

# Colombian cartel threatens retaliation

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EL PASO — Federal judges, prosecutors and police officers nationwide have been warned that they may be targets of a "bloody retaliation campaign" by Colombia's Medellín drug cartel.

Bulletins have been issued warning those law enforcement officials that the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has developed information that the drug smuggling organization was planning attacks on U.S. law enforcement.

Ron Ederer, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Texas, said Thursday his office received its

warning from the FBI. The El Paso Intelligence Center issued a bulletin to area law enforcement Wednesday.

The bulletin said:

"Reliable information has been received that beginning on or about November 16, 1992, the Medellín cartel will commence a bloody retaliation campaign against U.S. law enforcement personnel, to include judges and prosecutors.

"This is in addition to attacks that began at the end of October against Colombian national police officers. Since that time approximately 40 CNP officers have been killed," the bulletin said.

A spokesman with the U.S. Jus-

Department in Washington was in a meeting and not immediately available when called for comment by The Associated Press Thursday.

Ederer said the unrest last month in Colombia gives credibility to the threats.

"This threat is a nationwide thing, so it will stretch from Florida to California and all points in between," he said.

The bulletin issued by the intelligence center, a federal clearinghouse for information gathered in the drug war, says the cartel is retaliating for the death of Brance Munoz Mosquera. He is the brother of Dandeny Munoz Mosquera, described in the

bulletin as a "top Medellín cartel hitman who is currently being held in New York."

The Medellín and Cali cartels of Colombia are considered the biggest cocaine-smuggling organizations in the world.

U.S. officials have said the organizations are responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Colombian judges.

Ederer said drug cartels have made threats in the past, but they are not common.

He said prosecutors always operate with high security, but added "if there is a need for (added) security, the security will be there."

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## Aspirin still helps stop chest pains

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — Aspirin, medicine's humble standby, is as good as clot-busting drugs and high-tech procedures for controlling angina, dangerous chest pain that strikes 750,000 Americans annually, a major study concludes.

The study, conducted on 1,392 patients, is the largest ever undertaken to figure out the best treatment for unstable angina, the No. 1 cause of admissions to hospital coronary-care units.

"The message is that for the vast majority of patients with unstable angina, you can adopt a conservative approach," said Dr. David McCall of the University of Texas, San Antonio.

Aspirin already is widely used to treat the condition and is a key preventive treatment for new or recurring heart attacks and strokes. The study by Boston researchers showed that the common drugs available in community hospitals work as well as the high-tech treatments offered at large medical centers.

The pain of unstable angina is a particularly ominous sign. The condition often results from a blood clot partially blocking a heart artery, and can lead to heart attack and death.

The pain occurs when the heart muscle fails to get enough blood. It often happens when people climb stairs, become excited or otherwise exert themselves.

## Negotiations with Europe stalled, but trade war can still be avoided

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Negotiators from the United States and Europe reported good progress but no final breakthrough Thursday in their effort to avert a global trade war that would triple the price Americans pay for European white wine.

U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills that both sides were "quite close together" in all the areas under dispute and she said there would be further talks soon.

Frans Andriessen, the chief trade negotiator for the European Community, also expressed satisfaction with the results of the two days of negotiations. However, earlier in the day Andriessen and Hills had both expressed the hope that a final agreement could be reached Thursday.

Neither official explained what roadblocks had developed or where the differences between the two sides had been narrowed.

Failure of the Washington talks to produce a break-

through means that the threat of a trade war between the United States and its biggest trading partner, the 12-nation EC, remains a live possibility.

The EC delegation left immediately to fly back to Brussels. There was no indication where the next round of talks would be held.

The United States announced earlier this month that it was slapping 200 percent taxes on \$300 million worth of European products because of a failure to reach agreement on the removal of subsidies that the Bush administration claims cost American farmers \$1 billion in lost sales annually of soybeans and other oilseed products. Those tariffs are scheduled to go into effect Dec. 5 unless the soybean issue is resolved before that time.

The two sides also spent Wednesday and Thursday negotiating over the broader issue of all European farm subsidies. The United States is seeking large reductions in these subsidies as part of a global round of free trade talks. Hills indicated that progress had been made both in the soybean dispute and the broader farm subsidy question.

## Farm workers receive recognition

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EL PASO — Hundreds of farm workers will rely on donated food this Thanksgiving, but some of the workers said Thursday they are thankful for the recognition that their toil provides U.S. meals.

Gov. Ann Richards and El Paso County Judge Alicia Chacon have declared Sunday West Texas Farm Workers Appreciation Day, a proclamation that workers say may help them in their fight for better wages and improved benefits.

"It is appropriate that the people of Texas set aside a special time to recognize, honor, support and thank the people who harvest the food we eat," Gov. Richards said in her proclamation.

To mark the day, farm workers plan to march from El Paso's county courthouse to San Jacinto Plaza downtown and hold a rally sponsored by the Border Agricultural Workers Union.

"The most important thing is that this proclamation makes the farm workers feel that they have the support of the community," said Carlos Marentes, the union's director. "When they are in the field they often feel they are alone and that nobody cares what is happening to them."

West Texas farm workers, many who are legal U.S. citizens or residents but live across the border in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico because it's cheaper, are a regular source of labor for New Mexico farmers during the chili harvest. Many also are used for harvesting

onions and lettuce.

Simon Gonzalez, 27, said the chili harvest has slowed and their is little work available at this time of year. "We make very little. That costs too much," he said. The union and a study by the El Paso and Las Cruces Roman Catholic dioceses showed farm workers in the area average \$5,000 a year.

"All communities are direct beneficiaries of the work and labor of many farm workers in the U.S. and certainly those we have here in El Paso," said County Judge Alicia. "I think it's very appropriate that we take this weekend before the Thanksgiving weekend that we thank and give thanks for all our bounty ... that we give thanks to all our farm workers that make our food possible."

## Army Corps of Engineers to cut jobs

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Army Corps of Engineers unveiled a reorganization plan Thursday that will eliminate the Dallas division office and pare a total of 169 jobs in Texas.

Under the realignment, which will cut 2,600 jobs nationwide by 1995, five of the Corps' 11 division offices would be shut down starting in February. New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Omaha, Neb. would join Dallas in losing a division office.

The shuffle will cost 179 of the current 197 positions in Dallas, leaving only 18 employees in the field. In the Galveston district office, 158 of the 412 jobs would be

## Dallas division office to be eliminated along with 4 others in reorganization

eliminated.

The Fort Worth district office will be the only one in Texas gaining jobs, with 168 positions added to the current 1,175. The gains include 46 new jobs in the district office and 122 staffers for a new South Central Administration Center.

It is the first major reorganization since 1942 for the Corps, which is the nation's largest engineering agency with about 40,000 civilian and military personnel.

The first phase is due to begin in February, with cuts in the district offices taking place in fiscal

1994, said Lt. Gen. Arthur E. Williams, the Corps commander, who announced the plan at a news conference.

Corps officials predicted the streamlining, which will have a one-time cost of \$215 million, will result in \$115 million in savings annually.

"It's a plan which represents good government," said Nancy Dorn, assistant secretary of the Army for civil works. "It will lead to an increase in efficiency within the Army Corps of Engineers and will result in quick decision-making and lower costs for projects."

Administrative overhead now eats up a quarter of the Corps' \$3.4 billion civil works construction budget.

The Corps has a dual role: military construction and civil works, such as construction of lakes, and maintenance of inland waterways, deep-water ports and flood control projects.

Williams said the restructuring won't affect delivery of services. Few employees will be displaced, he added, with most job cuts expected to come through attrition and retirements.

The Corps has a placement program to find new jobs for those affected by the reorganization, Williams said. Others can seek transfers to different Corps offices.

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