

Iraq warns trapped Westerners

Iraq tightened the screws on trapped Westerners on Thursday, warning that anyone trying to leave without permission could face life in prison. The Soviet Union for the first time called for sending a U.N. military force to the Persian Gulf.

Washington and Moscow, meanwhile, scrambled to prepare for the weekend superpower summit they hope will bring a break in the 5-week-old crisis.

At the United Nations, diplomats said U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar planned to send an envoy to occupied Kuwait to meet with diplomats whose embassies are surrounded by Iraqi troops, and with trapped foreigners. Baghdad would have to give its consent for the visit.

The State Department again blasted Iraq for its treatment of foreign nationals, including the shooting of an American in Kuwait who was trying to avoid capture. Department spokesman Mark Dillen called Iraq's behavior "outrageous."

As the United States redoubled its efforts to win financial support for the huge military effort, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher pledged more forces to bolster the U.S. contingent in the gulf. She did not elaborate on the deployment plans.

Egypt, too, said it was beefing up its small gulf contingent.

President Bush said the United States was determined to force Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait, which Iraqi troops overran Aug. 2 in a dispute over land,

money and oil. "We will not stand by while one country devours another unthreatening country whole," Bush said at a Kansas fundraiser. "Our cause may not be easy, but it will always be right."

In a surprise move, Bush he would make a statement for broadcast to the Iraqi people, saying he saw "a real opportunity" to explain the U.S. view. Baghdad had offered to broadcast an interview with Bush, but the White House said the president would tape a statement instead.

Statements by the Iraqi president -- which White House wags call "Saddamathons" -- have received ample air time in the United States, and the Bush administration was reportedly irritated about this.

Word that Moscow favors a U.N. military force in the Persian Gulf came from Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov. He indicated Mikhail S. Gorbachev may discuss the idea with Bush at their summit Sunday in Helsinki, Finland.

Previously, the Soviets had said only that they might participate if the United Nations decided to deploy a military force.

"We have to go back to the U.N. charter and revive certain clauses of this charter . . . which may have armed forces -- international armed forces -- at its disposal so as to keep international peace and security," Gerasimov told reporters.

The change in the Soviet stance came a day after Iraq's foreign minis-

ter, Tariq Aziz, met with Gorbachev and displayed no softening in Iraq's refusal to leave Kuwait. Moscow and Baghdad were longtime allies, but Gorbachev has condemned the Kuwait invasion as "treachery."

Expenses are mounting daily for the U.S. military deployment, and Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady arrived Thursday in Seoul, South Korea, the latest stop on a tour to press allies for funds. Secretary of State James A. Baker III was making the same pitch in Saudi Arabia, where the bulk of the U.S. force is deployed.

In Iraq, the outlook grew grimmer for trapped foreigners. Baghdad said those caught trying to leave without permission could face life in prison.

Justice Minister Akram Abdul-Kader said authorities were reviving a 1987 law that "a foreigner violating the entry and exit procedures . . . will be sentenced to life or temporary imprisonment, and all cash in his possession will be confiscated."

The State Department said Iraqi authorities had informed U.S. officials that an American shot by Iraqi police in Kuwait was expected to be discharged from a hospital shortly but will remain in Iraqi custody. The department spokesman, Dillen, said the American was wounded while attempting to evade capture at his apartment in Kuwait City.

"We hold the Iraqi government responsible for the health and welfare of all American citizens held against their will in Kuwait and Iraq," Dillen said.

in brief

NEWS

County attorney suspended

Deputy Lancaster County Attorney Jim Elworth was suspended from his job after he allegedly knocked down a private attorney during a confrontation at the County-City Building.

Lancaster County Attorney Mike Heavican said Elworth has been suspended until Monday, when there will be a meeting to determine his future with the office.

"Obviously one of the actions we have to look at is termination because we certainly can't condone that kind of conduct," he said.

Heavican said Elworth and private attorney Hal Anderson apparently got into a dispute Wednesday afternoon after a District Court hearing concerning the forfeiture to the state of \$786 involved in a drug case.

While standing in front of the county attorney's office, the two exchanged words and then Elworth apparently pushed Anderson, knocking him down, Heavican said.

Heavican said it was his understanding that no punches were thrown.

Disorder linked to genes

BOSTON - Scientists have discovered two defective genes that cause dangerous thickening of the heart, the leading medical cause of sudden death among young athletes.

Glitches in these genes result in an inherited disorder known as familial hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. Victims are prone to suffer heart rhythm problems and heart failure or to die suddenly from cardiac arrest.

Among the most notable victims of cardiomyopathy was basketball star Hank Gathers of Loyola Marymount, who collapsed during a game in March. Experts are uncertain, however, whether he had the inherited form of the disease.

The latest discovery by researchers at Harvard Medical School is the first time scientists have pinpointed the precise genes responsible for an inherited abnormality of the heart itself.

Cardiomyopathy causes thickening of the walls of the heart. While familial hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is rare -- affecting about three in 100,000 people -- other forms are common side effects of a variety of diseases, including high blood pressure.

Art gallery will stand trial

CINCINNATI - A judge ruled Thursday that an art gallery and its director must stand trial later this month on obscenity charges for displaying five sexually graphic photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe.

Dennis Barrie and the Contemporary Arts Center already were using children in material involving nudity. The obscenity case will be heard the same day.

In his ruling Thursday, Hamilton County Municipal Judge David Albanese rejected a defense request to dismiss the obscenity charge. Defense lawyers had contended that the pictures were a legitimate art exhibition and immune from Ohio's obscenity law.

"That is contrary to the . . . law," Albanese said. "The affirmative defenses and issues of credibility are for the trier of the case to decide."

Albanese on Thursday also granted a prosecution request to limit the obscenity case to the five photographs described in the indictment against Barrie and the center.

He rejected defense claims that the jury had to consider all of the photos in the exhibition -- including shots of flowers and sculpture -- because the show was a survey of Mapplethorpe's life.

"The court finds that each photograph has a separate identity."

He said prosecutors only have to prove that one of the photographs is obscene to win a conviction.

Catholics condemn bigotry

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia - Roman Catholic leaders Thursday condemned anti-Semitism and racism as they closed a Catholic-Jewish conference that looked at growing anti-Semitic incidents in Eastern Europe.

A statement issued during the four-day meeting said delegates from 16 nations gave special attention to "recent manifestations of anti-Semitism" in former Eastern Bloc nations since the fall of tightly run Communist societies.

The statement came at the end of the first formal meeting in five years of the Pontifical Commission on Religious Relations with the Jews and the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations.

The six-point plan to fight anti-Semitism includes omission of racially or religiously divisive material from textbooks, establishment of courses for priests to counter anti-Jewish sentiment, and monitoring of all outbreaks of so-called hate crimes against Jews.

The plan also recommended swift translation and dissemination of recent Vatican statements of Catholic-Jewish relations. Eastern European churches lacked either permission or resources to publish these documents.

Student holds six middle schoolers hostage in school

CUMMING, Ga. - A high school sophomore held a half-dozen classmates at gunpoint for several hours Thursday, demanding such things as soft drinks, candy and a school bus before finally surrendering to police.

Forsyth County Sheriff Wesley Walraven said the youth surrendered shortly before 2 p.m., about 5 1/2 hours after the incident began.

There were no injuries reported.

The hostages were middle school pupils attending the combined South Forsyth middle school-high school, said Joyce Shadburn, a spokeswoman for the county's school superintendent. The boy who took the other hostage attended the high school, she said.

Shadburn said the boy, whose name was not immediately released, fired one shot in the classroom shortly after classes began for the day.

Authorities gave no details of what kind of gun or guns was involved.

Though the boy allowed some girls to go free in exchange for candy and soda, he kept about six boys in the classroom for several hours more, authorities said.

Shadburn said the boy's only other demand was for a school bus. A bus had been taken to the scene, she said.

One of the freed girls, Shelly Dixon, said the boy told "us to stand up and put our hands on our heads."

"He started cussing at us. He said if we said anything, he'd shoot us," Dixon said.

Capt. Jerry Padgett of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Department said the situation generally stayed calm as authorities negotiated with the student.

The sheriff's department was called in by the school around 8:30 a.m.

Other students were evacuated from the school, and streets in the area were blocked, authorities said. "They have the area barricaded off. It's not in a residential area."

The school is located about five miles south of Cumming, a town of 2,100 north of Atlanta.

St. Paul United Methodist Church

College Students: Sunday School
9:30 a.m.
Worship
11:00 a.m.



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St. Paul United Methodist Church

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