

Battalion Classifieds

World/Nation

Reagan admits frustration over hostages

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan said Thursday he was frustrated over his inability to free Americans held hostage in Lebanon and conceded, a day before leaving office, "We don't know where they are."

Even to the end of his presidency, Reagan said, officials were continuing to explore "quietly and privately" how to win freedom for the nine Americans.

"There hasn't been a moment that this isn't on our minds," he said.

"We know that any overt attempt at rescue, even if we did have a hint or a clue (about their whereabouts), could run the risk of their assassination or execution before we could get them out," he told reporters for the Associated Press and other news services.

Reagan also said in the wide-ranging interview that:

• He continues to believe U.S. arms sales to Iranian elements in 1985 and 1986 did not constitute an attempt to trade arms for the hostages, held by pro-Iranian Lebanese kidnappers. He said that viewing the sale as an attempted swap amounted to "a total media distortion."

• He still feels former White House aides Oliver L. North and John M. Poindexter will be found innocent of criminal wrongdoing in connection with the arms deal. He seemed to rule out granting pardons for either man before leaving office at noon Friday, saying that to do so would "leave them forever after with that guilt hanging over them."

• He has high confidence in George Bush's ability to handle U.S.-Soviet relations.

As to the hostages, Reagan said their situation did not parallel that of the 52 Americans freed from captivity the day he took office, Jan. 20, 1981, after 444 days as prisoners in Iran.

During the 1980 campaign against Jimmy Carter, Reagan criticized the president for being unable to win their release.

Reagan had criticized Carter's handling of the hostage-taking at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran as "too sluggish."

Violence in Miami settles as officials investigate causes

MIAMI (AP) — Violence in black neighborhoods ebbed Thursday as officials estimated riot damage to buildings at less than \$1 million and the community began examining the underlying causes of the uprising.

The rage touched off by an Hispanic police officer's shooting of an unarmed black motorcyclist Monday left one man dead, seven others shot and some 370 people jailed — most of them suspected looters under 18, police said.

Police continued to control access to the largely black Overtown area Thursday, but inside the neighborhood, businesses lifted their shutters, children attended school and youths played pick-up basketball.

A Miami Heat basketball game that had been canceled Tuesday night was on for Thursday in the Miami Arena at the edge of Overtown.

"Apparently the city has returned to calm, and we're very grateful for that," police spokesman Ray Lang said. "We're grateful that the focus has returned to the Super Bowl."

But he said police were prepared to return in force if trouble began again.

Damage in the Overtown and Liberty City areas was less than officials first feared, Fire Department spokesman Christy LeMay said.

Thirteen buildings were torched, but seven of those were abandoned, and the damage to the structures was less than \$1 million. Ten to 15 cars also were burned, she said. Damage totals did not include the contents of stores and businesses.

Sam Bahhur, whose Palestinian family operated seven small food markets in Overtown and Liberty City, said six of the stores were damaged. He estimated the family's losses in inventory and store fixtures, along with structural damage, at \$3 million. The family will rebuild if it can find the money, he said.

Rioting in Liberty City in 1980 that left 18 people dead caused an estimated \$100 million damage.

The physical damage will be easier to repair than the damage done to race relations, many blacks say.

"Fear is what we all have in common now," Overtown resident Stephen Wayne said.

Allen Blanchard, 24, one of the

two black men killed in the Monday night incident that set off the rioting, was to be buried Saturday.

His family urged calm, and on Thursday their attorney, Mark Rubin, rejected the involvement of a controversial New York activist, the Rev. Al Sharpton, saying the funeral would be closed if he tried to attend as promised.

"The only motivation he has to show up is to try to incite violence," Rubin said.

Many of the businesses that were looted, burned or vandalized during the unrest in Liberty City were singled out for destruction, some community leaders said.

"Everything was planned and targeted: protect black businesses and get the white man, the Hispanic and the Arab out of our community," said Georgia Ayers, a black activist who condemned the violence.

Just feet from a gutted Cuban-owned meat market, a black-owned open-air market sold turnips and tangerines. Next to a white-owned furniture store that had been stripped, a black beauty supply store was open for business as usual.

Marvin Dunn, a psychologist and black activist, said economics underlie the frustrations that led to the rioting.

"I don't see this as white against blacks, blacks against whites," Dunn said. "What is happening is that a larger and larger segment of the black community is falling farther and farther behind the rest of us in income and in the quality of life."

All agreed that young people who feel they face a limited future were particularly angered. Police said 325 of the 370 arrests during the rioting involved people under 18.

One device aimed at smoothing over race relations was the city's creation of an 11-member panel of blacks and police officers to investigate the death of Clement Lloyd, 23, whose slaying by Officer William Luzano triggered the violence. Blanchard was a passenger on Lloyd's motorcycle; he died of injuries suffered in the resulting crash.

Luzano's attorney, Roy Black, has said Lloyd was driving toward his client on a powerful motorcycle and that the officer shot in self-defense.

Study reveals latest figures on homosexual tendencies

WASHINGTON (AP) — At least 20 percent of American adult men have had one or more homosexual experiences, and a minimum of 3.3 percent have such contacts with some frequency, according to a study by the National Research Council.

The study, an analysis of data collected by questionnaires in 1970 and in a 1988 national survey, suggests that the minimum number of American men who have had at least one homosexual experience is lower than the estimates compiled 40 years ago by famed sex researcher Alfred Kinsey.

But Charles F. Turner, an NRC scientist who co-authored the new study in the magazine Science, said the current estimates are the lowest possible number and that there is not enough data to establish a true number, which would be higher.

"All of the estimates that we have made are lower-bound estimates," Turner said Thursday in a telephone interview. "These numbers are best treated as a minimum. We're not saying what the true number is, but only that this is the best that can be done in terms of setting a lower bound."

He said the uncertainty is the result of the assumed tendency of surveyed men to be untruthful about

homosexual experiences.

"Because of what we know about the history of societal oppression of gay men, there is very considerable reason to believe that a number of men will conceal experiences that they have had," Turner said.

He said there is a need to compile accurate data on homosexuals in or-

"Because of what we know about the history of societal oppression of gay men, there is very considerable reason to believe that a number of men will conceal experiences that they have had."

— Charles Turner, NRC scientist

der to assess the progress of the epidemic of AIDS, or acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Homosexual males are considered a major risk group for AIDS.

Estimates in the current study include:

• A minimum of 20.3 percent of American males who were 21 years

or older in 1970 had a same-gender sex experience to orgasm at some point in their lives.

• A minimum of 6.7 percent had such sexual experiences after the age of 20.

• In frequency of such experiences after the age of 20, the study estimated a minimum percentage of 1.8 for "rarely"; 1.9 for "occasionally"; and 1.4 percent for "fairly often."

Turner said one problem with trying to determine the number of homosexual men in society is defining precisely what a gay man is. There are many more men who have had a single homosexual encounter than there are men who are habitually and preferentially homosexual, he said.

Kinsey, who conducted sex research from 1938 to 1949, recognized the problem of defining homosexuality and developed a six-point scale based on the frequency of homosexual contacts. The Kinsey study found that at least 37 percent of the population had had some homosexual experience, and that at least 10 percent of the male population was "more or less exclusively homosexual" for three years between the ages 16 to 55.

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