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Shultz says arms deal should end

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State George Shultz said Sunday the United States should make no more arms shipments to Iran, contending "I don't see any need for further signals" of U.S. good faith.

Meanwhile, John Poindexter, President Reagan's national security adviser, said the U.S. arms embargo against Iran still stands and he remains optimistic that more hostages may be released by pro-Iran forces.

But Robert McFarlane, former national security adviser who made at least one secret trip to Iran, said his moderate Iranian contacts are in danger of being killed now that his efforts have been made public.

Senate Democratic leader Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.V., urged the administration to state publicly that there would be no more arms shipments to Iran "or any other terrorist state." A congressional investigation into administration dealings with Iran, which Reagan denies were direct negotiations for the release of hostages, is to begin this week.

President Reagan, returning to the White House from Camp David, brushed aside a reporter's question as to whether he had stopped arms shipments to Iran, saying, "I told you the truth once."

Shultz, interviewed on CBS' "Face the Nation," did not specifically criticize past arms shipments but said Reagan's decision to send a signal to Iran with an arms shipment was a subject for debate.

Asked if more arms would be sent, he said, "It's certainly against our policy. . . . As far as I'm concerned, I don't see any need for further signals." He said, however, he did not speak for the entire administration.

Explaining why earlier this fall he said the United States was not sending arms to Iran, Shultz said "my own information about the operational aspects of what was going on was fragmentary at best."

Rep. Jim Wright, D-Texas, House Democratic leader said "it appears that laws have been broken" with the arms deal. He said U.S. laws forbid arms shipments to terrorist countries, including Iran, and require the administration to inform Congress of covert actions.



Curtains For 'A Funny Thing'

Bonnie O'Donnell looks for a place to put styrofoam statues after the Aggie Players' final production of "A Funny Thing Happened on

the Way to the Forum" Sunday. O'Donnell and the rest of the cast and crew took the set apart minutes after the performance.

Photo by Tom Ownbey

Officials say schools hurt by economy

Poll says downturn in Texas hurts educational advances

DALLAS (AP) — Higher education in Texas has improved, but the state's economic downturn is undermining the advances, say academic officials polled by the *Dallas Morning News*.

Among 854 survey respondents, 44 percent said the overall reputation of Texas' higher education has improved. About 67 percent described most of the state's institutions as average.

The survey, results of which were published Sunday, was mailed to 3,000 chief academic officers across the nation. Respondents were guaranteed anonymity.

About half of those who said they believe Texas' educational reputation has improved also said they would change their answers if funding cuts approved this year were not restored.

Texas lawmakers have sliced 10.5 percent from higher education budgets to reduce a budget deficit spurred by plunging oil prices and a corresponding decrease in state revenues.

Former U.S. Education Secretary Terrell H. Bell described the state's higher education situation as tragic.

"Higher education in Texas has taken the brunt of this (economic) downturn," said Bell, who now heads a national commission on higher education.

Several of the survey respondents said the education cuts were evidence of state leaders' wavering resolve about the quality of higher education.

"Higher education was improving in Texas, but has declined quickly over the past 12 to 18 months due to the terrible budget cuts to state colleges and universities," said a survey respondent from a small public institution in the West. "The damage done has not yet been assessed."

To obtain grade averages, each

academic officer was asked to assign grades to each category. The grades were given numerical values, and the numbers averaged. The averages were then translated back into grades.

The University of Texas was named best in the state by 42 percent of the respondents and it rated a B plus on a national scale.

Rice University followed with about 20 percent of the respondents and with a grade of B. Texas A&M University also scored a B.

The University of Houston, Texas Tech, Southern Methodist University, Baylor, Texas Christian University and Trinity University in San Antonio scored a grade of C plus.

North Texas State University came in last among 10 colleges with the lowest numerical grade equaling a C.

Austin College — a small liberal arts school in Sherman — was most often named by administrators when asked to identify another college they thought worthy of mention.

Among the 44 percent of survey respondents who think that the state's higher education reputation is improving, 66 percent credited the rise to an ability to recruit good faculty.

"Something should be done or this will lead some of the very distinguished professors to begin thinking of leaving — or of not coming to Texas," Bell said of the education budget cuts.

Fifty-five percent of the respondents expressed little or no interest in taking jobs in Texas.

A study of Texas public colleges and universities last summer by the Council for University Presidents and Chancellors showed 500 faculty members at 25 schools had resigned or refused offers from Texas institutions for fall 1986.

Some respondents criticized what one described as Texas' "feast or famine" approach to funding higher education. They said that a small, but steadier and more reliable source of support, such as an endowed fund, was preferable.

About a third of the respondents included unsolicited comments on Texas college football.

"The athletic situation is a national disgrace and actually hurts the reputation of the school in the academic process," a respondent said about SMU, which is currently on NCAA probation for recruiting violations.

"If I answered with respect to winning, I would give most Texas schools an A," said a respondent from a large public institution in the South. "With respect to honesty, most get an F."

Syrian president Assad denies ties to terrorism

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — President Hafez Assad denied that Syria was involved in terrorism and accused President Reagan and Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Sunday of being the "real terrorists."

"We are against terrorism, we don't practice it and do not allow anyone to hatch terrorist plots from our territory," Assad told about 7,000 people at a Damascus stadium on the 16th anniversary of the coup that brought him to power.

Assad said, however, that Syria backed "resistance against occupation and all national liberation movements."

From time to time the president

halted for a moment and the crowd shouted slogans such as "We are against terrorism! Zionists are the beasts of the jungle! Hafez is our leader!" and "America, the terrorists!"

Britain cut ties with Syria last month after a Jordanian, Nezar Hindawi, was convicted of working with Syrian diplomats in trying to plant a bomb on an Israeli airliner in London.

The United States announced Friday it would impose diplomatic and economic measures against the Damascus government, citing Syria's alleged support for terrorist groups.

Assad accused Israeli intelligence officials of planning the bombing

and said he wished to express Syria's "astonishment" at Western measures against his country.

He said Reagan and Thatcher were "the real terrorists who practice state terrorism against the freedom of the people."

He cited as examples the U.S. invasion of Grenada, U.S. support for Nicaraguan guerrillas and "British army practices" in Egypt and the rest of the Arab world during the 1950s.

"When they accuse Syria of terrorism, they want to terrorize and frighten Syria," Assad said. "Syria cannot be terrorized nor frightened into changing its national political course. Quite the contrary, Syria, if

it wishes so, is the one who frightens and terrorizes.

"He who extends to us a friendly hand, we extend a friendly hand to him, but he who extends an evil hand, we extend to him a knife and we cut off his hand," Assad said.

He said his nation would be able to cope with the measures imposed by Britain, the United States and the European Common Market.

"For the sake of our freedom and independent decision, we shall sacrifice whatever it might take," he said. "We shall give up lots of things if the nation so needs."

The United States tightened trade

controls and banned commercial flights between Syria and America. The Common Market, with the exception of Greece, banned the sale of new arms to Syria, suspended high-level official visits and agreed to review the activities of their diplomats in Syria.

Assad thanked Greece for refusing to go along. He paid tribute to "the people of Greece and to Premier Andreas Papandreu for their noble and principled stand."

Assad said Syria faced economic difficulties, but blamed them on "the international economic crisis" and "the huge spending on defense to which the Israeli expansionist army is compelling us."

Long-distance services begin crackdown

'Epidemic' of telephone fraud sweeps A&M

By Christi Daugherty
Staff Writer

"Hey Aggies! Your University has provided you with a long distance service that is absolutely free! Just follow these instructions..."

This promise appeared on a flier in Crocker Hall at the beginning of this semester and must have sounded too good to be true to the dorm residents.

It was. The codes belonged to people who would later receive six-figure phone bills, says Sonya Benton of University Communications Inc.

Benton says the flier is just another symptom of a telephone fraud epidemic that is spreading across the A&M campus.

Area long-distance services all are having such severe problems with the illegal use of billing codes that the companies are getting together to crack down on the abusers, she says.

Benton says University Communications has lost over \$20,000 in the past month alone. "It's getting out of hand," she says. "We want to stress that it is a very illegal practice, and it's very easy to catch."

University Communications has caught 125 people in the past month, the majority of them freshmen living on campus, she says. And those caught have revealed a variety of

different ways used to get the billing numbers.

She says computer hackers are the most frequent offenders. They can program their computers to dial random combinations of numbers until they come across valid codes. Hackers then sell or give the codes to friends or leave them in strategic areas.

Public restrooms and areas around public phones are common places such code listings are found, she says.

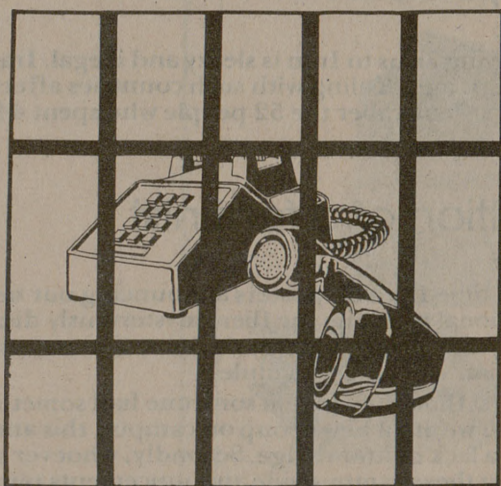
University Communications doesn't usually file charges against offenders, Benton says, but has a policy of allowing those who cooperate to pay the full amount of the phone charges and avoid criminal procedure.

However, the majority of the long-distance services do press charges against offenders, she added.

Jack Polson, the head of MCI's Houston offices, says MCI always prosecutes.

"We make it very clear that anybody we can identify we prosecute," Polson says. "We don't care who you are or what your age is, or if it was a dollar or a thousand, we will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law."

He says the problem originally started several years ago with just a few hackers gaining illegal access, but as more companies entered the market, more access was available. Now the problem is a multi-million-dollar one.



Long-distance companies have developed technology to counter the electronic thieves, Polson says, and now there are many ways to identify illegal use as it happens.

These include hiring extra personnel who check the electronic bulletin boards where hackers post the active codes, and alert those whose codes are posted. Also, computers have been developed to notify MCI officials

when a radical change occurs in an individual's calling patterns.

"If Mrs. Jones in Pasadena usually has a \$20 phone bill, and suddenly starts making \$900 worth of calls, the computer will alert us," he says. "We then contact her and ask her if she's making the calls. If she's not, we find out who is."

Polson says tracing the illegal calls has become very simple. Any call can be identified.

"Every time you make a call it's automatically recorded by your local phone service," he says. "They know you made it, and they know who you called."

"When we get a printout, it contains the number where the call originated, and local companies like GTE and Southwestern Bell match that up with an address and a name."

"And then we've got you."

Alex Walter, the assistant student legal adviser at A&M, says that once people are discovered by a phone company making illegal calls, they can be in serious trouble.

"Basically what you're looking at in this case is a possible criminal charge, because this is a criminal offense as theft of services," Walter says.

The potential amount of punishment de-

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Source says N. Korean leader killed

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The South Korean Defense Ministry, in a broadcast Sunday on state-run radio, said North Korean loudspeakers along the demilitarized zone were saying North Korean President Kim Il Sung had been killed in a shooting.

Radio Press, a Japanese news agency in Tokyo that monitors communist bloc broadcasts, said North Korea's official Radio Pyongyang did not say anything about Kim or a shooting in its hourly newscast at 11 a.m. Monday (8 p.m. Sunday CST).

Lee Heung-shik, spokesman for the South Korean Defense Ministry, said, "North Korean propaganda loudspeakers at the front line said on Sunday Kim Il Sung had been shot and killed."

He added that regular North Korean radio broadcasts monitored here had made no mention of such a happening, and that no confirmation had been received through other channels.

Kim, 74, came to power with Soviet backing in North Korea after the peninsula was divided at the end of World War II.