

American arms sales poorly managed — report

WASHINGTON — American arms sales to developing nations have more than doubled in the past two years and are costing U.S. taxpayers "untold millions of dollars" because of poor management.

These criticisms were contained in a report entitled "The Myth of Arms Restraint" by the Center for International Policy, a non-profit research organization.

The report said President Carter, during his 1976 campaign and in his early months in office, proposed restraints on the international arms trade as one of his major foreign policy goals. But after two years, the report said, "some members of the administration are dropping unobtrusive hints that arms restraint is almost a dead firm's resurrection."

It said U.S. arms exports to East Asia alone in fiscal 1980, which began Oct. 1, are expected to be nearly as high as those of fiscal 1977, "the last year of the Kissinger administration."

Even when canceled Iranian military orders are omitted, it said, U.S. arms shipments to the Middle East and South Asia are expected to have risen an estimated 166 percent since fiscal 1977.

A lesser known aspect of U.S. arms exports is the untold millions of dollars they cost the American taxpayer through poor management, it added.

The law requires the Pentagon to recover costs it incurs in selling weapons or providing military training under foreign military sales programs.

But the report said that in 25 years since 1969, Congress' General Accounting Office "has consistently found weaknesses in the Pentagon's accounting system that have amounted to subsidies totaling hundreds of millions of dollars."

It said the latest such check showed the United States had a "net gain" of up to an estimated \$370 million in costs that should have been paid by foreign governments during the past six fiscal years.

It said in the future, the arming of nations may be accompanied by plans for direct U.S. intervention in strategic Middle East oil resource areas.

In the wake of the Iranian debate, U.S. policy makers are noticeably jittery," it said.

The thought of direct U.S. intervention is creeping back into the administration's foreign policy lexicon. The Pentagon is establishing a force of 100,000 troops, including 40,000 combat soldiers, for quick intervention in the Mideast.

There is also talk of creating a 5th

Adjoining plot — next to the dog

ELKRIDGE, Md. — William Green, who has buried all types of pets in 15 years at Bonheur Memorial Park, is preparing to bury their owners too.

A local appeals board has opened the way for the park to bury people alongside their pets.

Green figures a human will take up the space of four averaged-sized graves. He said he has already taken four orders for plots.

About 20 others have expressed interest in the new ruling," he said. Once word gets around, I'm sure there will be more. We've already had calls from Australia and Canada as well as from around the country."

The new burials will create changes in the 11-acre park. A three-acre section in the rear of the cemetery will be opened and used mostly for the human burials, although some people whose pets have already been interred have requested that they be placed near them.

There will be more elaborate markers than the 8,000 small brass plates that give Bonheur the appearance of a military cemetery.

Green said those interested in burial with their pets vary.

It's not just an old man who has only had his dog for a companion the last 10 years. One woman who is 23 is buying a grave next to where her dog is buried. And married couples — young ones, too — have expressed interest.

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Three Mile jargon puzzling

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The scientists may or may not be coming up with answers about the nuclear accident at Three Mile Island, but the way they tell it, the layman will never know.

Here's a recent example:
A man-machine interface

might help uncover how the primary system inventory produced offsite radiation release when the Three Mile Island core went through a severe heat-up transient that enunciated the alarms.

That's the jargon of the nuclear engineers, reactor designers, utility officials and government

regulators in dealing with the recent accident in Harrisburg, Pa.

To the non-scientist, it is gobbledeygook, frustrating even when it's funny.

A pressure valve that failed to close is described as "nonopen."

Herman Dieckamp, president of the utility that owns the power


plant, had a smooth description of the "heat-up transient," a "severe undercooling of the reactor core."

To stop radiation leaks becomes, in the documents, to "minimize the fission product activity releases." That hydrogen bubble was an "inventory of non-condensable hydrogen,"

eventually eliminated through "the normal degasification mode."

A "man-machine interface" can mean instruments that give the wrong readings; operators who can't read the meters properly; or a man's paunch obscuring a warning light.

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