

Congress opposes U.S. involvement in Somalia

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Clinton is renewing support for U.S. military involvement in Somalia and warning of "appropriate" retaliation if any U.S. troops are harmed by their captors.

Despite growing sentiment in Congress for a rapid withdrawal from the beleaguered African nation, Clinton said Monday he was staying the course first set by President Bush last year.

"I do not want to do anything which would imperil the fundamental success of one of the most successful humanitarian missions we've seen in a long time," Clinton told reporters in San Francisco. As reports from Mogadishu in-

dicated at least a dozen U.S. soldiers were killed Sunday in a fierce battle with Somali rebels, Defense Secretary Les Aspin ordered 220 more U.S. troops into the country, along with two aerial gunships and several tanks and fighting vehicles. The current U.N. force is 28,000, including 4,700 Americans.

Asked why more U.S. troops were being sent, Clinton said: "I'm not satisfied that the folks that are there now have the protection that they need."

The fresh troops will come from the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized), based in Fort Stewart, Ga. The M1-A1 tanks to be sent to Mogadishu will be specially outfitted with plows to detonate mines.

United Nations officials said

late Monday that 12 Americans and one Malaysian were killed Sunday, 78 U.S. troops wounded and six crew members of a downed Blackhawk helicopter were missing. Six Malaysians and two Pakistanis also were wounded.

Television news reports showed dead Americans dragged through the streets of the capital of Mogadishu as Somalis cheered.

Another gruesome video showed a frightened soldier, his face bruised, being questioned by his captors.

The pictures drew a warning from Clinton, who said that if any U.S. soldiers were mistreated, "the United States — not the United Nations — will view this very gravely and take appropriate action."

Pentagon officials declined to

specify the number it believes are being held.

One captured soldier shown on television identified himself as Army Chief Warrant Officer Mike Durant, a Blackhawk helicopter pilot. The Pentagon said his unit was based at Fort Campbell, Ky.

The fiercest day of fighting since U.S. troops arrived in Somalia in December ignited more criticism on Capitol Hill, where several Democratic lawmakers joined Republicans in sharply criticizing administration policy in Somalia.

"The end game of U.S. participation in Somalia should be measured in days and weeks, not months and years," Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., chairman of the Appropriations Committee, declared on the Senate floor.

Texas lawmakers divided over U.S. troops in Somalia

The Associated Press

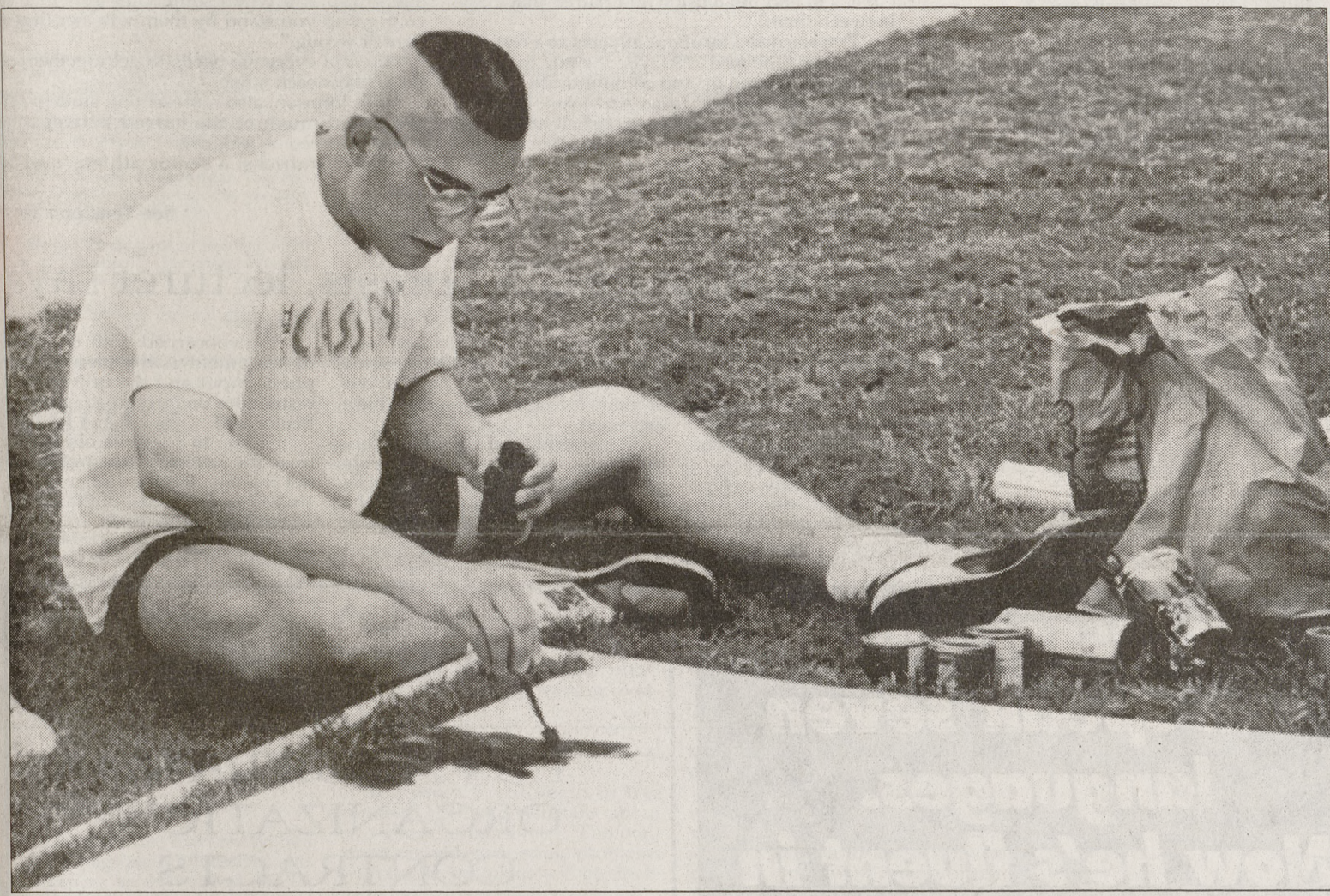
WASHINGTON — With the image of a dead U.S. soldier being dragged by a Somali mob through Mogadishu streets vivid in Americans' minds, Texas Republicans are joining calls for U.S. withdrawal from the war-torn nation.

Democrats, while generally more supportive of President Clinton's decision to send fresh troops to Somalia, on Tuesday urged the White House to reassess whether a U.S. role still exists.

Congressional consensus for immediate troop withdrawal has yet to materialize. But frustration with the administration's policy continued to mount Tuesday following reports of 12 soldiers'

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Beat the hell outta' Cougar High!



J.B. Tanner, a freshman biomedical science major from Plano, works on painting Dog Company's spirit sign Tuesday afternoon in the Quad for this weekend's football game against the University of Houston Cougars.

Amy Browning/THE BATTALION

Jordan to retire

Basketball star cites father's death as reason for decision

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Michael Jordan, the world's most famous athlete and basketball's greatest player, will announce his retirement Wednesday, according to NBC and published reports.

"Dateline NBC," the Denver Post and the Chicago Sun-Times reported the news almost simultaneously Tuesday night.

Jordan, NBA scoring champion the last seven years, leader of the three-time champion Chicago Bulls and two-time Olympic gold-medal winner, is expected to cite his father's slaying this summer as the reason for his retirement at age 30.

"It's time for me to move on to something else," the Sun-Times quoted Jordan as saying. "I know a lot of people are going to be shocked by this decision and probably won't understand. But I've talked it over with my family and friends, and most of all I'm at peace with myself over the decision."

His father's death apparently robbed Jordan of his desire to play, the Post said.



Jordan

Texas Avenue being expanded to six lanes

By Mark Smith

THE BATTALION

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) announced preliminary plans for the expansion of Texas Avenue to six lanes at a public meeting Tuesday.

The project also will include visual improvements by the city of College Station. Conceptual designs for the beautification improvements were displayed at the Tuesday meeting.

Jim Calloway, city planner for College Station, said the meeting would be used to receive public ideas and give the city a starting point from which to design the improvements.

"The final designs are subject to change," Calloway said. "A lot of factors will come into play, especially the perennial factor cost. Now we have to work to determine how far can we afford to go."

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Holocaust history course broadens minds, professor says

By Carrie Miura

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M University is offering an in-depth history course about the Holocaust this semester for the first time.

Dr. Arnold Krammer, history professor and teacher of the class, said "This is a very needed and demanding course."

A nationwide poll was conducted in the New York Times which stated that 22 percent of the peo-

ple surveyed said they believed the Holocaust never happened and 10 percent said they were uncertain the Holocaust happened, because there is not enough evidence.

"If 32 percent of the people polled do not believe this happened, 45 years later, then this course is long overdue," Krammer said.

Rabbi Peter Tarlow, from the Hillel Jewish Student Association, said the class will be beneficial to all A&M students.

"This class is more important for Christian stu-

dents than Jewish students," Tarlow said.

"Having a class like this will show students ethnic diversity and the University should be complemented for that."

Krammer said he does not feel that another Holocaust would ever take place again, but he is still uncertain.

Krammer said, "There is always the possibility for this to happen again, because of high expectations or the economic development of a country is poor."

"I don't foresee it happening again though. That's

why we are teaching this course to avoid this from ever happening again," he said.

The Holocaust began during World War II when Adolf Hitler and his Nazi faction took power in Germany in 1933.

In November 1938, Hitler and the Nazi regime burned down all of the Jewish synagogues in every German community, which today is called 'Kristallnacht'.

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Howdy Camp counselor applications due today

By Lisa Elliott

THE BATTALION

Howdy Camp, a new tradition at Texas A&M, is three and a half months away, and some students already are preparing for the job of counselor.

Howdy Camp is a three-day camp that takes place in January to get students who transfer in the middle of the school year familiar with A&M.

Stephanie Kearney, associate director of personnel, said counselors will be chosen for Howdy Camp in the next few days. The deadline for applications is at 3 p.m. today.

"It's a very simple application for them to fill out," she said. After that, they will go through an interview process and selections will be made, she said.

Bill Smart, co-chairman of Howdy Camp, said the camp is very similar to Transfer Camp except it occurs in the middle of the school year instead of the summer.

"Our camp is all about getting the transfer student more familiar

with their surroundings and the customs of A&M, it gives them something to look forward to by allowing them to hook up with other students," he said.

Smart said the students have an opportunity to learn yells and traditions and play games during their camp.

"We just basically let them be a 6-year-old for about two days and just go crazy," he said.

Kearney said the first Howdy Camp was in 1990 and was started as a spinoff of T-Camp. An adviser brought up the idea to include all transfer students, not just those that came over in the fall.

Kearney said this will be the second year that Howdy Camp will officially stand on its own apart from T-Camp. It used to be the same thing and run by the same people, she said.

Since then, she said, the camp has increased to three separate camps enrollment has increased from 50 to 200 students.

The camp also has changed locations, she said. Up until last year, it was always in Snook. This year it will be in Palestine just like Fish Camp.

Kearney said the Howdy Camp office will be staffed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the rest of this week to answer questions and interview applicants. For more information, call the Howdy Camp office at 862-2521.

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WEATHER

• Wednesday through Thursday: partly cloudy, highs in 90s

• Friday through Saturday: chance of showers, highs in 90s

• Sunday: scattered showers, cooler, highs in 80s

Tomorrow in Aggielife

Features:

Interviews with alternative band Radiohead, folk band Jackopierce and the cast of Theatre Inkululeko's "Saturday Night at the Palace"

Reviews:

Clive Barker's new comic book series, "Malice," and "For Love or Money"