

world

Students arrest Iran minister; Bani-Sadr calls them children

United Press International
Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr Wednesday lashed out at the militants holding the U.S. Embassy, denouncing them as children who are acting in "an arbitrary way" and have assumed too much power.

At the same time, a senior Iranian official and close aide to the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini ruled out the release of the 50 Americans, now in their 95th day of captivity, before the deposed shah is returned to Iran to face trial.

Bani-Sadr attacked the students after revolutionary guards staged a pre-dawn raid on the home of Iran's minister for national guidance and arrested him, Western news reports

said.

"The students are behaving in an arbitrary way," the new president told Iran's evening newspaper, Kayhan, quoted by the Iraqi news agency. He branded the arrest of Nasser Minachi as "a respectable deed by children who don't know what they're doing," Kayhan said.

The militants had accused the minister of having ties with the CIA and informing the Americans about various activities in Iran.

Bani-Sadr told the newspaper it was "intolerable" that the militants had created "a government within the government."

"It is impossible to work in a country where so-called students claim they follow the line of the Imam

Khomeini, but do the contrary," the new president said.

He told the newspaper investigations of charges such as those made against the minister "is the task of the courts only," according to the Iraqi News Agency which carried excerpts from the Kayhan article. The president added that with such actions, "no official, no minister can work in this country with confidence, trust and security."

Bani-Sadr criticized the state radio for allowing "these kids" to broadcast accusations against the guidance minister without clearing them with authorities.

Prosecutor General Ali Ghodussi told reporters he had issued no arrest warrant for Manachi, held in a

Tehran jail, and said the arrest was against the law.

Manachi told reporters Tuesday before his arrest that the accusations against him broadcast by the radio was the result of "a plot by radical elements."

Ayatollah Mohammed Beheshti, secretary of the ruling 13-member Islamic Revolutionary Council, ruled out early release of the hostages in Tehran as sources close to the council said the ruling group will accept a U.N. proposal to set up an international commission to investigate the alleged crimes of the shah.

Sources close to the council said the group likely would insist on the shah's arrest before the beginning of a U.N. inspired commission.

Olympic committees nix boycott

United Press International
MEXICO CITY — Delegates at an international Olympics meeting have rejected the Carter administration's call for a boycott of the Moscow games and passed a resolution urging 141 member nations to "avoid external influences" to move the games.

The executive committee of the Association of National Olympic Committees unanimously passed the resolution after two days of meetings in Mexico City and a final closed-door session Tuesday.

Delegates rejected a proposal by U.S. Olympic Committee spokesman Phillip O. Krumm to defer a vote on the boycott until Sunday. The International Olympic Committee, which decides the sites of the games, will announce its position on the Moscow games at that time.

ANOC is an umbrella group of 141 National Olympic Committees formed last year in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Observers in Mexico City said the association's overwhelming sentiment against Carter's boycott prop-

osal is expected to be reflected by the IOC as well.

The 32 delegates who attended the meeting initially had planned to

discuss promotion and solidarity of the Olympic movement before the boycott issue overshadowed the previous agenda.

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State Dept. criticizes shah; report says thousands killed

United Press International
The State Department has issued an unsettling assessment of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi's treatment of political prisoners in sharp contrast with earlier favorable accounts of his rule and much closer to Iranian charges against the deposed monarch.

In Tehran, Iran's new president, Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, was named head of the ruling Islamic Revolutionary Council, an appointment that significantly expanded his power base.

Both developments could bear on the fate of the 50 Americans being held for the 96th day today at the occupied U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

The State Department's annual report to Congress on human rights was released Tuesday and said "many thousands of Iranians" were imprisoned and tortured under the shah's two decades of rule. Last year, the report found little evidence of cruel treatment of political prisoners in Iran.

The report said the Khomeini regime is holding American hostages under "cruel and degrading" conditions and has imprisoned some 15,000 political prisoners and executed about 700 Iranians after secret trials by revolutionary courts.

But the report says the number of executions of the shah's supporters "declined substantially following a partial amnesty declared July 11 by the Ayatollah Khomeini."

Bani-Sadr, who was sworn into office Monday as Iran's first president, is known for his moderate stand on the hostages. He lost the job of foreign minister in November because he favored a U.N. inquiry into the shah's alleged crimes in working out the release of the hostages.

The militants holding the Amer-

icans captive have continuously demanded the shah be returned to stand trial before they can be released, but Bani-Sadr has told them he will not share a dual government with them.

There was no direct word on the hostages in Tehran. A group of 50 Americans representing the Committee for American-Iranian Crisis Resolution left for Iran Tuesday to meet with the militants holding the Americans captive.

Bani-Sadr's appointment as head of the council is subject to the approval of the ailing Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, a spokesman said.

Khomeini has strongly backed Bani-Sadr since his overwhelming electoral triumph and personally swore him in as president from a Tehran hospital where he is recovering from a heart condition.

The shah presently is living in exile on Panama's Contadora Island.

El Salvador embassy taken

United Press International
SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — Leftist militants demanding the release of jailed comrades and an investigation into alleged human rights abuses have seized the Spanish Embassy and taken 11 persons hostage, including the ambassador.

In a separate action, about 150 youths armed with submachine guns and gasoline bombs broke off from a Guofeng, armed protest march and took over the Education Ministry in downtown San Salvador and were holding some 100 hostages, among them Education Minister Eduardo Colindre.

The peaceful takeovers Tuesday sparked threats of reprisals from right-wing groups who said they would burn the Spanish Embassy in replay of an attack by police on the Spanish Mission in Guatemala City last week in which 39 people were killed.

The newly formed rightist Central American Liberation Front said in a communique that unless the militants left the mission within 24 hours they would burn the building and kill Mario Aguinada Caranza, 35, secretary general of the leftist Nationalist Democratic Party, who was kidnapped by the Front Tuesday.

The Feb. 28 Popular Leagues said they were demanding an investigation of alleged human rights violations by the Red Cross and the Organization of American States as well as a break in relations with Spain and other "democratic" governments with El Salvador's "repressive" regime.

They also were calling for the release of other leftists imprisoned in Salvadoran jails.

Spanish Ambassador Victor Sanchez-Mesa y Juste, 63, said the demands of the 30 armed men and women from the Leagues that seized his embassy were "just."

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