

U.S. military exercises stir dispute

Korean opinion polls show growing resentment of U.S. soldiers

WONJU, South Korea -- Some of the U.S. soldiers taking part in annual "Team Spirit" exercises with South Korean forces are puzzled and angry about growing anti-American protests in a nation they are helping to defend.

The exercises involving 200,000 South Korean and U.S. troops are becoming increasingly controversial as South Korean radicals demand an end to the U.S. military presence in their country. Opinion polls indicate many ordinary South Koreans have growing reservations about it.

"Many young American soldiers think the same as the Koreans -- they don't want us here and we don't want to be here," said an officer, who declined to be named. "They want to go home."

Some U.S. officers and soldiers say anti-Americanism is creating morale problems, and some don't want to serve in South Korea because they don't feel welcome. They ask why the United States makes a massive defense commitment to a nation where protesters regularly attack U.S. government facilities and stage violent anti-American protests.

A U.S. officer who asked not to be identified said radical students hurled firebombs at an American unit during the exercises around Wonju. The bombs caused no damage and the protesters fled in a car, he said.

"It left a funny feeling," he said.

South Korean and U.S. officials insist anti-Americanism is a minor problem confined to a radical fringe, and that relations between the two nations remain as close as ever. But U.S. soldiers, who are told to avoid wearing uniforms on the streets so as not to offend Koreans, don't agree.

"The command position is that anti-Americanism is a minority view, and the command doesn't want to hear anyone publicly opposing that position," a U.S. Air Force officer said in an interview. "The command keeps saying, in effect, 'Turn the other cheek.' That's not working. Anti-Americanism seems to be increasing and, after a while, you get tired of it."

"Team Spirit," the second-largest exercise staged by U.S. forces, is a symbol of American commitment to South Korea. Every spring the roads around Wonju are jammed with U.S. and South Korean tanks and trucks packed with soldiers.

The exercises have been deadly as well as controversial. Twenty-three U.S. Marines were killed in separate helicopter crashes on Friday and Monday.

Opinion polls indicate many Koreans have doubts about the U.S. military presence and support phasing out American forces. A recent government survey said 59.1 percent support a gradual U.S. withdrawal and 7.2 percent want immediate

withdrawal. Anti-Americanism has bloomed in recent months because of trade friction and a perception that Washington backed past authoritarian governments. Koreans also complain the United States treats their nation as an unimportant satellite despite its enormous economic growth and emergence as an Asian power.

The resentment aimed at U.S. forces is a stunning reversal after years of gratitude for the American military intervention in 1950 that saved the south from a communist invasion by North Korea. U.S. forces remained after the Korean War and 43,000 are based in the south.

U.S. and South Korean leaders insist the American military presence is vital to protect the south from North Korea, which has staged intermittent attacks against the south. On a February visit to Seoul, President Bush said American forces have kept the south free and will remain as long as they are wanted.

An extra 30,000 U.S. troops, including National Guard, Navy and Air Force units, are flown in during "Team Spirit" to practice bringing in U.S. reinforcements in the event of a North Korean attack.

Maj. Bud Bowles of the Hawaii National Guard said some members of his unit were worried about coming to South Korea because of the anti-Americanism.

Transport Secretary denies lax in warning

LONDON -- Embattled Transport Secretary Paul Channon went before a jeering Parliament on Tuesday and denied he was lax in warning airlines of a new type of terrorist bomb before the Pan Am Flight 103 disaster.

Channon, often shouting above calls for his resignation, said that after the jumbo jet was blown apart over Scotland on Dec. 21, he concealed from Parliament for security reasons the international alert about a radio-cassette bomb.

He also said that at the time, he thought the disaster could have been an accident.

"I told Parliament all I could," Channon said during a House of Commons emergency debate, forced by the opposition Labor Party. "In investigations where there are also important security matters it is essential that all of us exercise a certain degree of restraint."

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher rallied to Channon's defense, declaring that "totally unfair accusations have been made against him by lesser men."

But Channon, 54, appeared increasingly defensive, and there

was no sign his appearance in the Commons, after five days of refusing to make a parliamentary statement, would ease the onslaught.

Critics accuse him of muddled and cavalier conduct, of bungling the warnings from West German and U.S. authorities, and of concealing information until it is forced out.

Channon also denied charges that, to try to distract attention from the furor surrounding him, he leaked a false report last week to a group of journalists that police knew the bomber's identity. Journalists disputed this.

The latest controversy follows a newspaper revelation March 16 that the Department of Transport warned British airlines on Nov. 22 about a radio-cassette bomb. A similar bomb destroyed the Pan Am jet over the Scottish village of Lockerbie, killing all 259 people aboard the plane and 11 on the ground.

The Transport Department dated a more detailed warning Dec. 19 but only mailed that to British, U.S. and other foreign airlines operating from British airports in the second week of January, well after the disaster.

Shamir, Peres say peace above party politics

JERUSALEM -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Shimon Peres, his political rival and partner, said Tuesday that peace is above party politics despite a battle within their troubled coalition over talking with the PLO.

Shamir and Peres, who is finance minister and leads the center-left Labor Party, held a news conference after addressing 1,600 international Jewish leaders invited by the government to express solidarity with Israel.

Their appearance followed controversy over the Palestine Liberation Organization inspired by leaks of a secret intelligence report that said local Palestinians would not enter peace talks without the PLO's blessing.

More than 400 Palestinians and at least 17 Israelis have been killed since a Palestinian uprising began more than 15 months ago in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which Israel captured in the 1967 war.

In Tel Aviv on Tuesday, a Palestinian who

brandished a commando knife and shouted "Allah is great!" stabbed an elderly Jewish man and wounded two other people before police shot and captured him, authorities reported.

Soldiers in the occupied Gaza Strip seriously wounded a Palestinian who attacked an army patrol with an ax. Arab witnesses said the patrol tried to stop a wake for a brother killed by the army last week.

Participants in the conference of Jewish leaders suggested privately that Shamir, who leads the conservative Likud bloc, and Peres both support elections to choose Palestinian representatives for peace talks with Israel.

Under such a plan, Israel would accept people who supported PLO positions if they did not hold PLO membership. That could help break the deadlock created by Palestinian insistence on PLO participation and Israel's refusal to deal with the PLO, which it considers

a terrorist organization.

Science Minister Ezer Weizman said Tuesday he would like to meet Yasser Arafat, but said the PLO chairman must show he is a leader who can "deliver" on pledges. Weizman is a Labor Party member known for his outspoken views.

Peres, who once accused Shamir of paralyzing the peace process, emphasized unity at their news conference.

"Every difficulty that we are liable to face in the future will not come from here," he said. "Here, there is readiness to unite as much as possible to advance peace."

"I wouldn't like there to be anyone among us, whether he belongs to the Likud or Labor, who will think that because of internal conflicts we couldn't get things started."

Shamir will visit the United States with new peace proposals in two weeks. The conference of Jewish leaders appeared designed to bolster

Israel's position against mounting U.S. pressure for more flexible positions.

The prime minister said of the meeting: "There are various opinions, but we can say that all these people... are ready to support the decisions of the Israeli government even if they don't fully agree with its opinions."

He and Peres differ on such issues as withdrawal from occupied land, and Peres told the Jewish leaders: "I know deep in my heart that we shall not be able to achieve peace without a historic compromise involving a rearrangement of territories and boundaries."

Last week, Shamir said the peace plan he presents in Washington will not include territorial concessions.

They appear to have moved closer, however, on proposed elections in the occupied lands and on Palestinian autonomy as an interim measure.

Adams released in cop killing case after 12 1/2 years in prison

DALLAS -- Randall Dale Adams, who once was three days from execution for the slaying of a police officer, was freed Tuesday under a court ruling that he didn't get a fair trial.

"This is something I've dreamed about for 12 1/2 years," Adams said after the release order was cleared by some last-minute legal action. "It's

here, but give me a little bit of time to think about it."

Adams, whose conviction was questioned in the documentary film "The Thin Blue Line," said he was happy that two courts ruled in his favor but won't feel vindicated unless his name is cleared in a second trial.

"I still would like to have had the

trial, but that's not up to me. That's up to the state of Texas," he told reporters.

Adams has said he plans to join his family in Columbus, Ohio, after a few days with his attorney, Randy Schaffer, in Houston.

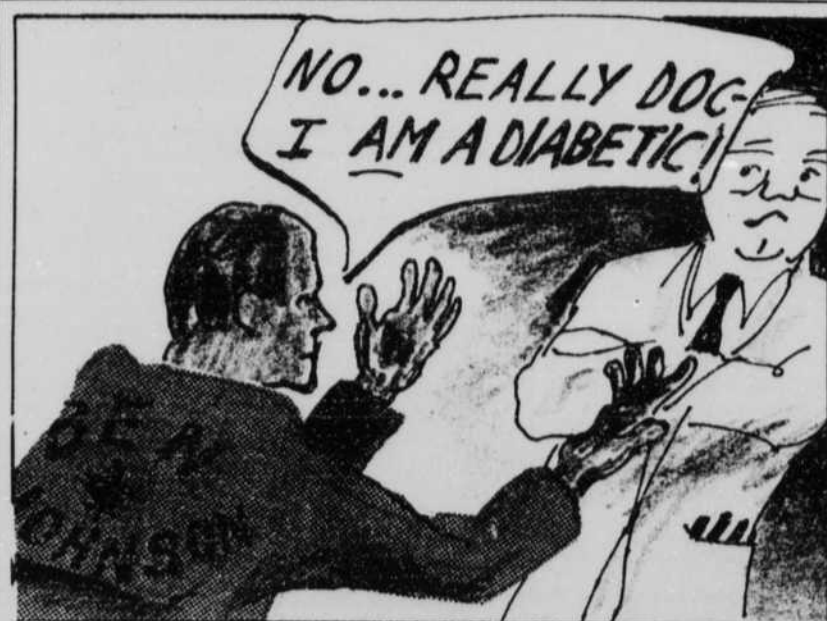
Prosecutors said Monday they are

prepared to try Adams again for the 1976 shooting of Dallas patrolman Robert Wood, but have not decided whether to pursue the case.

"The Thin Blue Line" suggested the slaying was committed by the prosecution's chief witness, David Harris, who is on death row for an-

other slaying but was not charged in the killing of Wood. During a hearing in December, Harris recanted his trial testimony and said that Adams did not kill the policeman.

Adams was condemned to die in 1977, but the sentence was commuted to life in prison in 1980.



Andy Manhart/Daily Nebraskan

OLYMPIC "MIGHT-HAVE-BEENS"

Chromium steroid substitute may bring bulky body benefits

NEW ORLEANS -- A new form of chromium could help athletes beef up their bodies without dangerous anabolic steroids, enable diabetics to use less insulin and cut cholesterol, a researcher said Tuesday.

Gary Evans, a chemistry professor at Bemidji State University in Minnesota, discussed the possible benefits of "chromium picolinate" during a meeting of the Federation of the American Societies for Experimental Biology.

Two studies at Bemidji State found that the compound "bulked up" muscle and cut down body fat, he said. In one study, football players on the same exercise programs took either chromium picolinate or a placebo.

Those taking the chromium picolinate showed an average 42 percent greater growth in lean body mass and a 22 percent drop in total body fat, compared to a 1.06 percent drop for the control group, he said.

"When used in recommended quantities, it appears that chromium picolinate achieves the results similar to those of anabolic steroids, and that the nutrient is a safe, effective substitute," he said.

"This is the type of research we hope will eventually give athletes alternatives to steroids," said Bob Goldman, head of some organizations that deal with sports medicine and chief physician for the International Federation of Body Builders.

Daily Nebraskan

Editor: Curt Wagner 472-1766
Managing Editor: Jane Hirt
Assoc. News Editors: Lee Rood, Bob Nelson
Editorial: Amy Edwards
Page Editor: Diana Johnson
Wire Editor: Chuck Green
Copy Desk Editor: Jeff Apel
Sports Editor: Micki Haller
Arts & Entertainment Editor: Joeth Zucco
Diversions Editor: Tim Hartmann
Graphics Editor: Tim Hartmann
The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE. Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during summer sessions. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Tom Macy, 475-9868. Subscription price is \$45 for one year. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE. ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 1989 DAILY NEBRASKA