

# World and Nation

## Secord: Reagan was informed of secret shipments to Contras

WASHINGTON (AP) — Richard Secord testified to Congress Wednesday he was told by President Reagan's key aides that the president knew of, and appreciated, his work in arranging secret arms shipments to Iran and Nicaraguan Contra rebels.

In his second day of testimony to a House-Senate hearing, Secord denied suggestions that he himself had benefited from his role in the Iran-Contra affair.

Secord quoted fired White House national security aide Lt. Col. Oliver North as saying North had mentioned to Reagan the irony of profits from the Iranian arms sales being diverted for use by the Contras.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters in response, "I refer you back to our original statement that the president was not aware of the diversion. There is no record that he did and it is hearsay as to Secord's testimony."

Secord said that North made the remark in a "humorous vein" but that he had not thought North was joking.

As the retired Air Force major general spent the day at the witness table, Richard R. Miller, 34, a former State Department employee who now heads International Business Communications, a Washington public relations firm, pleaded guilty to a charge of conspiring to illegally use a tax-exempt foundation to raise money to arm the Contras.

Conservative fund-raiser Carl R. "Spitz" Channell pleaded guilty last week to a similar conspiracy charge and named Miller, who was a staffer on President Reagan's 1980 campaign, as well as North as fellow conspirators.

Asked by U.S. District Judge Stanley Harris to identify the government official he dealt with, Miller replied, "Lt. Col. Oliver North." Early Wednesday, one of the cen-

tral characters in the unfolding story, ex-CIA Director William J. Casey died of pneumonia which developed during his recovery from surgery for a brain tumor. The surgery had forced him to resign from the CIA earlier this year. Investigators had doubted he would be able to testify at these hearings because of his illness.

One committee member, Sen. William Cohen, R-Maine, who also is vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said Casey's involvement can be pieced together without his testimony but that it may take "several months or longer."

In a full day of testimony, Secord continued to give a joint House-Senate hearing the most detailed public accounting to date of the Iran-Contra affair, concentrating Wednesday on various aspects of arms sales to Iran, including the transfer of U.S.-made weapons from Israeli stocks.

He also spoke about the presi-

dent.

"I have no direct first-hand knowledge about what the president knew or didn't know," Secord said. "As I think everyone knows I never spoke with the president on this."

"I was told on a number of occasions, and I even recorded it once in a December 1984 memo to myself, that the president was informed of my participation in the Contra and later in the Iranian operations."

"I had talked with the director of the CIA, who is a close confidant of the president. I assumed that he was passing information to him."

"I talked with two different national security advisers during the two years in question here. I vetted all the projects I was working on with Oliver North and I was told by (then-National Security Adviser) Adm. (John) Poindexter in January of '86 that not only was he pleased with the work that I had been doing, but the president was as well."

## Former PTL leaders lose church jobs for 'bad conduct'

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Former PTL Club leaders Jim Bakker and Richard Dortch have been dismissed as ministers of the Assemblies of God, national leaders of the Pentecostal denomination announced Wednesday.

The 13-member Executive Presbytery of the church announced its decision after meeting by telephone conference call to consider recommendations from district officials in North Carolina.

The Rev. G. Raymond Carlson, general superintendent of the church, said both Bakker and Dortch were dismissed for "conduct unbecoming to a minister."

He said Bakker's dismissal was for his admitted sexual encounter with Jessica Hahn in a Florida motel seven years ago and "for his alleged misconduct involving bisexual activity."

Dortch was dismissed for concealing information about the immoral activity of a fellow minister, Carlson said.

Both Bakker and Dortch submitted resignations from the ministry March 19 when Bakker disclosed that he had a sexual encounter with Hahn, a former church secretary, in 1980.

At the same time, Bakker resigned as head of his PTL Club television empire.

Dortch, a PTL executive, succeeded Bakker as host of the organization's television show until resigning last week in the wake of disclosures that he had negotiated a financial settlement with Hahn.

Under regulations of the Assemblies of God, resignations by ministers are not accepted immediately pending an investigation at the district level. The national board, which heard allegations against Bakker during a regularly scheduled meeting shortly after his announcement, referred the resignations to the North Carolina district, headed by the Rev. Charles Cookman, for further study and a recommendation.

The district presbyters considered the matter a second time during a meeting Monday and Tuesday in

Fayetteville but did not make their decision public.

Bakker turned over operation of his \$172 million PTL ministry, based in South Carolina, to a new board headed by the Rev. Jerry Falwell, a Southern Baptist from Virginia.

At a meeting last week in the wake of further allegations of wife-swapping among PTL leaders and that Bakker had engaged in homosexual acts and used the services of prostitutes, the new board voted to banish him permanently from PTL.

Bakker emerged from seclusion Friday to deny involvement in wife-swapping, homosexuality or use of prostitutes.

## Senator puts hold on CIA nomination

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., said Wednesday he would hold up the nomination of FBI Director William Webster to be the CIA director until Webster assures him the Justice Department will conduct a full investigation of security problems at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

Hollings accused the FBI of not vigorously investigating the State Department in connection with the Marine espionage scandal at the embassy.

"It is apparent that the FBI has no idea of doing anything," Hollings said at a news conference. "It is apparent that I'm being given the run-around." Hollings said he wanted a full investigation of how the security problems developed.

Hollings said he had placed a "hold" on the Webster nomination "until I can get a better understanding from him" about what will be done to probe the security problems.

## South African National Party scores victory as blacks go on strike against white elections

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — President P.W. Botha's National Party scored an overwhelming victory in Wednesday's whites-only election, crushing liberal parties which had hoped that support for apartheid was waning.

More than 1 million of the country's voteless blacks joined a nationwide strike to protest the election, in which far-right parties opposed to the government's slow-paced reforms outpolled an informal anti-apartheid alliance.

The last hope for a dramatic triumph by the alliance vanished when independent Denis Worrall, the former ambassador to Britain, lost by 39 votes to powerful Constitutional Development Minister Chris Heunis in the Cape province wine-growing district of Helderberg.

With returns compiled from 130 of 166 parliamentary races, the Na-

tional Party had captured seven seats from the liberal Progressive Federal Party, or PFP, and three from its moderate ally, the New Republic Party, while losing one seat to the PFP. It broke even with the far-right Conservative and Hestigte Nasionale (Reformed National) parties, gaining eight seats and losing eight.

The results vindicated the Nationalists' campaign strategy, emphasizing the party's commitment to cracking down on black unrest and guerrilla activity. Botha promised to continue with cautious racial reforms but also pledged to oppose majority rule and maintain segregated schools and neighborhoods.

Partial returns showed the National Party winning 98 races, the PFP 18, the Conservative Party 13, and one for an independent. The total vote for liberal candidates was less than 20 percent, compared with 27 percent in 1981, and was sur-

passed by the surprisingly strong 24 percent total for the Conservative Party, formed in 1982 by breakaway Nationalists who opposed any modifications of apartheid.

Wynand Malan, a Parliament member who quit the National Party in January to protest the slow pace of reform, easily won as an independent in the Johannesburg suburb of Randburg. But another Nationalist defector who joined Malan in an independent alliance, Esther Lategan, was beaten by the National Party incumbent in Stellenbosch.

The PFP, which had hoped to spearhead an advance by the anti-apartheid alliance, suffered surprising losses in Cape Town and Johannesburg districts which were considered its strongholds.

Winners for the National Party included powerful Cabinet members such as Foreign Minister R.F. Botha and Defense Minister Magnus

Malan. The leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Colin Eglin, also won.

A record 480 candidates from five parties entered races for 166 seats in the House of Assembly following Botha's decision to call the election two years early. Botha, 71, said he needed a mandate to continue gradual reforms of some discriminatory laws and give blacks a limited role in national policy-making.

He vowed during the campaign to resist majority rule and maintain segregated schools and neighborhoods.

Of the country's 5 million whites, 3.03 million were registered to vote. With the National Party favored to hold most or all of its seats, analysts were looking toward the nationwide vote totals to see whether the party, in power since 1948, has lost support to the left or far-right, or both.

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