Pres. Bush telephones Mandela

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush telephoned Nelson Mandela from the White House on Sunday, told him all Americans "were rejoicing at his release" after 27 years in South Africa's prisons and personally invited him to the White House.

"I stated to him our desire to see a peaceful evolution towards a totally racially free South Africa, a society without prejudice, a society of total freedom," Bush told reporters in the Rose Garden late Sunday afternoon.

"He told me that he wanted to consult some of his colleagues, but that he expected he would be able to accept my invitation," the President said.

"I told him that all Americans were delighted after these many years in jail that he was released, that we were rejoicing at his release," Bush said.

"It was a very friendly conversation," he said. "It lasted five or six minutes, maybe, and he expressed his gratitude to me and to the American people for calling."

The president said the future of U.S. sanctions against the white minority government of South Africa was not discussed during his brief conversation with the African National Congress leader.

"That did not come up," said Bush, who on Saturday called South African President F.W. de Klerk and invited him to pay a separate visit to Washington. "I will address that at an appropriate time. There's no time frame. I will be discussing that with our top advisers.

"I'm not prepared to express my view on sanctions at this time," Bush said. "We've had some momentous events, and I think the thing is to let these events settle in now.

"There's differences of opinion in the Congress ... (and) American public opinion. Let's just rejoice in the fact that Mr. de Klerk took some very forward steps and let us rejoice in the fact that Mr. Mandela is free," Bush said.

Asked whether he planned to send Secretary of State James A. Baker III to South Africa now, Bush said, "I have no immediate plans to do that," but said he would not rule it out.

Romanian opposition gets moral support from Baker

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP) — Secretary of State James A. Baker III Sunday gave moral support to opposition parties and a gentle warning to the interim government, which has been accused of trying to consolidate power prior to elections.

During a 4.5-hour stopover in Bucharest, he succeeded in underlining America's commitment to free and fair elections without unduly alienating government leaders who have been strongly criticized by the opposition.

Less than two weeks ago, the United States criticized the National Salvation Front government, which took power after the December revolution that toppled Communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, for attempting to impede opposition parties contesting the May 20 general election.

Baker did applaud "the reform movement" in Romania since Ceausescu's overthrow and execution, but he didn't praise the government.

Premier Petre Roman said "an endorsement would be very good, but ... "

Baker said he told interim President Ion Iliescu and Roman that "the betterment of relations of the United States with Romania will depend on fully free, fair elections and the respect for human rights and the rights of minorities."

Baker also announced that the United States will offer Romania $80 million in food assistance. A State Department official said it will include 550,000 tons of feed grain and 8,200 tons of butter.

The Romanian government previously had complained that the United States had not fulfilled a promise to send aid following the revolution.

Opposition leaders told Baker they were still being intimidated by the government, Corneliu Coposu, president of the National Peasant Party, the country's largest opposition group, said.

"The collective atmosphere was that there is fear, and it is a sustained action of fear," Coposu said.

The Front's decision to participate in the election, reversing an earlier pledge to stay out, sparked mass demonstrations by students and opponents who demanded it resign.

In a compromise, the Front agreed to share power in a new Provisional Council of National Unity, which was inaugurated Friday to run the country until the election.

But many of the 17 opposition party leaders and student representatives who met Baker said they told him the Front was trying to control the ruling council and continue the old Communist system under a new guise.

> "The betterment of relations of the United States with Romania will depend on fully free, fair elections and the respect for human rights and the rights of minorities."
>
> **— James A. Baker III, Secretary of State**

Cinema

(Continued from page 1)

the Italians see it ...and that is very different from how Americans see it," Easley said. "Seeing these types of movies can broaden your horizons. It's what poor people substitute for travel."

Another petition in support of Aggie Cinema is being written by Lloyd Cole, a junior business administration major, who said international movies have cultural value because they allow people to see how other countries view things.

"These movies give people a better idea of how people around the world view life — we see their interpretation of life," Cole said.

DeWoody and Wolling said there are many other ways to become culturally educated.

"There are alternatives — there are probably thousands of movies that are both cultural and educational," DeWoody said.

The petition by Laughlin, Chamness and Easley states:

"We support Aggie Cinema's International Film Series. This series affords Texas A&M students the opportunity to experience a wide range of cultures that would otherwise be denied to them. Even though the cultural aspects depicted in the movies might not coincide with my own, we feel it would be damaging to our education to exclude them."

> "These movies give people a better idea of how people around the world view life..."
>
> **— Lloyd Cole, petition author**

Easley said they will distribute copies of their petition around campus and hang them on public bulletin boards in campus buildings.

The response has been very positive so far, Easley said.

"People were jerking the pen out of my hand to sign the petition," he said.

Ronald Selvage, a senior nuclear engineering major, also has started a petition supporting Aggie Cinema because he said he doesn't want other people telling him what he can and can't watch.

"The fact that they voice their opinion is fine, but when they try to shut it (Aggie Cinema) down, so that other people can't view or experience it — that's when they go to far," Selvage said.

Chamness said looking at other viewpoints and seeing things that are different is part of the purpose of attending college.

"You have to think of the purpose of the movie — to open minds and examine different viewpoints," Chamness said. "Then look at the purpose of a major university — it kind of makes you wonder if this isn't the right place for films such as these."

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Amadeus	Feb. 13	7:30	$2.50
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Field of Dreams	Feb. 16/17	7:30/9:45	$2.00
The Wall	Feb. 16/17	Midnight	$2.00
An American Tail	Feb. 17	3:00 PM	$2.00

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$300 HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE STUDY
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PLACE: 159 Read Building

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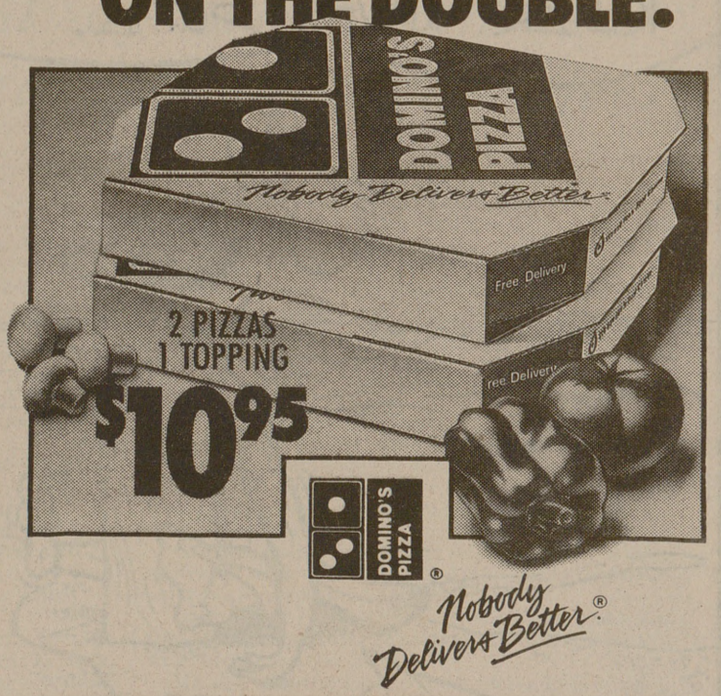

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