

Police plan Iranian protection

By Gordon Johnson

The Lincoln Police Dept. has expressed its concern for the safety of the local Iranian population by meeting with representatives of Iranian groups and other state agencies, according to Roger LaPage, assistant Lincoln Police chief.

The meetings, held last Wednesday and Friday, informed the Iranians how the authorities could help them and also set a frame work for making plans to protect them in the event they should be in immediate danger, LaPage said.

The meetings were held not only with Iranians at UNL, but also with those attending Nebraska Wesleyan University or any other school in Lincoln, he said.

An idea brought up at the meetings was that certain locations could be made available for Iranians to go to, should their lives be in danger from retaliation by Americans, he said.

LaPage said consolidating the Iranian population into one or more areas would enable the police to offer better protection.

After Iran took over the American embassy in Iran, national groups with local constituencies have threatened to take Iranian hostages or execute them.

COORDINATOR FOR UNL International Educational Services Peter Levitov said he estimates the local Iranian population to be between 350 and 400.

Colorado authorities have devised a plan by which buildings in Colorado's university cities have been designated to handle Iranian students, should the lives of the Iranians become endangered, said Lt. Henry McGowan, communications officer for the Colorado Highway Patrol.

The Colorado plan also provides for the use of National Guard, should violence become too great for the local police to handle, McGowan said.

The plan to protect Colorado's 930 Iranians has been in effect since Nov. 15, he said.

However, Levitov said that under such plans the students will be under no obliga-

tion to use police protection.

Some students have a fear of becoming American hostages and mistrust police, he said.

UNL Dean of Students, David DeCoster, also present at the meetings, said that no final plan had been agreed on and that it was generally an informative meeting.

'PRIMARILY WHAT was discussed was what was happening and an attempt was made to open the lines of communication," DeCoster said.

Students have recently received both physical and verbal threats which have gone unreported, he said. Opening up the lines of communication and letting the students know where to go should help the students and the police, he added.

"It has been made very clear that the City of Lincoln folks will cooperate fully with the students," DeCoster said.

LaPage said that a meeting is planned for later this week between Iranian representatives and local police to discuss detailed plans to protect the students.

After last week's meetings, the Iranian representatives were to meet with their constituents to discuss how the students would like to proceed.

Iranians are not only faced with the threat of physical violence but also with problems of housing and meeting living expenses Levitov said.

MOST BANKS will not cash a check drawn on an Iranian bank because they can not be guaranteed payment, he said. Some reports have been received that students are two or three months behind on their rent and still others are having to borrow money to live on, he said.

To alleviate these problems, the local Commission on Human Rights and the Status of Women is looking into ways of

helping the students, according to Gerald Henderson, an affirmative action officer with the commission.

"At this point we are setting up the mechanism that can work out some of these problems, should the situation in Iran escalate," Henderson said.

The first step in helping the students, he said, is to figure out what the future needs of the students might be.

Presently a telephone number has been established which the Iranian students in need of help may call, and the commission

will then see how they can help on an individual basis, he said.

Even though some students may not trust police, a representative for an Iranian student group said that it is a comfort to know they can get help if they need it.



Photo by Mark Billingsley

Headin' south

This Cedar Waxwing stopped on campus Monday afternoon on his way south. His much-needed nutrition took the form of a plump Juniper berry. He also took advantage of Monday's unusually warm temperature to improve his summer tan before taking off on his annual migration.

Faculty calls for improved communication

By Debora Hemminger

Teachers College faculty members Friday proposed methods to give faculty more input into the university structure.

Three committees submitted reports calling for an evaluation of the effectiveness of the NU systems communication network; and supporting the NU Board of Regents' request for a 15 percent increase in the NU budget, and asking for a re-evaluation of UNL's organization and role in the NU system.

The committee was assigned last week to develop an evaluation plan. It reported Friday that the faculty needs to know the channels of communication in the university.

A second committee asked to devise a plan for implementing a budget increase, suggested that all administrators and regents divert the money for their paid trips to the Cotton Bowl to the academic budget of UNL. The suggestion was voted down by the faculty.

The third committee was asked to compose a statement concluding the faculty's feeling. This group called for endorsement of the 15 percent budget increase. A request to have future university budgets include separate categories for utilities and

academic programs was also endorsed as well as a study to determine how communication can be improved.

A **CONCERN** about UNL's role in the NU system has spurred the Teachers College faculty to improve the quality of education on the Lincoln campus, according to Dr. R. Sawyer, a professor of history and philosophy of education.

The faculty thinks UNL has had the highest quality education in the state during the last 100 years, Sawyer said, and there is a feeling that quality education should continue.

In the last two years the quality of education at UNL has decreased, Dr. Harvey Siegel, an assistant professor of history and philosophy of education, said.

"The people of the state need to know that the deterioration exists," and will continue unless something is done, he said.

Siegel said budget problems with the library and the computer network are a disgrace. He said the library is deteriorating because fewer new materials are being received and the current materials often are in bins for weeks because of a lack of employees to shelve them.

Computer time is being cut for research use, Siegel said. He called it a farce when an institute claims one of its goals is to pro-

mote research and the materials that are needed for that research are not supported.

A **COMMITTEE** suggestion called for the Daily Nebraskan to devote an issue to "documenting the needs of UNL" to be distributed throughout the state. Other budget suggestions included establishing a financial ombudsman, devising a long-term budget to ensure fair proportioning to each administrative unit, and opening communication about the budget between faculty and administration.

Dr. Robert Brown, a professor of educational psychology and measurement, chaired the evaluation committee.

He said the purpose of the evaluation is to improve communication between faculty and administration.

The committee's reports will be edited Wednesday by the chairmen of the committees and Teachers College Dean Robert Egbert. The final draft of the report will be sent to the faculty for approval.

Dr. R. Sawyer, a professor of history and philosophy of education, said if the faculty votes favorably on the reports, copies will be sent to UNL Chancellor Roy Young and NU President Ronald Roskens for consideration by the Board of Regents.

The committee to conclude the faculty's feelings declared that "the Teachers College faculty perceives a serious deterioration in the role of UNL as Nebraska's major graduate and research institute." It also note a general decline in student and faculty morale.

Sawyer said the faculty's morale has been decreasing steadily. The faculty constantly is asked where to cut budgets instead of how education can be improved, he said.

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