

Judge's order halts La. interviews

BATON ROUGE, La. — Southern University Wednesday canceled interviews with 299 Iranian students because of a federal judge's decision that ruled the process violated the students' constitutional rights.

Charles Cruce, deputy director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in New Orleans, said the hearings were indefinitely postponed until further notice.

U.S. District Judge Joyce Hen Green of Washington, D.C., ruled Tuesday that the administration's

program to interview all Iranian students was unconstitutional because it singled out Iranians for deportation.

"We are honoring the injunction (against the deportation proceedings)," Cruce said Wednesday in New Orleans. "Everything related to this is held in abeyance."

Clayton Lewis, a Southern University spokesman, said immigration agents had planned to begin three days of interviews Wednesday at Felton C. Clark Activities Center. But school administrators received

word late Tuesday to postpone the deportation hearings.

"The immigration officials contacted them and said the interviews were to be canceled until further notice," Lewis said. "There was no explanation other than to remind them that Judge Joyce Green had made the ruling (Tuesday). If it is to be continued, it will be rescheduled at a later date."

A spokesman for Louisiana State University, Nick Kalivoda, said slightly more than 200 Iranian students at LSU were interviewed over

a two-day period. Eighteen students were found to have violated terms of their student visas and were ordered to appear before deportation hearings in January, Kalivoda said.

"(That was) according to what was said before the court ruled the other day," Kalivoda said. "All were not deliberate violators, although about eight were former students and their visas expired."

Kalivoda said some Iranian students awaiting registration for the spring semester were "in limbo" and

were not in actual violation of their visas.

He said one student refused to be interviewed by immigration authorities.

"A political science major came in and reported to them that he was not going to be interviewed," Kalivoda said. "They told him he was going to face the consequences."

Seven immigration agents checked student visas, passports and asked students about their employment, Kalivoda said.



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ERA crusader supports Carter

WASHINGTON — Equal Rights Amendment crusader Elizabeth Carpenter disagrees with an apparent decision by the National Organization for Women to oppose the renomination of President Carter.

"I'd give Jimmy Carter A-plus" for his support of ERA, Carpenter said.

"As one who has walked the miles for ERA, there is no president as sensitive to it or given as much time or called on his workers as much in support of the amendment as President Carter," she said.

The New York Times said NOW's 27-member Executive Board met during the weekend and decided to oppose the renomination of Carter, although it did not decide which candidate to support.

Efforts to confirm the accuracy of the story were unsuccessful, mainly because NOW spokeswomen failed to return numerous telephone calls placed to them by UPI.

Carpenter said it is not Carter's fault that "we're down to the reluctant states." She said the fault lies with the "key legislators in four or five states who treat it like fun and games."

Congress extended the ratification deadline of the proposed amendment from October 1978 to June 30, 1983. Three more states need to ratify the amendment before it can become law.

Pilots want president's approval Navigation of ship to Iran refused

NEW ORLEANS — Mississippi River pilots, striking back at militant Iranian students holding Americans at the embassy in Tehran, have themselves taken a hostage of sorts.

The pilots, whose job it is to guide vessels along the curving, treacherous bends of the river, have refused to navigate a ship headed for Iran with a load of soybean oil until President Carter approves the shipment personally.

"We are not going to send a pilot to the ship unless someone high in the government tells us to do it, preferably President Carter himself," said Capt. Charles Arnoult, president of the Crescent River Port Pilots Association.

The pilots' refusal Tuesday prevented the 558-foot freighter Jubilee

Venture, a ship of Liberian registry, from heading to open waters.

A spokesman for International Matex, which loaded the vessel at its terminal, said the shipment was approved by the State Department.

"This company is a good citizen," said International Matex executive Ray Samuel. "It supports the president 100 percent in his position regarding Iran."

But Arnoult said his pilots' group and another in Baton Rouge, La., had not been notified by government officials regarding the cargo.

"I think I got a call from the agent for the ship and he was trying to figure out what his options were," Arnoult said. "I think he realized he didn't have any."

Arnoult said he regarded his situation as a matter of patriotism.

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Charity work set for four cat beaters

BOSSIER CITY, La. — Four former employees of an animal shelter have been ordered to work 30 days for a charitable organization and pay fines of \$200 each for beating cats to death with pieces of pipe.

The former employees of the Bossier City Animal Shelter were sentenced Tuesday for their convictions on charges of cruelty to animals.

City Court Judge Billy Ross Robinson told the men — Joe Jones, Robert L. Jackson, Alejandro Vasquez and C.T. Blanton — they each would serve 30 days in jail if they did not pay the fines or work for a charity.

All four were convicted of beating cats to death with a piece of pipe during the summer. The incidents came to light after a television cameraman hid in a bush near the animal shelter and videotaped one of the beatings.

Arlin Tinsley, former director of the animal shelter, pleaded guilty earlier to a similar charge and was fined \$200 and given a 30-day suspended sentence.

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