

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Soviet Union signs pledge to withdraw troops

GENEVA (AP) — The Soviet Union signed a formal pledge Thursday to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan starting May 15, but there was no indication from guerrillas that the Red Army will be allowed to leave peacefully after eight years of war.

Moslem insurgent leaders, who were not invited to the negotiations, said they would present their reactions Saturday at a rally in Pakistan. The U.S.-supported guerrillas,

who claim to control virtually all the country except the cities, are expected to repeat their vow to continue fighting until the last Soviet soldier has left Afghan soil.

The United States, the Soviet Union, Afghanistan and neighboring Pakistan, signed the accord Thursday in an austere 10-minute ceremony. It stipulates that the withdrawal begin May 15.

Afterward, Pakistan, which represented the guerrillas at the nego-

tiations, predicted the civil war will go on because there is no provision for an interim government, and said it would continue denying recognition to the Communist regime in Kabul.

Provisions of the agreement require the two countries to stop interfering in one another's affairs. The insurgents, who have been fighting since a Communist coup in April 1978, are based in camps and cities on Pakistan's side of the border.

Ambassador Sirius Nasser of Iran, which borders Afghanistan on the west, said the agreement provides a face-saving way for the Soviets to leave but "we do not yet have a solution for Afghanistan."

About 3.5 million Afghan refugees live in Pakistan and another 1.5 million in Iran, together representing about one-third of Afghanistan's population. Those in Iran are not covered by the agreement's provisions on return of refugees

The pact was worked out in indirect talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan that began in 1982 and were mediated by the United Nations. Soviet soldiers entered Afghanistan in December 1979 and an estimated 115,000 are there helping fight the insurgents.

Those signing the document were Secretary of State George P. Shultz, Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union, Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil

and Pakistan's acting foreign minister, Zain Noorani.

Shevardnadze told reporters the accord "totally blocked" the "entire range" of interference in Afghan affairs.

He stressed that it does not cover continued U.S. and Soviet military aid to the warring factions, however, and said continued U.S. assistance to the insurgents would "complicate" the situation.



Rough and tumble

Residents of Aston and Dunn continued a seven-year tradition Thursday afternoon on the Gen. Ormond R. Simpson drill field at 5 p.m. as they

went head-to-head in a football game. The Dunn residents won for the seventh year in a row, defeating Aston by a score of 14-7.

Photo by Shelly Schluter

Car bomb explodes, kills 5, hurts 17 at USO club

NAPLES, Italy (AP) — A car bomb blew up in front of a club for U.S. military personnel in Naples on Thursday, killing a U.S. Navy enlisted woman and four Italians and wounding at least 17, officials said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the blast that happened shortly after 8 p.m. (1 p.m. CST) at the USO club.

A Pentagon spokesman said the American woman was stationed at Naval Communications Area Master Station in Naples. Lt. Janet Mescus, the spokesman, said the woman's identity was being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Italian media quoted officials as saying four Italians were also killed. One of the bodies at the club's entrance was draped in a U.S. flag. Italian hospital officials said at least four Americans were among the injured.

Navy Cmdr. Connie Haney said in Washington that personnel assigned to the three Navy vessels docked at Naples had been accounted for and "no people assigned to those three ships died."

Haney said it was possible that other U.S. servicemen could have been at the club. Navy officials were trying to confirm the number of in-

jured U.S. military personnel, Haney said.

Italian media said the bomb exploded during a reception at the club for the commander of the USS Paul, a torpedo boat destroyer docked in Naples. A U.S. Consulate official could not confirm the report.

Passers-by ran when the explosion occurred outside the club, which is in one of Naples' busiest areas.

"It was a huge boom and we were all knocked to the ground," an unidentified Italian woman told the RAI television network from her hospital bed. "When we got up, all we could see was flames everywhere."

A spokesman for Pellegrini Hospital said 14 of the wounded, including four Americans and eight Italians, were taken to a hospital.

The spokesman, who spoke on condition he was not identified, said the four Americans later were sent to a U.S. military hospital. He said he had no details on the extent of the injuries.

RAI said one of the wounded, a 27-year-old Italian woman, was reported in grave condition.

A Pentagon spokesman in Washington, Lt. Col. Jim Jannette, said the USS Paul and USS Capodanno were in the Naples port at the time of the blast.

A&M student killed as car strikes bicycle; rider thrown

A 19-year-old Texas A&M student died Thursday after being hit by a car on F.M. 60 west of College Station, said Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper Robert Martinez.

Srinivas Yimadabattun Rao, a sophomore chemistry major, was riding his bicycle westward on the shoulder of F.M. 60 when he was struck from behind by a car driven by 70-year-old Erma Green Woodward of Route 5 in College Station, Martinez said.

After he was hit, Rao swerved into the eastbound lane and was struck by another vehicle, Marti-

nez said. The accident occurred at 4:45 p.m. Thursday.

Rao, from 3610 Las Moras in Temple, was pronounced dead at 5:30 p.m. Thursday by Brazos County Justice of the Peace Antone Dobrovolny.

Martinez said no charges have been filed in connection with the accident.

Rao, a resident of Dunn Hall, was brought to Hillier funeral home in Bryan.

Jim Melville of Hillier said the funeral home is waiting to get in touch with Rao's family to schedule services, which probably will be today.

Piedmont jet engine explodes, forces emergency landing

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — An engine on a Piedmont jetliner exploded into jagged pieces Thursday, slicing through both sides of the plane and forcing the pilot to make an emergency landing as passengers screamed and fainted.

No injuries were reported among the 56 passengers and four crew members, but passengers said some on board fainted after the turbine

blades ripped through the right rear bathroom and a work area for attendants as the plane cruised at 31,000 feet.

"If somebody had been in the bathroom or the stewardesses' quarters, they would have been killed," said passenger Doug Bruce of Columbus, Ohio. "My first thought was, 'This is it.'"

Passenger Fred Hinton of Raleigh, N.C., said, "It blew a big hole in the plane. I'm 240 pounds, and it was big enough that I could crawl through it."

"All the kids were screaming."

Piedmont Flight 486 was flying from Charlotte, N.C., to Columbus, Ohio, when its right jet turbine disintegrated, Piedmont officials said.

Grand jury indicts player for assault

By Drew Leder
Staff Writer

A Brazos County grand jury indicted Texas A&M football player Guy Broom Thursday on charges of aggravated assault stemming from an incident Jan. 30 that resulted in the hospitalization of two Texas A&M students and a College Station man.

Brazos County Assistant District Attorney Margaret Lalk said Broom's case will come to trial in district court within the next two to nine months.

If found guilty of the assault charge, a third-degree felony, Broom faces a possible two to 10 years in a Texas Department of Corrections facility and a maximum fine of \$5,000.

Broom, a senior who played defensive end for A&M the past four years, was arraigned Feb. 8 on the felony assault charge and on two misdemeanor assault charges. Police records say he is accused of assaulting A&M students Mary Barclay and Walter Voigtman and Barclay's husband, Andy, in the Woodstone Shopping Center parking lot.

Andy Barclay underwent surgery the following week, having two pins placed in a collar bone that was broken in the incident.

Voigtman and Mrs. Barclay also were hospitalized because of injuries they sustained in the incident and both were released that night.

The Barclays and Voigtman named Broom in a civil suit April 1, claiming that he caused them bodily injury and damaged the Barclays' car.

Vandiver commends anti-apartheid marchers

By Tom Eikel
Staff Writer

An anti-apartheid divestment march Thursday on the Texas A&M campus attracted only about 25 participants, but President Frank E. Vandiver commended the marchers for their concern for human rights.

"This is a national issue and I think that if our students weren't concerned, we would not be on the cutting edge of what's going on in the United States," Vandiver said after the march.

Several members of A&M's Students Against Apartheid, which sponsored the march, presented Vandiver with a poster-sized petition with about 20 signatures on it.

"The undersigned condemn apartheid in South Africa," the board read. "Furthermore, we urge the Board of Regents of Texas A&M to divest from American banks and companies who have financial holdings in South Africa."

According to SAA, A&M has approximately \$3.5 million invested in American banks and corporations that have financial holdings in South Africa.

Vandiver, who was leaving the Board of Regents Annex with his wife, Rene, spoke to about 15 people who had come to the Annex after the march ended at Rudder Fountain.

"I promise you we will listen and do what's possible," Vandiver told the group.

The march began Thursday at 12:30 p.m. in front of the Systems Administration Building, where there was a speaker from the African Students Association.

Participants carrying signs and chanting anti-apartheid slogans began their trek shortly afterward, marching through the Systems Building on their way to the anti-apartheid shanty located near the Academic Building, where there was another speaker.

After passing through the Academic Building, the marchers ended up at Rudder Fountain, where they had planned to have several more speakers.

But scheduled speakers Chancellor Perry Adkisson and Carey Cauley Jr., chairman of the Brazos County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People did not speak. A spokesman for the chancellor called

SAA on Wednesday to cancel his appearance, and Cauley did not show up.

David Luckenbach, a freshman political science major and SAA vice president, said that despite the low turnout, he was pleased with the march.

"There's different ways to look at it," Luckenbach said. "We can look at it and say, 'If we get X amount of people to come, it will be successful,' but we realized that that wasn't the point."

"The point was to generate some publicity for it and specifically to try to encourage the Board of Regents and the University to talk to us. It's fairly obvious that we achieved our purpose; it was very successful. I have to say that on that basis, it was probably the most successful event we've ever had."

Norman Muraya, a mechanical engineering graduate student and divestment chairman for SAA, said part of the reason for the small turnout was that the march took place while most students were in class.

"Also, the news didn't get out until the early part of this week, so a lot of people did not know about it. . . . I think next time the consensus will be to have it at 5 o'clock, which is what we've had in the past."

A handout distributed by SAA says 2,000 A&M students have signed a petition urging the regents to divest and requesting a 20-minute hearing with the Board to discuss the issue.

"We and 2,000 other people would like to know what is the official status of the University," Muraya said. "We are right now trying to get them to issue a public policy statement on the status of our investments, but at least we do know they have monitored the investments in South Africa."

Todd Honeycutt, a freshman general studies major and a member of SAA, said Thursday afternoon that he had met with Bill Presnal, executive secretary for the Board of Regents, after the march to discuss the possibility of scheduling a meeting between SAA and the Board.

Honeycutt said Presnal dismissed the idea of a meeting, saying the Board was on a tight time schedule filled with pressing matters. Honeycutt, however, said that Presnal made



Photo by Jay Janner

David Luckenbach, vice president of Students Against Apartheid and a freshman political science major, and Karen

Ellington, a freshman journalism major, participate in the organization's march for divestment Thursday.

it clear that he wasn't necessarily speaking for the Board.

In a *Battalion* phone interview Thursday evening, Presnal said he told Honeycutt that the regents' meetings are open to the public, but the group had to go through the proper channels to request a meeting with the Board.

Presnal said the Board is not expected to make moral, social or political policy decisions.

"I told him that in my view that was not the role of the Board," Presnal said. "Policy

change with regard to these kinds of issues are dealt with in the Legislature. . . . The Board is in the business of maximizing the income of the University, and if they fail to do that then they're not living up to their responsibilities. . . ."

"I told him that I'm sure that if he approached any Board member, that they would tell him that they detested apartheid as much as he does."

"But that has nothing to do with the Board's responsibilities."