



Americans remain trapped in Manila hotels

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Fighting intensified on Tuesday between rebels and loyal forces in the Makati financial district, where about 2,000 foreigners, including more than 200 Americans, are trapped in hotels.

Efforts to evacuate foreigners held by the rebels appeared to have stalled early Tuesday.

A 60mm mortar round slammed into a squatter settlement near the Makati Medical Center about 6 a.m. (5 p.m. EST Monday). Ten people were taken to the hospital, including a 6-year-old girl who died.

Two bombs exploded in the capital late Monday, wounding two people. It was unclear if they were related to the coup attempt, which began Friday and has killed at

least 71 people and wounded more than 500.

The U.S. Embassy recommended Tuesday morning that Americans living in Makati remain in their homes but avoid upper floors.

Troops loyal to the government of President Corason Aquino, backed by three armored personnel carriers, began moving under cover of fire toward the hotel district where the foreigners are.

"Are we going to win?," a colonel asked his men at the end of a briefing. "Yes, sir!" they shouted back.

He told his men not to fire unless they had a rebel in their sights.

The Japanese Embassy recommended

that Japanese citizens living in parts of the posh Makati district not under rebel control leave for safer areas of Manila. It estimated that about 500 Japanese remained in Makati, including about 300 trapped in the hotels.

The United States provided fresh military supplies to the Aquino government and promised \$25,000 in assistance for civilian hospitals, Richard Boucher, a State Department spokesman in Washington, said.

Before the fighting resumed, rebel spokesman Capt. Albert Yen had issued a statement by telephone to news organizations, saying the insurgents would release the foreigners to dispel suspicions they were being held hostage.

The statement said the foreigners would be free to leave the hotels at 10 a.m. Tuesday (9 p.m. EST Monday) and would be taken to Manila's airport aboard shuttle buses. There was no word if foreign embassies had been informed of the offer.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Jerry Huchel said 215 Americans were believed trapped in three hotels in Makati. More than 300 Japanese also were believed to be in the Makati hotels.

"Literally, we're in the middle," said Barbara Julich, a New York businesswoman trapped in the Intercontinental Hotel. "(We're) now low on food. There are babies in the building, and there is no baby food, and the mothers are hysterical."

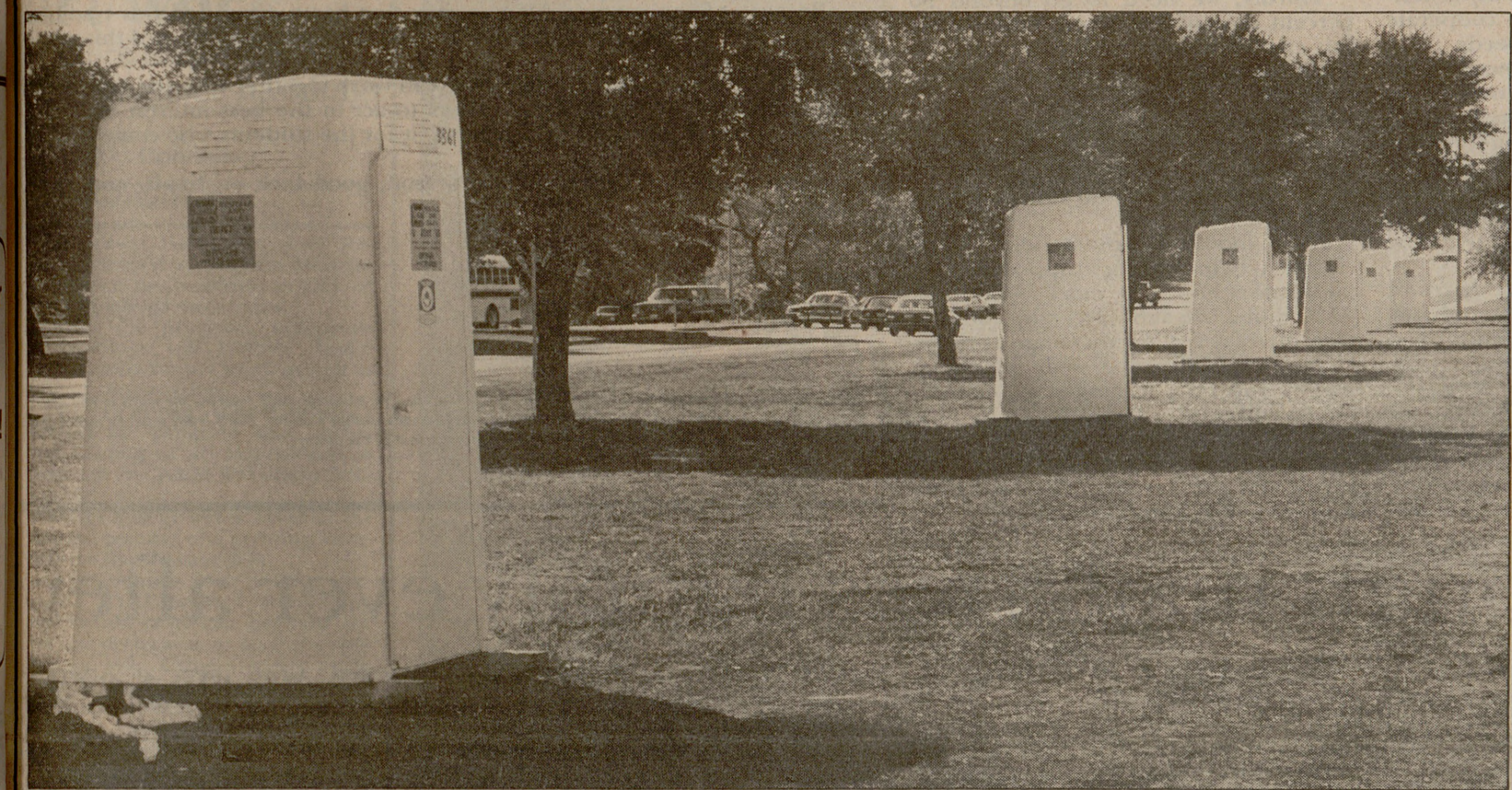
"We saw a group of nuns trying to walk where the tanks are. They were eventually shot at and took cover."

At least three people were killed in Makati on Monday and 15 wounded, including one American, by rebel snipers and in fighting between rebel and loyalist forces.

Earlier, spokesmen for the Makati Medical Center said 10 people were killed. They said the discrepancy was due to an error in records.

Hospital sources identified the wounded American as Jerome Weissburg. They said he was hit in the arm by glass when a bullet shattered the window of his room at the Peninsula Hotel. They did not know his hometown.

Stonehenge?



A row of monolithic portable toilets stand along Jersey Street at the bonfire site Monday morning. The stalls were used during

bonfire on Friday night to help keep people from urinating on nearby lawns.

Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Regents create center to aid adult literacy

By Andrea Warrenburg
Of The Battalion Staff

Recognizing Texas' alarming lag in adult literacy, the Texas A&M Board of Regents Monday authorized the establishment of the Texas Center for Adult Literacy and Learning as part of the University's "Commitment to Education" program.

The executive summary proposing the center said Texas lags behind 46 other states in the rate of adult literacy and has one of the highest percentages of adults, ages 18-64, who lack basic skills.

"Texas has a present and growing problem with adult literacy, especially young adults who are attempting to enter the work force or post-secondary educational programs," A&M President William Mobley said.

The center, which will be part of the A&M College of Education, will attempt to help solve the state and national education problems from kindergarten through college doctorate levels.

The center will address five areas: developing an information network with those organizations which are engaged in adult literacy; determining research needs and seeking funds from appropriate sources; disseminating research findings and related information; becoming a regional resource center for adult literacy information; and developing collaborative research, staff development and evaluation activities with appropriate interested units within the Texas A&M University System.

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Funding for the center initially will come from project awards from the Division of Adult and Community Education in the Texas Education Agency. The center also will seek additional funding from federal agencies, foundations, private corporations and non-profit organizations.

A director of the center to serve as its chief administrator will be appointed by Mobley at a later date.

Czechs gather en masse, reject new government in support of opposition

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (AP) — More than 150,000 demonstrators chanting "They must go!" rejected the new Communist-dominated government Monday and demanded free elections in a roaring show of support for the opposition.

Also on Monday, thousands of tourists from Czechoslovakia freely visited the West for the first time in decades after the government lifted most travel restrictions.

Demonstrators massed in central Wenceslas Square for the first time since Nov. 27, when a nationwide general strike forced the government to grant historic concessions. That demonstration capped 11 straight days of rallies in Czechoslovakia.

Monday's demonstrators waved red, white and blue national flags and applauded opposition demands for elections by July and a second general strike on Dec. 11 if there is no new government by Sunday.

"Resign! Resign!" they chanted.

The turnout at the rally and smaller ones elsewhere was a clear signal to the government that the opposition has massive popular support for its demands for real democracy.

They were protesting the new coalition government named Sunday, which brought only five non-Communists into the 21-member Cabinet and left Communists in control of all key ministries. Thirteen were holdovers from the previous Communist Cabinet.

In an indication the government may respond to demands for new ministers, First Deputy Premier Bohumil Urban met with two opposition representatives to negotiate a new meeting with Communist Premier Ladislav Adamec later this week.

Frantisek Pitra, the premier of the Czech republican government, asked for more time to consider changes at the republic level, postponing an announcement originally scheduled for Monday night.

The governments of the Czech and Slovak republics control key areas such as justice and education in their respective regions.

Eleven of the 17 ministers under Pitra in the Czech republic have submitted their resignations, including the unpopular ministers of education and justice, the state news agency CTK reported.

A parliamentary commission reported on its investigation into police brutality against student demonstrators on Nov. 17. It concluded that police used inappropriate force and seriously injured peaceful demonstrators. It said some police on duty then may face charges of assault and abuse of office.

According to CTK, the report blamed "high political figures" for the repression, which "was one of the decisive reasons" for subsequent mass protests. CTK listed no names.

The hour-long Prague rally, broadcast live on state radio and television, was a triumphant show of national unity in the fight for democracy. That unity was symbolized at the end, when protest singer Karel Kryl, who has lived in exile in the West for years, and Karel Gott, the nation's best-known officially sanctioned pop singer, led the singing of the national anthem.

The people loudly cheered Civic Forum spokesman Vaclav Maly when he announced that the opposition hoped to field its own candidates in elections.

"Thanks for your help and support!" Maly shouted.

"That's it! That's it!" the crowd chanted back in a roaring show of support for Civic Forum, the nation's leading opposition movement, and its counterpart in Slovakia, called Public Against Violence.

Adamec has promised "radical changes" with the new government but has given no specific pledge of free elections, which top Communists said last week were likely within a year.

Igor Pleskot, a spokesman for workers' strike committees, told the Prague rally official that trade unions had lost the trust of people and said it was time to set up independent ones.

At least 50,000 people rallied in the Slovak capital Bratislava to express their anger at the government

Hazardous waste appeal rejected

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) - The Supreme Court today left intact a ruling that limits the power of states and their citizens to block shipments of hazardous waste from other states.

The court, without comment, rejected an appeal by Alabama officials who failed to prevent shipments of hazardous waste from an abandoned Texas chemical refinery to Alabama. Alabama officials said they were denied a fair opportunity to oppose the shipments.

The plans for removing the waste to Alabama were approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the so-called Superfund law of 1980, aimed at helping clean up toxic waste.

The EPA included an abandoned Geneva Industries Inc. petrochemical plant in Houston among priority sites to be cleaned up. The site is contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and other toxic chemicals.

EPA officials in 1986, in cooper-

ation with Texas officials, approved removal of the waste to another location.

Texas officials signed a contract with Chemical Waste Management Inc. (CWM) to have 47,000 tons of the waste shipped to the company's treatment facility in Emelle, Ala.

Alabama officials, led by Gov. Guy Hunt, said they unlawfully were denied a chance to participate in the process that led to the selection of the Emelle facility.

A federal judge temporarily

blocked the shipment of the waste. But the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overruled the judge in April and permitted the waste to be deposited at the Alabama site.

Silver Taps ceremony to honor 3

The solemn sound of buglers playing "Taps" and the sharp ring of gunfire will be heard on campus tonight as three Texas A&M students who died during the past month are honored in a Silver Taps ceremony at 10:30 in front of the Academic Building.

The deceased students being honored are:

- Michael David Hartman, 32, a senior building construction major from Bryan, who died Nov. 25.
- Allen C. Ludwig Jr., 22, a senior civil engineering major from San Antonio who died Nov. 24.
- Michelle Yvette Mendola, 21, a freshman general studies major from Montgomery, who died Nov. 12.

Dating back almost a century, the stately tradition of Silver Taps is practiced on the first Tuesday of each month from September through April, when necessary. The names of the deceased students are posted at the base of the flag pole in front of the Academic Building, and the flag is flown at half-mast the day of the ceremony.

Lights will be extinguished and the campus hushed as Aggies pay final tribute to fellow Aggies.

The Ross Volunteer Firing Squad begins the ceremony, marching in slow cadence toward the statue of whar Lawrence Sullivan Ross. Shortly after, three volleys are fired in a 21-gun salute and six buglers play a special arrangement of "Taps" three times — to the north, south and west.

Gage fills provost position Mobley names McDonald head of Japan campus

By Todd L. Connelley
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs Donald McDonald has been named executive director of A&M's new campus in Koriyama, Japan.

McDonald will be temporarily replaced by Dr. E. Dean Gage, executive assistant to President William H. Mobley, until the provost position is filled on a permanent basis.

Both positions were approved by the Board of Regents on Monday.

According to Dr. Mobley, McDon-

ald has been a key figure in the development and planning of the Koriyama Campus. He also said that McDonald is uniquely qualified to provide the proper leadership for the Koriyama initiative.

McDonald, 59, recently returned from Koriyama, where he headed the Texas delegation in signing ceremonies formalizing the campus which has been in the planning and negotiation stages since 1987.

McDonald, who has been at A&M since 1973, said he was excited about organizing a campus and its programs from the ground floor.

City officials in Koriyama have au-

thorized 2.5 billion yen — approximately \$18 million — to support construction and operating costs for the new campus.

Dr. Mobley emphasized that no general revenue appropriations from the state of Texas will be used for the Koriyama campus.

McDonald will remain at A&M but will make frequent trips to Japan to make sure things are running smoothly, Mobley said.

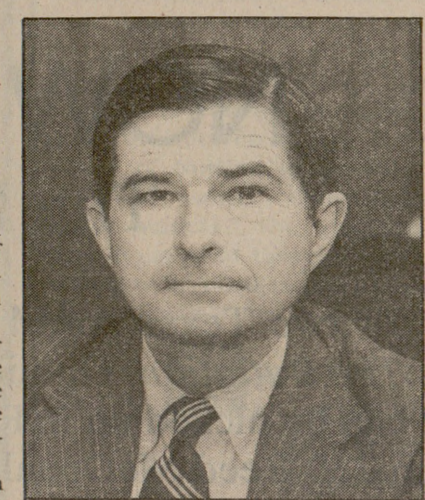
The new campus is scheduled to begin instruction in temporary facilities by May 1990. The permanent location is expected to be completed sometime in 1992.

McDonald's successor, Dr. E. Dean Gage, will become the highest ranking academic official on campus.

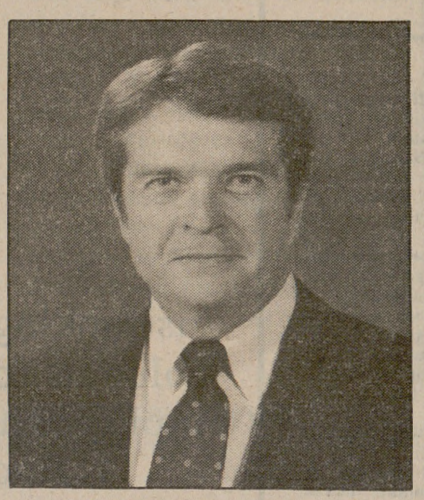
Gage said that he will rely on his 15 years of administrative assistance to help him successfully coordinate the missions of the students. He said he will remain committed to A&M's administrative goal of achieving top 10 status among universities in the nation.

Gage, class of '65, believes that working closely with the administration, and especially the students, is crucial to his role as temporary provost.

Mobley stated that a Search Advisory Committee will be formed in the next several weeks to assist in an internal and external search to identify A&M's next provost and vice president for academic affairs.



Donald McDonald



E. Dean Gage