

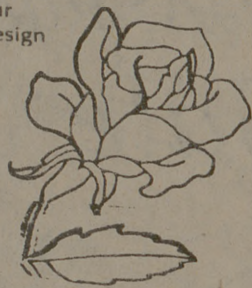
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WEEKNITES: 7:45-9:50 MATT DILLON, RICHARD CHERNA "THE FLAMINGO KID"	WEEKNITES: 7:40-9:40 PROTOCOL GOLDIE HAWN (R)

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WORLD AND NATION

White House breached by intruder

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — A man who said he just wanted to see President Reagan inaugurated penetrated elaborate Secret Service screening procedures by accompanying the Marine Band into the White House on Jan. 20 and roamed the executive mansion for about 15 minutes before he was arrested.

White House and Secret Service spokesmen said Tuesday the president was not in the building at the time. "It was a mistake," said presidential spokesman Larry Speakes, who confirmed details of the incident only after an account of the intruder's escapade was published by the Rocky Mountain News.

In defending his withholding of information about the incident, Speakes also disclosed another case in which he said a man armed with a pistol slipped into a restricted "pool" of reporters and photographers accompanying Reagan to a high school speech site in Fairbanks, Alaska, on the president's return from China in May. The spokesman refused to divulge details of the incident.

Secret Service agent Jack Taylor said later, however, the armed man was a bush pilot who agents later determined was innocently engulfed by the traveling entourage.

The White House intruder was identified as Robert Latta, 45, of Denver, who told The Associated Press, "I was just going in to see the ceremony."

"I just walked in with the band," Latta said in an interview following his return to Denver after spending five days in jail on a misdemeanor charge of unlawful entry. He has been released on \$1,000 bond pending a hearing in District of Columbia Superior Court in March.

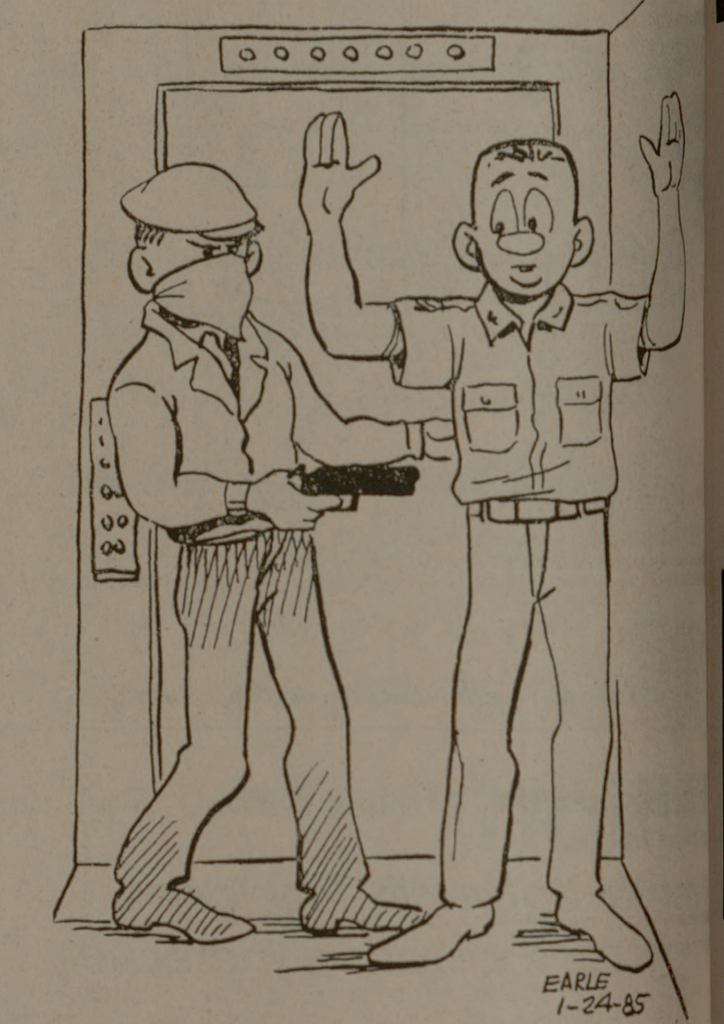
In the nearly four years since Reagan was shot and seriously wounded in an assassination attempt, security measures have been tightened.

But Latta, who said he came to Washington for the inaugural festivities, was never stopped when he appeared at the East Gate of the White House and mingled with 33 members of the elite Marine Corps orchestra that was to play for the small, invitation-only swearing-in ceremony.

Latta, wearing a suit and carrying a bag, simply walked in with the uniformed band members, left his bag with the instruments and followed them upstairs. Neither the Marine officer, the band members themselves nor the White House guards from the uniformed division of the Secret Service questioned Latta's presence, Speakes said.

Although official accounts vary, a White House usher spotted the unfamiliar figure and notified chief White House usher Rex Scouten, who summoned White House guards. At 10:11 a.m. — about 14 minutes after he entered the mansion, Latta was approached by a guard in the imposing Cross Hall just outside the Blue Room and a few paces from the landing of the Grand Staircase where Reagan was to be sworn in just before noon.

Slouch By Jim Earle



"You REALLY intend to hijack this elevator?"

Weinberger says cuts hurt defense

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, grudging for a long fight with Congress, said Tuesday the Pentagon cannot sustain additional budget cuts if the United States is to successfully negotiate a clear arms agreement with the Soviet Union.

In a wide-ranging interview with wire service reporters, Weinberger defended the Reagan administration's emphasis on conducting military exercises in Central America and said military aid to U.S. allies is an essential way of "protecting ourselves."

Weinberger made a speech in defense of his agency's budget Monday night on Cable News Network — an unusual thing for a cabinet member to do.

In that speech, he said it would be "impossible to gain" an arms control agreement with the Soviets "if we falter now in our commitment to stronger defense."

The Soviet Union, he told reporters, continues to spend much more than the United States on new weapons. If the United States does not modernize its own defenses to serve as a deterrent, not only does it leave itself open to attack but it loses any hope of negotiating an arms control agreement.

"I have to say that we have made a major contribution," Weinberger said, noting the fiscal 1986 proposal was substantially below the projections made by the president just a year ago and even below the target accepted by Congress last fall.

Turning to Central America, Weinberger said he considered it just as essential for the U.S. to conduct military exercises in that region as it to conduct exercises with North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies in Europe.

On the subject of military secrecy, Weinberger said he didn't think the criticism of the Washington Post last month for writing about a secret satellite carried into space by the shuttle was too harsh. But he also agreed that little was accomplished by the Air Force holding a press briefing before the shuttle mission to warn about disclosures.

Nuclear Regulatory group names troublesome plants

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Atomic power plants in Ohio, California, New Jersey and Alabama top government regulators' short list of the most worrisome of the more than 80 operating nuclear power reactors in the country.

The informal list was discussed Tuesday before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission by the administrators of the agency's five regional offices in charge of assuring that the plants are built and operated safely.

While the evaluations were somewhat subjective, the Davis Besse plant in Ohio, Rancho Seco in California, Salem in New Jersey and the three-reactor Browns Ferry plant in Alabama clearly emerged as the most troublesome to NRC regulators.

Also coming under criticism were the Nine Mile Point plant in New York, Beaver Valley in Pennsylvania, Maine Yankee, Wolf Creek in Kansas and the San Onofre plant in California.

And while the officials said the owners of all nine facilities are taking steps to improve their performance, they noted that the progress is sometimes "painfully slow."

The regional officials based their judgments partially on each plant's safety record, various personnel and equipment problems, enforcement actions and emergency shutdowns as well as yearly "systematic assessments of licensee performance" reports.

But those are "formal" criteria that can be quantified to some degree. The key factor mentioned repeatedly as each plant was discussed during a 2 1/2-hour meeting Tuesday was the ability and commitment of each utility's top officers to manage the complexities of nuclear power.

James Kepler, head of the agency's Region III office in Chicago, said poor ratings in five of 11 categories in the latest evaluation on the Davis-Besse plant near Toledo "reflects badly not only on the utility but also on the NRC."

After attending a school for the blind, Baldwin began tinkering like his father, also a mechanic.

"You know how kids are," he said. "They like to experiment."

The accident also cost him his left thumb and index finger.

Baldwin has been working at AA A-to Repairs, his nephew's garage, only since last August, but says he's been fixing cars, lawn mowers and "any kind of gasoline engine" since he was about 20 in his native Cookeville, Tenn.

When he works by feeling under the hood, Baldwin said, he usually finds the "gooseneck" of the water pump first, then works from there.

Baldwin said he also depends on his hearing to listen for air leaks. "And when I haven't got a cold, I smell for gas leaks and transmission fluid leaks," he said.

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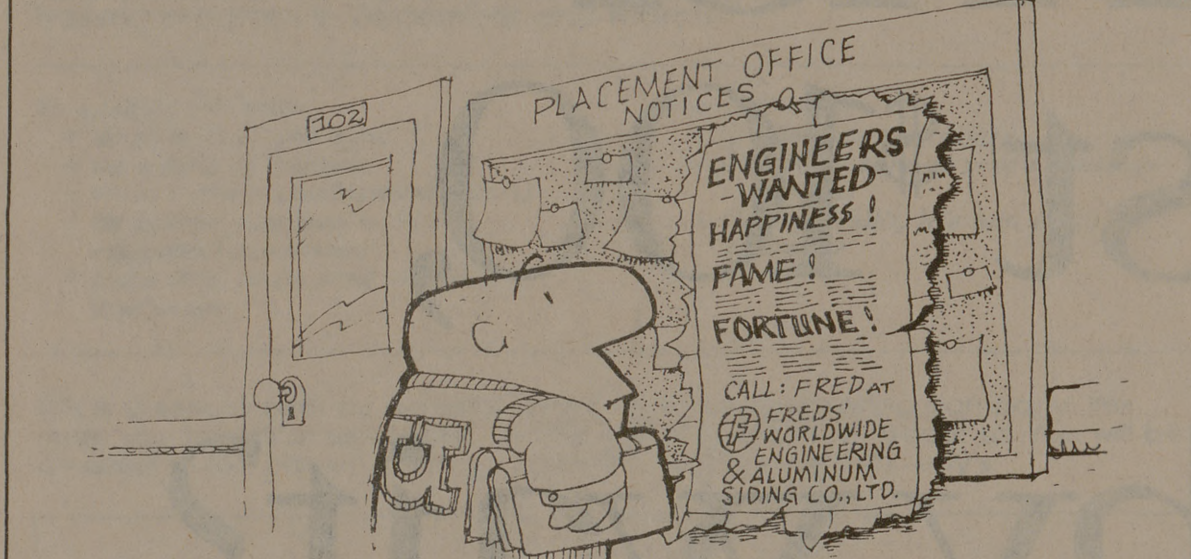
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