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Two Iranian hijackers seized after forcing plane to Rome

United Press International

ROME — Two teenage anti-Khomeini hijackers, one a member of Iran's fanatical revolutionary guard, Wednesday forced an Iranian jet jammed with Mecca-bound pilgrims to fly to Italy, where they released their 303 hostages and unsuccessfully tried to escape by mingling with the passengers.

The hijackers were seized among a crowd of freed hostages at Rome's Ciampino military airport, ending an ordeal that took the Air Iran A-300 Airbus from Tehran to Bahrain, Cairo and Rome.

Police said the hijackers — Hosein Eftekhari, 18, a member of Iran's fa-

natical revolutionary guard, and Mohsem Rahgohzar, 17, — had planned to ask for political asylum in Paris. They were taken to the Queen of Heaven jail.

Despite reports they had explosives and a gun, police said they found only a knife on the pair. One teenager had strapped packages to his body he said contained explosives, but they turned out to be fake, police said. A "hand bomb" used to threaten the crew was harmless.

The pilot, who told authorities in Cairo the plane had been commandeered by 18 hijackers with explosives strapped to their bodies, in Rome said he had seen only one hi-

jacker, a man dressed in a black shirt and army boots.

When the pilot identified the hijacker among the passengers, the second then stepped forward and said, "I was with him," police said. Both carried Iranian passports. Italian authorities were questioning all the passengers with the help of Iranian diplomats to determine whether there were any other hijackers.

"The case is not completely concluded," Undersecretary of the Interior Raffaele Costa said. "We have to ascertain definitely how many hijackers there were. To do this we have to identify all the passengers

before letting them return to their homeland."

Under Italian law, a convicted hijacker faces up to 21 years in prison. Costa said Italy would not grant political asylum to hijackers.

Passengers said the hijackers were armed with a gun and said they had a bomb.

After freeing 129 hostages in return for food and medicine and a promise of more fuel, the hijackers gave up and freed the remaining 163 passengers and 11 crew members when they became convinced they would not be allowed to fly to France, Italian authorities said.

Nixon remains controversial

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Ten years after Richard Nixon resigned from the presidency in disgrace he remains one of the most controversial leaders ever, and the Watergate scandal that drove him from office haunts the consciousness of the American people.

Americans' opinions of Nixon range from reverence to hatred. Few are indifferent to the man who has inspired controversy on a national scale ever since he entered politics by defeating Democratic Rep. Jerry Voorhees for a House seat from California in 1946. Nixon resigned Aug. 9, 1974, the only president ever to do so.

Asked Tuesday if he thinks the former president has been rehabilitated, Carl Bernstein, the former Washington Post reporter who, with Bob Woodward, was largely responsible for exposing the link of the Watergate burglary to the White House, said: "I think a man has a right to redeem himself. I wish that the president would make an open confession."

"There was a cleansing effect that

Americans still remember Watergate 10 years later

Watergate had on our system," said Bernstein, interviewed on ABC's "Good Morning America." Woodward, on NBC's "Today" program, was asked if he is re-evaluating Nixon 10 years later, and replied that recent reports about Nixon's private dictations during his presidency reveal "kind of the other face of Richard Nixon."

Nixon has received thousands of letters over the past 10 years, from all sides of the spectrum, and his taxpayer-financed office in New York must also get its share of telephone calls.

Thousands of his fellow citizens acknowledge being "Watergate junkies," who recite whole segments of his various public utterances from memory, collect his memorabilia, read and re-read everything written about him and even hold annual an-

niversary parties to mark his resignation.

Rep. Peter Rodino, D-N.J., still chairman of the House Judiciary Committee that approved three articles of impeachment against Nixon, said on "Good Morning America" that he wept after voting for impeachment.

"I was saddened," he said. "I picked up the telephone and called my wife and, frankly, I cried — cried not for Richard Nixon, not because we had done it, but only because I guess (the emotional discharge) was something we had to get out of our system; we were glad to be rid of it."

Nixon's former press secretary Ron Ziegler, interviewed on the "Today" show, acknowledged having given reporters misinformation, but said: "We (in the press office) were being given information — much of which ended up being incorrect."

He said the press did its job in investigating and reporting the events of Watergate: "I don't believe anyone in a position of leadership, then or now, can blame the press for their shortcomings and failures" during the Watergate period.

Former White House aide Charles Colson was asked on the ABC program what they would tell high school students about the scandal.

Colson, who became a born-again Christian while in prison, said: "I think I would tell high school students that if there is a lasting lesson, it is what the psalmist says — that we are to put our trust not in princes and kings, but in the sovereign God."

Dean said he would tell youngsters the scandal was "a very unique thing to Richard Nixon. It happened because Richard Nixon was there and this was the set of mentality and way of life in the Nixon White House."

But Liddy disagreed: "I would say the kind of activity that went on in those days goes on every four years when there is tremendous power and there is the presidency of the United States to be contested for."

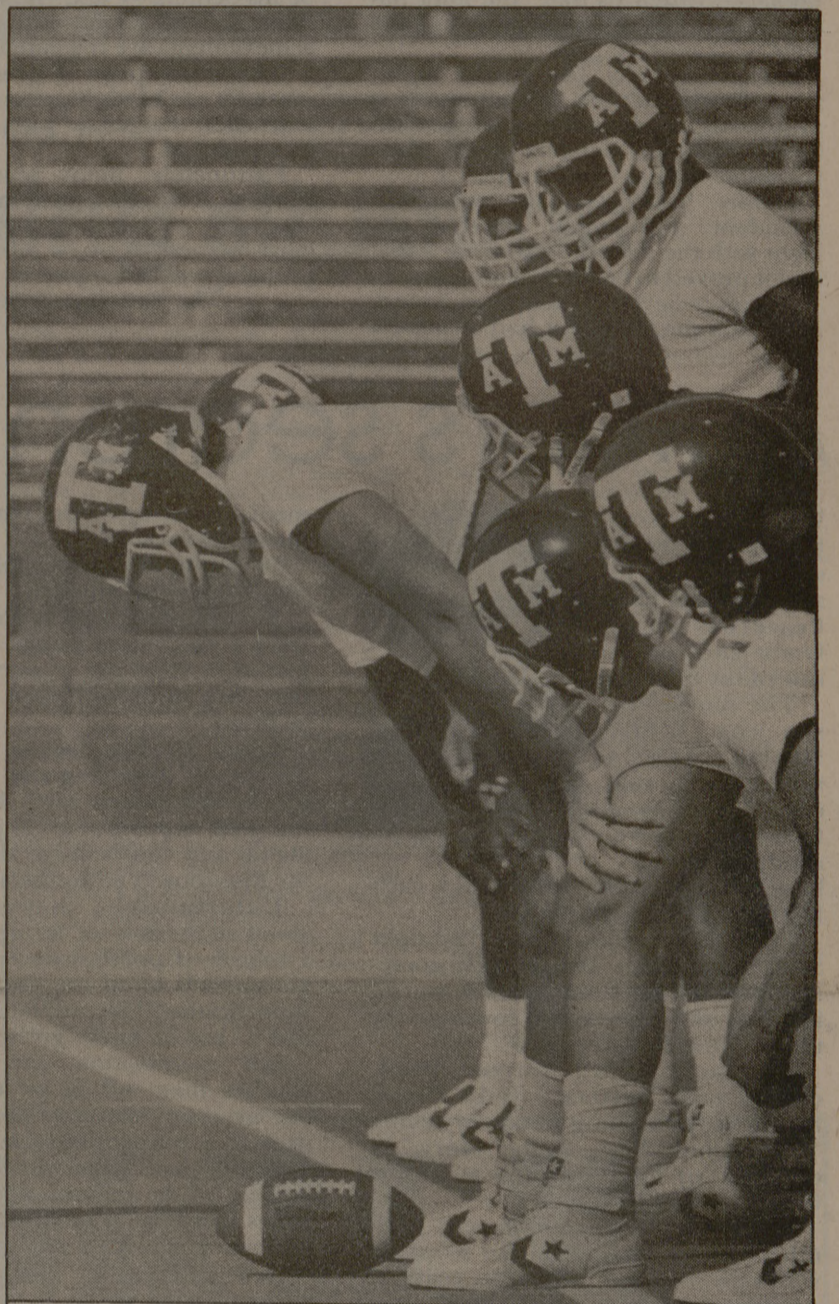


Photo by PETER ROCHA

Practice punt

Freshmen line up for a punt during the first fish practice Tuesday afternoon at Kyle Field.



Photo by PETER ROCHA

Texas A&M System Chancellor Arthur Hansen and his wife have begun moving into the new Chancellor's Residence.

Hansens moving into new house

By KARI FLUEGEL

Staff Writer

Boxes are still being unpacked. Paintings are waiting to be hung. Walking around the house, it looks just like any family moving into any new house.

But it's not just any family or just any new house. It is the Texas A&M System chancellor and his wife moving into the new Chancellor's Residence.

The \$1 million house, located on Jersey between Wellborn Road and FM 2818, will not only be home for the Hansens, it also will house future chancellors and their families.

"It is a private residence for the system chancellor which will be used for system affairs," Nancy Hansen, the chancellor's wife, said.

Movers began moving the Hansens from their house on Quail Hollow Road to the new residence Monday.

Furniture and rugs still need to be purchased, but Hansen hopes to be settled for the first reception Sept. 1.

Moving is a traumatic experience for everyone, she said, but nothing out of the ordinary went wrong.

"We were assisted by wonderful, helpful, kind and courteous people,"

she said. "Everyone has tried to make it as easy as possible."

For the Hansens, settling in has meant arranging the many paintings, wood carvings and mementos. But while the new house is larger than their house on Quail Hollow, the Hansens' private rooms consist of a family room, study and bedroom.

"It may be three times bigger, but two-thirds of it is not our personal area," she said. The house also has two guest rooms with a kitchenette, a reception area and a large kitchen.

Hansen stressed that the house is

a system house. Functions for all areas of the System will be held at the house.

"It will be used primarily to entertain and educate those with an interest in the system," Hansen said.

The house is designed to reflect the image of Texas A&M University System: solid, warm, friendly, comfortable but not pretentious, she said.

"It's solid," she said. "It feels emotionally like a house that has been built for people and happy times."

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Computer future looks promising

Technology offers easier life

By BONNIE LANGFORD

Staff Writer

(Editor's note: This is the third of a three-part series on computer use.)

It's Monday morning, 1994. Dr. Joseph Smith is driving down Texas Avenue, heading for his office. Traffic slows to a halt. Smith decides to get some work done while waiting. He turns on his portable terminal, which is connected to his personal computer. He requests a quick route out of the jam; he checks his mail and sends replies. Smith turns to take the shortcut, and then calls the computer again to request roast for dinner.

What sounds far-fetched now may soon become a typical morning. The

technology already exists as research prototypes.

The research and predictions for the new generation of computers have been around since 1981. It was then that Japan announced plans for the development of computer capabilities providing unrivaled usefulness. This "fifth generation" would be marked by advances not in hardware, as were previous generations, but in software. The software would allow computers to serve as expert consultants for the Japanese government. Computers could make quick decisions for medical support, provide in-depth research for conserving energy, or even evaluate educational information.

One area needed to create this

software is artificial intelligence — the ability to make management level decisions. It's like having a white-collar worker made of circuits. Artificial intelligence would aid computers in understanding speech, having vision, and having knowledge systems. Speech and picture recognition would speed the input of information to a computer, as well as make it easier for anyone to use computers. Knowledge systems applications would allow computers to become expert consultants in fields like medicine, education or energy.

Problems delaying fifth-generation computers exist in the hardware area. Parallelism — matching programming to parallel systems, and

del system to work efficiently — is causing many headaches. For example, most present computers use a series system to work problems. When the computer adds 10, 11, 12 and 13, it must calculate the numbers individually — 10 plus 11, then 21 plus 12 and then 33 plus 13, to get 46. When parallel systems are used computers can compute simultaneously — 10 plus 11 can be calculated at the same time 12 plus 13 is. The more tasks a computer solves simultaneously, the more processors are needed. The more processors needed, the more complicated and difficult computer communications

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In Today's Battalion

Local

- The creamery will be open during home football games this year, and offering a special Aggie cheese package. See story page 3.
- "Purple Rain" offers visual and emotional impact, but not much plot. See story page 7.

State

- The death of a rabies victim prompts Houston to increase the enforcement of vaccination laws. See story page 4.
- A search for weapons is conducted at the Texas Department of Corrections after the ninth fatal stabbing this year. See story page 5.

National

- Democratic candidate Lloyd Doggett's stand on homosexuals' rights is attacked by Sen. Phil Gramm. See story page 6.