

# World and Nation

## Switzerland freezes assets linked to Marcos

BERN, Switzerland — The government on Tuesday ordered a "precautionary" freeze on assets in Switzerland linked to Ferdinand E. Marcos, the deposed president of the Philippines. A top police official said the move was unprecedented.

The measure blocked "until further notice any assets held by the Marcos family and persons, companies and the like connected with them," an official announcement from the governing Federal Council said.

The announcement said the order followed indications that attempts were being made to withdraw some funds linked to Marcos. It did not provide any details.

The new Philippine government believes that up to \$10 billion was moved abroad by Marcos and his cronies and that much of it was in Switzerland, which has strict bank secrecy laws. Philippine president Corason Aquino named a commission to find ways to recover government funds reportedly plundered during Marcos' rule.

Last week, The New York Times reported that documents taken from Marcos listed accounts of \$9.4 million at Swiss Bank Corp., \$37.7 million at Credit Suisse and \$32.4 million at the Swiss branch of Paribas bank.

## Weinberger: Soviet arsenal gaining on U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union's modernization of its weapons arsenal is continuing at such a pace that it is "challenging the technological edge" on which U.S. security depends, Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger said Tuesday.

"Soviet modernization has not abated," Weinberger said in releasing the Pentagon's latest annual assessment of Soviet military power.

"Based on current trends, our projections for the '90's give us no reason to feel that we can rest in our effort to prevent the Soviets from achieving a very significant, exploitable military advantage," he said.

He released the study, entitled "Soviet Military Power 1986," during a press conference Tuesday beamed around the world by the U.S. Information Agency.

"It's not necessary for us to match the Soviet forces in each category because we rely on our technological leadership to provide systems that are sufficiently superior so as to offset (their) numerical advantages," Weinberger said.

"But their military has moved increasingly into an era of high technology and they're challenging the technological edge on which our security depends," he added.

The study included previously unreleased pictures of an intermediate-range SS-20 missile on its launcher, the newest version of the Delta missile submarine, now said to be on sea trials, and the SU-27

fighter, a look-alike of the U.S. F-15 that the Pentagon says became operational early this year.

It concludes that beyond developing new generations of nuclear missiles, the Soviets are engaged in a massive program to protect their land-based arsenal. They also have attained parity with the United States in the development of cruise missiles, have a crude but workable laser weapon capable of blinding spy satellites, and are continuing to outpace the Pentagon in building tanks, planes, helicopters and artillery, the study says.

The Soviets are developing two or three new intercontinental ballistic missiles, the booklet states.

"By the mid-1990s, the Soviet ICBM force will have been almost entirely replaced with new systems, a number of which may violate SALT II constraints," the booklet said.

The report also said the Soviets have now deployed more than 70 mobile SS-25 ICBMs — a missile condemned by the United States as a violation of SALT II.

The Soviets maintain the single-warhead SS-25 missile is an allowable modernization of the aging SS-13, a contention dismissed by the Pentagon.

The United States does not have any mobile missiles, although it is now developing one, dubbed the Midgetman.

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## NAACP chapter files protest over 'Color Purple' snub

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An NAACP chapter filed a protest Tuesday against the Motion Picture Academy for not awarding any Oscars to "The Color Purple," calling it "a slap in the faces" of producer-composer Quincy Jones and director Steven Spielberg.

Casting a further pall over Hollywood's biggest event, national ratings showed the Oscar telecast on ABC lost viewers again this year, continuing a trend the academy had fervently hoped to reverse.

The statement by the Hollywood-Beverly Hills branch of the civil rights organization was issued by publicist Connie Watson, who called the outcome a "black-out," a term the chapter uses to describe industry action to suppress black film projects. She said the chapter president, Willis Edwards, sent a formal letter of protest to the Academy.

A spokesman said the Academy would have no comment, noting the winners and losers were the result of secret balloting by its 4,244 members.

The film about a rural black woman's struggle for self-worth had gone into the awards night with 11 nominations, the same number as "Out of Africa" which won seven Oscars, including best picture.

But "The Color Purple" failed to win even once, tying the 1977 movie "The Turning Point" as the most-nominated film to lose in every category.

The shutout added to the controversy that already surrounded the academy's snub of Spielberg.

The NAACP statement called the film's treatment by voters "not only an insult to the talents of the wonderful artists participating in this motion picture, but a direct slap in the faces of Quincy Jones and Steven Spielberg, two of the most talented personalities ever to work in this industry."

Former academy president Walter Mirisch said, "I

guess not enough people liked it. I think people really enjoyed 'Out of Africa,' which was a good, big-scale movie, the kind that David Lean has made."

Academy president Robert Wise said, "I can't explain it. Except that maybe it was a reaction of the Academy at large over questioning the integrity of the director's branch. Perhaps the voters felt that the Academy's reputation had been maligned."

Wise, an Oscar winner for "The Sound of Music" and "West Side Story," was referring to stories suggesting that the 230 members of the director's branch who made the nominations may have been envious of Spielberg's success.

Sydney Pollack, winner as director and co-producer for "Out of Africa," declined to analyze the reason behind "Purple's" failure.

"You put me in a difficult spot," he told a reporter, "because I can't win no matter how I answer that question. And I would like not to put a damper on the evening by trying to speculate on an undiplomatic question with an undiplomatic answer."

But the post-Oscar celebration was unusually subdued, suggesting a pall had been cast by the failure of an acclaimed and commercially successful movie that may have been a victim of in-fighting among Academy members.

The Oscar show, in ratings trouble in recent years, fell a bit more, according to national A.C. Nielsen Co. ratings released Tuesday.

ABC-TV said the three-hour, 14-minute broadcast had a 27.3 rating with a 43 share, slipping slightly from last year's national rating of 27.7 and audience share of 45. ABC estimated that 65 million viewers watched some part of the program, compared to 70 million who tuned in to last year's broadcast.

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