

Iranians depart Houston

United Press International
HOUSTON — Nine Iranians, insulated by tight security, Tuesday playfully mugged for news cameras and then flew out of the country, beating by six hours President Carter's order for them to get out.

A host of federal marshals surrounded members of the Iranian Consulate and their dependents as they were bused from the downtown mission to Houston Intercontinental Airport.

At 6:10 p.m. they boarded a British Caledonian DC-10 with 105 other passengers for the 8 hour, 32

minute flight to London-Gatwick Airport.

Early in the day a Houston radio station urged residents to go to the airport to give the Iranians an angry "Texas sendoff." Counter-appeals by local officials, however, effectively dampened potential demonstrations. A tight security buffer also was kept around the four men, three women and two boys to make sure their departure was peaceful.

At the British Caledonian waiting gates the Iranians were ushered into a separate waiting area from other

passengers and the news media.

Reporters did, however, ask some questions through the locked glass double-doors and Consul General Hassan Taherian, speaking through the crack between the doors, answered in brief, terse sentences.

"I'm glad to leave this country and return to our beloved country," he said.

Asked what he planned to do first when he arrived home, he said: "I'm going to see Khomeini."

He said he did not have a special message for the Ayatollah.

"I don't know. I'll have to think

about that."

Just before boarding the aircraft a reporter held a message up to the glass that read: "Glad to leave?"

In chorus the Iranians happily nodded. Then, as the television cameras moved up, eight of them gathered around one Iranian man holding an arrangement of red carnations and a framed picture of Khomeini. While the camera lights shined, the Iranians — mugging like a family posing for an album — waved and smiled and held up pictures of the Ayatollah.

'The End' not over yet for star Burt Reynolds

United Press International
CHICAGO — Burt Reynolds is a wanted man — wanted by the Polish-American Guardian Society.

The president of the society, Leonard Jarzab, said the society's attorneys have been trying to serve Reynolds with legal papers since the first of the year but have been unable to track him down. The society is upset with

Reynolds' portrayal of a terminally ill man who unsuccessfully tries to commit suicide in the movie, "The End," and want him to stand trial in two damage suits charging him with "denigrating the Polish-American people," Jarzab said. Dom DeLuise, playing a Polish-American trying to help Reynolds kill himself, was the butt of many of the movie's jokes.

"He cannot, however, run forever and our attorneys feel confident that by summer they will be able to catch up with Burt Reynolds and force him to stand trial for producing 'The End,'" Jarzab said.

The society successfully forced NBC to delete the objectionable portions of "The End" before the movie was shown on television.

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SAFEWAY

and a little bit more

Gas may tie to liver ills

United Press International
SOMERVILLE, Mass. — Some of the hundreds of people exposed to toxic gas during a 6,000-gallon chemical spill at a railroad freight yard last week have developed minor liver disorders, doctors report.

Fifty test results from the Somerville Hospital showed 10 people (20 percent) have "slightly abnormal" livers, hospital Vice President Carl Zack said Monday.

The norm for such a group would be 5 percent, said Dr. David Osler, head of community medicine at the hospital. Those tested included firemen, policemen and railroad workers — among the first on the scene last Thursday when a tank car carrying phosphorus trichloride was struck by a Boston & Maine locomotive.

Osler said they would test 200 more victims to see whether the results are the same.

Osler declined to elaborate on possible treatments for the victims until the toxic fumes could definitely be linked to the liver disorders.

Joint implant helps hands

United Press International
CLEVELAND — A revolutionary artificial joint can restore the use of thumbs and fingers for people suffering from arthritis and hand injuries, an orthopedic surgeon says.

The announcement by the University Hospital of Cleveland was made Monday after 15 months of experimentation.

Dr. Kingsbury G. Heiple, an internationally known orthopedic surgeon, said he has implanted 51 of the artificial joints in 22 patients. Seven of the artificial joints were implanted in a single patient.

He said most patients acquired an "excellent" range of motion and finger function after four to six weeks of therapy sessions at University Hospital's Rehabilitation Hand Center.

"Hand disabilities are enormously crippling and although there had been reasonable answers to the problems of arthritic hip and knee, there was not previously a completely adequate replacement for finger joints," the surgeon said.

A key aspect of the new joints is they do not provoke the body's immune response to reject the artificial material, said Heiple, adding they were "virtually nonreactive" with tissue.

Kidnapped girl, 5, OK

United Press International
RED BLUFF, Calif. — A 5-year-old girl kidnapped from her San Bernardino County home was found unharmed Tuesday and a convicted sex offender who "bought" her for \$230 was taken into custody, police said.

Police did not release any additional information concerning who sold the girl.

"All I can tell you is that she's safe and mentally alert," a Red Bluff police spokesman said of Mary Agnes Cahill, who was last seen playing in her family's fenced yard Saturday morning in Highland, some 500 miles south of Red Bluff.

"She's being checked out at the hospital. So far, there's no indication of any harm — she's fine," the officer said.

Two Red Bluff police officers — Ray McGregor and Robert Heard — spotted the vehicle owned by John Dickey, a 41-year-old convicted sex offender, parked at a restaurant where Dickey, his son and the girl were eating.

Dickey was taken into custody without incident at 2:35 a.m., police said, and the girl was found uninjured and asleep inside the camper. Police said the girl would be housed in a foster home pending her return home.

The suspect's teen-age son was also taken into protective custody at the scene.