

Bush, Gorbachev suspend summit

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush, troubled about a long trip to Moscow in the midst of the Persian Gulf war as well as bogged-down talks over a strategic arms reduction treaty, decided Monday to put off his scheduled Feb. 11-13 summit with Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

The decision was "by mutual agreement" with the Kremlin, and the summit will be rescheduled in Moscow at "a later date in the first half of this year," according to a joint statement of Secretary of State James A. Baker III and Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander A. Bessmertnykh.

Bush met with Bessmertnykh just prior to the announcement. It was

the first time that a scheduled U.S.-Soviet summit had been put off since the late Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev canceled President Dwight D. Eisenhower's 1959 visit to Moscow in furious objection to U.S. spy flights over Soviet territory.

But the postponement of the Bush-Gorbachev meeting "was a mutual decision so there is no disappointment," Bessmertnykh emphasized.

Standing together in a White House driveway, Bessmertnykh first in Russian and then Baker in English read their joint statement.

It said: "The gulf war makes it inappropriate for President Bush to be away from Washington. In addition,

work on the START treaty will require some additional time. Both presidents look forward to setting an exact summit date as soon as it becomes feasible to do so."

Bush and senior administration officials have been hinting for weeks that he would forgo the Feb. 11-13 trip to register displeasure with the military crackdown on the independence movement in Latvia and Lithuania.

Asked whether that issue was involved in the decision, Baker said "the statement speaks for itself."

However, he said "we have made our substantial concerns known" to the Soviets over the Baltics issue.

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by Matt Kowalski

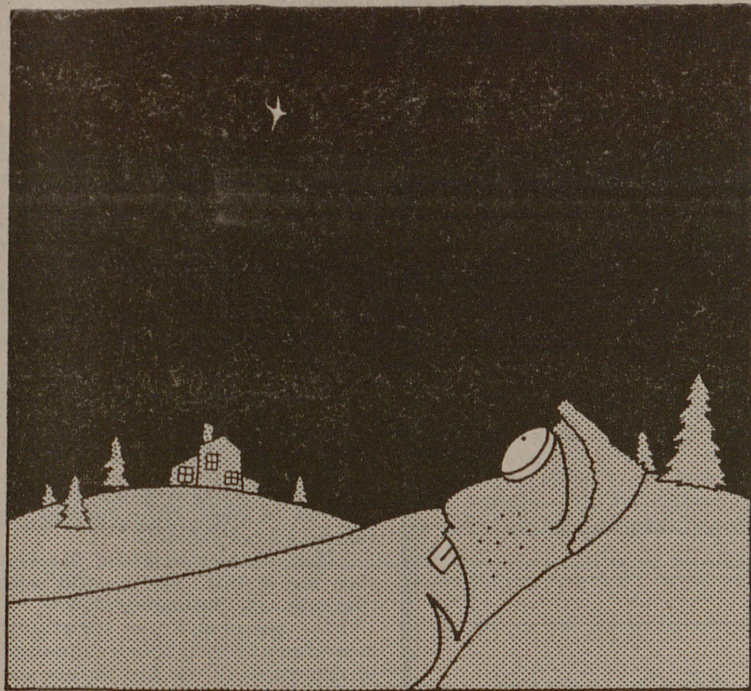


Tubularman

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"STAR LIGHT, STARBRIGHT, THE FIRST STAR I SEE TONIGHT, I WISH I MAY, I WISH I MIGHT, BEAT THE HELL OUTTA THE NEXT BULLY THAT STARTS A FIGHT."

Governor names new members to health board

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards announced that she is appointing Susan Place of Plano and Dr. Ron Anderson of Dallas to the Texas Board of Health, with Anderson serving as chairman.

Both terms begin Friday and are for six years, subject to Senate confirmation.

Anderson, 44 and a former board chairman, is professor of internal medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. He also is president and chief executive officer of the Parkland Memorial Hospital District.

Anderson replaces Dr. Robert Robinson of Beaumont, whose term expired.

Ms. Place, 39, will represent optometrists on the board, replacing Edward Zunker of Seguin, whose term expired. She has a private practice in Plano.

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