

Gorbachev: Soviets plan for Afghan pullout in May

MOSCOW — Mikhail S. Gorbachev said Monday that the Kremlin would begin pulling its troops out of Afghanistan on May 15 and complete the withdrawal within 10 months if U.N. -brokered talks on the conflict reach a settlement.

Gorbachev also said his country wants no say in who governs Afghanistan or its politics after the estimated 115,000 Soviet troops battling Afghan guerrillas come home.

"The Afghans themselves will decide the final status of their country among nations," Gorbachev said. Afghanistan's future "is none

of our business."

Gorbachev's remarks left the future of Afghanistan's Marxist president, Najib, in serious doubt.

The Soviet leader's statements were the clearest indication yet that he is moving rapidly to extricate his country from the conflict he has termed a "bleeding wound."

The Kremlin sent troops, tanks and military hardware into Afghanistan on Dec. 27, 1979, and presided over the replacement of one Marxist ruler by another.

The invasion has been a major irritant in

Soviet relations with the United States and has soured Kremlin relations with many Moslem and third world countries.

It also has been opposed at home as Soviet casualties have mounted. Western diplomats estimate as many as 10,000 Soviet soldiers have been killed in the war and that tens of thousands have been maimed. The cost of the Soviet involvement is thought to total billions of rubles.

Monday's statement was the first mention by Gorbachev of a specific date for the withdrawal of the Red Army units in Afghanistan

that prop up Najib's government against a widespread insurgency.

Gorbachev said the date of May 15 was fixed for the beginning of the Soviet pullout based on the assumption that U.N. sponsored negotiations in Geneva will reach an agreement no later than March 15.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Gorbachev's statement "sounds like a positive step and we hope it is, but we need to see the fine print (to see if there are any conditions). We've got to know what it means."

Contras to delay peace talks

MIAMI — Contra leaders announced Monday they will delay peace talks with Nicaragua's Sandinista government in the wake of congressional rejection of their aid package.

Contra director Alfredo Cesar said neither the rebels nor Roman Catholic Church leaders mediating the negotiations would be able to attend a meeting scheduled for Wednesday in Guatemala.

The delay will be for only "a few

days or a couple of weeks," said Cesar, who said that Wednesday's meeting date had been tentative in any case.

The Contra leadership also announced a formal fund-raising drive that has already received \$500 from presidential candidate Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., and \$400 from Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.

But Director Adolfo Calero said "private funds can never replace the aid" turned down by Congress.

Navy plans exercise near Korea

WASHINGTON — The United States will conduct naval exercises off the South Korean coast next fall as part of a campaign to deter North Korea from disrupting the Olympic Games in Seoul, administration officials said Monday.

The officials, who agreed to discuss the matter only if not identified, refused to characterize the moves as a military buildup.

The presence of at least one and perhaps two aircraft carriers off the Korean peninsula during the games will be "just a little overt warning that

we're watching them," one source said.

The administration believes the recent announcement by the Soviet Union that its athletes will participate in the games has reduced the possibility that North Korea will take any military action during the contests, the sources said.

Weeks before the games start, aerial and satellite reconnaissance of the region will be stepped up to keep close track of military movements in communist North Korea, the official said.

In Brief

Panel concludes Waldheim knew of atrocities

VIENNA, Austria — President Kurt Waldheim knew of Nazi atrocities during his German army service in the Balkans and did not try to stop them, but there is no proof he committed war crimes, a panel of investigation historians said Monday.

"To deduce that knowledge constitutes some kind of crime is simply not correct," Waldheim said after a meeting with the commission.

"Every person who served in the war knew about the events — not about everything, one person knew more, the other less.... From today's time, it is perhaps easier to criticize if you don't know the surroundings of the time then."

He told Austrian television "I am happy" there was no proof of his participation in war crimes.

Noriega says Poindexter told him of invasion

NEW YORK — Former national security adviser John Poindexter told officials of Panama that the United States planned to invade Nicaragua, indicted Panamanian leader Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega said in an interview broadcast Sunday.

Noriega, who faces U.S. charges that he trafficked in drugs, said on CBS' "60 Minutes" that Poindexter told him in a Dec. 17, 1985, meeting that the United States wanted Panama's cooperation in the invasion.

Strong earthquake shakes Mexico City

MEXICO CITY, Mexico — A strong earthquake shook Mexico City Monday, causing downtown buildings to sway and creak. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The 7:52 a.m. quake lasted for at least 30 seconds, with an intensity of 6.0 on the Richter scale, the National University of Mexico's Tacubaya Seismological Institute reported.

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Are those long walks to class wearing on your feet?

THINK OF YOUR FOOT FUNCTIONING VERY SIMILAR TO THE FRONT END OF YOUR CAR.

When your car's out of alignment
 The tires wear out
 Uneven stress is placed on the frame
 The steering wheel begins to shake
 Soon the car functions so badly, you can't drive it

THE MISALIGNED FOOT DOES THE SAME THING.
 Pressures develop and trouble starts immediately
 Bones move against bones
 Ligaments become stretched
 Soon the entire alignment of your entire body is faulty

SYMPTOMS OF FAULTY FOOT FUNCTION

- localized foot pain
- then bunions, corns, and calluses
- before long, pain in the knees
- hip pain, leg cramps
- back pain
- and even neck pain-headaches
- fatigue

YOU JUST HURT ALL OVER!

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