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Red Cross official enters U.S. Embassy

United Press International
TEHRAN, Iran — An official from the International Red Cross entered the U.S. Embassy today to meet with at least some of the 50 American hostages held there by Iranian militants.

The militants said earlier that they would release their American captives to meet the Red Cross but refused to be pinned down on when all 50 hostages would be visited. The militants' statement appeared to fall in line with Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr's reported promise Saturday that all Americans would be seen the Red Cross.

Cross aide to prove they were alive and well.

The official Pars news agency said the International Red Cross representative would be accompanied by Tehran's chief religious leader, the ministers of health and social welfare, and an official of the Iranian Red Lion and Sun (Red Cross) Society.

At a meeting with envoys from nine European Economic Community nations and Japan, Bani-Sadr disclosed a visit was imminent and said the group would be able to see "all the hostages."

Previous visitors to the hostages, now in

their 163rd day of captivity, have never seen all of the hostages, raising questions about exactly how many there are and whether they are all still alive or in the embassy.

President Carter has turned down requests from at least a dozen Iranian diplomats that they be allowed to stay in the United States and not be expelled, Newsweek Magazine said. The magazine said one diplomat said his wife was being treated for cancer and another claimed his 12-day-old son was too young to travel.

The magazine also quotes sources close

to the Iranian Revolutionary Council as saying government officials find it "impossible" to explain complex issues to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and that the fiery religious leader cannot work full-time because of health problems.

According to Newsweek magazine, Carter is considering expelling some or all of the Iranian citizens still in the United States and even electronically jamming all of Iran's internal communications, including radio and television signals.

The magazine also said one of the hostages, Michael Metrinko, had tried to

escape shortly after the embassy takeover November 4 and had been placed in solitary confinement.

In another initiative to end the crisis, Pope John Paul II sent individual messages to Carter, U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim, Bani-Sadr and Khomeini, the Vatican said.

In Washington, Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher told ABC's "Issues and Answers" that the United States hopes its major allies will decide by next week to join in economic sanctions against Iran.

President Carter has told interviewers he has set "a specific date" reportedly in May, for allies to join America in sanctions against Iran.

In another development, Bani-Sadr flew to Kermanshah, near the Iraqi border, to inspect Iranian armed forces in the tense region following days of sporadic fighting.

Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh scheduled to visit the border area today, told Pars, "we are not opposed to mediation, but we believe talking with the Iraqi government would not lead to any solution."

Carter wants negotiations to cut Iranian ties

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Carter asked the European Common Market nations to agree on economic sanctions against Iran by next week and to break relations with the Tehran government by May if the hostage impasse continues.

Carter also has warned the United States will respond forcefully, perhaps militarily, if the American are harmed or put on

the president made the remarks in an interview with European television correspondents made public Sunday. He did not say what future steps he could take.

Carter has focused his attention in recent days on appeals to the allies to join in pressuring Iran. He hopes the Common Market nations will agree on economic sanctions when they meet April 21, and will break diplomatic relations by May if there is no progress in freeing the hostages.

Carter said concerted action by the allies would allow the United States "to avoid the military action or other stronger belligerent action that would be always an open

option for us."

is the American hostages faced their 163rd day of captivity, Carter said, "Our patience is running out."

asked what he would do if the militants took physical action against the hostages or a trial, he replied: "Our action would be very strong and forceful and might very well involve military means."

But Carter added the United States will use all peaceful means, including joint pressure with the allies, before turning to military action.

But if our hostages are injured or if any of them are killed, then we would not delay taking much stronger action of an incalculable nature," he declared.

Begin says negotiations will speed up

United Press International
TEL AVIV, Israel — Prime Minister Menachem Begin left today for a summit with President Carter in Washington, aiming to speed up the stalled negotiations on Palestinian autonomy.

Begin still refuses to recognize the Camp David May 26 target date as a hard-and-fast deadline.

Begin also refused to consider a temporary freeze on Israeli settlements in occupied Arab territories to ease the talks in the weeks remaining before May 26.

"We can do no more," Begin told reporters at Ben-Gurion airport before his departure for the United States. "Settlement is an inalienable right and our duty and it is essential to our security."

Begin expressed optimism an agreement on Palestinian self-rule could be reached, but reiterated his stand that it must be based strictly on the Camp David accords, which set a blueprint for peace is vague and does not spell out the nuts and bolts of Palestinian autonomy.

"We are convinced that agreement can be achieved on the condition that everyone involved in the talks remains completely loyal to the Camp David accords," he told reporters.

On the eve of his departure, the military command announced it completed the withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon, ending a five-day deployment in retaliation for a guerrilla attack on the northern kibbutz of Misgav Am that left 11 Israelis and five Palestinians dead.

Begin defended Israel's troop movements in southern Lebanon as a response to terrorism and denied Israel responded to an American "demand" to remove its troops. "We told the Americans that this is a temporary measure and we must be careful and on guard," he said.

Begin said Israel favors "the speeding up" of the autonomy talks but stressed the May 26 target date for completion should not be seen as "final." "This is a goal," he said. "We must try to fulfill it."



A run with the pack

Racers begin the third and final race of the annual Aggeland Stage Race. The 40-kilometer race was held Sunday around the Corps Drill Field. Hans Schneider, pictured in the far left-hand corner, took first place in the overall two-day competition. Texas A&M student John Young finished eighth overall. The Texas A&M cycling team sponsored the event.

Staff photo by Steve Clark

Herring receives top MSC award

By BECKY MATTHEWS
Battalion Reporter

Brooks Herring received the Thomas H. Rountree award during the 29th annual Memorial Student Center Council and Directorate awards banquet held Saturday.

The award named the senior chemical engineering major from Victoria "the outstanding student of the MSC Council or Directorate."

More than 300 awards were presented at the banquet, held to honor outstanding students involved in the MSC Council and the 19 programming committees which comprise the directorate.

Herring, a former chairman of the MSC Town Hall committee and a former directorate representative to the MSC Council, served as the MSC Council president this year.

Robert Navarro, a senior biology major from Wichita Falls, was the recipient of the Harold W. Gaines award. This award is presented to the directorate member "who

is most instrumental in promoting the MSC as a whole."

Navarro, a former directorate representative to the MSC Council, was the vice-chairman for speaker arrangements for MSC Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) 25 and was the directorate representative to the MSC Enrichment committee this year.

He is the second person to have received this award since it was first presented in 1977.

The awards banquet marked the last official function for Wayne Stark as MSC Director. Jim Reynolds is the new director. Stark has been named as a special assistant to the president, to specialize in cultural programming.

Thirteen students received the Distinguished Service Award which recognizes students "who have shown leadership and dedication in the performance of their responsibilities beyond the call of duty."

These students were: Dan Ayre, Teresa Beshara, James Briggs, Brian Gross, Ermen

Haby, Henry Harlos, Cheri Leavitt, Becky Matthews, Michelle Scudder, Mary Helen Vetter, Charlie Walter, Cindy Williams and Richard Stevens.

Two students received the J. Wayne Stark Award for their work on special projects. Phil Frink received the award for his work on the MSC MBA/Law Day program and Steve Noak received the award for his work on the Miss TAMU Scholarship Pageant.

Thirteen students received awards for "exemplary achievement and outstanding service" to the MSC. These awards are broken down into first, second and third year awards.

First year recipients were Rich Carson, Paul Fisher, Craig Hanks, Marcie Macha, Erum Sheikh and Leslie Wantschek.

Second year recipients were Steve Finch, Keith Shurtleff, Laurie Null and Katy Campana.

Third year recipients were Noel Watkins, David McCarthy and Susan Dempsey.

Four faculty members received Distinguished Service Awards for non-students: Dr. Leo D. Berner received one for his work with the MSC SCONA committee, Dr. Bryan Cole received one for his work on the MSC Council, Dr. Huey Perry received one for his work with the MSC Black Awareness committee and Dr. John Reynolds received one for his work with the MSC Council.

Awards were also presented to the outstanding committee member for the directorate committees and the special project-committees under the MSC Council. These recipients are Sharon Verkin (MSC Aggie Cinema), Kerri Kernan (MSC Arts), Sandy Morrow (MSC Basement), Reginald Trammel (MSC Black Awareness), Julio Casas (MSA CAMAC), Bob Wells (MSC Camera), David Gaskill (MSC Cepheid Variable), Katie McKitterick (MSC Crafts and Arts), Randy Rychlik (MSC Free University), Carol Sugimoto (MSC Great Issues) and Heather White (MSC Hospitality).

Other recipients were: Lori Schuler (MSC OPAS), Pat Hollingsworth (MSC Outdoor Recreation), Melissa Ludwig (MSC Political Forum), Juli Montgomery (MSC Radio), Todd Norwood (MSC Recreation), Sharon Kuhn (MSC SCONA), Kyle Sears (MSC Town Hall), Debra Lanham (MSC Travel) and Lee Dedear (MSC Video).

For special projects, the recipients were: Nancy Newton (MSC Open House), Dorothy Nunnelly (MSC Fall Leadership), Jayanthi Kasiraj (MSC Welcome Back Picnic), Kirk Kelly (MSC MBA-Law Day), Patricia Price (MSC Lost and Found Auction), Cindy Ruiz (MSC Christmas Program), Mike Sottillaire (MSC Discovery), Kyle Byrom (MSC All Nite Fair), Kathy McCoy (MSC Spring Leadership) and Keith Newman (MSC Variety Show).

Approximately 275 appreciation certificates were also presented to members of the various committees in recognition of the contribution those committee members made during the year.

Kennedy victory surprises Carter

United Press International
Sen. Edward Kennedy's upset win in Arizona this weekend caught the Carter campaign "looking the other way," White House press secretary Jody Powell said.

Kennedy apparently won 16 of Arizona's national convention delegates to President Carter's 13, but the count was not yet complete when it was put over early Sunday until today. The vote then was approximately 55 percent to 45 percent, in Kennedy's favor.

Carter had been considered the favorite in a close race in Arizona. The main surprise was the strength Kennedy demon-

strated in conservative areas — even carrying Sen. Barry Goldwater's home district of Paradise Valley.

"Jimmy Carter found there's a little cactus growing in the Rose Garden," Kennedy said to a cheering labor union audience in Philadelphia Sunday.

At the White House, Powell told reporters the upset "sort of caught us looking the other way," and then repeated his dismay at Kennedy's continuing the race that risks dividing the party and giving the Republicans a big money-raising advantage.

Arizona was the only real surprise of the

weekend, but there also were these delegate selection events:

— A straw ballot at Kentucky's Republican state convention Saturday in Kentucky gave Ronald Reagan 345 votes to 70 for former U.N. Ambassador George Bush, 55 for California businessman Benjamin Fernandez, 23 for Rep. John Anderson and three for Harold Stassen.

And the convention — which wound up three days of caucuses — was so overwhelmingly favorable to Reagan that it changed party rules to assure him of all 27 delegate votes in the second and subsequent ballots at the national convention.

The first-ballot votes must be divided proportionately among leaders of the state's primary May 27.

— South Carolina Democrats reaffirmed at a state convention Saturday the big preference for Carter they had indicated at first-round caucuses last month. Carter won 34 South Carolina delegates to Kennedy's one, with two uncommitted.

— The results were not all in from Washington's legislative district caucuses Saturday — the second stage of that state's delegate selection process — but are believed to have followed projections made after the first round last month when the

anticipated final total was Carter 34, Kennedy 12, and 12 uncommitted.

— Virginia Democrats in second-stage district conventions reaffirmed earlier caucus preferences that are expected to produce 59 delegates for Carter to five for Kennedy.

— Florida Democrats chose nine state officials to fill delegates slots already pledged to candidates by results of the March 11 primary. Seven of the newly chosen delegates are for Carter and two for Kennedy, with 28 at-large delegates to be named later this month.

Millionaire searches for Titanic

United Press International
Millionaire Jack Grimm plays a little poker himself, but he still can't understand why the captain of the doomed Titanic gambled so recklessly 68 years ago in modern maritime history's worst disaster.

"Why was this great vessel going through iceberg-infested waters at 21 knots, knowing and having been warned that there was a field of icebergs up ahead?" asks Grimm.

From his base in Abilene, more than 360 air miles from the nearest ocean, the 54-year-old oilman is planning a multimillion-

dollar adventure, spread over two summers, that ultimately may provide an answer.

It also may result in the first photographs of the sunken oceanliner, provide fodder for a documentary movie and afford Grimm and his partners the chance to search for Titanic artifacts that may include a fortune in jewels.

Grimm, who has financed searches for the Loch Ness monster and Bigfoot, was solicited about four months ago to join the Titanic project. His group hopes to pro-

duce a movie of the search and distribute it within two years, with baritone-voiced Orson Welles as narrator.

The Titanic, four city blocks long and 175 feet high from keel to the top of her four funnels, left Southampton, England, for New York City on April 11, 1912.

The Titanic was on the fourth day of her maiden voyage April 14, 1912, steaming at a reported 22.5 knots in the North Atlantic, when calamity struck.

About 11:40 p.m., 380 miles off the Newfoundland coast, the 882½-foot-long ship

veered sharply to avoid a giant iceberg, floating with others farther south in the Atlantic than usual.

The Titanic was struck on her starboard side and the iceberg tore a 300-foot gash in the hull. The opening provided icy seas instant routes to five of the ship's 16 watertight compartments.

Two hours and 40 minutes after the collision — at 2:20 a.m. on April 15, 1912 — the 46,328-ton liner disappeared. She took more than 1,500 of her 2,224 passengers on a death ride as the ship sank toward the

bottom more than two miles below.

The story of the Titanic has captivated readers and moviegoers for almost seven decades. But Grimm hopes to remove it from a sort of fictionalized lore by locating the ship, photographing it and exploring part of its interior with one-way robots.

As foremost of "five or six" financiers, Grimm plans to join a research vessel crew on July 1 when they depart Port Everglades, Fla., on the first trip to the 100-square-mile search area near latitude 41:16 north and longitude 50:14 west.