

Reagan asks for guidance

Marine's widow prays

United Press International
 PENSACOLA, Fla. — The wife of a Marine captain killed in Beirut said Tuesday she was praying he made "the right decisions" about sending troops to Lebanon.
 "I told him I had been praying for him to make the right decisions," said Marian Gail Ohler, wife of Capt. Michael J. Ohler. "It meant a lot to me. It was really something to get a call from the president. I'm thankful we have the type of government where people care."
 Ohler, 25, said she received a telephone call from the Reagan Monday night.
 "He wanted to express his condolences and said he and Mrs. Reagan were praying for me," she said. "He believed my husband gave his life for his country."
 "He told me he had done more praying for guidance in the last two years than he ever had before. He tried to encourage me and said I had a good life ahead of me," Ohler added.

A memorial service for Ohler will be at 1 p.m. Friday at the Marine Corps Air Station in New River, N.C. Ohler will be buried at Barrancas National Cemetery on Pensacola Naval Station.
 Ohler, a helicopter pilot and air liaison officer, was stationed at the air station and Camp LeJeune, N.C. before he was ordered to Beirut in May.
 He was shot in the head Sunday when Marines came under small arms fire from Shiite Moslem positions in Beirut. He was the seventh Marine serving with the Multi-national Force to die.
 Ohler said her husband hoped the force would bring peace in Lebanon.
 "My husband served the Lord through serving in the Marine Corps," she said. "He told my daughter in one of his tapes he was there to help those people get some peace like we have here."
 Capt. Rick Hamme, a friend of Ohler's who saw him in Lebanon earlier this year,

said fellow officers at Camp LeJeune were surprised by the captain's death.
 "It was a shock. People said, 'Mike, not Mike.' He was well-known and loved," said Hamme, who traveled to Pensacola to help Ohler's family complete funeral arrangements.
 When they met in Beirut, the two talked of their families, Hamme said. "I have a 4-month-old son at home. We talked a lot about his wife who was expecting."
 Ohler, a native of Huntington, N.Y., never saw his 3-month-old son Benjamin, who was born in June after he left the United States. He is also survived by his 2-year-old daughter, Sarah Marie.
 Mrs. Ohler came to her parent's home in Pensacola from Jacksonville, N.C., where the couple had lived, when her husband went abroad. The two met in Pensacola in 1978 while he was undergoing flight training and they were married in November 1979. Ohler graduated from the Naval Academy in 1977.

Illegal aliens fill farm void

United Press International
 LAS CRUCES, N.M. — The U.S. Census Bureau estimates at least half the 3.5 million to 6 million illegal aliens in the United States are from Mexico.
 In New Mexico, the immigrants blend into the local population easily and generally benefit the agriculture sector, according to Clyde Eastman, a sociologist with the New Mexico State University Agriculture Experiment Station.
 Eastman said undocumented workers are willing to do much of the ranch and farm work that Americans find undesirable, and they will work for lower wages.
 "Production of many agricultural commodities is not very profitable," Eastman said. "And any savings goes directly into the producers' bank accounts."
 "In this situation, even small amounts become a relatively large portion of the profit."
 "But the availability of willing labor is more important than cost savings."
 Eastman interviewed 50 producers involved in New Mexico agriculture about production

practices and employment of undocumented workers, and he said the immigration situation in New Mexico is unique.
 Eastman said Mexican workers can cross the border relatively easily on their own, with friends or relatives.
 If they intend to work near the border, the cost of coming over is low and they often come and go several times a year, he said.
 He said illegals who remain near the border are less likely to be exploited or mistreated, compared with those who seek employment far into the country's interior.
 Eastman said if the undocumented worker is removed from the state's agriculture scene, the ramifications could be far reaching.
 Producers, he said, would have difficulty finding American labor willing to do some of the tedious, boring work necessary to keep operations going.
 "It is also a safety valve for Mexico," he said.

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