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Reagan seeks lead in talks

United Press International
LOS ANGELES — By offering the Soviet Union an interim limit on medium-range nuclear weapons, President Reagan set out to recapture the initiative on arms control and boost his political standing on both sides of the Atlantic.

Reagan, hopeful of seizing the lead what has become a public relations war between the superpowers, flew to California Wednesday after unveiling a long-awaited proposal to break a deadlock at the nuclear arms bargaining table in Geneva, Switzerland.

In a broadcast staged before an audience of NATO diplomats and administration officials, Reagan shifted to the Soviets the burden for making the next move in the arms control talks.

Reagan offered to limit, but not strap, the deployment of American missiles on European soil, scheduled to begin in December, if the Soviets agree to dismantle some of the 600 missiles they now have in place.

In heated calls by the allies for a new proposal to break the current program in the Intermediate Nuclear Forces negotiations, Reagan also drew a new twist into the talks, by shifting the focus from launchers to warheads — an accounting change

that would affect the Soviets, with their large force of multiple warheads, more than the United States.

Agreement would be contingent on negotiation of a specific ceiling on warheads, with the warheads counted "on a global basis," including Soviet missiles in Europe and Asia.

Reagan also is scheduled to speak to the Los Angeles World Affairs Council today. The speech is intended to provide a forum for Reagan to review his initiatives in the areas of strategic arms reductions, conventional force reductions and the elimination of chemical weapons.

Aides indicated Reagan would portray himself as a crusader for peace by describing what he termed Wednesday as "our efforts to drastically reduce the arsenals which burden the lives of our own citizens, of our friends and allies and, yes, of our adversaries as well."

"This administration," he said, "has undertaken a comprehensive and far-reaching arms control program."

Presidential spokesman Larry Speakes said Reagan would use his speech today to express "our desire to move the talks forward and encourage serious consideration and a favorable Soviet response to our interim proposal."



Two heads better than one

Carrie Gladwell, left, a freshman civil engineering major from Paris, France, and Julia R. Hardy, right, a sophomore journalism major from Manhattan, New York,

put their heads together while studying on a bench near the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue at the Academic Building.

staff photo by Guy Hood

Groucho's mistress must pay; attorneys say she's penniless

United Press International
SANTA MONICA, Calif. — Former showgirl Erin Fleming, ordered to pay nearly \$500,000 to the estate of Groucho Marx, says she could not have exploited her relationship with the late comedian because he was too independent.

In a confusing climax to the bizarre two-month trial and 11 days of deliberation, the Superior Court jury Wednesday ordered Fleming to pay

the Bank of America, executor of Marx's estate, \$221,843.09 in compensatory damages and \$250,000 in punitive damages.

Fleming's attorneys said Wednesday she cannot pay because she is broke.

"I was wondering if I could put it on my Master Charge," Fleming said on ABC's "Nightline" in her first interview after the verdict.

"I really loved Groucho with all my

heart, and I know he loved me," said Fleming, 42, who was Marx's live-in companion during the last six years of his life.

"Anyone who knows anything about Groucho Marx knows he was his own man. He was out all over town with whoever he chose to go with. It simply was not possible (to exploit him)."

Jury foreman Eugene McCarthy, a retired Santa Monica police officer,

told reporters there was a "preponderance of evidence" Fleming had breached the trust the comedian had placed in her.

After the verdict Miss Fleming's attorney, David Sabih, refused to allow her to speak to reporters, saying she was "flipping out" and he feared she might try suicide.

Later on the television program Fleming appeared calm and occasionally giggled.

Student election results delayed

by Kelley Smith
Battalion Staff
Posting of student body election results has been delayed because of problems with the computer program which tabulates the votes.

The results will be posted after 5 tonight. They originally were scheduled to be ready at midnight Wednesday.

Student government workers were unable to get the program to run on Wednesday. A consultant was called this morning to help run the program.

"I haven't run into any problems so far," consultant John Kane said of the program is running this morning.

Kane expects to be finished by noon but the results will not be official until after the Judicial Board, which

meets today at 5 p.m., approves them.

The omission of three names from the student government election ballots may cause parts of the election to be invalidated.

Candidates who feel the omission of the names changed the election results may file an appeal.

Candidates must file their appeals of the election results within 48 hours of the posting. Les Asel, election commissioner, makes the appeal decisions. Appeals of Asel's decision are referred to the Judicial Board which has final authority in election appeals.

Two of the errors were noticed and corrected around 10 a.m. Tuesday morning. The third missing name was added to the ballot by 12:30 p.m.

The ballots were corrected early Wednesday morning.

Construction fund discussed

United Press International
AUSTIN — Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby said Wednesday he and several other legislators will meet with oil and gas representatives Tuesday to discuss a possible oil and gas severance tax increase.

Sen. Grant Jones, D-Abilene and Sen. Bob Vale, D-San Antonio, want to increase the severance tax to fund construction at 25 colleges that do not share in the University of Texas and Texas A&M's oil-rich Permanent University Fund.

The money would be used to create a construction fund for the non-PUF schools. After the fund reached \$2 billion, the appropriation would cease and the universities would use interest revenues for their construction needs.

The House already has passed a proposed constitutional amendment that calls for an appropriation of \$75 million annually for funding construction at the 25 schools.

However, because of declining state revenues, Jones and Vale ad-

vanced the idea of a 1 percent increase in the severance tax on oil and gas.

Although a firm proposal has not been drafted, it was expected that a 1 percent increase would generate nearly \$400 million a year.

Hobby said that under such a tax increase, the \$2 billion fund could be created in approximately six years.

Representatives of the oil and gas industry already have reacted harshly to the proposal, saying it would adversely affect the entire state's economy and possibly cause an increase

in utility rates.

"It might initially be good for college construction, but if the full impact of the tax is traced through the economy, it wouldn't surprise me to see the \$400 million annual tax have a negative effect on jobs and the generally struggling Texas economy," said a representative of the Texas Independent Producers & Royalty Owners Association.

But Hobby said he would try to convince the industry to accept the tax. He pointed out that the severance tax has not been increased since 1947.

84 reported dead in El Salvador

United Press International
SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — Guerrillas killed 17 militiamen Wednesday in an attack on a Salvadoran town and then ambushed two companies of U.S.-trained reinforcements, leaving another 67 dead, rebel radio reports.

Radio Veneceros said guerrillas attacked the town of San Isidro, 66 miles northeast of San Salvador, at dawn Wednesday and captured it an

hour later. The broadcast said leftist forces killed 17 army-organized militiamen stationed there, drawing in reinforcements from the elite Belloso Battalion, trained in 1982 at Ft. Bragg, N.C.

It said a company of Belloso soldiers were rushed to the battle site from nearby Osicala, but the soldiers were fired on by well-entrenched guerrillas holding high ground out-

side San Isidro. In the afternoon, another company of Belloso troops was rushed to the area, but it was ambushed 2 miles outside San Isidro, the broadcast said.

The guerrilla radio said that at least 67 Belloso soldiers were killed in the two ambushes, and that the rebels recovered 70 rifles and heavy weapons. It said at least 46 soldiers were wounded.

It also claimed that a war-jet from the Honduran air force provided air

support for the Belloso soldiers, but that the plane was driven off by the rebels.

The report of 84 military dead is one of the largest government death-counts given by the rebels for a single battle this year. Military officials were not immediately available for comment.

Treasury police agents, meanwhile, released free-lance reporters T.J. Western, 31, of Minneapolis, and Joan Ambrose Newton, 32, of Col-

umbia, Mo., five days after their arrests by Treasury Ministry agents in San Salvador.

"I feel very good about being out," said Western, sipping a beer at an impromptu news conference Wednesday at a San Salvador hotel. He said he was "treated fine and with reasonable courtesy."

Western, a free-lance reporter for Associated Press Radio, said the only restriction on his release was that he remain in El Salvador while police in-

vestigate possible gun-running from the United States to guerrillas.

He said Treasury agents arrested him to investigate an 80-minute telephone call he made to a San Diego, Calif. radio station. The station, KPBS, broadcasts a program called "Enfoque Nacional" (National Focus), a Spanish-language broadcast, which on March 24 aired interviews Western had had with U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton and a guerrilla commander.

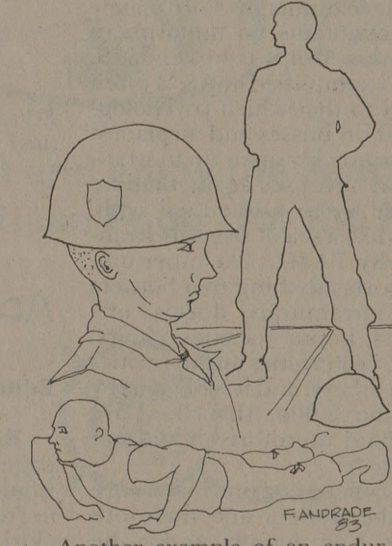
First year tough for cadets

by Kelley Smith
Battalion Staff
When a freshman enters the Corps, he must be prepared for such activities as Corps traditions. Some traditions he'll enjoy, some he won't.

"The Corps is like a game," said Mike Holmes, commander of the Corps. "You must learn the rules and once you know them, you can get back."

"The imagination of the guys in the Corps is incredible," he said, commenting on the way traditions were started.

It often seems as if underclassmen receive the worst aspect of some traditions. Endurance tests are one example. Both pushing and crappouts, traditions aimed at building character and discipline, are physical disciplinary sessions in which cadets must exercise until they are "crapped out," Holmes said. Some muscled that people usually don't use are exercised, he said.



Another example of an endurance test involves a coat hanger. The student must hold a coat hanger upright by sitting on it for a certain number of seconds, usually the

number of years in his graduating class. However he can't sit on it too hard or he will bend the hanger.

Freshmen can be instructed to do either of these by upperclassmen. If a freshman "pulls out" — by using a privilege of or wearing the brass or uniform of an upperclassman, not knowing something about the menu or something else considered wrong, he may be told to do pushups.

Chuck Haddick, a sophomore in the regiment, said traditions are a generally accepted method of training, but said that at times it did bother him.

"Occasionally it got on my nerves," he said, "when I thought I was in the right and my upperclassmen didn't see it that way."

By joining the Corps, however, cadets have subjected themselves voluntarily to the punishments, Haddick said.

Holmes said sophomores and juniors also have to do pushups at times but it's not as prevalent.

"The seniors are pretty much exempt from pushups," Holmes said. "Their buddies don't usually make them push."

Another tradition says freshman cadets must "hit the wall" to make way for a passing senior. In the dorms, if a freshman sees a senior in the hall, he must stand with his back against the wall and introduce himself. The cadet is supposed to be making room for the senior boots as they pass.

The cadets also must drop their books for seniors when asked what outfit he's in. The seniors have the privilege of making a cadet stop to introduce himself and "hump it" for his outfit yell. To do this, the cadet must put his books down.

At dinner, freshmen also must eat at a certain degree of attention while taking fish bites — bites small enough to be swallowed after only a few chews, about the size of the end portion of the pinky finger, Haddick said. The freshman also must

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Ex-athletes get probation serving club

from staff and wire reports

Two former Texas A&M football players who pleaded guilty to charges stemming from the theft of a pizza and assault of a pizza deliveryman have been ordered to serve their year-long probation sentence at a local boys club.

Burnis Simon, 22, of Houston, and Gary Lynn Rogers, 19, of Dallas, admitted earlier this month to pushing a Domino's Pizza deliveryman down a flight of stairs in Cain Hall and taking his \$12.50 pizza in early November.

Brazos County Attorney Jeff Brown said Tuesday that the men must spend between 50 and 70 hours at the Boys Club of Brazos County this summer.

Brown, a director of the club, said each of the men will have to pay a \$300 fine, plus court costs.

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forecast

Partly clear skies today with a high of 79. Southeasterly winds of around 10 mph. Partly cloudy to cloudy tonight with a low near 57. Mostly cloudy Friday with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms and a high near 74.