World & Nation The Battalion

Thursday, July 11, 1991

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Yeltsin starts as president

Yeltsin

Bush's approval of base closings

uphold human

'Great Russia is rising from its knees,' says elected leader

president of the Russian repub-lic, pledging to uphold human rights and break from abuses of the past.

Page 4

"For the first time in Russian history, the citizens of Russia have made their own choice," the white-haired Siberian said in fice beneath his inaugural address.

The people of Russia, Yeltsin red and blue said, "chose not only an individ- Russian flag. ual, not only a president, but Then he re-above all they chose the path ceived con-along which our motherland is to travel. It is the path of democ-from Soviet racy. The path of reform. The path of the restoration of human dignity.' the patriarch of the Russian Or-

"Great Russia is rising from its knees!" he said. "We certainly will turn it into a flourishing, democratic, peaceful, law-based sovereign state."

WASHINGTON (AP) - Presi-

Congress has 45 legislative

list of 34 bases and military labs nationwide recommended for

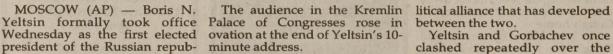
closure, including Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth, Bergs-

trom AFB in Austin and Chase Field Naval Air Station in Bee-

dent Bush endorsed an indepen-

makers said.

ville.



In the ceremony, televised throughout

gratulations Boris Yeltsin from Soviet promises to

Gorbachev and a blessing from

Gorbachev congratulated Yelt-

sin and warmly shook his hand, a highly visible symbol of the po-

fight will center on keeping Car-

and finding a new mission for

"We've had a number of nib-bles already," Geren said Wednesday. "One advantage we have is the location — we're in the middle of one of the best

the base once it's abandoned.

rights.

Russia, the 60-

dent recited

the oath of of-

an enormous

President

Mikhail S.

thodox Church.

year-old presi-

clashed repeatedly over the speed and scope of efforts to move away from a centralized

Communist system. But their relations have improved since Gorbachev agreed in April to give up Kremlin con-trol of Russia's industrial and natural resources. Yeltsin and the leaders of nine of the other 14 Soviet republics also agreed to sign Gorbachev's proposed Union Treaty on holding the country together.

Yeltsin and Gorbachev once

Gorbachev, in his speech, con-gratulated Yeltsin but dwelt argely on the need for unity.

Let me wish you success in your activities for the people of Russia," said the Soviet president. "In this, you can be sure you will find the support of the president of the country."

At one point, Gorbachev drew mocking laughter when he garbled a sentence that should have said: "On all continents, people are following with great interest what we are doing here." Gorbachev broke the sentence in two, ending: "What are we doing here?

He ignored laughter and whispering that continued for two minutes. Radical lawmaker Galina Starovoiteva said afterward that "the humor involuntarily used by Mikhail Sergeyevich (Gorbachev) reflected his insecu-rity during this transition pe-riod."

At the start of the 50-minute ceremony, Yeltsin rose from a seat near the back of the white marble palace and strode up the same aisle that he came down a year ago when he quit the Communist Party during a national congress.

Collider plan gets millions

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Senate voted Wednesday to take \$75 million of the money appropriated for cleaning up the nation's atomic weapons complex and instead spend it on President Bush's \$8 billion-plus atom smasher in Texas.

Acting on an appropriations bill for the Energy Department, the Army Corps of Engineers and several other agencies, the Senate restored three-fourths of the \$100 million that the House had trimmed from Bush's \$534 million request for the Superconducting Super Collider.

The administration and Senate supporters of the 55-mile doughnut-shaped particle accelerator contended the House's cut would have delayed the scheduled 1999 completion of the project by at least 18 months and increased its costs by more than \$200 million.

To come up with the money, Senate appropriators trimmed \$108 million from the \$3.75 billion that the House wants to spend next year on cleaning up radioactive and other wastes around Energy Department atomic weapons plants in 13 states.

Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, whose state includes one of the major cleanup sites, tried to get the money restored by taking an equal amount away from atomic weapons production in fiscal 1991 but was defeated by 54-43 vote.

The Super Collider survived its first major showdown in the Senate when Sen. Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., failed on a 62-37 vote earlier Wednesday to scuttle it entirely.

"This was a convincing victory," said Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas. "The vote should protect the SSC so long as it stays on schedule and on budget.'

The accelerator is intended to help scientists explore the cre-ation of matter and origin of the universe by smashing counter-rotating proton beams moving at nearly the speed of light against each other.

More than \$500 million has already been spent in the last three years on the accelerator, which is to be located near Dallas. During that time, its price has doubled from \$4 billion and some researchers expect its cost to reach more than \$11 billion before completed.

The \$22 billion bill — nearly half a billion dollars more than what the House passed in May — also includes \$33 million to launch 15 new water projects expected to eventually cost a total of more than \$300 million. Bush had requested only five new water projects.

But it also includes dramatic increases above what Bush requested and the House approved for two projects in the home states of the chairmen of the Senate Appropriations Committee

Appropriations Chairman Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., added \$50 million to the \$13 million recommended by Bush Levis and Tug Forks Dam project in West Virginia and Kentucky.

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and its energy and water subcommittee.

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European Community devises plan to avert civil war

Slovenia suspends independence drive LJUBLJANA, Yugoslavia (AP) tion, along its southern border. cession than neighboring Croatia parliament.

- A European-brokered plan to Yugoslav and Albanian border and has been the center of batavert civil war in Yugoslavia re-ceived a major boost Wednesday province of Kosovo, which is when Slovenia's parliament populated mainly by ethnic Al-voted overwhelmingly to sus- banians, Belgrade television said. The reason for the clash was not immediately known, and there were no reports of casualties Yugoslavia's Tanjug news agency said that the Albanians further increased the combat readiness of their army following the incident. The strong endorsement of the peace plan — by a vote of 189-11 Violence was reported Wednesday in an entirely differ-ent area of the patchwork na-_pushed further toward full se-

Before the vote, Slovenia's tles against federal forces.

The accord already has been approved by Croatia, which like Slovenia declared independence He said the agreement was

president, Milan Kucan, told



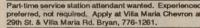
tenance cenr е manufacturing complex, or for educamilitary bases. tion, training or government purposes, Geren said, although nothing has been ruled out.

"I'm going to pour my energy into making the best of this disappointing decision, and trying to turn what the Air Force is going to leave behind into an asset for our community," Geren said. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas,

sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, also said he was disappointed that the president "acted so quickly, without giving special consideration to the facts we raised regarding Texas bases on the hit list."

Beeville would lose 1,647 mili-

President Bush approves a plan to close three Texas



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Personals

pend its independence drive.

Deputies approved the plan, drafted last week by the European Community, despite misgivings by some legislators that it offered no guarantees federal tanks and warplanes would not attack again. Slovenian and federal military officials exchanged threats of violence later in the day

June 25, and by Federal Premier "one of the steps on the long Ante Markovic and his Cabinet. road to Slovenian independen-Yugoslavia's eight-member presidency still must accept the plan.

Some army troops and rebel militiamen remained in the field late Wednesday despite the pact's call for full withdrawal.

deputy in Slovenia, warned the central government.

ce.

The pact is the latest attempt to halt clashes between secessionist and federal forces. It calls for army units to return to their barracks and the Slovenian militia to be demobilized.

"Let us not forget we are in the It also calls for Slovenia and Balkans, where lies and deceit Croatia to suspend indepen-It also calls for Slovenia and are the highest moral values," dence moves for three months to Viktor Zakelj, a Socialist Party permit negotiations with the

Coast Guard improves response to oil spills

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Coast Guard will station specialized oil spill cleanup equipment in the Houston-Galveston area and Corpus Christi as part of a \$14 million plan announced Wednesday to improve its response to tanker accidents.

The Texas ports were among 19 cities nationwide selected for the new spill response equipment, which is being built at a cost of \$750,000 for each location and should be in place by late next summer.

Rep. Jack Fields, R-Humble, said each site would get two oil-skimming devices ca-pable of collecting a total of 360 gallons of crude a minute. Each site will also get two portable floating bladders, which are used to contain recovered oil, and 2,500 feet of oil containment boom, used in the water like a floating fence to corral oil so that it can be skimmed more efficiently.

"This is extremely important if a spill is close to a beach, a wetland or estuary, or

the Houston Ship Channel, which if closed costs \$1 million a day," said Fields, who in-cluded language in the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 establishing guidelines for locating the spill equipment.

One of two major spills in the Houston-Galveston last year cost the ship channel and the Port of Houston \$14 million, Fields said. The oil slick also cost the seafood industry an estimated \$40 million.

Plan to move copter unit from Fort Hood receives OK

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) - A plan to shift a helicopter attack unit from Fort Hood, Texas, to Fort Campbell has received what appears to be a nod of approval.

The proposal to move 264 military personnel, their families and 34 AH-64 Apache helicopters to serve with the 101st Airborne Division would involve long-term construction, a report said. The move could occur as early as August.

The report, prepared by the Army Engineer District at Mobile, Ala., and released Monday, indicates no environmental problems with the move, and, on the economic side, anticipates

332 new jobs created in the area because of the planned unit shift.

The unit targeted for the move is the 1st Battalion of the 3rd Aviation Attack Helicopter Regi-ment. The idea behind the move is to bring the 101st Airborne Division's aviation brigade up to full combat strength.

The division is authorized four attack helicopter battalions, three in the active force and one in the reserves, according to the

report. Maj. Ed Gribbins, post public affairs officer, said the Army will wait and "gauge public opinion" before making a final decision on the move.

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