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Texas A&M

The Battalion

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U.S., Russia conduct talks

United Press International

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko met for more than five hours Wednesday in an effort to thaw superpower relations. The session went on two hours longer than expected.

No details of the meeting, their first face-to-face since a confrontation last year over the Soviet downing of a Korean airliner, were immediately available.

Shultz and his aides left the Soviet embassy in Stockholm's western suburbs at 8:10 p.m. local time, five hours and 15 minutes after his arrival.

Reporters were not allowed into the embassy grounds to approach officials at the end of the meeting, which began at the embassy overlooking Lake Malaren with a friendly exchange about the weather.

Despite an angry morning speech to the European security conference in which Gromyko charged that "nuclear war is the policy of the United States," the usually dour diplomat seemed cordial facing Shultz in the wood-paneled room.

Shultz strode into the marble lobby past a bust of Lenin and through a reception room overlooked by a large photograph of Soviet President Yuri Andropov.

Mineral water, club-soda and cigarettes were on the lacquered brown conference table with a bowl of sugar and sliced lemons, apparently for a later serving of tea.

Shultz was accompanied by the U.S. ambassador to Moscow, Arthur Hartman, Richard Burt, assistant secretary of state for Europe, Jack Matlock, a Soviet expert with the National Security Council, and interpreter William Krimer.

Directly across from him was Gromyko, accompanied by his personal assistant, Vasily Makharov, Georgi Korniyenko, the first deputy foreign minister, S.P. Tarasenko, deputy director of U.S. affairs in the Soviet Foreign Ministry, and interpreter Viktor Sukhodrev.

"You have to come to the United States to find out how cold this winter is," Shultz said at the start of the session.

"I've read reports about the frost," Gromyko replied. "Muscovites can say, now the Americans know what frost means."

"That's right," Shultz answered.

Gromyko and Shultz last met in Madrid in September—a stormy confrontation that followed the shooting down by Soviet fighters of a South Korean airliner on Sept. 1 over the northern Sea of Japan. All 269 people aboard were killed.

Since then, the United States has begun deployment of 572 Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in NATO countries to counter the triple-warhead Soviet SS-20s, prompting Moscow to break off all arms and troop reduction negotiations.

The Kremlin has warned it will not resume the talks until the missiles are removed. On Tuesday, the official Soviet news agency Tass reported the Soviets have begun installing new missiles in East Germany in response to the NATO deployment.

Gromyko charged Wednesday the Reagan administration is preparing "maniacal" plans for nuclear war, dashing hopes for a quick thaw in relations between the superpowers.

"The present U.S. administration is an administration thinking in terms of war and acting accordingly," he said.

Contaminated foods still in stores

BY SARAH OATES
Staff Writer

Food products contaminated with the powerful carcinogen EDB will be available in local grocery stores until the Environmental Protection Agency establishes guidelines for acceptable levels of the pesticide in foods.

EDB, ethyl dibromide, a soil fumigant that is particularly effective against weevils and nematodes, was banned in September 1983 because EPA officials feared it might be contaminating Florida's ground water supply. The pesticide was put on the market in 1948 and its carcinogenic properties have been known since 1974.

Contaminated products range from baby food and citrus fruits to dog food. Carmen Lovell, consumer affairs director for the Kroger Co., said she received a letter from Martha White Foods Inc. stating that company is working to reduce the levels of EDB in its baking mixes, such as corn meal and cornbread.

"Until the EPA issues a recall, we will continue to sell these products," said Lovell. She said there's no warning to issue to consumers right now.

A Jan. 6 consumer alert release from the office of Attorney General Jim Mattox lists seven Martha White products containing various parts per billion of EDB. No employees of the company were available for comment.

The Texas Health Department found no traces of EDB in 25 random water samples last week. State Health Commissioner Dr. Robert Bernstein said that about 12 tests are being run daily and that so far results indicate no traces of the chemical.

Bernstein said there is no set national standard for EDB levels in water. The acceptable limit in Florida is one-tenth part per billion, which

Bernstein called "ridiculous, because you can't measure under one part per billion."

"William Ruckelshaus is trying to set limits," Bernstein said. "We'll go from there." EPA Administrator Ruckelshaus is gathering information from each state about contaminated food products.

Leland Beatty, of the Texas Department of Agriculture, said the department is running tests in cooperation with Florida to determine how Florida citrus fruits were contaminated. He said several possibilities are being considered.

"We don't know yet," he said. "It could be from ground water used to water the trees or it could be that EDB sank into the fruit when it was sprayed on the peel. We don't know for sure."

EDB is used as a citrus fumigant against the Mediterranean fruit fly. Leland said the chemical levels in Florida citrus fruits range to 5,000 ppb, according to California tests. Florida health standards allow less than one ppb in products for human consumption.

EDB came under EPA scrutiny as a possible carcinogen in the mid-1970's. Phil Hamman, an extension services entomologist at Texas A&M University, said that EDB lost visibility when the Dow Chemical Co. stopped manufacturing it after its carcinogenic properties were discovered. The chemical was also used as a pesticide for stored grains, such as wheat and corn. Hamman said that two important characteristics of EDB in relation to its use on stored grains are the fact that it is slow to turn from a liquid to a gas and that it absorbs into the grain.

"EDB doesn't volatilize as greatly as other liquid grain fumigants," he said, adding that this makes it difficult to judge the pesticide's chronic, or long-term effects.

EPA research has shown that re-



Photo by DEAN SAITO

Baking mixes such as these have been found with high levels of EDBs. Until the

EPA issues a recall, local stores will continue to sell them.

sidues in the average diet can cause cancer in one-out-of-three thousand. Leland said that since the EPA risk assessment is based on a balanced, "normal" diet, those with a wheat-based diet may run a greater risk.

Bernstein, however, emphasized

determine EDB's carcinogenic properties must be considered when viewing the pesticide as a public menace.

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American University official shot in Beirut

United Press International

BEIRUT — Gunmen firing silencer-equipped pistols killed the president of the American University outside his office Wednesday and Moslem extremists said he was a victim of "the American presence in Lebanon."

The Islamic Jihad group claimed responsibility for the killing of Dr. Malcolm Kerr, who refused a bodyguard after becoming head of the school, and also threatened to kill a Saudi Arabian diplomat kidnapped Tuesday in Beirut.

Kerr, 52, an American who was an expert on the Middle East, was shot by two gunmen using silencer-equipped pistols. He was declared dead on arrival at the American University

Hospital, the same hospital where he was born.

Police and army units — aided at one exit by U.S. Marines assigned to the adjacent U.S. Embassy — sealed off the walled and guarded 73-acre campus to search for suspects but the gunmen escaped.

"Kerr was the victim of the American presence in Lebanon," said a caller identifying himself as a member of the Islamic Jihad — the Holy War.

"We pledge that there will no longer be a single American or Frenchman on this soil," he told the French news agency AFP in a telephone call.

The Islamic Jihad also claimed responsibility for devastating suicide attacks on the U.S. and French peacekeepers in October and the

bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Kuwait and Beirut.

In Washington, the White House and State Department denounced the killing.

"It's certainly tragic," said presidential spokesman Larry Speakes. A State Department official said the murder by "these despicable assassins must strengthen our resolve not to give in to the acts of terrorists."

The caller said that Saudi consul Hussein Farraj, who was kidnapped off the crowded streets of west Beirut Tuesday, was undergoing a trial "under the terms of Islamic justice."

"Our organization assassinated Kerr," the caller said, "and the body of the Saudi Arabian consul will soon be thrown out." He vowed to "pursue all Lebanese and Arab agents, should

they be leaders, politicians or military men."

Amidst the furor over the assassination, Christian east Beirut came under a new burst of shelling by the Druze Moslem rebels. Radios broadcast warnings for civilians to stay indoors after six shells hit.

The killing of Kerr produced an angry outcry from all sides of Lebanese life, with Justice Minister Roger Chikhani calling the assassination "a cowardly terrorist act."

The university was closed until next Monday, and the Catholic school system said it would also shut down in mourning for the head of the university, which it called "the cornerstone of culture in Lebanon."

Kerr, whose father taught medicine at the school, had replaced David Dodge, the acting president who was kidnapped from the campus and held captive in Iran for exactly one year. He was released, with the help of Syria, last July.

Kerr had spent his entire life studying the Middle East. He took the position in Beirut after a 20-year career at the University of California, Los Angeles, as director of the Center for Near Eastern studies.

The official statement from the university said that "two armed men, equipped with silencers on their guns" were waiting for Kerr and killed him with two bullets in his head as he walked from the elevator in the

corridor of his third floor office at College Hall.

But Lebanese government medical examiner, Dr. Ahmed Harati, told state-run Beirut radio that Kerr had died from a single bullet wound.

Kerr was alone as he stepped out of the elevator, having relinquished his bodyguard shortly after assuming his duties in October 1982 "because he felt at home and was surrounded by friends," said university spokesman Radwan Mawlawi.

The attack followed two attempts in west Beirut in recent weeks to assassinate people associated with the French Embassy, also with silencer-equipped pistols.

Vice Chancellor James Bond resigns, returning to private legal practice

By KELLEY SMITH
Senior Staff Writer

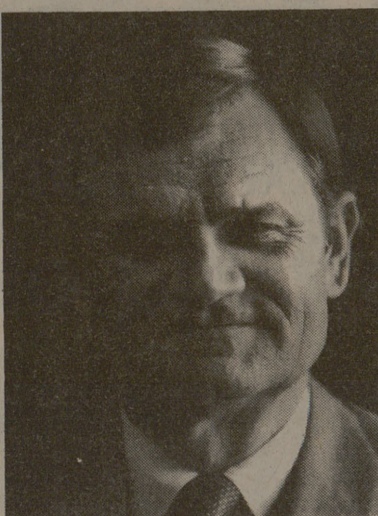
Having reached what he calls the pinnacle of his career here, James B. Bond, vice chancellor for legal and public affairs, will return to the private practice of law which, he says, is his first real love.

Bond, who has served the Texas A&M system as vice chancellor and general counsel since 1977, said he reached a point where he had to evaluate his career to decide what would be most fulfilling and exciting for him. At that point he had worked eight years in the private sector and eight years in the public sector.

He worked on everything from suits against the University to real estate negotiations. He announced his resignation last Wednesday after deciding his contribution to the University was complete.

The choice between the private and public sector was a serious matter, Bond said. However, Bond said he saw no room left for upward mobility at the University.

"First, I think it's an enjoyment factor," he said of his decision to re-



James B. Bond

turn to private practice, "and second, I don't think there are any caps in the private sector to achievement," Bond said. There's a lot of room to grow

and to find satisfaction in the challenging atmosphere of private practice, he said.

"In the public sector, sometimes you can only do so much," Bond said. "You can see something you would like to change but it's too big to change."

The limitation in the public sector stems from the size of the institution, which by its nature has a sense of inertia, he said. Contributions to initiating changes might help but the process is slow and difficult, he said.

The public sector also has its share of bureaucracy and trappings that sometimes can limit a lawyer, he said, as opposed to the private sector where he can control his destiny and become a success based on his own ingenuity and talent.

Working in the public sector also poses some constraints on a lawyer's work, Bond said.

"Your control mechanism as a lawyer is less in this setting and the public nature of an institution means that the administration or the Board of Regents naturally have to be somewhat affected by public sentiment," he said. "Sometimes as a lawyer, you

must follow public opinion as translated by the administration, so there are times when pure legal judgement on an issue may have to be mitigated by that public opinion as translated through those people."

However, Bond said his job here has been rewarding.

Through his new position working with public affairs, Bond coordinated state, federal and local government affairs for the chancellor and other administrative offices.

Bond said his office made a strong start in public affairs with the federal government.

"It was one of the things that was stimulating and somewhat difficult to walk away from because I think we have a lot to gain there," Bond said.

He said he expects the progress in that area to continue. Mike Lytle, from the chancellor's office, will take over Bond's responsibilities with federal public affairs, and state representative Bill Presnal, after his term in office ends this year, will become vice chancellor for state public affairs.

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In Today's Battalion

Local

• Pope John Paul II has blessed the Texas A&M Village of Hope project. See story page 4.

State

• Gov. Mark White wants to lengthen the Texas public school day to nine hours. See story page 1B.
• A new drug used to treat high blood pressure is also helping bald men grow hair. See story page 10.

National

• How to earn college credit via television. See story page 1B.
• Eric Dickerson has been named outstanding black athlete for 1983. See story page 14.

World

• Two U.S. Army survivors tell about last week's Nicaraguan attack that killed one American pilot. See story page 3.