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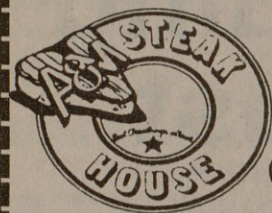
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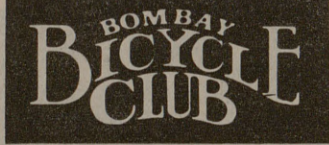
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World and Nation

Iranian rebels say forces have gone 60 miles into Iran

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iranian rebels based in Iraq claimed Tuesday their forces drove more than 60 miles back into Iran, and the Iranians said their soldiers had killed more than 1,000 of the "counter-revolutionary elements."

A seven-member U.N. team arrived in Tehran to work out details of a cease-fire in the nearly 8-year-old war, which both sides have offered to accept, and Iraq said it was withdrawing its troops from Iranian territory.

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati of Iran and the U.N. secretary-general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, met for 90 minutes in New York.

Velayati said afterward: "We had very constructive and fruitful talks about the implementation of Resolution 598," the cease-fire resolution the Security Council passed unanimously on July 20, 1987.

Iraq accepted the resolution soon after it was adopted, on condition Iran do the same, but the Iranians refused until reversing their position July 18.

Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister flew to New York on Tuesday for similar discussions with Perez de Cuellar. The resolution calls for a cease-fire, withdrawal to recognized borders, prisoner exchange, peace negotiations and an investigation to determine which side started the war.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Redman urged both sides to exercise restraint and stop pursuing the war.

Also on Tuesday, Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of Parliament and armed forces commander-in-chief in Iran, said his country will use its influence to try to free American hostages held in Lebanon if Washington releases Iranian assets frozen in the United States. He spoke on TV, monitored in Nicosia, Cyprus.

But White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters in Washington, "We have heard this kind of thing before, but as far as we are concerned you just can't link the two... No deals. The clearest signal they could send is to release the hostages."

Ali Riza Jaffar Zada, a spokesman for the Iranian rebel group Mujahadeen Khalq, said its fighters were advancing on Bakhtar, a provincial capital, and had "liberated hundreds of villages."

He said the attack, code-named "Eternal Light," began at 3 a.m.

Monday and rebel units had overrun the cities of Karand, about 40 miles inside Iran, and Eslamabad, 20 miles farther.

The rebel spokesman also claimed the Mujahadeen Khalq's fighting force, called the National Liberation Army, destroyed the 27th Revolutionary Guards unit based between Eslamabad and Bakhtar, 90 miles inside Iran in the central border region.

Iran acknowledged the invasion, initially blaming it on the Iraqi army, but said its soldiers had retaken Eslamabad and killed 1,100 rebels.

Iran tries to make deal for hostages

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran will use its influence to try to free American hostages held in Lebanon if Washington releases Iranian assets frozen in the United States, the speaker of Iran's Parliament said Tuesday.

The initial White House reaction, however, was "No deals."

Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, who is also commander-in-chief of Iran's armed forces, said in a TV interview monitored in Nicosia, "So long as America keeps its hostile attitude toward Iran, there will be no sign of any changes and there will be no negotiations."

Rafsanjani said that in order to start negotiations, the United States must take actions to prove that it is not belligerent toward Iran.

One such action would be releasing Iranian assets in the United States, he said.

The White House refused to make any such pledge. "We have heard this kind of thing before, but as far as we are concerned you just can't link the two," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters.

"No deals," Fitzwater said. "The clearest signal they could send is to release the hostages."

He noted that there had been a series of Iranian statements in recent days "and nothing has happened."

Asked if the United States would consider freeing the assets after release of the hostages, Fitzwater said, "I am not willing to make anything that sounds like a deal."

World briefs

Defense Secretary plans Soviet trip

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Frank C. Carlucci departs Thursday on a Soviet trip expected to include unprecedented visits to air, ground and naval bases, although a senior U.S. official expressed chagrin Tuesday that Moscow had not set the exact schedule.

During four days in the Soviet Union, Carlucci will meet his Soviet counterpart, Gen. Dmitri Yazov, to continue discussions on reducing military tension between the superpowers.

But Carlucci will not be drawn into discussions of conventional and nuclear arms control issues that U.S. officials say should be conducted in established and ongoing negotiations involving diplomats from the United States and its allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"The Soviet Union frequently tries to engage various parties to government and out of government as surrogate negotiators in the arms control area," a senior U.S. official said.

Hungarian leader seeks Reagan's help

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Karoly Grosz, the first Hungarian leader to visit the United States in 42 years, will seek President Reagan's support Wednesday for reforms that could make his country a link between East and West.

Grosz became Communist Party chief two months ago and moved swiftly to forge consensus among conservative Communists and party reformers. He instituted an austerity program designed to stimulate the sluggish economy and control a foreign debt of \$17 billion.

Abroad, Grosz seeks support from Moscow and Washington

for new political and economic structures he hopes will solve Hungary's problems. He is trying to create a role for his nation as a vital element in what many Central Europeans see as an inevitable East-West rapprochement.

Grosz is 57, the same age as Mikhail S. Gorbachev, and his savvy and direct approach are reminiscent of the Soviet leader.

His 10-day tour of the United States follows a brief trip to Moscow, where he received Gorbachev's blessing for plans to bring more Western investment and market-oriented methods to the centralized Hungarian economy.

IBM to design air traffic control system

WASHINGTON (AP) — International Business Machines Corp. has landed a \$3.6 billion contract for a computer system that will replace voice communications between air traffic controllers and pilots with electronic messages and eventually may usher in the use of computers to actually direct aircraft.

The system, expected to be in full operation at the turn of the century, also would give controllers advance warning of overcrowded air traffic conditions.

An IBM executive called the contract the largest ever received

by the company, and officials said it was the largest ever awarded to the Transportation Department.

IBM bested Hughes Aircraft Co., a subsidiary of General Motors Corp., for the 10-year contract to develop the Advanced Automation System for the Federal Aviation Administration. IBM had spent \$233 million of the FAA's money and about \$4 million of its own in the competition.

The system, which is to be developed by IBM and more than a dozen subcontractors, is designed to provide controllers with more modern computer capacity.

Prince celebrates 50th year of reign

VADUZ, Liechtenstein (AP) — The tiny principality of Liechtenstein on Tuesday marked the 50th anniversary of the coming to power of Prince Franz Josef II, Europe's longest-reigning head of state.

Parliament held a special session in honor of the 81-year-old monarch, and a portrait of the prince etched onto Liechtenstein marble was unveiled in the government building in the capital, Vaduz.

Fires scorch parts of Yellowstone Park

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP) — Fire-spitting helicopters were dispatched to Yellowstone National Park on Tuesday to help protect the Old Faithful geyser from a 5,500-acre blaze, part of the worst series of fires in the park in nearly a century.

Almost 1,000 firefighters were summoned to the scene, but officials had not decided, as of midday Tuesday, whether to actively fight the fire, one of a dozen burning in the oldest national park.

The fires have charred more than

52,400 acres of Yellowstone's 2.2 million acres. One fire, the 31,500-acre Clover Mist on the eastern edge of Yellowstone, made two jumps into Shoshone National Forest.

Interior Secretary Donald Hodel made plans to tour Yellowstone by helicopter Wednesday to get a first-hand view of the devastation.

Winds were pushing the Old Faithful fire northeast of the geyser complex, but fire managers decided as a safeguard to call in "helicopters" that can spew a napalm-like

substance into the forest to start backfires.

The fire, which started Friday in the adjacent Targhee National Forest in Idaho, burned roughly 10 miles west of Old Faithful, and about 10-15 miles south of Madison Junction, said Fire Information Officer Bruce Fox.

Even if they can turn the fire more to the north, officials said they didn't believe firefighters could ever douse the flames.

"These fires are going to burn un-

til the weather puts them out," Fox said.

A fire camp was established in an open field, where resting firefighters relaxed in tents or stretched out on the ground.

Other firefighters were at Old Faithful picking the area clean of downed trees, piles of firewood, twigs and pine needles that feed embers carried by winds to the area. They also cleared the ground around a microwave tower that provides Old Faithful's communications with the rest of the park.

Reagan defends administration as 'staunchly pro-environment'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan said Tuesday his pro-growth administration also has been "staunchly pro-environment" and the message being sent to polluters is, "You're out of luck."

In a White House ceremony honoring 94 volunteer efforts to preserve the nation's natural treasures, Reagan recited a litany of successes by his administration in protecting scenic rivers, endangered species of animals and fragile habitats. Among those honored was the Texas General Land Office's innovative beach clean-up program along the state's Gulf Coast shoreline.

Reagan said the administration has cracked down on polluters with record numbers of criminal convictions. He praised the Environmental Protection Agency's handling of toxic waste disposal, likening federal regulators to actor Clint Eastwood's tough-guy movie cop, Dirty Harry.

"The message to polluters is crystal clear," Reagan said. "We told them in the words of Dirty Harry: 'You're out of luck.' Cleaner air, cleaner water, increased protection for American wildlife — this pro-growth administration has also been staunchly pro-environment." Reagan told the "Take Pride in America" awards ceremony. Eastwood is a spokesman for the program.

"The same spirit of creativity and innovation that's created 17 million jobs has also benefited the land itself, making America the beautiful more beautiful," Reagan said.

But a spokesman for the Sierra Club attacked Reagan's claims and said the administration's record on the environment is abysmal and ranks as "the worst ever in history."

"There's no question Reagan and his appointees have cooperated to cut back virtually every environmental program we have and have ignored facts on some of our new problems," David Gardiner, legislative director of the Sierra Club said.

Gardiner said Reagan's speech was an attempt to boost Vice President George Bush's bid for the presidency because the environment has "clearly become a campaign issue."

Reagan praised the "Take Pride in America" winners for their stewardship of the nation's "crown jewels."

"You helped clean litter out of the Grand Canyon, have given medical care to Alaskan wildlife, planted gardens in Philadelphia and helped preserve the wetlands in Louisiana and much, much more," he said.

More than 540 groups and individuals were nominated for the second awards ceremony. The program is a public-private partnership involving 44 states, two U.S. territories, nine federal agencies and dozens of private organizations.

Flanked by Interior and Agriculture Secretaries Donald Hodel and Richard Lyng, Reagan used the occasion to say his administration "set the highest standards of enforcing the environmental protection laws" and pointed to civil enforcement actions filed in his first term nearly 2.5 times the rate of the Carter administration.

"But we didn't stop there," he said. "We took one step further and established the environmental crimes unit because in the past virtually no environmental cases were criminally prosecuted. We've obtained over 400 criminal indictments and over 300 convictions and guilty pleas."

Among his administration's other accomplishments are a \$1 billion restoration program to prove and protect national parks, the additional millions of acres to the national wilderness preservation system and the creation of 34 new national wildlife refuges totaling more than 400,000 acres in 20 states.

The number of rivers protected as wild scenic has tripled since 1981, he said, and the administration has made 271 additions to the endangered and threatened species list.

Emissions of "manmade pollutants into the air have been significantly reduced," Reagan said.