

World and Nation

Constitution Compromise of 1787 celebrated in official ceremony

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The compromise that made the Constitution a reality 200 years ago was celebrated here by Congress Thursday amid shouts of protesters and claims that the Reagan administration tried to shred the system of checks and balances.

In a hushed and solemn ceremony in the assembly room of Independence Hall, the official 55-member congressional delegation, matching the number of Americans who wrote the nation's basic charter in 1787, praised the enduring nature of the Constitution and signed a resolution commemorating the event.

Rep. Lindy Boggs, D-La., was elected chairman of the delegation and presided, in resplendent red, over her mostly male colleagues in dress blue suits in the historic chamber.

They celebrated the "Great Compromise" of July 16, 1787, which set-

led rivalries between large and small states.

The compromise resulted in the invention of Congress, with the establishment of a House of Representatives based on population and a Senate with equal representation from every state.

Shielded by the Constitution's free-speech protections, protest groups included about 100 supporters of the National Organization for Women pressing for an Equal Rights Amendment.

Other demonstrations were organized by the Gay and Lesbian Task Force and by groups opposed to Reagan administration foreign and domestic policies. Protesters demonstrated despite what they considered efforts by program planners to keep them away from the action.

"They think this is a pageant and they can write the script," said Barry Steinhardt, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union for

Pennsylvania. "They don't want any one deviating from the lines."

Security was tight and officials enforced a judge's ruling that demonstrators did not have the right to march within sight of the lawmakers.

Rolling into Philadelphia in a special 14-car train protected by heavy security, including Army helicopters overhead, the congressional delegates said they agreed that the luster of the Constitution has not dimmed.

The 55-person official House and Senate delegation and many of the 200 other members of Congress who came as observers said they believed the strength of the document is in its flexibility. They said compromise is still the engine that makes the American system work.

But many members said the Constitution has been placed under severe strain by actions of the Reagan administration, disclosed by the congressional Iran-Contra investigation, in implementing a covert foreign policy and lying about it to Congress.

"To hear some of those House witnesses testify, you'd think they were working for King James XIV who said, 'I am the state,'" Rep. Claude Pepper, D-Fla., 86 is the oldest member of Congress.

"There's no fault in the Constitution," Pepper said during the ride to Philadelphia. "They have kept faith with the oath they took to support the Constitution and make sure that the laws are faithfully executed."

On the train, and in remarks delivered in both Independence and Congress Hall, where the national legislature met for a day beginning in 1790, delegates stressed a need to compromise to maintain the constitutional checks and balances.

"It must be clear to all Americans who have followed recent events said Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., "that our system of checks and balances can never be taken for granted."

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Federal judge postpones Deaver trial 3 more months

WASHINGTON (AP) — The perjury trial of Michael K. Deaver, President Reagan's former aide and longtime confidant, was postponed for at least three months Thursday by a federal judge whose attempt to conduct jury selection in private was rebuffed by an appellate court.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson dismissed a 94-member jury pool and tentatively set Oct. 19 as a new trial date, pending a possible Supreme Court review of Wednesday's decision by the Court of Appeals that interviews of the prospective jurors be conducted in public.

Deaver's attorney, Herbert J. Miller, said he would make the appeal to the high court, even though his client is "anxious to get this case over with and behind him. He doesn't like my decision, but he respects it."

If the Supreme Court, which is not scheduled to meet again until

early October, decides to hear the case, Deaver's trial could be delayed further, perhaps a year.

Deaver, now a lobbyist, served as deputy White House chief of staff during Reagan's first term and is a longtime friend of the president and his wife, Nancy.

Under the appellate ruling, based on protests from news organizations about the judge's closed-door methods, Jackson still could have proceeded with the jury pool assembled Monday by conducting the remaining interviews in public.

But Jackson said, "I am no longer confident of my ability to obtain from this panel a fair and impartial jury who would be willing and able to trust my rulings and to follow my instructions, making a mistrial a distinct likelihood later on."

Jackson, a Reagan appointee, has been reversed many times since taking the bench in 1982. As a private

attorney, he specialized in civil litigation.

Even in civil cases, according to the June 1 ABA Journal, his reversal rate is the second worst among the 13 federal trial judges in Washington.

Independent Whitney North Seymour Jr. objected to any extensive delay, saying, "We've already had a number of weeks of struggle. The Supreme Court has already been supplicated by other actions of the defendant," a reference to Deaver's so-far unsuccessful challenge of Seymour's authority as special prosecutor.

Jackson said "the several interruptions of these proceedings, occasioned by the news media's efforts to cause revisions of the voir dire procedures to their liking, in which they have largely succeeded, have left an impression in the minds of the (jury) panel that it is the news media, not the court, who dictate the pace of this trial."

Outbreak of rare bacterial disease kills 3 in Salt Lake City institutions

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Health officials thought they had a typical outbreak when the Utah State Training School reported a case of hemolytic uremic syndrome in June.

But after killing three people and hospitalizing seven others in 10 days, the rare bacterial disease, known as HUS, is provoking considerable fear.

"At first it was a low-key investigation and a chance to learn more about a rare disease, but then we started having these deaths," Utah Health Department spokesman Ross Martin said. "Now, we've got people working overtime on this and it's scary."

The disease, which is known to be carried by a strain of the E. coli bacterium often found in food or feces, is usually preceded by gastrointestinal or upper respiratory illness and most often is characterized by bloody diarrhea.

Fatal cases involved a resident of the State Training School in American Fork and two residents of a home for the mentally handicapped in Salt Lake County.

Since the first death July 4, health officials have identified four more confirmed or suspected cases from the training school and three from the public.

Three of the patients were in critical condition, one serious, one fair and two satisfactory, a nursing supervi-

sor at the University of Utah Health Sciences Center said Thursday.

Martin said health officials believe there is a link between the school and the group home. "We're assuming there was a common food link between the two that led to the outbreak," he said. "The onset was right on the same day."

HUS has no single cause, and data collected on the syndrome does not even include a proved medium in which to grow a culture of the bacteria, Martin said.

There is no cure for HUS, only treatment to control body fluids, transfusions for severe anemia, control of hypertension and dialysis if kidney failure occurs, he said.

At least 100 people are investigating the outbreak. The federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta sent an investigator to Utah.

Martin said health officials believe the outbreak started from a common food source, but now is being transmitted through poor hygiene.

The disease has been mostly confined to the two institutions. Diarrheal illnesses are common among institutionalized people, who sometimes lack the capacity to maintain good personal hygiene, Martin said.

Scientists find new, single-dose drug that may prevent rejection of organs

WASHINGTON (AP) — A single dose of special antibodies can produce lifelong acceptance of transplanted tissue in mice, a developmental scientist says, an organ transplant tolerance without anti-rejection drugs.

Researchers at Stanford University Medical School said Thursday that their work apparently is the first successful use of monoclonal antibodies to spur permanent tolerance of transplant tissue in animals.

If similar therapy can be developed for humans, it could free organ transplant patients from lifelong dependence upon expensive and potentially hazardous anti-rejection drugs that reduce resistance to infection, they said.

"This is a pretty exciting model because we're able to create tolerance in the animals with one course of monoclonal antibodies and no other drug treatment," Dr. C. Garrison Fathman said.

Fathman said he will try the

therapy in monkeys as a step toward human tests, but cautioned that wide human application probably is five years away even if subsequent studies go well.

In a report to be published Friday

"This is a pretty exciting model because we're able to create tolerance in the animals with one course of monoclonal antibodies and no other drug treatment."

— Dr. C. Garrison Fathman, researcher

in the July 17 issue of the journal Science, Fathman and Dr. Judith A. Shizuru said their method involved using the antibody to temporarily kill off a certain type of white blood cell that is instrumental in stimulating the body to reject foreign tissue.

These blood cells, called helper T lymphocytes, eventually grow back to normal levels, but the researchers said the new cells apparently stop

recognizing the transplanted tissue as foreign.

The researchers transplanted pancreatic islets, cells that produce insulin, from healthy mice into diabetic mice.

The cells make insulin, the hor-

monone that controls sugar levels and metabolism in the body, after taking up permanent residence in the recipient's liver.

The islet transplant technique, pioneered by Dr. Paul Lacy of Washington University in St. Louis, has had only limited success in humans because the recipient's immune system eventually destroys the foreign cells, Fathman said.

In the Stanford study, untreated

mice rejected the islets over a period of weeks and died within months from complications of diabetes.

But animals treated with the body show no signs of rejection; their blood sugar levels remain stable, Shizuru said in a telephone interview.

Antibodies are immune proteins that attach to foreign materials, whether disease organisms or tissue, and hasten their destruction.

Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-produced hormones that specifically target certain other proteins.

Shizuru said the work is an important step in the goal of using plants to cure Type-1 insulin-dependent diabetes, sometimes juvenile diabetes, because it can occur early in life.

As many as 1 million Americans suffer with this type of diabetes which can lead to blindness, kidney failure and other complications. Patients must take daily insulin injections to control the condition.

Japan vows to keep rein on exports

WASHINGTON (AP) — Japan has promised to tighten export licensing and take steps to guard against illegal sale of sensitive technology to the Soviets like that made by a subsidiary of the Toshiba Corp., Commerce Department officials said Thursday.

U.S. officials assert that Japanese computerized machine tools sold to the Soviets enabled them to produce submarine propellers that run more silently than conventional ones, making it hard to track them.

Japan's trade minister, Han Tamura, also said his agency would pursue its investigation of the Toshiba incident "with a view toward criminal prosecution," spokesman for Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige said.

Baldrige and Tamura met two hours Thursday and ended the meeting "in basic agreement on Japan's future role in improving the cooperation and effectiveness of export controls," said spokesman, B. Jay Cooper.

Earlier, Baldrige told a group of reporters that Japan was a "weak link" in an international organization that restricts technology exports to the Soviet bloc — the Paris-based Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls.

Baldrige called for punishment against Toshiba "severe enough to be a deterrent to other companies thinking of doing that in the future," but said it should be meted out by the Japanese government, not the United States.

Tamura is here for a series of meetings with congressional administration officials in an effort to quell U.S. anger over Toshiba case.

The Senate voted on June 9-26 to 5, to ban all exports to Toshiba company to the United States for a period of two years. Other bills calling for sanctions against the Japanese company are before the House.

Toshiba Machine, a subsidiary of the electronics company, advanced computer-control machine tools to Moscow.