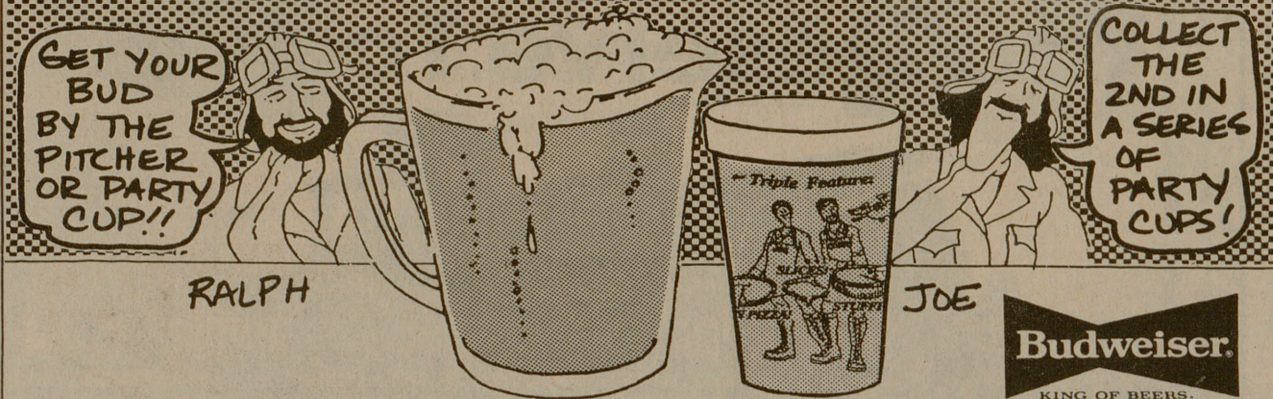


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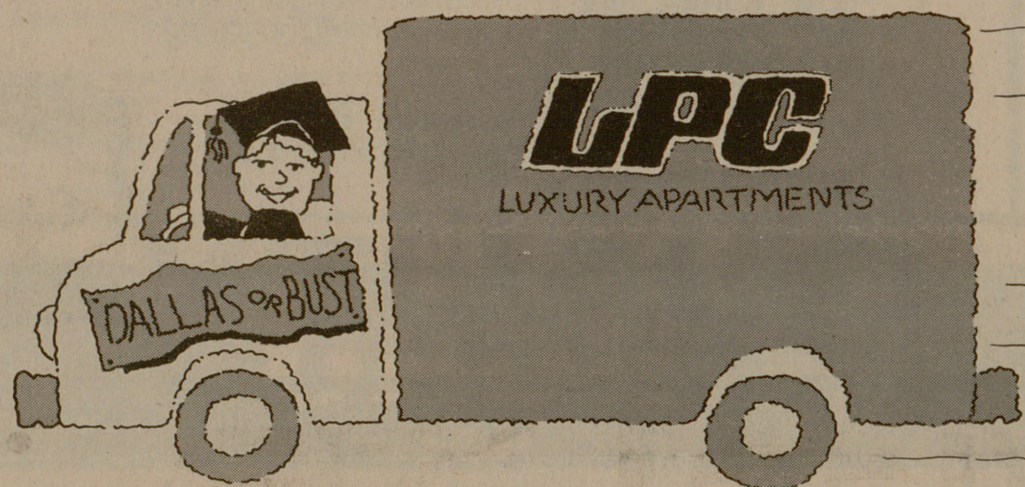
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Official says U.S. knew KGB bugged embassy

Soviet spy technology was underestimated

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. officials were fully aware as long ago as 1979 that the Soviet KGB was bugging the Moscow Embassy during its construction, but believed they had a strategy for finding the spy devices, a top State Department official said Wednesday.

"I think the supervisory people knew that the embassy was being bugged," said Robert E. Lamb, assistant secretary for diplomatic security. "They contributed information to us about the bugs that were coming in."

Lamb told a hearing of a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee that U.S. personnel were placed on the embassy site to intercept listening devices. "We had a strategy for finding it," he said.

"Where this strategy was weak was in the sense that the Soviets used parts of the structure itself as the bugging. These are the kinds of things that are going to be difficult for us to neutralize."

Investigators have said large components of the building were fabricated away from the construction site by a Soviet contractor and away from the eyes of U.S. inspectors.

Those problems cannot now be remedied without fundamentally damaging the building's soundness, said Rep. Doug Bereuter, R-Neb., a member of the committee.

"We've continued to underestimate the Soviets' advances in intelligence-collecting technology," Bereuter, who has a background in military counterintelligence, said in an interview.

"We should have understood that they had the capabilities to employ advances in technology which are more complex than simply inserting bugs in the construction features of the embassy," he said. "It is not a matter of us going over the embassy with a fine-toothed comb. . . . We have a greater problem. It is a fundamental structural concern."

Bereuter said rather than tear down the eight-story brick office building, which has cost \$23 million so far to build an unfinished shell, the State Department should consider building a separate

where all classified business is conducted under complete

Lamb said that option is a view, along with the idea of off and rebuilding the top of the structure or taking neutralize the building bugs. The panel later held a closed-door briefing with other State Department officials to go over classified information related to the security problem.

The United States has a \$100-million-dollar claim against the Soviet Union over construction delays at the embassy, and it may grow substantially as it comes known about the embassy eavesdropping and the costs are included in the administration officials said.

The claims are to be resolved in an arbitration panel formed in Stockholm. So far, the preliminary claim is more than \$10 million in construction delays and defense

Air raids, guerrilla attacks raise death toll in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Government planes bombed Tamil rebels and the guerrillas attacked soldiers Wednesday, adding more than 100 dead to a toll that has reached nearly 400 in six days of civil war.

The attacks by both sides came a day after a car bomb tore Colombo's main bus station apart, killing at least 106 people and wounding 295.

The government said 80 Tamil rebels were killed in an air raid. A military source reported at least 36 soldiers and police slain in guerrilla raids and said eight rebels were killed.

Government and military figures put the death toll since Friday at 374 on this island off the tip of India, where Tamil extremists have fought the Sinhalese majority for a separate nation since 1983.

Tamil terrorists stopped vehicles in eastern Sri Lanka last Friday, pulled passengers out and opened fire, killing 127 people, most of them Sinhalese.

On Monday, Tamil guerrillas killed 15 Sinhalese at a village in the same region.

Friday's attack abruptly ended a government cease-fire aimed at renewing peace talks in the conflict, which has cost more than 5,500 lives since Tamils began fighting for an independent state in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

Unofficial sources said the number of deaths since Friday could surpass 500 when final tolls from the bus terminal bombing and air raid are known.

A Health Ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the count from the car bomb might reach 200. Tamil sources said an equal number of people may have

been killed in the air raid and shelling Wednesday on the Tamil-dominated Jaffna Peninsula in the north.

The government said civilians probably were included in the Jaffna casualties, which it estimated at 80 dead and 80 wounded.

It warned residents of the area to stay away from obvious targets of military action.

Tilak Ratnakara, head of the government's Media Center, said: "We

will continue to strike until the rebels stop and peace negotiations resume."

The government said a military air strike was aimed at the Liberation Tigers of Eelam and the Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students, both blamed for the bus station bombing. Both issued denials from their headquarters in southern

Fetal lead exposure affects mental growth

BOSTON (AP) — Exposure to very low levels of lead before birth appears to slow children's mental development during their first years of life, a study concludes.

The study found that youngsters advanced more slowly than expected if they had prenatal exposure to levels of lead that are thought to be safe for children. This could mean that fetuses are more sensitive to babies to the toxic effects of lead.

"I think it should be regarded as an indication that something is going on that may be quite worrisome," said Dr. David Bellinger, who directed the study at Children's Hospital in Boston.

Even though the children's mental growth was slower than expected by age 2, they were not considered retarded in any way. The study will continue to see if the prenatal lead exposure is linked to poor mental performance later in life.

"If we see these effects in preschoolers and school-age kids, then we do probably have quite a significant health problem, and we should eliminate all sources of lead exposure, particularly for women," said Dr. Kim Blevins, who is conducting similar research at the University of Cincinnati.

Earlier studies found that children with high blood concentrations of lead have developmental delays. But the effect of low amounts is controversial.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control considers lead levels above 25 micrograms per deciliter of blood. A normal one-millionth of a gram of lead in a tenth of a liter, which is about the amount in a child's blood.

In the Boston study, researchers found that mental development is slowed if fetuses have levels above 10 micrograms per liter of blood.

The report was published in the April 16 New England Journal of Medicine, along with an editorial by Dr. Nicholas A. Ashford of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

WANTED:

Video AggieLand Editor applicants

Application forms: Available 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Journalism Department office, Room 230, Reed McDonald Building.

Deadline: Return to Room 230 by 5 p.m. Monday, April 27.

Job Interviews: At Student Publications Board meeting starting 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, in Room 215 Reed McDonald Building.

Requirements: Must have strong interest in video and be currently enrolled student at Texas A&M University, and continue enrollment throughout job tenure from June 1, 1987, through end of Spring Semester 1988. Current GPR of 2.0 both overall and in major, and necessity of maintaining that average throughout job tenure. Willingness to devote time and effort necessary to plan, staff, and produce a master videotape of a year's campus life at Texas A&M University, which can be used to reproduce saleable tapes for students and others.

Suggested strengths: Widespread and up-to-date interest in campus and all activities at the University; experience and/or training in management/administration; experience and/or training in planning; experience and/or training in video production work, both field and post; experience and/or training in video editing.

Responsibilities: Will include but not be restricted to selecting and supervising student staff; planning year's shooting schedule; setting budget (within set limits) for staff and other activities; overseeing shooting of all film necessary for a tape of 60-90 minutes; overseeing editing of raw tape and necessary background sound and technical devices for finished film.

Technical assistance: As available, Journalism Department faculty staff and Student Publications staff will assist in all management and technical operations as requested.