

World and Nation

Marcos gets criticism from U.S.

U.S. delivers accusations of election fraud

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — Accusations of election fraud and veiled threats to close U.S. military bases descended on President Ferdinand E. Marcos from Washington on Wednesday. Corazon Aquino, who claims she won the presidency, spoke of mass revolt.

Marcos accused his Western allies of meddling and raised the possibility of declaring martial law, which he did once before during his 20 years in power. On Wednesday he got the first, and only, congratulatory message on his disputed election victory, from the Soviet Union.

The National Assembly, whose canvass is final, declared last Saturday that Marcos had won the Feb. 7 election, but an independent poll-watchers' group said its count showed Aquino the victor. Marcos supporters hold two-thirds of the assembly seats.

In Washington, the Senate declared by an 85-9 vote that the elections were "marked by such widespread fraud that they cannot be considered a fair reflection of the will of the people of the Philippines."

Sen. Richard Lugar, an Indiana Republican who led a team of U.S. observers, said before the vote that he and his colleagues had seen widespread fraud.

Executive for Philippine News shot, killed

Associated Press

GLENDAL, Calif. — An executive of the Philippine News, a newspaper opposed to the regime of Ferdinand Marcos, was shot to death at home Wednesday after receiving a threatening note, authorities said.

Police Sgt. Randy Tampa said several shots were fired in Oscar Salvatierra's bedroom at his single-story home in the foothills north of downtown Los Angeles.

Philippine News editor-publisher Alex Esclamado said, "The preliminary report indicated that the man (assassin) went through the window, that he shot Mr. Salvatierra in the head and then that he locked the door (to the bedroom)." That was the mark of a professional killer.

Aides to Sen. Alan Cranston, a longtime friend of Philippine News publisher Alex Esclamado, said the FBI had been asked to protect Esclamado and other News executives who had received similar threats.

Cranston said he was taking seriously suspicions that agents of the Marcos government were involved in the death.

Salvatierra, 41, a naturalized American citizen with four children, had received a written warning Tuesday, Aniceto said. Salvatierra was Los Angeles bureau manager of the newspaper.

Cranston, a Democrat seeking

a fourth term in the Senate, said in a statement that he had asked FBI director William H. Webster to investigate "this atrocity."

Cranston said he also asked Webster to protect Esclamado and the paper's sales representative, Stan Aragon, and members of their families after they received similar threats.

The senator said Esclamado believed the killing was "the work of Marcos' agents and intended to intimidate him in ceasing his opposition to the Marcos regime. On the basis of Marcos' behavior in the Philippines, there is even more reason to believe Esclamado's suspicions are well founded, Cranston said.

Secretary of State George P. Shultz hinted that the Reagan administration would consider withdrawing from Clark Air Force Base and Subic Bay Naval Base if it decides Marcos kept power by fraud and no longer has his people's support.

"Let's put our stake in democracy and freedom above the bases," Shultz told the Senate Budget Committee.

U.S. aid is a major factor in the Philippine economy, and American officials have tied future support for the government to an election that is perceived by Filipinos to be free and honest.

The 68-year-old president said early Wednesday that he would "exercise to the limit the provisions of the law and the constitution to prevent turmoil."

He noted that the constitution, which he designed, gives him "certain powers that can dismantle the machineries of civil disobedience," but he did not say which ones he would use. His special powers include ordering arrests, ruling by decree and declaring martial law.

Aquino, 53, went to Angeles City for her first post-election rally outside Manila and declared: "Let us not rest until we have brought down Marcos."

The opposition leader, whose husband Benigno was Marcos' chief political foe until his murder in 1983, told 20,000 people at the rally that she had been warned she might be killed.

"My answer is that when Marcos and his puppets planned the death of Ninoy (Benigno's nickname), they probably told themselves that it would be all right to kill him because after a month or two people will forget, but they were mistaken," she said.

"This is my message to Marcos and his puppets: Do not threaten Cory Aquino, because I am convinced that I am not alone."

Navy tribunal gives sailor life in prison

Associated Press

NEWPORT, R.I. — A black sailor who fatally stabbed a white officer aboard a Navy frigate was spared the death penalty by a military jury and sentenced to life in prison.

The eight-member tribunal deliberated nearly four hours Tuesday before sentencing Petty Officer 3rd Class Mitchell T. Garraway Jr., who defense lawyers said killed the officer in an outburst triggered by shipboard racism.

The same panel convicted Garraway on Jan. 30 of premeditated murder for stabbing Lt. James K. Sterner. Garraway's attorney said he would appeal the conviction.

Garraway, 22, of Suitland, Md., showed no emotion as he listened to the sentence, which includes a dishonorable discharge.

Report: Some NASA officials didn't get engineers' advice

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — At least three NASA officials involved in the decision to launch space shuttle Challenger were not told that booster rocket engineers had "strongly urged against the launch," the presidential commission investigating the accident said Wednesday.

Upon learning of that problem last Friday, the commission ordered the space agency and booster rocket maker Morton Thiokol "to collect and retain any and all documents, memoranda or personal notes of all persons" who took part in the decision to launch the shuttle on its ill-fated flight of Jan. 28.

The three NASA officials, described as "key," were not identified in the commission statement issued by spokesman Mark Weinberg.

CBS News, however, identified them as Associate NASA administrator Jesse Moore, Robert Sieck, the launch director, and Arnold Aldrich, shuttle manager at Johnson. All three are usually in the launch control center at liftoff time.

The announcement came as a Morton Thiokol engineer in Brigham City, Utah, said that he and others argued against launching the shuttle in weather far colder than on any previous flight.

Allan J. McDonald, who has been at Morton Thiokol for 26 years, said his objections were overruled by his

boss, J.C. Kilminster, who transmitted a launch-approval letter to NASA. McDonald said he continued to object to the launch even after the letter arrived at Cape Canaveral.

McDonald said he feared the low temperatures would cause synthetic rubber safety seals between segments of the booster rocket to shrink and become ineffective.

Such a failure has been cited as a likely cause of the accident.

Morton Thiokol, through spokesman Thomas Russell in Chicago, conceded that its engineers were against the launch initially on Jan. 27, the day before the ill-fated launch.

But Russell said that "at a subsequent time in the early evening, after considering some additional information, Morton Thiokol was in a position to recommend a launch."

The commission's statement made it clear, however, that there was considerable dissent from the decision. It said, "The commission learned that although a Telefax was later received from Thiokol indicating approval of the launch, a number of engineers at Thiokol still strongly urged against the launch."

Caller says Shiite group killed Israeli soldier

Associated Press

TYRE, Lebanon — An anonymous telephone caller claimed Wednesday night that Moslem extremists had killed one of two kidnapped Israeli soldiers after the Israeli army ignored a warning to stop searching for the victims in south Lebanon villages.

The man, saying he spoke for the Islamic Resistance Front, said in a call to the leading Beirut independent newspaper, An-Nahar, that the

group would release a polaroid photograph of the slain Israeli on Thursday.

About 1,000 Israeli soldiers scoured south Lebanon for the third day Wednesday, searching Shiite Moslem villages for the two soldiers who had been kidnapped in a Monday ambush on a checkpoint in the Israeli "security zone" in south Lebanon.

Guerrillas of the Islamic Resistance, an alliance of fundamentalist Shiite Moslems, had said one of the

Israeli soldiers would be killed Wednesday unless the Israelis pulled back across the border.

Maj. Gen. Ori Orr, Israel's northern commander, said his men would continue the search.

The guerrillas also vowed to shell settlements in northern Israel.

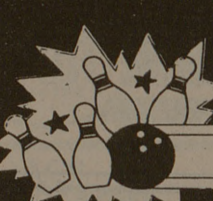
Israeli units moved by helicopter and on the ground behind tanks, with the support of jets and gunships. Israeli patrol boats moved up the coast, occasionally shelling high-

ways to keep Moslem guerrillas in Beirut from moving south.

Reporters saw guerrillas scrambling in hills overlooking some Israeli posts that were protected by tanks.

Hundreds of militiamen patrolled the streets of this port city a few miles east of the zone being searched.

Israeli troops, armor and helicopter gunships pushed north from the buffer zone immediately after the Monday ambush.



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