

Offer to sell anti-aircraft missiles withdrawn

United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, thwarted by resistance from Congress and harsh criticism from Jordanian King Hussein, Wednesday withdrew his offer to sell Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

The action, which came just eight days after Reagan described the arms deals as important to the security of the Mid-

dle East and improved relations with moderate Arab states, was announced by White House spokesman Larry Speakes.

Speakes said Reagan, heeding the advice of his senior advisers and Republican congressional leaders, agreed Tuesday night to cancel the \$273 million in arms deals rather than face an embarrassing rejection by Congress.

"We developed a package

that we thought was important," Speakes said. "We were prepared to pursue it and make an aggressive campaign for it. But in consultation with congressional leaders, we decided to withdraw the sale."

The decision does not affect a separate administration request, now pending in Congress, for \$220 million to equip an 8,000-man Jordanian strike force that could be used to quell

trouble in the strategic Persian Gulf.

Administration officials said they hoped cancellation of the controversial Stinger sale — keeping the weapons out of Jordanian hands — would improve prospects for the strike force.

However, the concession did not slow a push in Congress to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, which the administration fears

would damage U.S. relations with the Arab world. During a news conference Tuesday, Secretary of State George Shultz was more ardent in his opposition to the embassy bill than in his defense of the arms sale to Jordan.

Sources said the administration, in private talks Tuesday with a leading pro-Israel lobbying group, the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee,

sought to use the Stinger sale as a bargaining chip to kill the embassy bill. The offer was rejected and the arms deal was scrapped anyway.

The White House announcement was hailed as a victory by Jewish groups that lobbied against the Stinger sales and by their allies in Congress.

The reversal dealt yet an-

other blow to Reagan's policy in the Middle East, battered in recent months by a retreat from Lebanon and a failure to revitalize the broader peace process along the lines of his long-stalled September 1982 peace plan.

The latest defeat all but exhausted the initiatives Reagan has taken to retain an active role in the Middle East.

Debate considers closing campus

By LEIGH FORREST
Reporter

Students participating in a public debate Wednesday night voted 114-36 against closing the Texas A&M campus to through traffic.

The debate was the ninth of the Texas A&M Forum sponsored by the English department.

Julia Sullivan, a junior English major, spoke for the resolution and said the main problem at Texas A&M is "unauthorized parking," or those people who park on campus without an appropriate parking sticker. This, she said, causes those people who do have parking permits to park illegally. Sullivan suggested clos-

ing off the campus to those unauthorized parkers by placing guard stations at the campus entrances to check for parking stickers.

"Essentially, no one is affected except those people who don't have a sticker or a shuttle bus pass and are going to park illegally," Sullivan said. "It's very, very simple."

However, she said, the resolution will not solve the entire problem.

"It will at least ease the problem and frustrations until we can come up with another long term solution," she said.

Ramon DeLeon, a senior ED-Cl/secondary education major,

spoke against the resolution for three reasons.

"I oppose the resolution because the checkpoint system is not a workable solution on neither a short nor long term basis," DeLeon said. "I oppose the resolution because it does not address the pedestrian/vehicle conflict...and because it presents a violent overreaction and has unhealthy social repercussions while other solutions really exist."

He said that closing the campus to through traffic would not solve the problem, it would just push it off campus.

After both speakers presented their side, the debate was opened to the public.

CS council meeting tonight

By SUZY FISK
Reporter

College Station City Council meets tonight at 7 to discuss a survey, a zoning plan and parks and recreation concerns.

First on the agenda will be the signing of a proclamation designating March 31 as "Super Survey Saturday" in College Station. The Texas Education Agency will conduct a survey on educational and cultural human

services. Several questions on lighting and street repair, bicycle registration, and a youth

center will be asked in person and by mail. More than 4,000 residents of College Station, who were selected by random sample, will be asked to give their opinion on these subjects.

Another concern on the agenda will be the presentation of the first draft of re-zoning plan for Northgate. The draft

will give recommendations on the improvement of parking and ordinance problems.

Further down the list, the parks and recreation board will consider names for parks located in Sandstone, Woodcreek and Glenhaven subdivisions. Richard Carter's name will be considered for the proposed park site in Glenhaven. The park is the homesite of Carter, who was the first settler of Brazos county.



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