

Nations agree to send troops to Monrovia

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — West African nations agreed Tuesday to send troops to Liberia, where a rebel leader was holding foreign hostages and threatening to attack U.S. Marines unless nations intervened to end the civil war.

The hostages held by Prince Johnson include one American. He presented eight of them to reporters Monday and said they would not go free until a peace-keeping force comes to this West African nation, where 5,000 people have died in the 7-month-old civil war.

It was not immediately clear if the deployment of the five-nation West African force would prompt Johnson to free the captives.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said a representative of Johnson's group had informed U.S. officials Tuesday the hostages were all well and would not be harmed.

The Economic Community of West African States, meeting in Gambia, did not say when the soldiers would go to Liberia. They said the troops were being de-

ployed "in the interest of the African people as a whole and for the maintenance of international peace and security."

The beleaguered Monrovia President Doe repeatedly has appealed for international intervention. Envoys of rebel leader Charles Taylor, a rival of Johnson, told the Gambia meeting they might accept such a force. Taylor previously threatened to attack any foreign troops sent to Liberia.

Some of the 235 Marines airlifted into Monrovia to evacuate Americans and other foreign nationals took up defensive positions within the walled U.S. Embassy compound after Johnson's threat.

Tutwiler said they were there to protect the embassy and "will do that with force if necessary."

The State Department said Johnson was holding 14 or 15 hostages, who were seized Monday night from the Hotel Africa on the northwestern outskirts of Monrovia. The British Foreign Office said there were 16, including four Britons.

Bush sends troops to Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Tuesday dispatched American warplanes and ground troops to Saudi Arabia, where sources said a multinational military force was being created to defend the vulnerable oil kingdom from attack by Iraq.

Capitol Hill sources said Egypt and Morocco were joining the effort, part of an accelerating international response to Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.

While using an oil embargo in an effort to reverse the Kuwaiti invasion, allied forces hoped the unusual multinational defense of Saudi Arabia would deter Saddam's million-man Iraqi army from storming the Saudi oil fields as well.

There was no announcement from the White House of the military moves. Word came from authoritative Pentagon sources and from Capitol Hill.

Plans drawn up by U.S. officials called for Arab soldiers from the region to join in the international force and serve as a "trip wire" warning to Saddam.

Saudi Arabia has never before agreed to stationing U.S. military power on its soil.

Pentagon sources, who spoke on condition of not being identified by name, said they expected Army troops from several points to be dispatched.

The sources said the units are ex-

pected to include the 18th Airborne Corps from Fort Bragg, N.C.; the 24th Division (Mechanized) from Fort Stewart, Ga., and the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell, Ky., near Clarksville, Tenn.

The role of the airborne divisions is to secure air bases, so that other troops, aircraft and equipment can

soil — always a sensitive issue — if the Americans were part of an international unit.

Pentagon sources did confirm one military move, saying the carrier USS Eisenhower would pass through the Suez Canal Tuesday night en route to the Persian Gulf. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney was in Egypt Tuesday asking permission

Fitzwater reported that in a tense, two-hour session Monday between Saddam and the highest ranking American official in Iraq, Charge d'affaires Joseph Wilson, "Saddam indicated he had no intention of leaving Kuwait and had every indication of staying and claiming it as his own."

The Iraqi leader underscored that reading in a message over Baghdad radio in which he defended the invasion as necessary to correct flawed regional borders drawn up by colonial powers.

The invasion marked "a new period in which the sun will shine on us in the coming days," he was quoted as saying.

While President Bush conferred with his Cabinet and visited CIA headquarters in Langley, Va., Cheney consulted in Egypt with President Hosni Mubarak.

Pentagon sources said Cheney had intended to sound out Mubarak on Egyptian participation and the prospect of broad Arab cooperation in a multinational force to protect the Saudis, whose army numbers only 38,000 troops.

The creation of an international ground force to defend Saudi Arabia while American, British and French air power formed an aerial deterrent would be the "ideal situation," commented Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

"Saddam indicated he had no intention of leaving Kuwait and had every indication of staying and claiming it as his own."

— Joseph Wilson, U.S. charge d'affaires in Iraq

Engineer: Traffic makes LOTRAK plan necessary

By CHRIS VAUGHN
Of The Battalion Staff

A district engineer from the state said Tuesday night that complete reconstruction of Wellborn Road and the nearby railroad through the Texas A&M campus was necessary to deal with increasing traffic loads making travel unsafe.

The State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, led by District Engineer Carol Ziegler, presented plans for the LOTRAK project before fielding questions Tuesday to more than 100 people at the Brazos Center.

The LOTRAK project is the planned reconstruction of four miles of Wellborn Road and the railroad tracks between Villa Maria Road and Farm Market Road 2818.

Under the \$39.7 million project, Wellborn would become a divided freeway with on and off ramps and the railroad in the median.

Wellborn and the tracks would be dropped to approximately 20 feet

President of Pakistan ejects government

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — An army-supported caretaker government assumed power Tuesday and ordered former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and other top officials not to leave the country.

One diplomat called it a "constitutional coup."

Bhutto, dismissed by the president on Monday, spent her first day out of office meeting with former Cabinet ministers to chart a strategy for their party, which is now deeply divided and demoralized.

Bhutto, members of her government and members of the disbanded federal legislature were ordered to remain in Pakistan, spokesmen for the new and former governments said.

Pakistan appeared calm after the action and troops deployed to maintain order began returning to their barracks Monday night.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan invoked his constitutional authority and dismissed Bhutto's government, alleging widespread corruption, misuse of power, judicial intimidation and failure to curb ethnic violence that has claimed more than 400 lives

B-CS turns lights on crime Residents mingle at National Night Out



By KATHY COX
Of The Battalion Staff

College Station residents helped make National Night Out a success by gathering outside to take bites out of crime and pizza.

A party at the University Owned Apartments office at the intersection of South College and University Drive highlighted the evening.

The party, sponsored by the University Apartment Council of Texas Aggies, the University Police Department, The Battalion, Pizza Hut and Pepsi was for all A&M students, faculty and staff.

"Texas A&M will not tolerate crime," Lt. Bert Kretzschmar said to the crowd of about 200 people. "We're going to make A&M a safe place to be."

Kretzschmar urged residents to report any suspicious activity when it occurs and to get to know their neighbors.

"This is about neighbor helping neighbor," he said. "We need to take the opportunity away from criminals."

In an interview, Kretzschmar said the party sponsors chose the University Owned Apartments to host the party because it is "truly a neighborhood area for A&M."

Also, he said the apartments are largely an international community and the party gave residents who may rarely see one another a chance to get acquainted.

Sandra Burke, president of the University Apartment Council, said she was pleased with the turnout.

"Now I've just got to keep the momentum going," she said.

The momentum kept rolling as parents, children and singles turned out to take advantage of the free pizza, Pepsi and entertainment.

Children and adults danced to music provided by a disc jockey as the McDonald's Hamburglar,



Photos by Eric H. Roalson

McDonald's Hamburglar (top) entertained children while (above) Kyangeun Lee, age 7, danced with Betty Lemay of the UPD Crime Prevention Unit at the University apartments Tuesday at the National Night Out party.

McGruff The Crime Dog and Larry The Seatbelt Dummy mingled with the crowd.

Hamburglar helped judge a coloring contest for the children.

The Aggie Wranglers and international music by a Mexican band and a Chinese lutanist rounded out the evening.

Donna Atkins, who is working on her Ph.D. in adult education, said she took a break from studying to join the party.

"I saw all the police cars and heard the fire trucks," she said.

University Police officers and

Worsham writes in name for Representative A&M student runs for office

By MIKE LUMAN
Of The Battalion Staff

Standing on a platform of environmental issues, Texas A&M graduate student Michael Worsham is running for the U.S. House of Representatives as a write-in candidate this fall.

Worsham, an Independent, faces Republican incumbent Joe Barton and Democrat John Welch in the Nov. 6 election for the 6th Congressional District of Texas.

"I have concerns about problems in the state, nation and world," Worsham said. "Congress is not effective enough in addressing environmental issues."

He said he had ideas for action on a range of environmental concerns.

The Environmental Protection Agency should mandate more recycling of solid waste, he said. A 25-percent recycling level is the present EPA goal.

"I would push for more," Worsham said. "That's the minimum goal they should be shooting for."

The U.S. Department of Energy also considered classifying certain low-level radioactive waste as being "below regulatory concern," he said.

"I think it would substantially affect public health," he said.

Pesticides are another issue Worsham stresses.

He said the Farm Bill, now before Congress, should ban imported food containing pesticides U.S. producers are not allowed to use.

He is a proponent of low input sustainable agriculture, meaning farming practices that require small

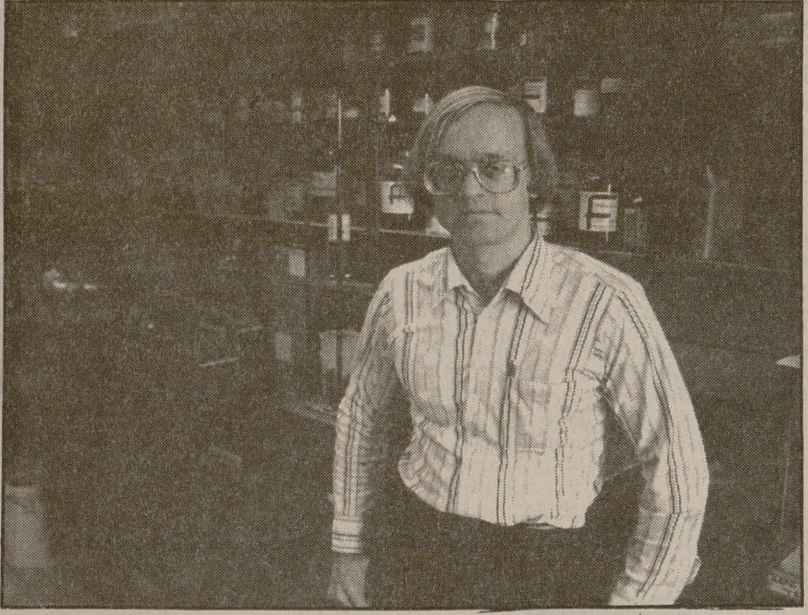


Photo by Eric H. Roalson

Worsham plans to distribute signs and bumper stickers and possibly organize a mail appeal and fund-raising event.

He said he started Aggies for Michael Worsham for Congress, a University-recognized group allowed to set up tables on campus.

The decision to run for the House was made in May after much thought, he said.

Worsham, a civil engineering student, is a founder of Bryan-College Station's Texas Environmental Action Coalition. He also has been active in Sierra Club.

amounts of chemicals, water, and money.

He also favors elimination of federal tobacco subsidies. Nicotine is an addictive drug and smoking is a leading cause of preventable death, he said.

Worsham said he believes he has a chance of being elected.

"Obviously, I'm not going to be spending as much as other candidates," he said.

He advocates election reforms, such as publicly-financed campaigns and the elimination of political action committees.