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World and Nation

Reagan hails qualities of Bork to get Senate OK

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan predicted Wednesday that Robert Bork will find a place in history with the great Supreme Court justices of yesteryear, if only the Senate will give him an opportunity.

"I can't think of any better way of marking this 200th anniversary of the framing of our noble Constitution than by placing a justice of Robert Bork's quality on the United States Supreme Court," Reagan said.

Maintaining that "we are winning" the war against crime, Reagan told the National Law Enforcement Council: "I feel the American people want criminals going to jail while constitutional rights are preserved."

Without alluding specifically to the jockeying in the Senate among supporters and opponents of Bork, including talk of a filibuster on the floor and a delay in starting confirmation hearings, Reagan said that Bork, 60, "deserves to be evaluated on his merits."

Reagan announced his nomination of the conservative federal appeals judge on July 1. Sen. Joseph

Biden of Delaware, chairman of the Judiciary Committee and a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination next year, scheduled hearings to begin Sept. 15 — a schedule that would make it virtually impossible for Bork to be confirmed by the start of the court term Oct. 5.

Reagan said, "Each senator must decide which criteria is right for casting this critical vote, qualifications or politics. One way or another, it should act on Judge Bork's nomination before the court goes into session in October."

Reagan's praise of Bork, going well beyond what he had said about the judge July 1, appeared to open an intensive campaign to gain confirmation.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater minimized talk of a high-profile drive, saying of Reagan's speech that the president "has spoken out for him since Day 1."

But just before Reagan walked onto a stage at the Old Executive Office Building to speak to the chiefs of police, sheriffs and state troopers gathered there, White House chief

of staff Howard H. Baker Jr. pealed for their lobbying assistance.

In his speech, Reagan said, man in America, and few in history, have been as qualified as the Supreme Court as Robert Bork.

He said Bork's belief in judicial restraint reflects the values of the Justices Oliver Wendell Holmes, Louis D. Brandeis, Felix Frankfurter and Potter Stewart.

"The Supreme Court has its own esteem for Robert Bork," president said. He said that the approximately 100 majority opinions he wrote while a federal appellate judge was overturned.

Most of the cases cited by Reagan never involved an actual Supreme Court ruling. Either they never appealed to the high court or justices let stand, without coming to the lower court ruling in which they participated.

Also, while Bork has disagreed over the years with key high court decisions, he has acknowledged the job of a federal appeals judge to follow precedents established by the justices.

Rough sea forces delay in loading damaged tanker

KUWAIT (AP) — High winds and waves forced a delay Wednesday in loading the cargo of crude oil the Kuwaiti supertanker Bridgeton will carry back down the Persian Gulf with an escort of American warships, shipping sources said.

The Bridgeton was damaged by a mine on the voyage north last week, and U.S. Navy specialists hunted for other mines along the return route. Defense Department sources in Washington said seven mines had been found.

problems would delay the return trip down the gulf by the Bridgeton and the 46,725-ton products carrier Gas Prince, both of which have been registered as U.S. vessels and fly the American flag.

Eleven Kuwaiti tankers are being given U.S. registration so Navy ships can protect them. Iran began regular attacks last September on commercial ships owned by or serving Kuwait.

Iran accuses Kuwait of receiving arms shipments for Iraq, the emirate's eastern neighbor at the northern end of the gulf. Iraq's ports were closed soon after the war began.

Kuwaiti shipping officials say they hope the return convoy can leave by the weekend, but Pentagon officials have not set a date.

"Everything is fine with that ship," said a Kuwaiti familiar with the four-day effort to patch the Bridgeton's internal damage. "Everything has been checked out."

The mine it struck off Iran's Farsi Island last Friday tore a hole in the tanker's port side that covered about 48 square yards and damaged four of its 31 compartments.

Cmdr. Glenn L. Moyer, executive officer of the U.S. Coast Guard's Marine Inspections Office, said in New York: "The Bridgeton has been given permission to take a partial load of cargo (south) and discharge it, and then return to a shipyard for permanent repairs."

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency said Iranian naval vessels intercepted six foreign ships in the Hormuz Strait Tuesday but let them proceed when no war cargo was found.

Hormuz, the southern entrance to the gulf, is only 44 miles wide, with Iran on one side and Oman on the other.

The Bridgeton and Gas Prince were the first vessels to be reflagged and make the 500-mile trip from the Strait of Hormuz to Kuwait under U.S. escort.

Police patrol L.A. freeways after shooting

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Six cars and motorcycles from 30 police agencies began special patrols on Southern California freeways Wednesday in a show of force against highway gunmen who have killed four motorists and wounded three in six weeks.

Worried motorists continue to flood California Highway Patrol offices with phone calls. Experts reiterated warnings for drivers to keep calm behind the wheel.

The latest shooting reported early Wednesday involved a driver who was shot at on the telege Valley Freeway in suburban Los Angeles, bringing over a dozen the number of highway shootings reported since June 18.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office announced Wednesday that a force during a news conference Wednesday. It involves cooperation by his department, the Los Angeles Police Department, and other Southern California law enforcement agencies.

"When they (officers) have an opportunity, they will swing on a freeway or highway," he said.

"It won't be an increase in manpower, just a directed increase in activity," he said.

Edward Gomez, southern region chief for the CHP, reported results of a study the CHP conducted on all freeway shootings reported during the last two weeks.

Ninety percent of the shootings occurred between 1 p.m. and 10 p.m., 90 percent involved a pistol and the shooters were men ages 25 to 35, he said.

Eight people have been arrested, including five arrested after the fatal shooting of a 17-year-old on the Corona Expressway last weekend.

Pentagon officials said Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger ordered eight minesweeping helicopters sent to the gulf to operate from a Navy helicopter carrier now in the Indian Ocean. They said the shipment was "imminent."

France sent an aircraft carrier and three support ships to the Middle East, where it already stations three or four warships, and Britain said it would consider sending minesweepers. West Germany said it would not dispatch its own ships but might have them assume the European duties of U.S. vessels that could be reassigned.

In London, the International Association of Independent Tanker Owners urged world powers Wednesday to form a multinational force to protect shipping in the gulf, where Iran and Iraq have been at war since September 1980.

Nine-foot waves and 20-knot winds pushed the 401,382-ton Bridgeton away from the Sea Island deep-water terminal Wednesday, snapping its steel-and-nylon mooring ropes, the shipping sources said.

They said the 1,200-foot-long ship drifted away from the terminal, which is about 10 miles off the coast, and dropped anchor to await calmer weather. The tanker is to load 1,820,000 barrels of oil, more than two-thirds its normal cargo of 2.4 million.

It was not clear whether loading

Soldiers fired into a crowd of about 2,500 protesters marching Wednesday to condemn the disbanded Tontons Macoutes private militia, killing at least four people and injuring 15, witnesses said.

Reporters said three soldiers waiting at a major intersection downtown shot into the crowd shortly after midday as the marchers headed peacefully toward the National Palace shouting anti-Macoutes slogans and calling for the resignation of the ruling junta led by Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy.

The shooting caused a stampede of screaming demonstrators, many of whom broke store and car windows as they fled.

"Three soldiers hiding behind pillars holding their guns at hip-level shot into the crowd," said American photographer Rick Kelley of Picture Group, Inc.

The four victims were young males and all had been shot at close range, Kelley and another foreign reporter said.

Reporters who tried to approach the victims were threatened by the soldiers, who pointed their semi-automatic rifles at them and ordered them to go away.

Kelley said that just before the shooting, some of the demonstrators appeared to have jostled one of the soldiers, who fired a few rounds in the air. The three then shot directly into the crowd, Kelley said.

Hospital officials confirmed they had treated 15 people for gunshot wounds.

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A car explosion as the device overwound 68 on a freeway or highway, he said.

The bomb five-block away.

A report supervised by police estimates about 180 ministers at national Congress of planning Tom She

Soldiers fire into crowd in Haiti; at least 4 known dead, 15 injured

Trade unions organized the march to protest Tontons Macoutes on the date set aside by the Duvalier family as the national holiday to honor them. President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier fled to France in January 1986, and was replaced by Namphy, three-man National Governing Council.

Although the Tontons Macoutes disbanded and into hiding when Duvalier left the country, many believed to have been incorporated into the army.

Several hours after the demonstration, trucks heavily armed soldiers continued to patrol the area and shots could be heard.

The downtown area was deserted and most businesses remained closed.

The Rev. Sylvio Claude, head of the left-of-center Christian Democratic Party and one of the leaders of Wednesday's demonstration, said before the march it had also been called to show solidarity for the landless peasants killed last week in a clash with croppers working for landowners outside the village of Jean Rabel, in northwestern Haiti.

Radio Metropole said Wednesday that 10 people from a group called "Tet Ansam" — "Heads Together in Creole" — were massacred Monday by sharecroppers as they tried to leave Jean Rabel after being released from the small hospital where they had been treated from wounds sustained in last week's clash.

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