

POWs return
from Angola

NEW YORK — Three Americans released from Angolan prisons in a multi-national prisoner-of-war swap had tearful reunions with families on Tuesday.

The Americans were handed over to International Red Cross authorities in Lusaka, Zambia, as three Soviet prisoners, a Cuban and 94 Angolan POWs, were released by South Africa.

Geoffrey Tyler, 28, of Seabrook, Md., a pilot, and mercenaries Gustavo Grillo, 33, of Toms River, N.J., and Gary Ackler, 28, of Sacramento, Calif., arrived on a Trans World Airlines jet from Paris Wednesday.

The three were whisked away to private reunions with families and friends, but Tyler and Grillo later spoke to reporters.

Tyler and Grillo both said they had been treated humanely by the Marxist Angolan government.

"I don't feel my treatment was inhumane, although my confinement in the jail was completely unjust," said Tyler.

Grillo, who said he went to Angola for "romance and adventure," said he too was treated humanely.

Grillo said he volunteered to fight for the FNLA, a pro-Western guerrilla group.

"I was in combat. I was

ambushed," he said.

He denied he worked for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Tyler was ferrying a single engine plane from Lakeland, Fla., to Capetown, South Africa, when engine and electrical troubles forced him to land in Angola on Feb. 4, 1981. He said no charges ever were filed against him.

Tyler said he was arrested immediately after his plane landed and was taken to a "safehouse" for 30 days.

"For the next three months I was not allowed to talk to any of the other prisoners," Tyler said. "But after six months, I was allowed to write and receive letters from my family."

He said his diet while imprisoned consisted mainly of rice, beans and heavy starches and he lost 25 pounds.

Asked if any Americans were left in the prison, Tyler said he did not believe so, but added: "We left seven British behind."

Grillo was taken prisoner in 1975 and was convicted of being a mercenary. He was sentenced to 30 years in prison and served seven years.

His stepfather said he learned from others who returned from Angola that Grillo went before a firing squad three times, but his life was spared.

Cape whale beaching probed

BOSTON — Marine life officials hoped a full-scale investigation Thursday into the mass beaching of 60 pilot whales on a Cape Cod island would help them understand the "incredible enigma."

Two of the giant mammals were transferred to the Mystic Aquarium in Mystic, Conn., from a salt marsh in the Cape Cod Bay where they were stranded Tuesday, but one later died.

The other, a female about 3 to 4 years old weighing about 750 pounds, was given antibiotics and pain-killers, but was not expected to live.

"Its chances are slim, really slim," said Mystic spokeswoman Julie Quinn, adding the whale was under 24-hour care. "But every time we work with one of these animals we learn more about them."

Two other such mass beachings have been reported in the area since 1930, but what causes these mammals to strand

themselves to die remains a mystery.

"It's an incredible enigma," said Boston's New England Aquarium spokeswoman Rosalyn Ridgway.

Patricia Fiorelli, coordinator of the aquarium's Marine Mammal Rescue Program, said researchers were conducting extensive post-mortem tests on the whales — most presumed to be young and 7 to 18 feet long — in an attempt to learn more about the phenomenon.

"We will be sending tissue and teeth samples and the like to the Smithsonian Institution, Yale University and some skeletons to several local museums," said Fiorelli.

She said a lot of "tissue requests" had been received from researchers nationally. After the investigation is completed, the whales will be sunk in the marsh area of the Atlantic island, which belongs to the Audubon Society.

Fiorelli said a number of theories for the beachings have been proposed but none has

proved conclusive.

"There may be some sort of physiological reason for it but that has not been borne out by any facts," he said. "We looked

at everything but it never became clear."

Officials said the two previous documented mass strandings in the area occurred in 1957 when

105 whales came up on the beach, and in 1930 when about 1,000 whales beached themselves.

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Fast tax cut worth
big deficit: Regan

WASHINGTON — Providing an earlier boost to the economy is worth the \$6 billion to \$8 billion increase in the budget deficit that speeding up the next tax cut would cause, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan said Thursday.

Regan, who said President Reagan is leaning strongly toward asking Congress to speed up the tax cut, added that he expects interest rates to keep falling through the end of the year — a hint the administration wants the Federal Reserve to trim its discount rate.

The Treasury secretary, interviewed on NBC's "Today" show, conceded there would be a \$6 billion to \$8 billion increase

in the deficit with a faster tax cut but said the economic stimulus it would provide was worth the trade.

Suggestions to move forward the 10 percent, across-the-board personal income tax cut from July 1 to January have drawn fire from congressional Democrats. Such a cut would require action by Congress at its lame-duck session beginning Nov. 29.

Many Democrats maintain it would add to a deficit expected to hit \$150 billion and could put upward pressure on interest rates. Others, however, have indicated they might support it if the maximum benefit to a taxpayer is capped.



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