

The Battalion WORLD & NATION

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U.S. hostage's release postponed

Kidnappers repeat demand, renew threats in lengthy communique

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Pro-Iranian kidnappers said Thursday they postponed indefinitely the release of an American hostage because the United States refused to send a senior State Department offi-

cial to Syria. The Islamic Jihad for the Liber-ation of Palestine in a lengthy statement repeated its demand that John Kelly, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, fly to Damascus.

It also renewed threats to attack jetliners and airports used to transport thousands of Soviet Jewish emigrants to Israel. Much of the 500word communique was devoted to the rise in Jewish emigrants, who Arab leaders say could strengthen Israel and displace Palestinians from the occupied territories.

In Damascus, Syrian Foreign Min-

ister Farouk al-Sharaa said his government has "been exerting a great deal of influence" to secure the hostage release by Sunday. He would not elaborate.

President Bush said the United States has "been disappointed be-fore" by dashed hopes for the release of American hostages and repeated that he will not meet the

demands of kidnappers. "The United States does not knuckle under to demands," said Bush when asked why he did not dis-patch Kelly to Damascus.

The kidnappers' statement was accompanied by an instant photo-graph of Robert Polhill, one of three U.S. educators held by the group since Jan. 24, 1987. It was delivered to the Beirut newspaper an-Nahar and to a Western news agency. In a communique Wednesday, the

group said Kelly should go to Damascus "to coordinate some final steps to guarantee success within 48 hours." They said a hostage would be freed within that time frame but did not say which one. The U.S. Ambassador to Syria,

confirmed the problem with the hos-

tage-release centered on whether

Kelly, the former U.S. ambassador

to Lebanon, would go to Damascus. The kidnappers had said Wednes-

day that a captive would be freed

within 48 hours, or by Friday eve-

West Germany.

That communique was accord nied by an instant photograp Jesse Turner of Boise, Idaho-Edward Djerjian, flew back to Dam-ascus on Thursday. He and Kelly had been at a diplomatic meeting in first photo of him alone since months after his abduction group also holds Alann Steen. Djerjian held a series of meetings

The new statement said: "As the release of the American host at Syria's Foreign Ministry. He did not speak to reporters. Informed sources in Damascus, arrangements had been under speaking on condition of anonymity,

ning, in response to requests Iran and Syria. Their leaders

encouraged an end to the host

crisis. The group implied that

sort of exchange was involved.

on the basis that they would be a cluded and finalized. "But Kelly's failure to respond

so far frustrated the release, wh made us postpone this operation til the picture is cleared," it ad near the end of the statement.

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Citing the recent Supreme Con decision concerning abortion a the restrictive laws being debat and passed in state legislatures, s said "those votes don't represent th society

"And one of the reasons they ge away with it is because we are not Enviro unveil there in enough numbers to stopit, power electri Smeal said.

Because of the underrepresen that affect women are not given a equate priority, she said. Sme talked about her experience fightin for legislation to help battere women

"I can't tell you what it's like tobg for better legislation to prote women who are victims of domest violence," she said.

'Well I for one am sick of be ing," she said. "And I think a lot the feminist movement is. We'refer up, and we should be; and we should have been fed up a long time ago. "The biggest mistake the femi

movement has made, and I belie women in general have made, is g and give and give because we're a reasonable," Smeal said. "They g us a ridiculous decision and we say 'OK, we'll do it next time.'

Smeal also talked about the wor population explosion and said si disagrees with the United States' forts to curb it.

She said the United States, "in a conse name of morality," should sey lec threaten to cut foreign aid to co Philad tries that will not acquiesce to l demands. "Poor nations" cannot a ford birth control and often resort to chil tumes als, and abortion, usually illegal, she said. point.

"We have created an atmosph of terror," she said. "We have so ter-

mands," said Bush when asked why he did not dispatch Kelly as demanded by the group. The president said he was grateful to Syria "for try-ing to play a constructive role" regarding the hostages. -Mitterrand, defending his country's ties with Libya tion of women in Congress, issue

for Middle Eastern affairs, to Syria to take part.

The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine said

'The United States does not knuckle under to de-

the release of a hostage was postponed because of U.S. refusal to send John Kelly, assistant secretary of state

and Iran, said he could not judge whether they were responsible for hostage-taking. Bush noted that the United States does not have ties with either country and said, "We can't have normal relations when hostages are held.

—Mitterrand said he had proposed a summit of the 16 NATO allies before the end of the year to discuss the changing face of Europe and that Bush had concurred with the idea.

On Lithuania, Bush and Mitterrand joined in calling for dialogue to end the confrontation between Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev and the leaders of the breakaway Baltic republic.

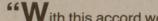
Armies' truce may end nine years of civil war **Contras concede to cease-fire**

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) -Nine years of civil war that took 30,000 lives appeared near an end Thursday when Contra guerrillas, leftist Sandinistas and the incoming government agreed to a truce and a deadline for the rebels to disarm.

"With this accord we conclude the peace process that started with the elections," said Antonio Lacayo, senior negotiator for President-elect **With this accord we** the accords were read at a dawn conclude the peace news conference. The accord sets a cease-fire that began at noon Thursday; the withdrawal of Sandinista military forces at least 12 miles from the borders of five security zones, to be completed by Saturday; and the immediate gathering of all Contra fighters within the zones. About 9,000 Contra fighters are in Nicaragua. An addendum said the Contras will start turning in their weapons on Wednesday afternoon, April 25, af-ter Chamorro takes office from President Daniel Ortega, with the what had been a key Contra demand Contra fighting force to be disbanded completely by June 10. Missions from the United Nations rebels to surrender their weapons.

and the Organization of American States — as well as Roman Catholic Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo were charged with supervising the cease-fire and demobilization. The accord, completed after 14

hours of negotiations, does not meet



Chamorro's United National Opposition alliance clearly gained the feared.

most from the agreement — the opportunity to start its government in peace, instead of in the middle of civil war, bitter recriminations or anti-government strikes, as had been After nine years of civil war that

cost 30,000 people their lives in a country of 3 million, each side was suspicious of the other's motives and neither wanted to be the first to put down its weapons.



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process that started with the elections."

> - Antonio Lacayo, Senior negotiator for **President-elect**

the Sandinista Front's demand that the Contras disband by April 25. But it also makes no mention of - that the Sandinista People's Army be neutralized as a condition for the

The army is controlled by the Sandinista party, and the Contras insisted that they wouldn't disarm until they were sure Chamorro had full control of the government and it was safe for them to return home.

Under a protocol with Chamor-ro's coalition, the Sandinistas agreed to depoliticize the army and reduce its size

Some Sandinistas appeared disap-pointed the accord did not call for the immediate disbanding of the Contras, and a mob of youths chanting anti-Contra slogans surrounded a senior U.S. official's car hours after the agreement was signed.

rorized health care workers th are afraid to treat botched abortion in some areas. The United States makes peop

believe that its 25 percent indu abortion rate is a "holocaust," said. But that figure is meaning unless compared to the abortion for the world, which is 30 per she said. "We can't look at just what h

pens to 250 million Americans, said, "but what happens to five lion plus inhabitants of the Earth. She said those who are in po and those who will be in power h a duty to the future generations.

"We of this generation must lea a better world than we found,"

Lithuania maintains stance despite Kremlin's tight economic sanctions

VILNIUS, U.S.S.R. (AP) — The Kremlin tightened its economic squeeze Thursday on Lithuania by shutting off more than 80 percent of the Baltic republic's gas supply following a complete cutoff of oil the previous night.

The independence-minded republic promptly ordered that the first to lose their energy suprun by Moscow, according to the parliament's press office. plies will be Soviet military bases and factories

Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev started his most drastic attempt to force Lithuania to re-treat from its March 11 declaration of independence late Wednesday when a pipeline to Lithua-

nia's only oil refinery was shut off. Lithuanian Energy Minister Leonas Asmantas ordered immediate gasoline rationing of 30 liters per month for private cars, according to Daina Kalendra of the parliamentary press office. A liter is slightly more than one quart

"Where we can give up the use of gas, gasoline, any heating or lighting, let us do this, and then we will be able to survive longer and, maybe, we will not be intimidated by these sanctions," government spokesman Ceslovas Jursenas said on Lithuanian radio.

Lithuania, forcibly incorporated into the So-

viet Union in 1940, is entirely dependent on Moscow for its oil and gas, which it receives at below-market prices.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfiliev told reporters Thursday that Moscow "might have some other restrictions" to impose on Lithuania, but he refused to elaborate.

In Key Largo, Fla., President Bush and visiting French President Francois Mitterrand said they were both "deeply disturbed" by the Kremlin's recent steps regarding Lithuania. Bush told reporters he was "considering appropriate measures to be taken in light of Soviet actions.'

Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene was in Norway to see about contracting for expensive Western oil and seeking foreign aid to pay for it

Officials told a news conference Thursday night other supplies were being cut as well, but refused to tell reporters what they were, Kalendra said

Lithuania normally produces its own electricity at a nuclear power plant at Ignalina, but it is shut for repairs. Kalendra said the republic has experienced no electricity shortage, and other plants are operating, including a hydroelectric plant near Kaunas.

Lithuania has virtually no foreign current Asmantas said the republic needs about 5000 tons of oil a month — about \$55 million worth world prices.

Prunskiene acknowledged the Soviet m could easily blockade Lithuania's harbors, b said that would be "unthinkable."

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsberg said Thursday that Lithuania will survive on reserves while waiting for Western help.

"We have no other way. We are waiting fr the East for direct negotiations and from West for more ... support," he said in a TV interview with Cable News Network, broadcast from Vilnius.

Landsbergis again urged major Western of mocracies to come to Lithuania's aid, add Lithuania already received expressions a promises of support from Czechoslovaka, land, France, Italy, some Scandinavian count and its fellow Baltic states Estonia and Latvia.

Dainis Ivans, president of the Latvian Peop Front, said he views the fuel crunch on Lithua as political pressure on Latvia as well. Both Lat and Estonia are following Lithuania's footstep pushing for independence.

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