

IBM reports worst-ever loss after corporate restructuring

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — IBM reported an \$8 billion quarterly loss Tuesday, its worst ever, reflecting the expense of slashing its oncesacrosant staff and finishing a massive corporate restructuring.

Most of the loss comes from the cost of paying 85,000 employees to depart the world's largest computer manufacturer by the end of next year.

International Business Machines Corp. officials earlier projected about 25,000 employees

would leave.

The company's board of directors cut the quarterly dividend from 54 cents to 25 cents. In the first quarter, the dividend was cut from \$1.21.

In addition, Louis V. Gerstner, in his broadest assessment of IBM's trouble since becoming chairman and chief executive officer 31/2 months ago, said he would not name a president and did not want to be bogged down by a tradition of committees and presentations.

"I'm not spending a lot of time on structure and the process of

IBM," Gerstner said. "I'm spending a lot of time on customers, employees, technology and the economics of IBM."

"We've got to try to get behind us this Chinese water torture we've been going through quarter after quarter, year after year," Gerstner said. "We've got to get our problems behind us."

Investors applauded. IBM stock rose \$3.25 to \$45.62 1/2 on volume of 6.25 million shares, the most active on the New York Stock Exchange.

Declining revenue from mainframe computer sales worsened

losses and forced IBM to lay off workers this spring, the first layoffs in its 79-year history. In addition, IBM's board replaced Chief Executive John Akers with Gerstner, the first outsider brought in for that job.

IBM expects to lower its work force to 225,000 by the end of 1994, down from about 302,000 at the start of 1993. Although 85,000 people are leaving, the company plans some hiring, bringing the net workforce reduction to 77,000. The company's work force peaked at 406,000 in 1985.

President requests increased funding

Clinton cracks down on illegal immigration

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Clinton asked Congress for more money and new legal tools Tuesday to crack down on illegal immigration and the crime organizations and terrorists who exploit weaknesses in U.S. defenses against illegal aliens.

Prompted by hundreds of Chinese boat people and an immigrant sheik linked to the World Trade Center bombers, Clinton said, "We cannot tolerate those who traffic in human cargo, nor can we allow our people to be endangered by those who would enter our country to terrorize Americans."

Worked out with representatives of both parties

on Capitol Hill, Clinton's plan received bipartisan support from members of Congress who attended the White House announcement.

The plan would not shut the nation's borders but would continue welcoming legal immigrants and legitimate refugees while keeping out those with no right to be here.

"To treat terrorists and smugglers as immigrants dishonors the tradition of the immigrants who have made our nation great, and it unfairly taints the millions of immigrants who live here honorably and are a vital part of every segment of our society," he said.

The plan, spearheaded by Vice President Al Gore, has two elements:

—New legislation would allow expedited

exclusion of undocumented aliens "who do not have credible claims for political asylum," the use of racketeering laws against gangs that organize illegal immigration by sea or by land and increased penalties for alien smuggling.

—An additional \$172.5 million for next year's proposed budget to add 600 Border Patrol agents, enhance the State Department's "look-out" system that lists foreign criminals and suspected terrorists who should be kept out, expand pre-inspection at foreign airports of U.S.-bound passengers and hire more officers to handle the expedited exclusion hearings.

Clinton's budget already calls for \$10 million for 163 new immigration inspectors at border points.

Yugoslavian leaders report progress made in peace talks

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GENEVA — Bosnia's Muslim president announced "some progress" Tuesday in his first face-to-face talks with Serb and Croat leaders on their plan to divide the battered country into three ethnic states.

The 90-minute meeting brought Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic together with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban.

John Mills, spokesman for the peace conference, said the talks were "good and constructive," and would continue Wednesday.

Karadzic said after the meeting that discussions were going in the "right direction," despite his "basic pessimism."

Earlier, he called the talks a "last chance for peace," as his forces intensified assaults around the capital, Sarajevo, and the northern town of Brcko.

Izetbegovic has been avoiding the talks for weeks, fearing that under the plan Bosnia's Muslims would be squeezed into a landlocked pocket while Serb and Croat states would join up with Serbia and Croatia. But his forces' worsening situation made him back down.

The region's two power brokers, President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia, expressed optimism about reaching a settlement after they attended the talks.

"For the first time since the beginning of war, Izetbegovic and Karadzic were not only sitting around the same table, but they were talking to each other," Milosevic said as he emerged smiling from the meeting in the late evening.

Izetbegovic, who had met earlier in the day with international mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, said there had been "some progress," but did not elaborate.

Izetbegovic and his delegation fear that Serb and Croat states would be free to join up with Serbia and Croatia, squeezing the Muslims into a landlocked pocket.

They brought along their own proposals for a Bosnia of "several federal units," without clear ethnic divisions.

Karadzic said he would not even discuss the proposals.

Agent Orange linked to more diseases

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The government expanded its list of diseases officially linked to Agent Orange on Tuesday, but the controversy about health effects of the Vietnam-era defoliant was far from over. Experts said further study may connect still other cancers to the herbicide.

A study by the National Academy of Sciences said there now was conclusive evidence linking Agent Orange exposure to five diseases — three types of cancer and two other types of disorders.

The government already compensates Vietnam veterans for two

of the cancers, soft-tissue sarcoma and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and one of the other disorders, a skin disease called chloracne.

Veterans Affairs Secretary Jesse Brown said two other disorders will be added to the Agent Orange compensation list. They are Hodgkin's disease, a type of cancer, and a metabolic disorder called porphyria cutanea tarda.

Dr. Harold Fallon, chairman of the committee and dean of the school of medicine at the University of Alabama, Birmingham, said that in addition to the five diseases clearly linked to Agent Orange, there are three cancers that should be "a high priority to investigate."

"There was limited evidence for these three cancers in some studies, but it was not conclusive," Fallon said at a news conference.

The three disorders suspected of linkage to Agent Orange are cancers of the respiratory system (lungs, larynx or trachea), prostate cancer, and multiple myeloma, another type of cancer.

To reach its conclusion, the academy of science committee reviewed thousands of toxicology reports and some 230 human disease studies related to herbicides, Agent Orange and to dioxin, a toxic contaminant in the defoliant. Most of the reports were on measurable chemical exposures in industry.

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