

First of 1,300 troops land in Panama

PANAMA CITY, Panama — The first of an extra 1,300 U.S. troops arrived Tuesday to increase security for American soldiers and citizens during Panama's political and economic crisis.

A C-141 Starlifter carrying the first contingent of soldiers from Fort Bragg, N.C. landed at 4:30 p.m. CDT at Howard Air Force Base outside Panama City. Nearly 50 flights are expected by the time the deployment is finished Friday.

Reinforcements and a squadron of 26 helicopters are intended by the Reagan administration as a signal to Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, the de facto ruler Washington has been urging to step down. The buildup, ordered last week to counter what the

Pentagon called Noriega's "heavy handed tactics," will raise U.S. troop strength along the Panama Canal to 11,800 officers and men. Noriega commands the 15,000 member Defense Forces.

The reinforcements were sent after reports that U.S. citizens were harassed by Panamanian soldiers in the brief arrest of several American reporters during the police raid on opposition headquarters in the Panama City hotel.

Panama has reportedly accused the Reagan administration of preparing to invade.

The first flight was from Pope Air Force Base, N.C. Officials said they expected at least one heavy cargo plane each hour from Pope and Travis

Air Force Base, Calif.

A statement from the office of Panama's Roman Catholic Archbishop, Marcos Gregorio McGrath, said the government told him it would hold discussions with the opposition, mediated by McGrath.

McGrath was asked to mediate by President Oscar Arias of Costa Rica, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain and former president Daniel Oduber of Costa Rica and Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela.

The civilian government, which Noriega controls, has accused McGrath of siding with the opposition. State-run newspapers have called the archbishop, who was born in Philadelphia, a "tool of the Yankees."

Dukakis gains momentum with win

MILWAUKEE — Michael Dukakis won the Wisconsin primary Tuesday night slowing Jesse Jackson's momentum in the Democratic presidential race and reaching for control in their struggle for the party's 1988 nomination.

The Massachusetts governor also celebrated a narrow victory in Colorado caucuses marked by a slow and controversial count, and added to his slender lead in the competition for delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

Sen. Albert Gore Jr. ran a distant third in Wisconsin despite a costly effort for a breakthrough outside his native South. Illinois Senator Paul Simon was fourth, and seemed likely to suspend active campaigning later in the week.

Dukakis was campaigning in New York City as the Wisconsin returns were counted, hoping his victory would provide a boost when the

nominating wars head into New York and Pennsylvania later this month.

Jackson, campaigning in Arizona said: "I feel good. After 40 contests I've come in number one or number two in three of them. I'm proud of that." He said that after two months of primaries and caucuses, "I'm leading by 300,000 votes" in the overall tabulations.

Jackson campaigned hard in Wisconsin as a follow-up on his Michigan caucus victory late last month. He was on the cover of Time and Newsweek and drew large enthusiastic crowds in the state where whites make up more than 95 percent of the electorate.

NBC said its polling information shows he was gaining less than 25 percent of the white vote, an improvement over 1984.

Vice President George Bush won an overwhelming Wisconsin victory over former television evangelist Pat

Robertson in the Republican race. He won handily in Colorado, as well, as he continued his grand march to nomination at the Republican convention this summer.

Returns from 40 percent of the precinct showed Dukakis gaining 47 percent of the vote, to 31 percent for Jackson. Gore trailed with 16 percent, while Simon had 5 percent.

Bush was winning 85 percent of the vote, to 7 percent for Robertson and campaign drop out Sen. Bob Dole.

Dukakis campaigned hard in search of a victory to silence the critics who said defeats last month in Illinois and Michigan called him to question his ability to attract the blue collar vote a Democrat needs to win the White House in the fall elections.

Jackson aimed for a win in a state where only 4 percent of the voters were Black, reckoning that it would give him dramatic new stature.

In Brief

Shultz: Palestinian state 'makes no sense'

JERUSALEM — Secretary of State George P. Shultz discussed the U.S. peace plan with two Arab leaders at length Tuesday and said "the going is very tough."

Meeting with reporters on the flight back to Jerusalem, he reported no "convergence" with Israel on Mideast negotiations during talks with King Hussein of Jordan in Amman and President Hafez Assad of Syria in Damascus.

Shultz said he brought with him questions from Hussein to present on Wednesday to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Hussein's approval of the plan is considered essential. A senior Israeli defense official said Monday that Israel might be nudged into acting on the plan if Hussein accepts it in principle.

Among points at issue is how negotiations on Palestinian self-rule, which Shultz hopes will begin May 1, would link with talks on a final settlement.

Smuggler says he turned down Panamanian offer

WASHINGTON — A convicted marijuana smuggler told Congress Tuesday of an offer eight years ago by then-Panamanian ruler Omar Torrijos and an aide — Manuel Antonio Noriega — to use an island off Panama for drug shipments.

But the smuggler, Michael P. Vogel, said he and an associate rejected the offer because the two Panamanian leaders "were being extremely, extremely greedy."

Vogel said he traveled to Panama in late 1979 or early 1980 with a Cuban associate who was interested in establishing a shipment base for drugs. They met with Torrijos and Noriega, who now is Panama's military ruler and under U.S. indictment on drug charges, for about three hours, he testified.

"They wanted 'x' amount of dollars for each pound of marijuana," or about \$100,000 per trip, Vogel said, an amount out of proportion for the small shipments he had planned.

FAA investigating parachuting accident

RALEIGH, N.C. — An expert parachutist apparently fell to his death when he jumped from a plane without realizing that he wasn't wearing a parachute, officials say.

Ivan Lester McGuire, 35, of Durham, was carrying video equipment to film a student and an instructor from the Franklin County Sports Parachute Center when he jumped to his death.

Investigators have ruled out suicide and say McGuire, who had made more than 800 jumps, may have made his fatal mistake because he was tired or preoccupied with filming.

"We haven't gotten all the facts yet," said FAA inspector Walter L. Rigsbee.

Hijackers still holding jet

NICOSIA, Cyprus — Arab hijackers Tuesday forced a Kuwait Airways jumbo jet to land in northeastern Iran, threatened to blow it up and demanded that Kuwait release 17 pro-Iranian prisoners. They later released 24 of the 112 passengers.

Iran's official Islamic republic News Agency said without elaboration that the 24 women were released early Wednesday after negotiations with Iran's deputy prime minister, Ali Reza Moayyeri.

Among the other passengers were three members of Kuwait's royal family and a passenger with a U.S. passport, on a flight from Bangkok, Thailand, to Kuwait. The gunmen warned the Kuwaiti royals would be "in imminent danger" if Kuwait refused to free the prisoners, IRNA reported.

The hijackers, brandishing pistols and hand grenades, identified themselves only as Arabs. But their demands echoed those of Iranian-

backed Shiite Moslems holding American hostages in Lebanon.

The Kuwaiti government rejected the hijackers' demand to release 17 prisoners, calling it "blackmail," but said it would listen to other demands, the Kuwait News Agency reported.

After an emergency session, Kuwait's government said it will send a three-man delegation on Wednesday morning "to help Iranian authorities" secure the passengers' release.

Iran asked Kuwait to send a high-ranking delegation to Mashhad in northeastern Iran for direct talks with the hijackers.

The hijackers earlier demanded fuel for the aircraft and threatened to blow it up if the Iranians approached. IRNA initially said the Iranians refused the plane, but then said the gunmen were still requesting fuel.

Iranian security forces surrounded the plane at Mashhad airport to keep it from taking off. IRNA and Tehran Radio said.

Corrections

In "Course focuses on conflicts," (DN April 4) the time Introduction to Conflict Resolutions will be offered was incorrect. The course will be offered next spring.

In the advance about Journalism Days (DN April 5), the length of a speech was incorrect. Phillip Webb will speak today from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and will be available to answer questions afterwards.

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