

World and Nation

Crew of 11 dies in crash of Air Force jet

MAGDALENA, N.M. (AP) — An Air Force search-and-rescue airplane carrying 11 crewmembers crashed in a ball of flames Wednesday in a desolate area of west-central New Mexico, and authorities said all aboard were killed.

The HC-130 plane was assigned to Kirtland Air Force Base at Albuquerque, base spokeswoman Kay Peterson said.

Ruben Leal, public affairs specialist at Kirtland, said the airplane was on a routine training mission.

Rudy Chavez, state police dispatcher in Socorro, said the medical investigator reported that all aboard the aircraft were dead.

Joe Sanchez, a ranch hand, said he witnessed the accident from about 10 miles away.

"We saw a big ball of smoke, then another one, then a big ball of fire," he said. "It was a big old explosion — like a forest fire."

Sgt. John McAninch of the state police in Socorro said a state police helicopter, a military aircraft and a helicopter ambulance from Albuquerque were at the scene.

The HC-130, a four-engine turbo-prop, is a search and rescue version of the C-130 cargo plane, Peterson said.

Mexican airliner debris checked for crash clues

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Relatives Wednesday identified victims of the Mexicana airlines crash that killed all 166 on board, including nine Americans, while investigators remained on a mountainside examining the wreckage for clues to the cause of the disaster.

The recovery of bodies on the mountain near the hamlet of Pocoma ended late Tuesday, after 160 bodies and parts of others were found, Mexicana officials said Wednesday. All remains were taken to Mexico City.

Mauricio Perez, a spokesman for the coroner's office and morgue here, said 95 had been identified and turned over to relatives.

Foreign and Mexican investigators, including a team from Boeing, worked in groups Wednesday studying the wreckage that was strewn over the 7,792-foot El Carbon mountain, Mexicana officials said.

The plane crashed Monday about

"You can't speak of sabotage, human error or mechanical failure until the investigation is complete."

— Daniel Diaz, Mexico's communications and transportation secretary.

15 minutes after takeoff from Mexico City on a flight to Los Angeles with stops in Puerto Vallarta and Mazatlan. It was the worst air disaster in Mexican history.

Some technicians studied the jet engines, others the fuselage, weight distribution, weather conditions and fuel.

Amadeo Castro Almanza, Mexicana's chief of security, and spokes-

man Fernando Martinez Cortes, said at a news conference Wednesday that the probable cause of the crash would not be determined for 30 to 45 days, after information on the flight recorders is analyzed.

But, responding to allegations from the Aviation Workers' Union, they defended the airline's maintenance practices, saying the ultimate decision on whether or not to fly rested with the pilot.

Communications and Transportation Secretary Daniel Diaz said Tuesday all hypotheses on the cause will be considered but "you can't speak of sabotage, human error or mechanical failure until the investigation is complete."

The joint commission of Congress agreed Tuesday to summon Mexicana director Manuel Sosa de la Vega to respond to the allegations that poor maintenance may have been the cause of the crash. The airline is owned by the government.

Reagan's Red war 40 years old

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — The fervent anti-communism that fuels President Reagan's crusade against leftists in Central America has its roots in a battle for control of a movie actors' union four decades ago.

"The communists in Nicaragua are not seeking dialogue and persuasion or pluralism," the president said in a Republican fund-raising speech in New Orleans last week. "They want total power in their hands, and they have no respect for the borders of their neighbors."

The battlegrounds of Central America in the 1980s are a far cry from the movie lots of Hollywood in the 1940s, but Reagan's words echo eerily his description of jousting with communists and their allies as an activist and later president of the Screen Actors' Guild.

"I will say of the communists — they were the cause of the labor strike, they used minor jurisdictional disputes as excuses for their scheme," he wrote in his 1965 autobiography, "Where's the Rest of Me?"

"Their aim was to gain economic control of the motion picture industry in order to finance their activities and subvert the screen for their propaganda," he wrote.

The fellow travelers (those who associated with sup-

porters of Communism) of his Hollywood days and the Sandinistas who plague him now appear linked in Reagan's mind as part of the worldwide communist conspiracy he sees as enduring and dangerous.

Communist influence in Hollywood, which collapsed with the Nazi-Soviet pact of 1939, revived after World War II as Soviet and other communists abandoned their wartime cooperation with the West.

Reagan, a liberal Democrat when he broke into the movies, played a key role in breaking a violent film studio strike engineered by the conference of Studio Unions, headed by Herbert Sorrel who was later expelled from the national executive board of the Painters Union for having "willfully and knowingly associated with groups subservient to the Communist Party line."

"Some of the people against us were communists, some were knowing fellow travelers, and many were innocent dupes sincerely supporting a cause they believed was just," Reagan wrote.

By the same token, the president now argues that congressional opponents of his policy of arming Nicaraguan rebels are acting out of good motives but their actions will enhance communist power in the Western Hemisphere.

Tutu risks arrest for treason, seeks economic sanctions

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Bishop Desmond Tutu, risking arrest for treason, said Wednesday that only harsh economic sanctions can force the white government to change its course and avert "a catastrophe in this land."

The black Anglican bishop said he realized he might be prosecuted for making his first direct call for sanctions, but said he did not care because "our children are dying, our land is burning and bleeding."

Tutu, the bishop of Johannesburg who won the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his eloquent opposition to apartheid, did not recommend specific sanctions but said they should be punitive, coordinated and immediate.

He told a news conference international pressure is the only hope for ending the racial policy through

which 5 million whites deny rights to the 24 million blacks.

The bishop said while touring the United States last year that, unless there were significant steps to dismantle apartheid by the end of March, he would risk treason charges by calling for sanctions.

Asked Wednesday about the prospect of arrest, he said: "I don't think I am going to be deterred by that kind of consequence."

Lawyers disagree about whether a call for sanctions constitutes economic sabotage under South African law, and there is no case to set a precedent.

Tutu declared: "I have no hope of real change from this government unless they are forced. We face a catastrophe in this land and only the action of the international commu-

nity by applying pressure can save us."

Of the United States, which has resisted harsh sanctions, he said: "I put my hopes in the United States on the people, especially the university students."

He contended that the public pressure President Reagan to impose limited sanctions, and said: "I am not appealing to him. I am appealing to the American people."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said the United States does not believe that sanctions would help promote change in South Africa. He said the South African economy is a major force for stability in the region and that besides causing economic damage, sanctions would not be effective in ending apartheid.

Filipinos end 12-day strike at Navy base

SUBIC NAVAL BASE, Philippines (AP) — Filipino workers tore down their barricades Wednesday outside the largest overseas U.S. Navy base and ended a 12-day strike that had forced the diversion of a five-ship flotilla and strapped nearby businesses.

More than 1,200 militant strikers at Subic held out a day longer than workers at Clark Air Base and six smaller U.S. military installations.

Leaders of the Subic picket line agreed Wednesday evening to go along with a compromise settlement reached the day before, however, and the barricades of logs, rocks and metal grillwork came down.

The militants retired on a note of defiance.

"This is not the end of the struggle of Filipino workers," said Larry Salazar, a leader of the union representing 22,000 workers who struck all the bases. "The next time we barricade the gates, we will make sure the organizational weaknesses are overcome."

"We have reached the limitations of our power," he told The Associated Press after announcing the leaders' decision to the strikers. He said the U.S. military and Philippine government would not recognize the militants, so "there is no point in us remaining at the barricades."

The compromise worked out Tuesday by Philippine government and U.S. officials provides a rice subsidy and \$100 bonus for each worker when the contract is signed.

High court to question Florida execution rules

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — On the eve of his execution date in November 1984, death row inmate Gary Alvord was interviewed by three psychiatrists who asked him about his understanding of the electric chair and why he was to die in it.

The doctors reported their findings to Gov. Bob Graham, who decided Alvord didn't understand the impending punishment. The inmate was sent to a state mental institution.

This month the U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments on whether the Constitution protects the mentally incompetent from execution and whether Florida's

method of determining competence to be executed is proper.

Florida law says if the inmate understands the nature of the death penalty and why it is to be imposed on him he can be executed.

"That's a very, very narrow and precise thing," said Dr. David Taubel, director of mental health for the state Department of Corrections. "If a person knows he is going to be executed because he killed a person, he fits the definition of competence in the law."

Opponents say the law improperly leaves the decision to the governor, in this case one who has or-

dered 13 executions, of which 13 have been carried out.

"We believe the decision of competence should be made by a judge, not by the governor," said Dick Burr, a public defender who raised the competency question for condemned inmate Alvin Ford. "The governor of this state is too pro-death."

The Ford case is the one the Supreme Court is scheduled to review.

Ford's lawyers said that since he entered prison 11 years ago for the murder of a Fort Lauderdale police officer, he has gone insane and is "flamboyantly schizophrenic."

But the state maintains that Ford is mentally competent enough to be executed.

Awaiting the court's ruling will be Aubrey Dennis Adams Jr., who also was determined fit to be executed by a panel of psychiatrists who examined him on March 6.

Adams' attorneys say the inmate has amnesia and doesn't remember the day he strangled an Ocala girl, 8, for whose death he was convicted.

In a recent interview, Graham said the issue is whether the inmate understands what the punishment is while the execution is imminent.

"It's not a question of guilt or innocence," he added.

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