.

"I made the decision to run when it became obvious there would not be an incumbent in 1992."

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to be a reporter, you have to at least have a working relationship with (the) group (that you are assigned to cover). If you want to get a good job as a reporter later on, you have to have that experience."

Mary Jo Dunnington, 1989-90 editorial page editor, said she liked Easley's plan for greater accuracy on the editorial page but did not see any benefits from his proposed weekly editor's column.

"The accuracy and the good reasoning are what anyone who works for that page should strive for," Dunnington said. "(But) I wonder how an editor's

column is going to keep people in touch with the paper."

Nancy Wykle, 1990-91 University desk editor, also said she did not think Easley's weekly editor's column would be a positive addition to the paper.

"The weekly editor's column sounds kind of wimpy to me," Wykle said.

Wykle said Easley's idea of holding workshops for writers and editors definitely would improve writing within the paper, although he probably would have problems getting people to attend workshops.

"It's a good idea, but good luck on

getting people to come," she said. "There's no incentive to go. The idea is good, but the implementation may be difficult."

"Matthew is a great motivator, though,"

Tew also said Easley's writing workshops would improve the paper.

"If a story's not well-written, you won't get your ideas across," he said. "Writing workshops will help your writing 100 times."

Dunnington said she thought Wallsten's goal of appointing DTH liaisons to various campus groups should be the responsibility of the groups, not the newspaper.

"That's something the groups should be doing," she said. "The groups should have their own public relations people. It's good he's indicated the staff is going to be receptive to these people (because) sometimes it gets into an 'us against them' at the paper."

Wykle said she thought Easley's idea to increase graduate student coverage was good because of the number of graduate students on campus.

But she said the proposal would take work because graduate students usually read larger papers like The New York Times.

"That's good because the graduate students make up a fairly sizable portion of our school," she said. "To get somebody to read your paper, you've got to write about something they're interested in."

But Lutes said Easley's reaching out to graduate students was not that important because most DTH readers were undergraduates.

"I'd have to say student newspapers are basically geared for undergraduates," she said.

"They're the main readers. I don't think that's a bad idea, but I don't think it needs to be a focus."

Tew said he thought Wallsten's plan to publish a Saturday DTH on home football game days was one of the best ideas he had seen in the past four campaigns.

"I think it's probably the most unique and innovative idea I've heard in the past four elections," he said. "It would make the DTH money, and it would give sports writers a chance to write more."

But Wykle said that a Saturday newspaper might sacrifice coverage during the week and that Wallsten probably would have a problem finding committed writers.

"My concern with that is would you be short-changing coverage during the week to put this paper out?" she asked. "My other concern would be the time commitment from writers."

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