Thursday, September 22, 1983

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Daily Nebraskan

Former NU regent dies of apparent heart attack

Former University of Nebraska regent Kermit Wagner of Schuyler died Tuesday night of an apparent heart attack at his cabin in northern Butler County. He was 67.

Wagner, who was the president and general manager of Wagner Mills in Schuyler at the time of his death, served on the NU Board of Regents for 12 years. He left the board at the end of 1982 after representing Dixon, Dakota, Wayne, Thurston, Madison, Stanton, Cuming, Burt, Colfax, Dodge, Washington and Butler counties and parts of Douglas and Seward counties.

He is survived by his wife, Fern; daughters, Mrs. Matt (Joanna) Cheney, Valley, and Mrs. Richard (Janet Weerts), Columbus; and four grandchildren.

Wagner owned or controlled several banks in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota. He also was a member of the Nebraska Grain and Feed Dealers Association, Alpha Mu, the U.S. Assay Commission, the State Building Commission, Rotary Club, Masons, Shriners, Odd Fellows and Elks.

Funeral arrangements have been scheduled for Friday at 2 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Schuyler.



Off The Wire

National and international news from the Reuter News Report

Manila riots kill 3; Reagan trip still set

MANILA - At least three people were killed Wednesday night when thousands of antigovernment demonstrators tried to battle their way to the home of Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos, government officials said. The fighting was believed to be the worst single incident of violence in the capital since martial law was introduced in 1972. Hospitals reported treating 77 people injured in the clashes, and a church-run radio station reported 96 casualties, marking the 11th anniversary of the declaration of martial law and to protest against the murder a month ago of opposition leader Benigno Aquino.

Martial law was lifted in January 1981, but Marcos retains wide powers under a national security code.

In Washington, President Rengan said Wednesday that he still plans to visit Manila during a two-week trip to Asia in early November, despite the furor about the assassination of Aquino. There had been sug-gestions both inside and outside the administration that the Manila stop be canceled if the Marcos government's investigation of Aquino's death does not appear to be diligent.

Warships continue fire

BEIRUT - U.S. Navy warships fired on artillery positions in the hills behind Beirut Wednesday night for the third straight day, state-run Beirut Radio reported. The Navy fire began around 11:30 p.m. (5:30 p.m. EDT) and silenced the gun positions with precision shelling, the radio said.

Economy steams ahead

WASHINGTON - The U.S. economy is growing at a 7 percent annual rate in the third guarters, the Commerce Department said Wednesday. The early projection came in a report that said the economy surged at a 9.7 percent pace in the second quarter, higher than the original estimate for the April-June period of 9.2 percent. The second quarter rate was the strongest since 11 percent in the second quarter of 1978, the department said.

Meat purchases cut

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Agriculture Department on Wednesday stopped buying meat from two companies under investigation for alleged unsanitary slaughtering plants. Agriculture Secretary John Block said purchases would be stopped until the agency investigates complaints against Cattle King Beef Co. of Denver and Nebraska Beef Processors of Gering, Neb. The two companies were accused of producing ground beef from diseased cattle and of filthy meat slaughtering plants by the Better Government Association, a public-interest group, and the NBC TV show, "First Camera."

Soviets call for air rules

MONTREAL - The Soviet Union on Wednesday called for new rules to ensure closer coordination between air traffic controllers. The call was made to aviation experts at the general assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization. The Soviet delegates said it is up to air traffic controllers to ensure that planes do not stray off course. He also called for "firm rules" on interception that would require airplanes violating airspace to land immediately when intercepted.

Court orders treatment

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - The Tennessee Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday that 12-year-old Pamela Hamilton should receive medical treatment for a rare form of cancer that threatens to kill her in less than a year, but her father vowed to fight the ruling. Pamela has a tumor in her left thigh larger than a football Her father, Larry Hamilton, opposes medical treatment because of the family's religious beliefs. His attorney promptly asked the Tennessee Supreme Court for an emergency stay on the appeals court roling.