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Marcos resigns, Aquino takes presidency

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — Ferdinand E. Marcos, besieged by a "people's power" uprising and military revolt, resigned today and fled the presidential palace from which he had governed the Philippines for 20 years, U.S. officials announced.

The United States had officially recognized the new government of Corazon Aquino, Secretary of State George Shultz said in Washington this morning.

Marcos went to the U.S. Air Force's Clark Air Base, 50 miles northwest of Manila, as he prepared to take up an American offer to fly him out of the Philippines to an undisclosed destination, Shultz said.

Shultz said Marcos "was welcome to come to the United States," but that no decision had been made on the vanquished leader's ultimate destination.

He praised the process that began with Marcos' claiming victory in the Feb. 7 election amid charges of widespread fraud. Shultz said of the Philippine people, "They have resolved this issue non-violently and in a way that does them honor."

Marcos relinquished power hours after taking the oath for a new six-year term as president. Earlier, Aquino took a similar, though unofficial, oath of office.

On Monday, President Reagan had called for Marcos to effect a peaceful transition of power to Aquino. For 24 hours, there were growing indications that Marcos would do so if given assurances on his and his family's safety.

Members of Congress had said that Marcos would be welcome in the

United States if the transfer of power were carried out peacefully.

Shultz, speaking to reporters in the White House briefing room, said, "We praise the decision of President Marcos. Reason and compassion have prevailed in ways that best served the nation and the Filipino people," who, Shultz said, "have high expectations for their country and for democracy."

The secretary said the Filipino people "are true heroes today. They have resolved this issue in a way that does them honor."

As word of Marcos' resignation flashed across Manila, joyful throngs of Filipinos set bonfires outside Malacanang Palace.

"You're the start of the rebirth of democracy!" a radio announcer boomed over the sounds of jubilation from demonstrators.

In Manila, Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, a leader of the military mutiny, said he was going to the palace, indicating the rebels were about to take control in the name of Corazon Aquino, the new president.

Marcos' reported departure ended four days of uncertainty and political drama in Manila and two decades of highly personal Marcos rule over this impoverished archipelago nation of 52 million people, an important U.S. ally in the Far East.

Fourteen people were reported slain in violence sparked by the revolt against Marcos.

The longtime president was given a final push Monday by the Reagan administration, which issued a statement calling for a peaceful transition to a new government because

of what it said was widespread fraud in the Feb. 7 presidential election, in which the 68-year-old Marcos claimed victory over Aquino.

Last week, the U.S. Senate approved a non-binding resolution, on a vote of 85-9, which declared that the Philippine election was fraudulent and that Marcos had lost the mandate to govern.

Earlier today, both Marcos and Aquino, 53, were inaugurated as president of rival Philippine governments in separate ceremonies. But within hours, both camps reported Marcos was engaged in lengthy telephone negotiations over his departure.

Residents in the area around the palace said they saw four helicopters leave the grounds at about 9 p.m. (8

a.m. EST). It was not known who was in the helicopters.

Manila radio station DZRH later quoted a Marcos loyalist, Romulo Fontanilla, as saying, "Without our knowledge he (Marcos) left us. Even the soldiers are not here anymore." The station said only a small protective force was left behind at the palace.

Just before the helicopters took off, about 100 Aquino supporters broke down wooden barricades several hundred yards from the palace and rushed toward Marcos loyalists guarding the palace. The loyalists hurled stones as they retreated.

Juan Ponce Enrile, the defense minister who led the revolt against Marcos, told reporters earlier his

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Bryan man convicted of capital murder

A Bryan man accused of hiring his wife's killer through an advertisement in "Soldier of Fortune" magazine was convicted Monday of capital murder.

Robert Black Jr. was found guilty by a state district court jury. He faces either the death sentence or life in prison.

The punishment phase of the trial began immediately after the panel returned the conviction.

Black, 39, was convicted of advertising for the killer through the magazine, a publication for weapons and military enthusiasts.

According to prosecutors, Black offered a mercenary \$10,000 and expenses to kill his wife, Sandra Black.

Sandra Black, 36, was found shot to death on Feb. 21, 1985, in the couple's Bryan home.

John Wayne Hearn, 40, of Atlanta, Ga., testified Thursday that the slaying took place after he and Black discussed several ways to stage it.

On Friday, Hearn's mother, Mary Watson, of Columbia, S.C., testified her son received an envelope containing a letter and a \$1,000 cashier's check signed by Black.

Hearn, who is serving a life sentence in another killing, told jurors he would get another life sentence if testifying against Black.

Hearn said Black decided to fake a burglary and helped him ransack the house, even telling him what jewels to take as collateral on the murder contract. He said Black handed him a pistol to use.

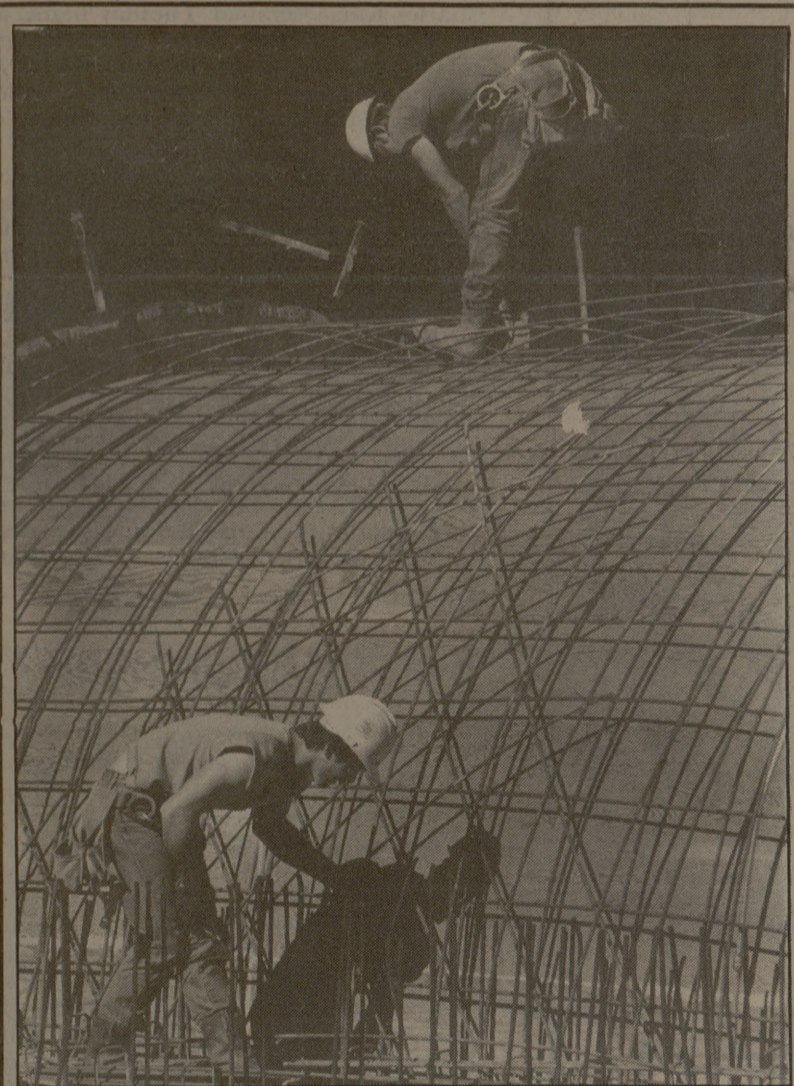


Photo by DEAN SAITO

Step By Step

Construction workers put down tensile rods at the site of the new chemistry building. The tensile rods will reinforce the concrete when it is poured over them.

Reagan calls for elimination of some U.S., Soviet missiles

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan called Monday for eliminating U.S. and Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles in both Europe and Asia "by the end of this decade."

But Reagan said the United States is not ready to consider Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal for elimination of all nuclear weapons within 15 years.

In a formal response to Gorbachev's most recent arms control plan, Reagan said his negotiators in Geneva on Monday put forward "a concrete plan calling for the elimination of U.S. Pershing II, ground-launched cruise missiles and Soviet SS-20 missiles, not only in Europe but in Asia as well."

An administration official, speaking on the condition he not be identified,

said the plan would require destruction of all the missiles at the end of three years, preventing either side from redeploying them to threaten other targets.

The proposal is similar to Reagan's "zero option" plan put forward in 1982, before the United States began deploying its modern, intermediate-range Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe. But since then, the United States has installed half of the 572 missiles it plans to deploy in the NATO arsenal.

Both sides have agreed to try to reach a separate accord on intermediate-range missiles while they continue to search for ways to break their stalemate on the larger questions of long-range missiles and space weapons.

But in a written statement outlining his private response to Gorbachev, Reagan made clear that many obstacles remain to total nuclear disarmament.

Gorbachev's Jan. 15 proposal called for elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the century, with both sides scrapping their medium-range nuclear missiles that are within striking distance of Europe, as a first step.

However, Reagan, who initially had welcomed the plan as a positive step, said Monday that many of its details aren't appropriate for consideration at this time.

A U.S. official who asked not to be identified said that Reagan's letter rejected Gorbachev's proposal to freeze British and French intermediate-range nuclear arsenals.

Texas Air plans to buy out Eastern

Associated Press

MIAMI — Racing strike deadlines from unions and default threats from creditors, Eastern Airlines announced Monday it would be taken over by aggressive, cost-slashing entrepreneur Frank Lorenzo and his Houston-based Texas Air Corp.

Eastern, the nation's third largest airline, will remain intact as a wholly owned subsidiary of Texas Air, which also operates New York Air and Continental Airlines, if the deal is approved, Texas Air said in a statement.

Lorenzo agreed to pay \$606 million for Eastern, or \$10 per Eastern share, by paying \$6.25 cash and assuming \$3.75 in debt for each share,

the statement said. The buyout agreement must be approved by Eastern's creditors, shareholders and federal authorities.

Charles Bryan, president of the International Association of Machinists local that represents 12,000 Eastern workers, sent Lorenzo a telegram offering cooperation.

Bryan, who also sits on Eastern's board of directors, said Chairman Frank Borman told other board members he would resign from the company following their 2:45 a.m. EST vote on Lorenzo's offer. Eastern spokesman Glenn Parsons denied that, saying, "That didn't happen. Borman never said he's going to resign and isn't resigning."

Parsons said Borman, a former astronaut who has headed the Miami-based carrier since 1975, and other company officials were unlikely to hold a news conference before Tuesday. Lorenzo did not return repeated telephone messages.

Major creditors had given Eastern management a Feb. 28 deadline to present a long-term plan to turn around the airline, \$2.5 billion in debt. Ken Mills, spokesman for Chase Manhattan, one of the largest creditors, said it had no comment on the takeover.

Late Sunday, Eastern reached an agreement with its 4,200 pilots to

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Spouses can save up to \$3,000

Tax deduction aids couples

By JIM LUTHER
AP Tax Writer

Editor's note — This is the second in a series of five articles written to help taxpayers prepare their 1985 income tax returns. This installment covers the marriage penalty deduction.

WASHINGTON — If you and your spouse both earn salaries think twice — and check the special "marriage penalty" deduction — before filing separate returns.

The closer the wages of two spouses, the greater the chance they might be able to save money by filing separately. But the special deduction of up to \$3,000 has reduced considerably the number of couples hurt by what has become known as the marriage penalty.

That penalty is a result of the progressive nature of the tax system. The tax rate on a single person is higher than the rate on a married couple with the same income. But two single workers can face a higher tax if they marry; their combined earnings on a joint return can push them into a higher bracket.

The two-earner deduction cancels a part of

that marriage penalty and is available to any couple filing a joint return if both spouses have earned income. If you file the long Form 1040, take the deduction by attaching Schedule W. Filers of Form 1040A must fill out Part I of Schedule 1.

The calculation is simple. Add the earned income (wages, salaries, tips and the like) of each spouse separately and subtract any adjustments claimed for employee business expenses and for Individual Retirement Account or Keogh plan contributions. Multiply the smaller of the two totals (up to \$30,000) by 10 percent to determine the deduction.

Even with this deduction, separate returns may be better for some couples, such as those living in community-property states or when one spouse has extraordinary medical expenses. But if one spouse itemizes, so must the other.

For tax purposes, you were married for the whole year if, on Dec. 31, you and your spouse were living together as husband and wife, legally or under common law, or if you were living apart but not legally separated. Generally, you

may file a joint return even if your spouse died during the year.

A married person who lived apart from the spouse during the last half of the year, who has a dependent child and who has head-of-household status does not have to file until income is \$3,430 or more (if under 65) or \$4,470 (if 65 or over). The same thresholds apply to a single person, including divorced and legally separated.

If you were widowed in 1983 or 1984, have not remarried and have a dependent child living with you, you won't have to file a return unless your income is \$4,580 or more (if you're under 65) or \$5,620 (if you're 65 or over).

If you were widowed before 1983 and have not remarried, you must file a return if your income is \$3,430 or more (if under 65) or \$4,470 (over 65).

The head-of-household status allows many taxpayers — especially divorced women with children — to calculate their taxes on rates that fall between those for singles and couples filing joint returns.

No-pass, no-play rule OK'd by high court

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Monday left intact Texas' controversial "no pass, no play" law that bars students with failing grades from taking part in extracurricular activities.

The court, citing the lack of a substantial federal question, rejected an appeal by students who say the law violates their constitutional rights.

The 1984 law has disqualified temporarily about 15 percent of the varsity football players in Texas' 1,100 school districts. A survey by the Texas High School Coaches Association says junior varsity and freshman teams have been hit twice as hard.

The statute generally penalizes students who score under 70 during a six-week grading period for any course. The student is barred from taking part in any extracurricular activity for six weeks.

Gov. Mark White, who made the regulation a key part of his education reform package during a special session of the Texas Legislature in 1983, said he was pleased by the decision.

"That's a state issue and we won," he said.

State Education Commissioner W.N. Kirby said he was pleased with the court's action.

"I hope we will now be able to get this issue out of the courthouse and get emphasis on academic achievement back into the classroom, where it rightly belongs," he said.

Kirby said he believes the rule is having a positive effect on students.

"However, at the request of the State Board of Education we will be studying the overall impact of the no-pass, no-play rule very

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