

World and Nation

Waldheim claims no guilt in war crimes

VIENNA, Austria (AP)—President Kurt Waldheim said Tuesday he did nothing wrong as a German army officer during World War II and the U.S. decision to bar him on grounds of involvement in Nazi atrocities is "incomprehensible."

"I have a clear conscience. . . . You can trust me," Waldheim told the nation in a five-minute speech on radio and TV.

On Monday, the United States put the former U.N. secretary-general on its Watchlist of undesirable aliens barred from entering the United States, citing evidence that he aided in the deportation and execution of thousands of Jews and others.

Investigators found evidence that Waldheim "participated in persecutions for reasons of race or religion under the Nazi regime," Attorney General Edwin Meese III said Tuesday in Brussels.

A U.S. official at the United Nations in New York said that, if Waldheim sought to attend a U.N. session, "a policy decision would have to be made on whether to admit him."

Waldheim, who is 68 and was elected to the largely ceremonial presidency last June, thanked Austrians for an "impressive wave" of support expressed earlier Tuesday in a government statement rejecting the U.S. charges.

He said he has asked researchers to prepare a "White Book" about his activities during the World War II and "this documentation will be made available to the public shortly," he said.

Charges about his World War activities have plagued Waldheim since early last year, and he has consistently denied them. Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal told the Associated Press earlier Tuesday that Waldheim should allow an investigation by an independent group of military historians, who could make a report in four or five weeks.

Lawyer renews request for denial of immunity

Reagan confident over ex-aide's testimony

WASHINGTON (AP) — Independent counsel Lawrence Walsh on Tuesday renewed his plea that Congress not grant immunity to key Iran-Contra witnesses, while President Reagan said he knew of no diversion of money to the Contras and can't imagine a former aide will testify otherwise.

Former National Security Adviser John Poindexter, the most recent of 13 people voted limited immunity from prosecution by congressional Iran-Contra panels, could talk to investigators in private by the end of the week under ground rules worked out between Walsh and the committees.

Poindexter, whose testimony could be crucial concerning Reagan's possible knowledge, isn't expected to testify publicly until next month.

The president, in an interview with six newspaper reporters, said he was not worried that Poindexter

might say he had told Reagan about a diversion of some profits from the secret sale of arms to Iran.

"No. John Poindexter's an honorable man," Reagan said. "I was not informed."

Reagan was asked if Poindexter or his aide, Lt. Col. Oliver North, had somehow had the idea Reagan had approved of such a diversion.

"I wouldn't see how, no, no," Reagan said. "We don't know the extent of their knowledge of that and why there was extra money or whether they even participated in that in any way or agreed to it."

Walsh, meanwhile, suggesting he will try to indict central figures in the Iran-Contra case, told Congress it would jeopardize prosecutions if it made further grants of immunity in order to compel testimony from such figures.

In a 17-page report on his work so far, he didn't say who might be indicted nor when.

In his report, Walsh said he understood that Senate and House Iran-Contra committees, which begin public hearings next Tuesday, would decide for themselves "the extent to which prosecution for crime shall be subordinated to legislative interests."

However, he said, "despite the rigorous efforts of the independent counsel to protect possible prosecutions, grants of immunity to central figures in the investigation might preclude future prosecution of those individuals."

Sen. Warren B. Rudman, R-N.H., declined to say whether the panel would vote additional grants of immunity to compel testimony from witnesses during hearings in which Congress hopes to set out the facts of the affair as fully as possible.

But Rudman said in response to Walsh's comments, "He has his responsibilities; we have ours. I have long felt ours were paramount."

Students beaten in 2nd day of violence at Cape Town

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Police whipped student protesters and the government said 18 students were arrested Tuesday during a second day of violence at the predominantly white University of Cape Town.

In another major development Tuesday, a Supreme Court judge overturned a controversial ban on appeals for the release of detainees.

Major black opposition groups discussed plans for a nationwide strike from jobs and schools on May 5 and 6 to protest the whites-only parliamentary election on May 6. The United Democratic Front, the country's largest anti-apartheid coalition, said government suppression of opposition activity "has left us no

option but to call for protest action."

The confrontation in Cape Town prompted police to close a major highway near the campus for more than two hours Tuesday afternoon. Police said the highway would be closed during peak hours each day until the unrest ceased.

The Bureau for Information said police used whips after a group of about 400 students refused to obey an order to disperse.

The ruling regarding detainees, issued by Natal Province Supreme Court Justice R.N. Leon, was the second blow in five days to the government's state-of-emergency restrictions on news reporting and opposition activity. On Friday, a sep-

arate Supreme Court panel in Natal overturned prohibitions on reporting about unrest and security force action.

The regulations rejected by Leon were imposed April 10 by Police Commissioner Johan Coetzee. The rules banned any public appeals for the release of detainees, prompting immediate protests and threats of defiance from opposition politicians and clergymen.

The legal challenge was filed by three anti-apartheid groups — the Release Mandela Campaign, the Detainees Parents Support Committee and the Black Sash.

Leon ruled that the regulations were no longer in force.

PTL board votes to cut Bakker from ministry

FORT MILL, S.C. (AP) — The new PTL board banished television evangelist Jim Bakker and his top deputies from the ministry Tuesday and cut off payments to Jessica Hahn, the former church secretary who had sex with Bakker seven years ago.

The Rev. Jerry Falwell said the board decided at a four-hour meeting that Bakker and Bakker's wife, Tammy, no longer will receive salaries or bonuses from PTL and that Bakker will not be allowed to return as head of PTL. He also accepted the resignation of the Rev. Richard Dortch, a board member who succeeded Bakker as president of the ministry.

Falwell said the growing sex-and-money scandal at PTL has caused "a national distrust of all

who preach the Gospel. A lot of faith has been shattered."

He said the board's executive committee will investigate claims that Bakker was involved with prostitutes and engaged in homosexual activity. Those allegations were made publicly by another TV evangelist, the Rev. John Ankerberg. Bakker has denied them.

The Bakkers, who were co-hosts of PTL's daily television show, reportedly were paid \$1.6 million in salary and bonuses in 1986. Falwell said those payments were made even though the ministry is at least \$50 million in debt. Attorneys will help settle royalties the Bakkers earn from sales of records and other items, Falwell said.

A tearful Tammy Bakker told reporters out-

side her Palm Springs, Calif., mansion Tuesday afternoon that she and her husband were "very sad right now."

"We'd just like to tell the people that we really love them," she said. "We're going to miss them. Jim will be back soon and he's going to give everyone a statement. He'll . . . explain our side of what happened. . . . I just want to thank everyone for being patient with us."

Mrs. Bakker would not say where her husband was Tuesday, but said the statement could come this week.

Attorney Norman Roy Grutman, counsel for the board, said PTL no longer would make monthly payments to Hahn because her public talk about Bakker violated the provisions of the payments.

Court rules Reagan 'propaganda' label on 3 films OK

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Reagan administration is not suppressing free speech by labeling as political propaganda three Canadian films on acid rain and nuclear war, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

The use of the label to describe some foreign-produced material is neutral and evenhanded" and "has

no pejorative connotation," Justice John Paul Stevens said for the 5-3 court decision.

But the dissenters said Tuesday's decision ignores the common understanding of propaganda as material "laced with lies and distortions."

Civil rights groups said they will turn to Congress for help in removing the propaganda designation

from the Canadian films and other similar material.

The law, the Foreign Agents Registration Act, was challenged by California State Sen. Barry Keene, who planned to sponsor showings of the films to support his views.

Keene said the political propaganda label attached a stigma to the

motion pictures that could damage his reputation and political standing.

A federal judge in California agreed, and barred the government from assigning the classification to the three films produced by the National Film Board of Canada, registered in this country as a foreign agent.

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