



College Station's Central Park and its buildings received the golden glow of Christmas Monday evening during the lighting cere-

monies. After the lights were turned on, children from the Bryan-College Station area sang Christmas carols.

Photo by Mike Sanchez

Phillipine's Marcos reinstates Ver as chief

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"calm and reason will settle on this most distressing and tragic case."

Marcos welcomed Ver with a handshake and a salute at the presidential palace right after the acquittal, and issued a handwritten order restoring him to his post. The president, who has governed the Philippines for 20 years, said the reinstatement was "for such a period as may be

decided upon by me and by senior officers of the armed forces."

The qualification appeared intended to blunt criticism here and in the United States of the return to command of a man under whose direction the army has been accused of widespread human rights abuses.

U.S. officials have demanded reforms in the military to counter a growing communist insurgency.

Some American congressmen had urged that Ver not be returned to the top military job.

Sen. Richard Lugar, chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, criticized the verdict and Ver's reinstatement. "The court ruling does not contribute to the crying need for credibility in the Philippines government, nor does it answer the need for reform and reorganization

in the military," the Indiana Republican said in Washington.

There was no immediate comment from the Reagan administration, but top administration officials said recently Marcos should not return Ver to command.

Marcos called Ver and other senior commanders to a meeting Tuesday on reorganizing the military.

Apology

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served as operations director of the Mossad, Israel's intelligence service.

Sources identified the other two men as Yosef Yasur and Ian Ravid, Israeli science attaches stationed in the United States who have been called home.

Savir refused comment on the radio report, which came after Stephen Trott, assistant U.S. attorney general, said Israel's apology Sunday appeared to be an invitation to question the three Israelis.

Israel's statement of apology pledged that the secret intelligence unit would be disbanded and disciplinary action taken against those responsible for the Pollard affair. It made punishment conditional on a

finding of wrongdoing by an Israeli investigation now under way.

Peres told reporters Monday: "I think that if you make a mistake, the best way to handle it is to have the courage to admit it and apologize."

Most of the American Jewish leaders said they did not foresee serious long-term damage to relations.

Howard Squadron of the American Jewish Congress said, however, that the case could "have an effect" on Israeli efforts to persuade Congress to reduce interest rates on the repayment of debts from 11 to 7 percent, which would save this country an estimated \$700 million.

Israeli news media said most of the information supplied by Pollard concerned Arab and other countries without ties to Israel.

High court to review pensions

continued from page 1

319 public public employees withdrew from the system.

But as apprehension grew in the 1970s over the financial future of Social Security, such withdrawals became more numerous. Between 1977 and 1981, 96,000 state and local employees dropped out of the system.

And in 1983, termination notices were pending from 634 state and local governments representing 227,000 employees.

Congress that year amended the act to say "no agreement . . . may be terminated, either in its entirety or with respect to any coverage group, on or after April 20, 1983."

The amendment barred termination even by those state and local governments with notices pending when

the amendment was enacted.

California had filed such a notice on behalf of 70 local governments within the state, representing 34,000 workers.

California state officials and a group called Public Agencies Opposed to Social Security Entrapment sued the federal government, challenging the 1983 amendment.

U.S. District judge Lawrence K. Karlton of Sacramento ruled against the government, saying, "Congress is simply not free to deprive the state of its contractual right without just compensation."

After finding that compensation was not feasible in such a case, he invalidated the 1983 amendment and ordered the government to "accept the notification of withdrawal properly tendered."



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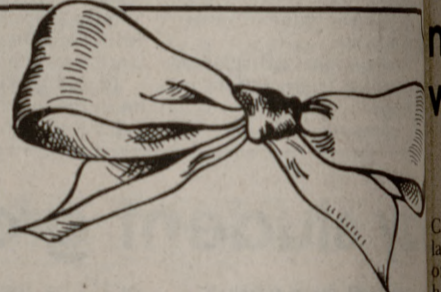
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Vol. 82 No. 6

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