White House outlines limits

eration Organization, congressional

Approval by Sen. Jesse Helms, R.C., and a handful of others was

still required to seal the deal. Helms

has played a leading role in trying to

impose restrictions on how far the

Bush administration can go in its

talks with Yasser Arafat's organiza-

John H. Sununu, the White

House chief of staff, was dispatched

to Helms' office to try to persuade

him to accept the arrangement that would limit, but not halt, contacts.

pal foreign policy advisers, Secretary of State James A. Baker III and Na-

Soviet paper

uncovers dirt

on Afghan war

MOSCOW (AP) — A newspaper has lifted the lid off the dirty side of

the war in Afghanistan with two So-

viet veterans' accounts of Red Army

soldiers beating innocent prisoners, trading submachine guns for turn-

coats and barely surviving attacks by

carried the war stories by Valery Abramov and Ruslan Umiyev under

the headline, "The Whole Truth has to be Told About this War!"

Over the past year, the Soviet press has questioned the leadership's

1979, but stayed away from criticiz-

ing how the war itself was run. Human rights activist Andrei D.

Sakharov came under public and of-

ficial attack at the Congress of Peo-

ple's Deputies last month for claiming that Soviet pilots were ordered to kill Soviet soldiers who were likely to

be captured by Afghan guerrillas.

Abramov told Moscow News that

Sakharov's claim that Soviet soldiers

killed each other could have been

based on a confused firefight he wit-

"The guerrillas' fire was driving us into the ground. Suddenly, our

helicopters appeared and started to

strafe our own battalions," Abramov

The shooting stopped, he said, after officers apparently understood their

"It was some kind of hell," he said.

nessed in June 1980 in Faizabad.

decision to invade Afghanistan

The daring weekly Moscow News

their own helicopters.

President Bush and his two princi-

sources said

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between U.S., PLO contacts WASHINGTON (AP) - The White House and key senators croft, have been trying to kill a worked out the outline of a compro-Helms amendment barring talks with any PLO official ever linked to mise Wednesday that would restrict U.S. contacts with the Palestine Libthe death, injury or kidnapping of

Americans. Bush, who had invited Democratic and Republican leaders of Congress to the White House Wednesday for a report on his justcompleted trip to Europe, used the occasion to lobby against the amendment.

Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., said Bush told the lawmakers that "if you pass this amendment and shut down any negotiations with anybody that's ever even breathed on the PLO that's a step backward, not a step for-

The Senate had already delayed action on the legislation at the Bush administration's request.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Bush told the lawmakers "that at this point in the peace process, fragile as it may be, that these kinds of limitations would not

The United States opened talks with the PLO last December after Arafat publicly renounced terrorism and accepted Israel's right to exist.

Robert Pelletreau Jr., the U.S. am-bassador to Tunisia, has met peri-odically in Carthage with PLO officials wihout evidence of headway toward settling the Arab-Israeli dis-

After it was disclosed he had held two unannounced meetings with Sa-leh Khalaf, the security chief of the PLO and Arafat's principal deputy, supporters of Israel led by Helms and Sen. John F. Kerry, D-Mass., de-veloped their legislation to limit the

Khalef, also known as Abu Iyad, was the founder and leader of Black September, which carried out a massacre of Israeli athletes at the Olympic Games in Munich in 1972.

He was also a suspect in the murder of Cleo A. Noel Jr., the U.S. ambassador to the Sudan in 1973.

## **Mexican leftist party** announces weeklong election fraud protest

MEXICO CITY (AP) - A leftist opposition party announced Wednesday a weeklong campaign of demonstrations and rallies in several cities to protest alleged fraud in Michoacan state legislative elections.

In paid advertisements in Mexico newspapers, the Democratic Revolutionary Party said it "de-mands respect for the will of the people and that our victories be recognized, which are the victories of the people of Michoacan.

A state election board ruled Tuesday night that the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party won 12 of the 24 seats in the new Michoacan legislature and the Democratic Revolutionary Party six, with the rest going to three other minority groups.

Supporters of the Democratic Revolutionary Party, claiming it had been cheated out of nine seats, blocked roads in Michoacan to protest the alleged fraud.

Attorney General Enrique Alvarez del Castillo threatened to take legal action because a man who had suffered a heart attack was allegedly held up at a Michoacan roadblock for three hours on the way to the hospital and died.

The roadblocks were lifted Wednesday before the attorney general spoke, Democratic Revolutionary Party officials said, but groups of opposition supporters remained outside the governor's mansion in Morelia, the state capital about 150 miles west of Mexico City, in silent protest.

The July 2 elections in Michoacan and four other states were widely seen as a test of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's intentions to clean up Mexico's fraud-ridden balloting system, which has kept the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, in power for 60 years.

Salinas' own election in July 1988 was marred by opposition accusations of irregularities.

The conservative National Action Party carried Baja California, with its candidate Ernesto Ruffo becoming the first to ever defeat the PRI in governor's race.

The PRI won state elections in Chihuahua and in its strongholds of Zacatecas and Campeche.

## **Bush** makes plans for U.S. on moon, Mars

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush will seek to commit the United States Thursday to building a manned outpost on the moon and sending astronauts to Mars, an administration official said Wednesday.

Bush will not outline a specific proposal but will endorse the concept of a moon-Mars mission, which was recommended by Vice President Dan Quayle and the National Space Council that Quayle chairs, the official said.

The official revealed the president's decision on condition of anonymity.

Bush's 'announcement will come in a major space policy speech outlining his goals to revitalize the nation's space program on the 20th anniversary of man's first visit to the moon.

The speech will include no timetables or cost estimates, the official said.

The moon-Mars recommendation originated in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which sent it to the president via Quayle and the council.

Bush's speech Thursday will include a "pretty general two- or three-sentence kind of goal," White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said earlier.

There's a lot of analysis that needs to be considered, especially in terms of cost" to maintain a human outpost on the moon and to mount a Mars mission, Fitzwater told reporters.

"It is a costly venture and those aspects need to be considered, he said.

At NASA, Dr. Frank Martin, the head of the exploration of fice, said such a project would more than double the current NASA budget of some \$13 billion a year, pushing it above 2 percent of the total federal budget.

Congressional leaders who spoke to reporters at the White House after meeting with Bush on other topics voiced caution about the cost of such a proposal.

"We will be . . . anxious to come together with a program that can provide continued American involvement in projects of importance and scientific value," said House Speaker Thomas S. Foley. But obviously we also have to consider the problems that we have here at home. We have resources that are not as unlimited Certainly as they once were. . we are under very great budget

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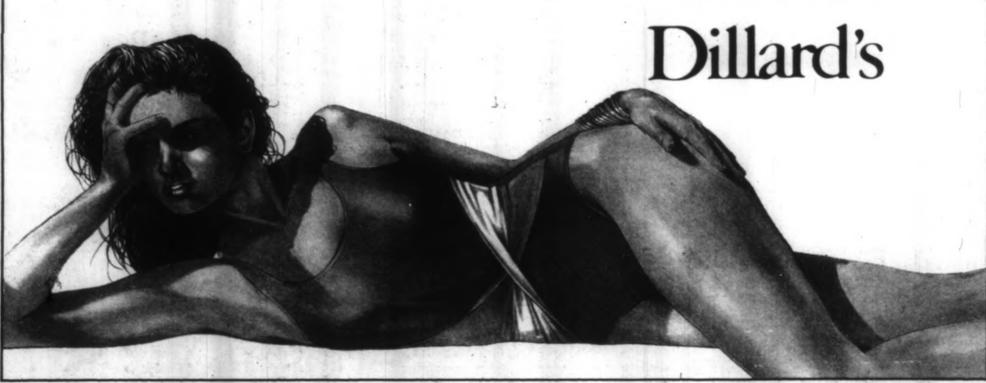
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