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# Arab League criticizes sanctions against Libya

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Syria, Tunisia, Lebanon and the Arab League criticized the new U.N. sanctions against Libya on Wednesday, and Moammar Gadhafi reportedly threatened to withhold oil exports to Europe in retaliation.

Protesters in various Libyan cities condemned what they called the unjust and Draconian sanctions the U.N. Security Council imposed Tuesday on Libyan air traffic and arms trade, the official Libyan news agency JANA said.



Gadhafi

"In Tripoli, the enraged masses flowed into the streets of the city holding up green banners, pictures of the leader of the revolution and placards which express their rejection of this outrageous resolution," JANA said.

A pro-government newspaper Bahrain asked: "What new world order are we talking about? And what is the world going to do under this new world order?"

The paper, Akhbar Al-Khaleej, told readers in the Persian Gulf state that the meaning of the resolution "is crystal clear, that the big ones can impose what they want on the world, flout-

ing limits of logic or justice, flouting respect for international law and the real will of the international society."

The Arab League said the dispute could be resolved by April 15, the date the sanctions take effect, unless Libya turns over six suspects in the terrorist bombings of Pan Am Flight 103 in 1988 and a French airliner in 1989.

In all, 441 people from 32 countries died in the airliner bombings.

The resolution "is not appropriate," said Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa of Syria. He told reporters in Lebanon the matter should be resolved by the World Court in The Hague, which has heard the case but has not issued its non-binding decision.

"The Security Council has nothing to do with such a dispute because the Security Council is concerned only with any threat to peace and security in the world," al-Sharaa said.

Lebanon's foreign minister, Fares Bweiz, said U.N. resolutions should apply to all guilty parties.

"But such attempts to enforce international decisions are somehow biased because they ignore Israel's violation of human rights."

Tunisia said it regretted the U.N. action, and that its sea and land links with Libya would remain open.

# Yeltsin plans sharp reduction in Russian armed forces

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin's military adviser has told U.S. officials that Russia plans a sharply reduced independent armed force of 1.2 million to 1.3 million and will adopt a defensive military doctrine, a senior administration official said Wednesday.

Such a force would be less threatening than the former Soviet Union's military, estimated to range in size from 2.5 million to 3 million troops and characterized by its offensive capability, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Word of Russia's revised military strategy came the same day President Bush pledged to help

finance \$24 billion in international aid for the former Soviet Union's transition to democracy.

U.S. officials learned of the plans during Defense Secretary Dick Cheney's meeting Tuesday in Brussels with Col. Gen. Pavel Grachev. The general, Yeltsin's top military adviser, met privately with Cheney prior to NATO's first-ever conference among defense ministers of the East and West.

The general said the reformed military will have "a heavy civilian contingent" and a "total size ... between 1.2 and 1.3 million personnel. That's smaller than what we've heard previously," said the official.

Grachev emphasized that the rebuilt Russian force "will not have the kind of strike capability ... the old Soviet military had," said the official.

Grachev said the force will be "evenly distributed" around the republic. It also will restructure attack units by trimming heavy tanks from certain divisions and shift the position of quick-strike aircraft squadrons to reduce the ability "to go on the offensive on short notice," the official said.

The Russians also plan to use "a defensive doctrine, as opposed to the kind of offensive capability that's been a hallmark of Soviet strategic thinking in the past," the official added.

The announcement was seen as particularly significant, the official said, because it marks a turning point in military thinking for the Russians. They had emphasized putting their armed forces under the umbrella of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the loose federation of 11 of the 15 former Soviet republics that was formed in the wake of the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

"They're clearly embarked now on a course of action establishing their own defense ministry," the official said.

Also remarkable was Grachev's openness, the official said.

# Smoking deaths in women to double

GENEVA (AP) — The number of women killed each year by cigarettes will double to more than one million over the next three decades, the World Health Organization predicted Wednesday.

The U.N. agency said the jump is a result of the increase in women smokers since World War II. It also said young women are taking up smoking faster than men in the United States and some other industrialized countries, and female smokers likely will outnumber men in those nations soon.

The report, which WHO described as the first international study of women and smoking, made no forecast on the number of male deaths by 2020.

Tobacco is the single biggest

# World Health Organization predicts habit will kill one million in 3 decades

cause of premature adult death throughout the world. It is thought to kill about 3 million people a year, including about 500,000 women. Just over half the deaths are in industrialized countries.

The report said about 20 percent to 35 percent of women in wealthy nations smoke now, compared to 2 percent to 10 percent in the Third World. It expressed concern that the percentages in poor countries would rise to the level of an industrial nation.

"In the United States, every day more than 1,600 American teen-age girls smoke for the first

time," exposing themselves to the risk of lung cancer, heart disease and other tobacco-related illnesses, the report said.

The study by Dr. Claire Cholat-Traquet, which was being delivered at a conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said women smokers face more health hazards than men.

Smoking during pregnancy causes premature births, spontaneous abortions and infant deaths.

"Last but not least, nicotine reduces the circulation of blood and the uptake of oxygen, with adverse effects on the skin, hair and eyes," the report said.

"Contrary to the images promoted in cigarette advertising, smoking causes premature wrinkles, bad breath, stained teeth and fingernails, gum disease, dental problems, a hoarse voice and chronic cough," it said.

WHO criticized tobacco companies for producing "women only" brands and accused them of using advertising that implies smoking will make women successful, youthful, happy and slim.

Once women start smoking they often find it more difficult to quit than men, partly because of the fear of weight gain, the report said.

"Although smoking was first adopted by the more affluent educated women, these women were also the first to give it up," it said.

# House rejects Bush's proposal to finance bailout

Vote spurs party leaders to search for solution to keep S&L running

WASHINGTON (AP) — Egged on by rebellious Republicans, the House on Wednesday rejected legislation sought by President Bush to finance the savings and loan bailout for six more months.

The 298-125 vote sent administration officials and leaders of both parties scrambling for a way to keep the Resolution Trust Corp., the bailout agency, running. Congress provided the agency with \$25 billion in November, but the authority to spend the money expired Wednesday.

The RTC still can seize insolvent institutions and keep them open under government control. But, it cannot proceed with takeover deals to protect depositors in the failed thrifts without such legislation.

The Senate last week voted 52-42 to finance the RTC through March 1993. That bill authorized the agency to use \$17 billion not spent from the November allocation and provided an

additional \$25 billion.

The House bill only lifted the spending deadline, an action the RTC estimated would allow it to operate until October.

Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, D-Texas and the chairman of the House Banking Committee, criticized Bush for failing to press harder for support from Republicans. Gonzalez promised "whatever steps necessary to keep ... insured depositors protected."

"It is absolutely essential that the president use his office to the fullest to explain the importance of the legislation," he said. "The effort by the administration was minimal and today's vote reflected this."

In the meantime, Gonzalez said he would introduce a stopgap measure that would finance the RTC until May 15.

Assistant Treasury Secretary Desiree Tucker-Sorini said, "We've done everything we can do" to muster support for the bill and warned

that every day's delay in the cleanup would add \$2.8 million to taxpayers' costs.

Although President Bush and both parties House leaders supported the bill, it was rejected, 180-80 by Democrats and 117-45 by Republicans. Rep. Bernard Sanders of Vermont, an independent, also opposed it.

Although the Bush administration prefers the Senate bill, they said it supported the House bill as "the only option before the House at this time that would keep the RTC running."

The opposition to the bill was led by Rep. Bill McCollum of Florida and other Republicans who want to spend \$2.5 billion to compensate the owners of 53 S&Ls that lost an accounting break when Congress passed the original S&L bailout bill.

When those S&Ls took over sick institutions in the early 1980s, regulators gave them 30 to 40 years to write off the losses.

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