

## Bush lambastes Congress, calls for end to privileges

WASHINGTON — President Bush on Thursday blasted Congress as a "privileged class of rulers," above the laws it passes for others, and pressed lawmakers to revoke their special exemptions.

Seizing on the anti-Congress mood that followed the recent Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings in the Senate, Bush declared that lawmakers' practice of freeing themselves from compliance with many laws "shatters public confidence in government."

"I would wager that the American people do not know that Congress has exempted itself from the sexual harassment laws private employers and the executive branch must obey," the

president said in a broad speech attacking congressional practices.

"The bruising hearings showed what happens when political factions let agendas overwhelm personal decency," the president said.

With their "X-rated statements," the hearings made the Senate "more like a burlesque show than a civics class," he told an audience of three good-government groups — the American Society for Public Administration, the National Academy of Public Administration and the Council for Excellence in Government.

He demanded that Congress appoint a special counsel to find by Jan. 3 who leaked Anita Hill's sexual harassment accusations while the



Brian Shellito/DN

Senate was preparing to confirm Thomas to serve on the Supreme Court. As Bush spoke, the Senate already was moving toward a vote on a broader special counsel investigation — passed 86-12 Thursday afternoon.

Bush also said Congress should set a six-week time limit on confirming his nominees to government posts.

## North, South Korea reach outline for reconciliation

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea, whose 1950 invasion of South Korea started a war that has never formally ended, agreed Thursday to stop trying to overthrow its neighbor and accepted a framework for seeking reconciliation.

Although specific language remained to be worked out, North Korea also pledged to renounce terrorism and to work toward uniting millions of Koreans separated since the Korean Peninsula was divided after World War II.

Officials of both sides hailed the agreement as historic and expressed hope for more progress at the next round of high-level talks in Seoul in December. But differences between the rivals are wide-ranging and mu-

tual distrust is deep.

Both Koreas have been under pressure from their allies to defuse tensions on the heavily militarized peninsula.

It was the second move toward peace on long-standing Asian conflicts in as many days. On Wednesday, the four warring factions of Cambodia signed a peace treaty that is designed to end a 13-year-old civil war and bring free elections under U.N. supervision in 18 months.

The Korean agreement came in talks held in North Korea's capital, Pyongyang, between the prime ministers of the two Koreas, which have been bitterly divided into Communist North and capitalist South since 1945.

## White House, GOP bargain on civil rights

WASHINGTON — Republican senators bargained with the White House in private Thursday in the hope of forging a unified position on a civil rights bill. The Senate stalled for time to await the outcome.

Negotiations toward a deal that would avert a threatened veto by President Bush heightened in intensity.

Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole brought together White House counsel C. Boyden Gray and key GOP senators, including Sen. John Danforth, R-Mo., the chief civil rights sponsor.

One Republican source said a tentative agreement had been reached between the White House and leading GOP senators on a key provision that has been in dispute for months. The tentative deal could not be immediately confirmed.

It concerned a narrow but intense argument over legal language setting standards of defense that employers could use against suits alleging unintentional discrimination, said the source.

Such an agreement could represent a breakthrough if embraced by the majority Democrats and leading GOP Senate sponsors. It apparently would not resolve other outstanding issues, such as damages for victims of

sexual harassment and sexual discrimination, and the question of covering congressional employees.

Danforth spokesman Steve Hilton said "some progress has been made," but that there was not a final agreement. He said other areas of the bill also remain under discussion.

"All parties to the discussions understand that nothing is agreed to until everything is agreed to," Hilton said.

Democrats weren't involved in the negotiations on the so-called "business necessity" defense for employers, the source said.

The developments came after Gray, the White House counsel, and his assistant met for several hours with a large group of GOP senators. They later met with a smaller group of GOP senators, including Dole and Danforth.

Only a day earlier, the White House had renewed its attack on Danforth's measure as "a quota bill."

Danforth and other GOP supporters had been seeking an agreement that would avert a repeat of last year's veto by Bush of a similar bill. Supporters in both parties focused efforts on trying to either find a bill that both Bush and a majority of the Senate could support, or a version that would attract a two-thirds majority that could override a Bush veto.

## Doctor draws praise, threats

PONTIAC, Mich. — Two more deaths aided by a suicide-machine inventor known as "Dr. Death" drew praise Thursday from a right-to-die organization and threats from officials to revoke his license and charge him in the deaths.

Dr. Jack Kevorkian, who in 1990 helped Alzheimer's patient Janet Adkins die by hooking her up to a suicide machine he built, called authorities Wednesday night to report another "physician-assisted suicide."

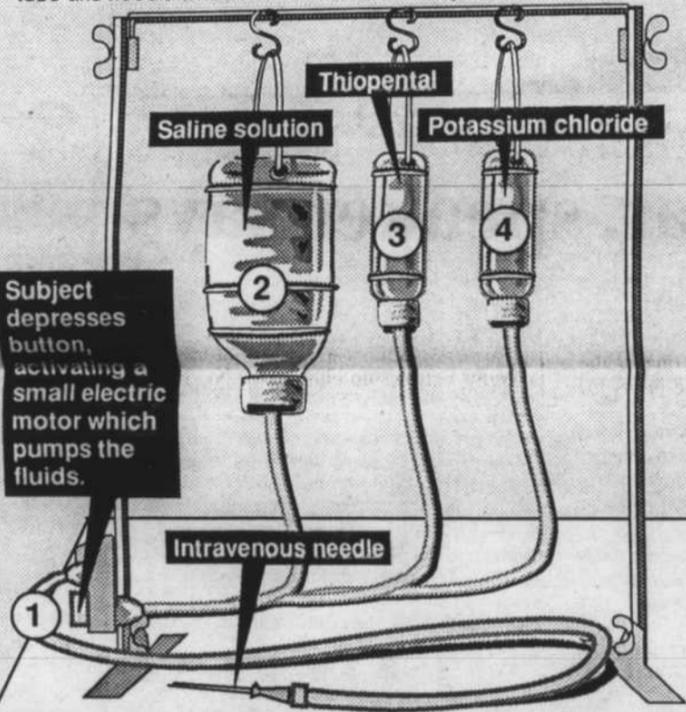
Kevorkian directed police to a cabin about 40 miles north of Detroit. There, they were met by him and found the bodies of two women, both connected to devices apparently used to end their lives.

Sherry Miller, 43, of Roseville had suffered from multiple sclerosis. Marjorie Wantz, 58, of Sodus suffered from a painful but non-terminal pelvic disease.

Wantz received a lethal injection using a device similar to the one Adkins used, while Miller inhaled carbon monoxide through a mask, said Geoffrey Fieger, Kevorkian's lawyer.

### Dr. Kevorkian's suicide machine

The suicide machine consists of two vials of chemical poisons and a bottle of saline solution suspended over a metal box containing an electric motor. This apparatus is connected to an intravenous drip tube and needle which is inserted into the subject's vein.



- 1 The subject presses a button which activates the flow of fluids.
- 2 Saline solution is released acting as a neutral vehicle for the other chemicals.
- 3 Thiopental is released, inducing unconsciousness.
- 4 Potassium chloride follows, causing the heart to stop.

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Subscription price is \$50 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.  
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## Yugoslav forces pound Croats at historic city

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia — Serb-dominated Yugoslav forces pounded Croatian defenses around the Adriatic jewel of Dubrovnik on Thursday and captured a key resort just to the south before a cease-fire in the area was announced.

European Community observers said federal army and Croatian defense officials agreed to the cease-fire in the Dubrovnik region, effective early Thursday evening.

Fierce fighting was reportedly continuing elsewhere in secessionist Croatia. Radio Zagreb said two civilians were killed in clashes that appeared to signal the collapse of an EC-negotiated truce for the republic as a whole that went into effect Saturday.

Croatia declared independence from Yugoslavia along with Slovenia on June 25, but Croatia's ethnic Serb minority wants no part of an independent Croatia. The federal army has sided with the Serb rebels. More

than 1,000 people have died in the fighting.

In the latest battles, Croatian defense officials said the federal army resumed shelling of the eastern Croatian stronghold of Vukovar.

In a no-man's land outside Vukovar, dozens of unburied corpses of both Croats and Serbs lie on a dirt track leading through cornfields, gnawed on by stray dogs and hungry pigs.

Karlovac, 30 miles southwest of Zagreb, came under fire from multiple-barreled rocket launchers, Croatian defense officials said, and Zagreb radio reported fierce fighting on the central front near Pakrac, 70 miles southeast of the Croat capital.

Shelling was reported in Osijek, 140 miles east of the Croatian capital, and fighting was reported near the strategic town of Sisak, directly south of Zagreb, and near Vinkovci, a Croatian town 10 miles west of Vukovar.



Dubrovnik, a walled city of ornate marble architecture, remains much as it was in the 15th century. The threatened city is of great historic significance to Croatia. Here is a brief history.

- 7th century Dubrovnik established
- 1205-1358 Ruled by Venetians
- 1358 Controlled by Hungarian-Croatian Kingdom which allowed Dubrovnik to evolve into a free and independent state. In later years Dubrovnik paid gold and silver to Ottoman empire in exchange for being left alone

- 15th and 16th centuries Republic of Dubrovnik reached economic height thanks to shipping industry
- 1667 Severe earthquake and changing shipping routes cause downturn in economy
- 1806 Sacked by Napoleon
- 1808 Dubrovnik Republic ceased to exist
- 1815-1918 Administered by the Austrian Empire
- 1918 Included in the newly formed Yugoslavia