

News Digest

By The Associated Press

Coup attempt fails

Troops try to kill Aquino and family

MANILA, Philippines — President Corazon Aquino said Sunday that mutinous troops tried not only to topple her government but aimed to kill her and her family.

Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile said he was not involved in Friday's coup attempt by up to 1,200 rebel troops led by his former aide. The daylong battle left at least 25 people dead and 275 wounded.

Enrile, fired as defense minister last November after a failed coup attempt, said he refused a request by a U.S. diplomat to use his influence with mutiny leaders to halt the attacks.

Loyal troops searched northern provinces Sunday for remnants of the rebel force, including Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan and five other ringleaders.

Aquino laid a wreath Sunday at a Fort Bonafacio military cemetery on National Heroes' Day. Dozens of guards with Uzi submachine guns and M-16 rifles maintained tight security for her first public appearance since the rebellion.

"The size and ruthlessness of the attack, the treachery that marked it, the brutality of the rebels who fired on civilians, and the timing... proves beyond a doubt their murderous intentions," she said.

Her only son, Benigno Aquino III, was wounded and three of his bodyguards killed as they returned to the presidential palace early Friday. He later said the rebels fired on their car after he identified himself as the president's son.

The rebellion was the bravest of several attempts to overthrow Aquino since she was swept to power in a February 1986 civilian-military revolt that deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

The mutineers in Friday's attempt had said they were unhappy over government failure to end the nation's 18-old communist insurgency.

The coup attempt came while many of the 500-member Presidential Security Guard force were in nearby provinces as advance security for a planned tour, which Aquino later canceled.

Military spokesman Col. Honesto Isleta said 816 mutineers had surrendered or been captured and were being held aboard two navy ships in Manila Bay.

He said 12 loyal soldiers were killed in the revolt and 61 wounded, and six mutineers died and 24 were wounded.

Civilians caught in the cross fires also were killed.

Successful booster rocket test fires life into shuttle renewal

BRIGHAM CITY, Utah — A redesigned space shuttle booster rocket roared into life in its first full-scale test-firing Sunday, a crucial step before the planned renewal of shuttle missions next June.

The 126-foot-long solid fuel rocket blasted orange flame 500 feet and a thick cloud of smoke boiled 1,500 feet into the sky above Morton Thiokol Inc.'s desert test site 25 miles west of here.

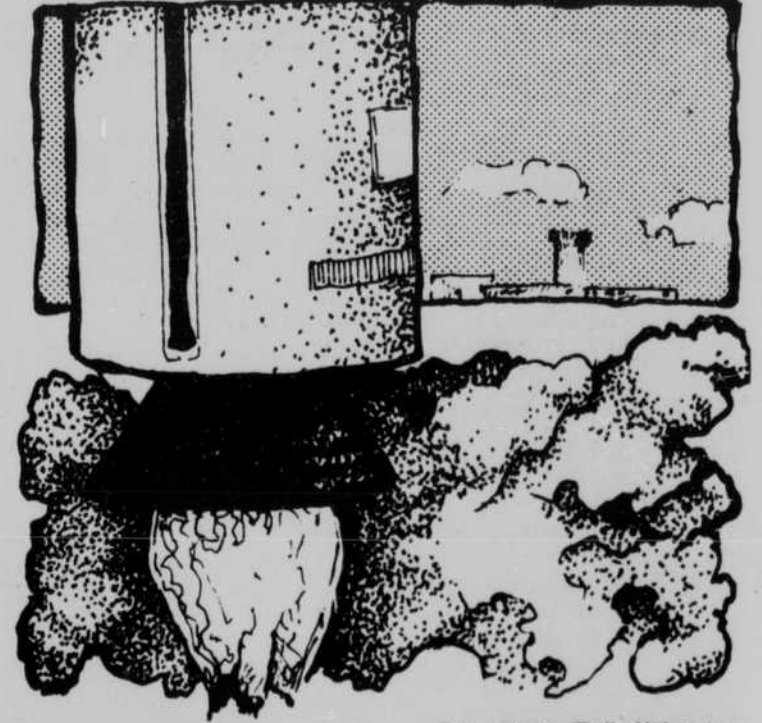
The rocket used up 1 million pounds of propellant during the two-minute test, consuming it at a 9,000-pound-per-second pace, said company spokesman Rocky Raap.

"It obviously ran the right amount of time. The plume ran normal, it appears to be a normal, successful test," said Carver Kennedy, Morton Thiokol's vice president for space programs.

The test of the solid fuel booster was originally scheduled Thursday, but was aborted three times by test equipment failures.

NASA's shuttle fleet has been grounded since Jan. 28, 1986, when a flaw in a Morton Thiokol booster led to the destruction of the shuttle Challenger and the deaths of its seven crew members.

Before the boosters are certified and the shuttles are allowed to fly again, officials have decided that the redesigned booster must be



Brian Barber/Daily Nebraskan

test-fired at least four times on the ground.

NASA officials hope the new rocket design has eliminated the flaw that destroyed Challenger when the Thiokol booster leaked superheated exhaust gases out of the side of the rocket, igniting the contents of the

external liquid fuel tank for the shuttle's main engines.

NASA and Thiokol are spending \$400 million to redesign the rocket and the joints between segments to ensure that such a leak doesn't happen again.

Iraq escalates offense, attacks Iranian terminal

MANAMA, Bahrain — Iraqi fighter-bombers hit Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal for a second day Sunday in an escalating offensive in the Persian Gulf as a new convoy of U.S.-escorted Kuwaiti tankers sailed toward the battle zone.

Iraq said it resumed the attacks Saturday after a 45-day lull to keep Iran from using increased oil revenues to continue the 7-year-old war and force it to accept a United Nations cease-fire.

Iraq vowed Saturday to retaliate with "a crushing response" if its oil exports were threatened and said no targets would be immune, including the reflagged Kuwaiti tankers and the U.S. warships escorting them. But there has been no Iranian retaliation so far.

Iraq also claimed to have hit three "large maritime targets," a term usually meaning tankers or other big ships, including one off Kharg. Neither Iraq nor independent sources identified the ships.

The convoy of two tankers and at least six U.S. warships was about a third of the way along its 550-mile voyage to Kuwait.

Kuwait asked the United States to give 11 of its 21 tankers U.S. flags and escorts to protect them from Iranian attack. Iran had accused Kuwait of backing Iraq and began attacking Kuwaiti tankers last September.

The convoy entered the gulf after passing through the Strait of Hormuz, within range of Iran's Chinese-made anti-ship Silkworm missiles.

No indication emerged whether the United States had been informed in advance of the Iraqi raids or whether its ships were on a special alert status against possible Iranian retaliation.

Iraq and Iran had not attacked each other's commerce in the gulf since before the U.N. Security Council passed a cease-fire resolution on July 20.

Hastings to be chief justice

LINCOLN — Supreme Court Judge William C. Hastings will become chief justice of the high court this week.

Gov. Kay Orr announced his appointment Friday.

Hastings, 66 of Lincoln, will replace former Chief Justice Norman Krivosha. Krivosha, whose public profile and energetic style often drew attention and sometimes drew criticism, resigned from the bench to return to private practice in Lincoln.

The appointment of Hastings, expected to be sworn in next Wednesday, created another vacancy on the seven-member high court from the district which includes Lincoln.

Orr told reporters that the opportunity to appoint another judge to the Supreme Court didn't influence her decision to elevate Hastings to the office of chief justice.

Hastings is a 1948 graduate of the University of Nebraska College of Law.

He practiced law in Lincoln from 1948 until his appointment as a district court judge in Lancaster County in 1965. He held that position until his appointment to the Supreme Court by Gov. Charles Thone in 1979. The Newman Grove native was retained in office in 1982.

Regarded by most observers as a judicial conservative, Hastings was one of four finalists for the post of chief justice. The others were attorney Ed Perry of Lincoln, Washington County District Judge David Quist, and Douglas County District Judge Keith Howard. They were chosen from a field of 11 applicants by a Judicial Nominating Commission on July 23.

Orr heaped praise on Hastings, saying he had the qualities of leadership, judicial temperament and ability to "complement the distinguished history of the chief justices of Nebraska." "I am pleased, Gov. Orr, to accept

the appointment and I hope to meet the challenge," Hastings said.

Like Krivosha, whose ability and energy he praised, Hastings expressed concern about the case load facing the seven judges and said an intermediate court of appeals might be the answer. He said a constitutional amendment might be required for such a step.

Court vacancy field wide open

The field of candidates for the Nebraska Supreme Court vacancy created by the promotion of judge William Hastings to chief justice is a large one, according to several legal observers.

"It is wide open" said Kile Johnson, 1st Supreme Court District representative to the Nebraska State Bar Association's executive council.

"I anticipated a lot of candidates," said Lincoln attorney James Hewitt, immediate past president of the state bar.

"It'll be interesting to see who surfaces," said Lincoln Bar Association President William Sutter.

Health officials outline plan to cut abortion information

WASHINGTON — The Department of Health and Human Services unveiled rules Saturday aimed at "building a high wall" between abortion clinics and federally funded family planning programs.

Under the proposed rules, outlined last month by President Reagan but described in detail for the first time Saturday, clinics that receive federal family planning funds and also offer abortions would have to provide separate entrances and exits, separate waiting and examination rooms, and maintain separate medical records and personnel systems, the department said.

Federally funded family planning centers also would be banned from having informational literature on the premises that mentions abortion as an alternative, said Nabers Cabaniss, a deputy assistant secretary for population affairs at HHS.

The proposed rules, to be published Tuesday in the Federal Register, spell out how the department would revise Title X of the Public Health Act, which provides grants to support voluntary family planning services.

Last month, Reagan told Health and Human Services Secretary Otis Bowen

to eliminate Title X language that requires recipients of federal funds to suggest abortion as an alternative for pregnant women.

The proposed regulations ban the use of federal funds for abortion counseling or referral, lobbying for abortion, or distributing materials that advocate abortion, HHS said.

Richard Mintz, a spokesman for the National Abortion Rights Action League, called the proposed regulations unconstitutional.

Mintz said pro-choice groups would mount a drive against the rules during their 60-day public comment period.

Correction

The distribution of concessions at FarmAid III was incorrectly reported in Friday's editorial column by Chris McCubbin. The column stated that all the profits from concessions will go to the renovation of Memorial Stadium. Some of the money from the ConAgra hotdog sales will go to FarmAid. The Daily Nebraskan regrets the error.

In Brief

Family leaving home after suspicious fire

ARCADIA, Florida — A mother whose sons have been exposed to the AIDS virus said Saturday that the boys would be withdrawn from school and that the family would leave DeSoto County after a suspicious fire gutted their home.

Authorities are looking into the cause of the fire in the Clifford and Louise Ray home. The Rays' sons — Ricky, 10; Robert, 9; and Randy, 8 — were part of a controversy last week when they returned to school even though tests show they have been exposed to the AIDS virus. Many students boycotted the school.

South African miners end largest strike

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — The National Union of Mine-workers ended South Africa's largest and costliest mine strike Sunday after management fired tens of thousands of strikers and refused to yield in negotiations.

The union settled for management's pre-strike wage offer, but it would not admit defeat and described the three-week walkout as "a dress rehearsal for further action."

Nine miners were killed during the strike, and the union said on Sunday that more than 500 were injured and 400 arrested. Tens of millions of dollars in wages and corporate profits were lost.

Three long-time entertainers die

Three long-time members of the entertainment business died over the weekend:

Country humorist Archie Campbell, whose career spanned 50 years on stage, radio and television, including the long-running show "Hee Haw," died early Saturday of complications from a heart attack he suffered in June. He was 72.

John Huston, who directed such movie classics as "The Maltese Falcon" and "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre," died Friday after a long illness. He was 81.

Oscar-winning actor Lee Marvin, who starred in films such as "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance" and "The Dirty Dozen," died of a heart attack Saturday. He was 63.

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