

News Digest

By the Associated Press

Study: U.S. not ready for terrorism

WASHINGTON — Despite reams of rhetoric and multi-million dollar budgets, the United States has no effective strategy to cope with the increasing threat of terrorism and guerrilla warfare, according to a Pentagon study.

The report was prepared over the past year by a joint team from the Army and Air Force. There are no plans to publicly release the document, although a copy was made available to the Associated Press.

While the authors were military, the report also looked at civilian agencies such as the State Department and the CIA.

More and more, the study noted, U.S. interests around the world are being threatened by "low-intensity conflicts," a term used to include terrorism and guerrilla warfare of the type being waged in Central American, the Mideast and the Philippines.

America's vast and powerful military machine was built to fight a nuclear war or a large-scale conventional war, particularly in western Europe, but was not structured to cope with the current situation, which the report notes is



"neither war, nor peace."

"It must be crafted in comprehensive terms, not focused on a single conflict or on a single department. It must integrate all the national resources at our disposal, military and non-military, lethal and non-lethal," it said.

Since taking office six years ago, the Reagan administration has quadrupled, from about \$440 million to \$1.6 billion, spending for special operations forces, including the Army's Green Berets and Navy's SEALs. The units have been expanded and new equipment has been purchased.

In Brief

Dial-a-shrink debate

MINNEAPOLIS — People who need counseling can turn to an increasing number of telephone therapists who offer their clients the convenience and privacy of not having to leave their home or office.

Psychologist Marilyn F. Mason operates Tele-Psych Inc. in Minneapolis and says many of her clients are male executives too busy to visit her in person or concerned about being seen entering a psychologist's office.

Some psychologists, however, aren't sure such services are in the client's best interest.

"We have some concerns about doing therapy in this way," said David H. Mills, ethics director of the Washington-based American Psychological Association. "Our ethics code says psychotherapy is done in the context of a personal visit." Mason maintains that telephone counseling differs little from the work of traditional psychologists.

Crime Stoppers' contributions

WASHINGTON — Crime Stoppers programs have spread to 600 cities and have recovered over half a billion dollars in narcotics and stolen property since they were first started a decade ago, according to a study released Sunday.

The locally run and self-supporting programs join the news media, community and police in a system that offers cash awards and anonymity to people who call in tips about unsolved crimes.

Each case solved through Crime Stoppers recovered more than \$6,000 in narcotics or stolen goods on a national average, and each felony arrest cost \$73 in award money, according to the study conducted for the National Institute of Justice in the Justice Department.

Some 92,000 felonies have been solved through Crime Stoppers with \$562 million worth of stolen property recovered and narcotics seized, according to statistics supplied by an umbrella group, Crime Stoppers International, and included in the report.

Mule melee hospitalizes three

NORFOLK — Three teen-agers injured when two mules pulling a wagon broke away and bolted into a junior high marching band during a parade were released from Norfolk hospitals on Sunday.

Nine people were injured in the Saturday accident, authorities said. Norfolk Junior High Band members Ricky Belina, 14, and Jason Schmidt, 14, were kept for observation overnight at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital and released on Sunday, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Brian Hansen, 15, was kept overnight at Lutheran Community Hospital, but was released on Sunday.

Spectators said the mules became agitated when they had to cross railroad tracks during the annual LaVitet — festival spelled backwards — Time parade.

Terrorist on the move

Israeli Expert Says Terrorist Chief on Move Again

Terrorist leader Abu Nidal, feeling the U.S. heat, has decamped from his Libyan headquarters and begun shuttling secretly among Arab capitals, says an Israeli expert on the notorious Palestinian fugitive.

"Abu Nidal's organization is the only one which is able to maintain a secret infrastructure in Eastern Europe," said Yassi Melman, an Israeli expert on the Palestinian fugitive, in his new book "The Master Terrorist."

Israeli intelligence specialists blame Abu Nidal for more than 100 terror attacks and 200 deaths over 14 years, Melman reports.

Major recent attacks include last year's bombings of British and Jordanian airline offices, a cafe in Rome, hotels in Greece and the gun-and-grenade slaughter of 16 people at Rome and Vienna airports last Dec. 27.

Senate nears passage of \$1.4 billion drug bill

WASHINGTON — The Senate is nearing passage of a \$1.4 billion measure to combat drug abuse after backing off the stiffest features of a counterpart bill passed by the House — ordering the military to seal U.S. borders against smugglers and establishing the death penalty in major drug cases.

The Senate plowed through a series of amendments to its bill by early Sunday before ending a marathon day that also saw the Republican-controlled chamber pass a landmark tax-overhaul bill. It will return to the bill Tuesday afternoon.

Senate passage would send the bill to a House-Senate conference committee to reconcile the differences between the two versions. That panel will try to work quickly so both chambers can pass the same bill and send it to President Reagan before adjournment.

The death-penalty provision was withdrawn even after a majority of the Senate effectively voted for it, and only 14 senators supported expanded use of the military.

The Democratic-controlled House approved the imposition of the death penalty for persons convicted of large-scale drug sales.

The military amendment was rejected 72-14 after opponents argued that it would violate individuals' civil rights and would detract from the military's chief mission of defending the nation against armed enemy attack.

Both bills would increase spending for drug interdiction and eradication, education, treatment and local law enforcement. They would also increase penalties for drug possession and sales, outlaw "designer drugs" and tighten provisions used to fight money-laundering by drug dealers.

Soviets display abandoned nuclear test site

IN THE GEGELEN HILLS, Kazakhstan, U.S.S.R. — Army generals opened their secret nuclear test range here for a group of Soviet and foreign journalists, showing a silent, rusted site that they said proved the Kremlin had banned nuclear tests.

Two Soviet generals on hand for the tour Saturday made it clear the visit was arranged to reinforce Moscow's appeals to the United States to join the moratorium on nuclear tests begun by

the Kremlin in August 1985.

Rusted piles of abandoned machinery and huge natural granite formations crumbled by the force of earlier nuclear blasts give the steppes the look of an open-pit mine.

The moratorium was declared on the 40th anniversary of the Aug. 6, 1945, nuclear attack on Hiroshima, Japan, by the United States toward the end of

World War II.

He said that the Soviet Union has strictly observed the 1974 threshold treaty with the United States, which limits the two powers to underground explosions of no more than 150 kilotons. A kiloton equals the explosion of 1,000 tons of TNT.

The United States has declined to join the test ban, with government offi-

cials citing as one reason the need for continued testing to maintain the efficiency of existing weaponry.

Under the private agreement between U.S. and Soviet scientists, Soviet monitoring stations also are to be established around the Nevada testing grounds. But so far, the Soviet scientists have not received their U.S. visas, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Montana towns continue to battle floodwaters

SACO, Mont. — Residents of this small farming and ranching town stood guard behind sandbags and dikes as a major creek rose steadily Sunday, and more than 300 people had been evacuated from flooded towns of the Milk River.

Downpours of 5 to 8 inches of rain in northern Montana gorged the Milk and its tributaries late last week, killing one woman at Harlem, drowning hundreds of head of livestock and cutting roads and railroads, officials said.

At Saco, Beaver Creek was rising Sunday and Mayor Gregg Menge said standing water 3 to 4 feet deep and several miles wide flooded the area west of town known as the Saco Flats.

Rising water continued to threaten Harlem, where about 100 people had been evacuated, officials said.

At Malta, where about 125 people had been evacuated, sandbags and dikes were holding and officials said the water appeared to be receding slightly. But they expressed concern about additional rainfall in Canada that could affect the Milk drainage.

Menge said the rising water threatened a bridge at Saco that carries U.S. 2, the major east-west highway through the area, and that the bridge would create a bottleneck on the creek.

Downstream to the east, "the cities down there are working to get to high ground, things of that nature."

Forecaster said the Milk would be five feet above flood stage at Glasgow by late Monday.

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Christian militia hardliners defeat pro-Syrian attackers

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Christian militia hardliners crushed a comeback attempt by an ousted, pro-Syrian commander Sunday in 24 hours of street battles in Christian east Beirut, which police said killed 62 people and wounded 198.

Fighting began at dawn Sunday when about 600 supporters of Elie Hobeika, former commander of the Lebanese Forces Christian militia, stormed across the Green Line dividing east Beirut from the Moslem western sector.

"The last pocket of resistance was mopped up at daybreak, when 12 infiltrators from Elie Hobeika's supporters surrendered," said a communique issued by the Lebanese Forces, the nation's largest Christian militia.

There was no word on the whereabouts of Hobeika, who was ousted from the command of the Lebanese forces by Geagea's hardliners Jan. 15 for signing a Syrian-sponsored peace pact with Moslem militia leaders. President Amin Gemayel, himself a Maronite Catholic, was among the Christians who felt the accord's power-sharing provisions conceded too much to the Moslems.

One report Sunday, not confirmed, said Hobeika was in Chtaura, the Bekka Valley town which houses command headquarters of 25,000 Syrian troops stationed in Lebanon under a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the Arab League.