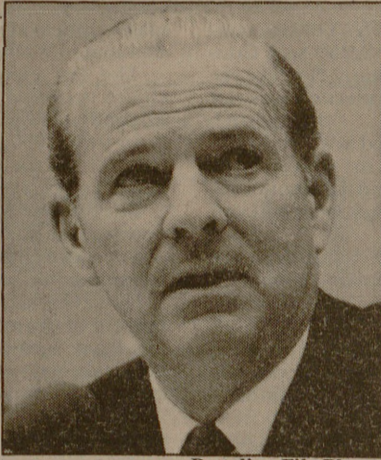


Monday, March 27, 1989

Officials deny Bush surrendered

Counsel says bipartisan accord encroached presidential power

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two top Bush administration officials sought to smooth over an apparent disagreement in the White House by denying Sunday they had surrendered any authority to Congress by reaching an agreement last week on aid to Nicaraguan guerrillas.



Battalion File Photo
James A. Baker III

Secretary of State James A. Baker III and White House national security adviser Brent Scowcroft said they did not agree with published remarks attributed to the White House counsel, C. Boyden Gray, that the deal encroached on the power of the president to conduct foreign policy.

"If you look at the accord carefully, you will see that the leadership of the Congress acknowledges the president's primary responsibility for implementing foreign policy," Baker said.

"This is a voluntary agreement," Baker said. "You do not have the question arise here with respect to constitutional powers and prerogatives because the Congress is not imposing its will, in effect, through legislation."

President Bush, appearing at the White House with congressional

leaders from both parties to announce the deal last Friday, hailed it as a return to a bipartisan foreign policy.

The previous administration repeatedly failed to reach accord with Congress on Central America. Congress voted to end military aid

to the Contras in 1988, and the current appropriation of \$27.1 million in humanitarian aid ends next Friday. Contra forces are now encamped across the border in Honduras.

Under the new agreement, negotiated secretly by Baker and congressional leaders, Congress would vote after its Easter recess to send the Contras \$4.5 million a month in non-military aid through February 1990.

The administration, having secured a commitment from Congress to maintain the Contras, would pledge in writing to pursue diplomatic means to end fighting in Central America.

Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government has committed itself to hold free elections in February 1990, according to an earlier accord among Central American presidents.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Alejandro Bendano, interviewed by satellite on the ABC-TV program "This Week with David Brinkley," said that the U.S. policy still was "out of step with what the Central American presidents have agreed upon"

because it would not disband the Contras.

Baker, also appearing on ABC, said that the accord among Central American presidents called for an agreement by May 15 on demobilizing the Contras, but not their immediate dissolution.

If the Sandinistas do not hold elections as promised, said Baker, the United States might use "sticks" that would "involve tightening economic sanctions, further diplomatic sanctions and... there is nothing in this agreement that would foreclose the president's future request for military assistance, should things deteriorate substantially."

The White House counsel, Gray, was quoted in Sunday editions of the *New York Times* as saying that he had not had been given a chance to review Baker's deal with Congress.

"My office has expressed reservations about certain details of the agreement," the *Times* quoted Gray as saying.

Lawmakers approve bill requiring check for gun purchasers

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Legislators who passed the nation's first law requiring instant background checks on people wanting to buy certain guns say they hope to end Virginia's reputation as a supplier of firearms to drug dealers.

The deadline for signing the bill is midnight Monday; Gov. Gerald L. Baliles has said he supports the measure and is expected to sign it. It would take effect Nov. 1.

Debate on the bill saw weapons drawn in the halls of the General Assembly.

The sponsor of the measure took a Soviet-designed AK-47 assault rifle to a Senate committee hearing, saying he wanted to show that dangerous guns can be sold to anyone who has the money. Sen. M.E. "Sonny" Stallings said the gun was similar to one that was used to wound him when he served in Vietnam.

The measure awaiting Baliles' signature is designed to keep assault rifles and handguns with barrels 5 inches long or less out of the hands of convicted and wanted felons. It sets up instant background checks on resident purchasers; non-residents may have to wait up to a week while the checks are made before they can take home a gun.

The system will be similar to that used by merchants checking the validity of a credit card. Gun dealers, after checking a purchaser's identification, will call a toll-free number operated by the State Police. In minutes, an officer at a State Police computer terminal will determine if the purchaser has a criminal record.

At present in Virginia, there are no identification requirements or other state restrictions on gun purchases. Gun owners who want to carry a concealed weapon need a permit, but for others, no license is required and no registration files are maintained.

Washington Mayor Marion

Barry referred to the state's reputation as a gun exporter a week ago when he put some of the blame for his city's high murder rate on Virginia guns.

The impetus for the measure came in December when a student at a school in Stallings' hometown of Virginia Beach was charged with killing a teacher and wounding another with an assault gun.

The final measure, which passed the Senate 33-6 and the House of Delegates 81-15 in February, was a carefully crafted compromise to satisfy gun dealers, gun control advocates and firearms owners.

"What we basically have is a win-win situation from the standpoint of everyone concerned," said Raymond W. Cahen of the Virginia State Rifle and Revolver Association.

Gun owners lobbied for the instant-check provision because they did not want gun buyers to have to wait for days before taking home their purchases. They also want a provision preventing information in criminal background checks from being used as registration files.

Gun dealers lobbied to make sure they would not be swamped with paperwork. The law places most of the record-keeping burden on State Police.

Advocates of gun control wanted an outright ban on sales of military-type rifles and small handguns but accepted background checks as a first step.

State Delegate C. Richard Cranwell, who wrote most of the compromise language, said his aim was to fix Virginia's reputation as an exporter of guns to East Coast drug dealers.

"I want to make sure those people buy their firearms somewhere else," he said.

Charles Cunningham, state liaison with the National Rifle Association in Washington, said Virginia is the first state to have an instant background checks law.

Anti-nuclear protesters infiltrate desert test site

MERCURY, Nev. (AP) — Ten anti-nuclear protesters were arrested Saturday at the Nevada Test Site after they telephoned a Las Vegas radio station to announce they had infiltrated the highly sensitive desert area.

Energy Department spokesman Jim Boyer said he received a call from KDWN radio to inform him that the protesters were inside an old chapel at the site where the nation's nuclear weapons are tested. He then called security guards, who arrested them.

Boyer said the protesters were "just standing around" in the old building, which is now used as a storage area.

Mercury is a town camp about 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas and within the borders of

the test site. It is about 27 miles from the nearest active testing area, Boyer said.

The 1,350-square-mile test site is surrounded only by a simple barbed wire fence, although sensitive areas where tests are conducted are heavily guarded.

The 10 arrests Saturday bring to 254 the number of citations issued since March 19 in the 8th annual Lenten Desert Experience. The week-long anti-nuclear protest, sponsored by the Las Vegas-based Nevada Desert Experience, came to an end Sunday.

Boyer said the 10 people, nine men and one woman, would be charged with trespassing and taken to the Nye County Jail in Beatty.

Agencies hope to strengthen protection of information

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Security Agency and a research arm of the Commerce Department have reached an agreement aimed at strengthening protection of sensitive information handled by thousands of federal government computers.

The memorandum of understanding was signed late last week by the NSA's director, Vice Adm. W.O. Studeman, and Raymond G. Kammer, acting director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Under prodding from Congress, the two agencies have started working closely together to review computer-security plans submitted by offices throughout the government for safeguarding systems containing sensitive but unclassified data.

The effort has been spurred by mounting concern over so-called computer viruses, including a virus "attack" last November that crippled more than 6,000 computers connected to the Defense Department's Internet electronic network.

NIST, based in suburban Gaithersburg, Md., serves as a national reference and measurement laboratory for the physical and engineering sciences. It performs a wide range of research intended to benefit U.S. industry.

The highly secretive NSA, headquartered at Fort Meade, Md., is the nation's biggest intelligence agency, with a work force topping 60,000 — more than all other U.S. spy agencies combined — and a budget said to be over of \$10 billion a year.

CASSETTE & COMPACT DISC LIQUIDATION SALE

1,000's* OF GREAT TITLES TO CHOOSE FROM!
ALL SALE PRICED "BELOW COST" & ALL AVAILABLE ON A 1ST COME/1st SERVED BASIS.

*ALL TITLES ARE...

\$4.00

OFF OUR STICKER PRICE!

- ABC-Zillionaire
- David Crosby-Yes I Can
- Depeche Mode-Black Celeb.
- Art of Noise-Best of
- Bronski Beat-Consent
- Erasure-The Circus
- Cocteau Twins-Blueball Knoll
- Joe Satriani-Surfing w/ Atien
- The Fix-Calm Animals
- Little Feat-Let It Roll
- Ministry-Land of Rape & Honey
- Smithereens-Especially For U
- Reivers-End of THE Day
- Michelle Shocked-Short, Sharp
- Prince-Sign of the Times
- 10,000 Maniacs-In My Tribe

- Violent Femmes-Hallowed
- Femme Fatale-Femme
- Cure-17 Seconds
- Cure-Pornography
- Ray Charles-Anthology
- CSNY-American Dream

- Beatles-Abbey Road
- Al Jarreau-Horizon
- Boston-Boston
- Aerosmith-Gems
- Pet Shop Boys-Introspective
- CSN-Crosby Stills Nash
- Paul Simon-Neg/Love Songs
- Til Tuesday-Everything
- 3 Dog Night-Best of
- Robert Palmer-Heavy Nova
- Escape Club-Wild Wild West
- OMD-Best of
- Keith Richards-Talk's Crap
- Chris Deburgh-Colours
- U2-Rattle & Hum
- Love & Rockets-Express

* Some titles specially sale-priced as marked *

QUANTITIES LIMITED — NO RAINCHECKS — SALE PRICES GOOD THRU 3-31-89

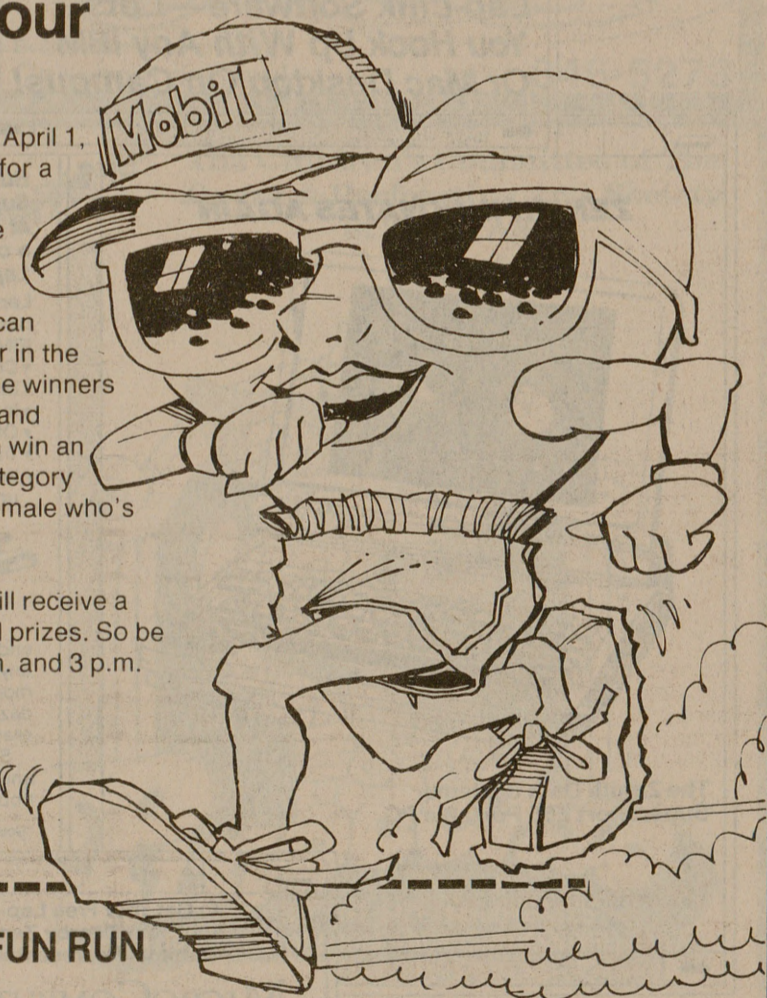
MUSIC EXPRESS

VISA OPEN Mon-Sat 12-9 725-B UNIVERSITY DRIVE Behind Skazon & McDonald's 846-1741 MasterCard

Mobil

5K CHARITY FUN RUN Aggies Run Your Heart Out!

Beginning at 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 1, hundreds of runners will take off for a run that'll be loads of fun and will save lives. In conjunction with the Student Engineering Council, Mobil will make a contribution to the Bryan-College Station-American Heart Association for each runner in the race. And, there'll be prizes for the winners too! The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd males and females to the finish line will each win an award. And, a special Masters category will award the fastest male and female who's 40 years of age or more.



The first 750 people to register will receive a Fun Run T-shirt and other special prizes. So be the first to register between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at one of the following locations:

- Blocker — March 27-28
- MSC — March 28-29
- Zachry — March 27-29

MOBIL 5K CHARITY FUN RUN

(PLEASE PRINT)
 LAST NAME: _____ FIRST: _____ MI: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE NO: _____
 T-SHIRT SIZE: (CIRCLE ONE) L XL AGE: _____ SEX _____
 STUDENT: DEGREE/MAJOR _____
 FACULTY: DEPARTMENT _____

WAIVER OF LIABILITY
 (Must be signed for entry to be accepted)
 In consideration of acceptance of this entry, I understand the undersigned waive and release any and all claims for myself, my agents and heirs against all sponsors and officials of the Mobil Charity Fun Run for any injury or illness which may directly or indirectly result from my participation in this event. I understand the event begins promptly at 5:00 p.m. - rain or shine.
 SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____
 (Signature of Parent or Guardian if entrant is under 18 years of age)