

Cheney says U.S. won't be bogged down

WASHINGTON — U.S. troops may round up and disarm the warring Somali gunmen who block the delivery of aid to the starving, Defense Secretary Dick Cheney said Sunday, but he insisted Americans will not get bogged down in a guerrilla war.

Cheney, in an appearance on NBC's "Meet the Press," said the first order of business for 30,000 troops being sent to Somalia will be to "restore some semblance of order," and that means dealing with the guns, mortars, artillery and other weaponry amassed by the nation's warlords.

"We may well want to go in and round up troops or weapons. We might want to offer a bounty" so people turn in their guns, Cheney said.

"We will be concerned about any potential military threat to our own forces, to the relief workers, and we

First Pentagon step in Somalia may be to round up gunmen

will, in fact, have to deal with some of those elements in order to achieve our objective," Cheney said.

Marine Commandant Carl Mundy echoed Cheney's comments, saying he hoped U.S. troops encounter "a peaceful disarmament," but will be ready to meet any challenge if they don't.

"We are prepared to take whatever measures we have to to achieve disarmament," the four-star general said in an appearance on ABC's "This Week With David Brinkley."

The Marine general said he believed U.S. forces in the region will begin moving into Somalia "in about two days."

The troops will be allowed to return fire if fired upon, and also will be allowed to shoot first should someone even appear to be making threatening moves, Mundy said.

They may "need to fire because . . . someone's pointing a weapon at you, a machine gun or a tank (is) coming towards you or something, and they'll be able to engage," the general said.

Neither Cheney nor Mundy said they viewed the U.S. role as "rounding up every AK-47 in Somalia," nor remaining until peace returns to the devastated nation.

"If you're looking for the United States to stay until all Somalia's problems are solved — it's not going to

happen," Cheney said.

He said U.S. officials hoped to begin turning some areas of Somalia over to U.N. peacekeepers by the end of next month.

Queried about the possibility that U.S. forces might end up in a lengthy guerrilla conflict, Cheney responded, "I think that's dead wrong."

He refused to specify any date for a U.S. departure, but said, "the idea of leaving a large U.S. combat force for a long time in Somalia is not a valid one."

National security adviser Brent Scowcroft, interviewed on CBS-TV's "Face The Nation," said the U.S. role in the operation "is strictly limited"

and hopefully will prepare a ground-work of peace so Somalia can rebuild a government structure.

Scowcroft said, however, that at least "a few thousand" U.S. military personnel may be called upon to remain in Somalia after the U.S. ground troops depart.

They would be logistics specialists who would help provide support for any U.N. follow-on forces, Scowcroft said, because of the dire conditions in Somalia and the lack of such basics as fuel and water.

Meanwhile, the Navy announced that it had ordered the Baltimore-based hospital ship USNS Comfort to begin preparations to deploy to Somalia.

The ship is expected to get underway from Baltimore in three to four days.

Anarchy rules in Somalia as Marines prepare offshore

MOGADISHU, Somalia — With armed guards riding shotgun, relief workers Sunday broke a month-old siege of Mogadishu's port and sent 100 trucks loaded with food roaring off the docks to the isolated northern half of the capital.

More desperately needed food made it to the central city of Bardera, where three relief planes landed as aid workers were down to their last 25 sacks of grain. It was the first food to reach Bardera in nine days, but was not soon enough to save the 160 people who died of starvation there Saturday, said Ian MacLeod, a U.N. aid spokesman.

But Somalia's anarchy still made it difficult for relief groups to get help to starving Somalis in inland areas, even as 1,800 U.S. Marines

made final preparations to come ashore to begin an armed, U.N.-mandated mercy mission.

Aid groups planned to parachute food to tens of thousands of people in villages around Bardera who are trapped by land mines surrounding the city. The international relief agency CARE said the airdrops, using C-130 cargo planes, would be an interim measure until the situation around Bardera calms.

Relief agencies have cut back staff in Bardera and in nearby Baidoa, where gangs of militiamen have reportedly gone on looting sprees and threatened more attacks. Five Somalis guarding a CARE convoy in Baidoa were killed last week in a looting attack, and the agency was

down to three workers in the city on Sunday.

Some 28,150 soldiers from the United States and other nations are expected to participate in the operation to restore order and guard food shipments. The first detachment of the more than 2,000 French soldiers earmarked for the force will be ready to go Monday, Defense Minister Pierre Joxe said in Paris. Egypt, Turkey and Mauritania also announced they will send troops.

Somalia has descended into chaos since rebels drove dictator Mohamed Siad Barre from power nearly two years ago. Central authority collapsed, and drought and warfare have ravaged the nation.

About 300,000 Somalis have died this year

from starvation, disease and the fighting. An additional 250,000 could die by the end of the year without help. Some 2 million people, or one-third of the population, are at risk of starvation.

Aid agencies estimate at least half the food donated to Somalia so far has been stolen.

In Mogadishu Sunday, relief workers reopened the port and got food from one end of the divided city to the other unscathed for the first time in more than a month.

Arranging the convoys took two days of negotiations between the two rival clan militias that control halves of the city, but their success raised hopes that more of the food sitting in warehouses would soon reach the hungry.

Earthquake faults discovered under downtown Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES — Two previously unknown earthquake faults have been discovered in downtown Los Angeles, passing beneath skyscrapers, along the Hollywood Freeway and near Dodger Stadium, geologists said Sunday.

If the faults are active, they could produce quakes measuring 5.5 to 6.5 on the Richter scale.

That would "be very damaging because they are so close to major population centers," said geologist Jim Dolan of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

Of more concern is the possibility that the newly discovered Echo Park and MacArthur Park faults may be connected to and rupture at the same time as the deeper Elysian Park fault, which was discovered five years ago, Dolan said.

Scientists believe the Elysian Park fault could produce a quake measuring at least 7 right under downtown Los Angeles. Dolan said existence of the shallower faults suggests the

deeper fault is active.

"If you find a live flea on top of a dog, it's likely that dog is alive too," said Caltech geology professor Kerry Sieh, who discovered the new faults with Dolan and San Diego State University geologist Thomas Rockwell.

Government studies have said that even a magnitude-6.5 quake centered under Los Angeles could be far more deadly and damaging than a quake measuring 7.5 to 8.3 on the more notorious San Andreas fault, which is about 35 miles from downtown.

A decade-old federal study said such a San Andreas quake, dubbed the "Big One" in local parlance, could kill up to 14,000 people, although that estimate is now considered high.

Other scientists said the discovery only slightly aggravates Los Angeles' already high quake risk.

"There are so many faults throughout the L.A. area that adding two more doesn't really significantly heighten the hazard," said Jim Mori, scientist in charge of the U.S. Geological Survey's Pasadena office.

China goes on arms spending spree

WASHINGTON — China is engaging in a flurry of arms dealing, apparently fearing that the incoming Clinton administration will try to take a harder line toward the lucrative weapons trade.

The arms activity — with China at the hub — involves Russia, Libya, Syria, Iran and Pakistan, and deals for missile and other weapons technology, government sources said.

"It's like the end of a fireworks show. They're throwing everything up there," said one official, speaking only on condition of anonymity.

The arms deals have left U.S. national security policymakers wary of a proposed sale of a Cray supercomputer to Beijing.

The computer would be more than one hundred times faster than the most powerful computer the Chinese now have.

Friday, top Bush administration officials postponed a decision on whether to go ahead with the sale while they consider the weapons activity and whether the computer

might have military uses.

One official said it appears that Beijing believes the incoming Clinton administration will take a far harder line toward its arms exports, and is trying to do as much business as possible before the new administration takes over in January.

As evidence, the official cited the recent Chinese shipment of two dozen M-11 missiles to Pakistan. The missiles were shipped through a port which the Chinese know is watched by U.S. intelligence.

"That's got to mean they don't think we care," the official said. "They're trying to get this done before Clinton comes in."

China is buying weaponry from Russia, whose own arms industry is suffering a depression as the government dramatically cuts its military strength, and re-exporting it to other countries, the official said.

"There is an explosion of deals in the making, and the Chinese are clearly No. 1 in the middle of it," said one source.

On the proposed U.S. computer sale, Commerce Secretary Barbara Franklin had planned to announce a decision during a trip to Beijing 10 days from now. The computer is intended for weather forecasting, and is to be kept under tight security to make sure it is not put to other purposes.

One congressional source said the high-speed computer could be used to help China enhance its targeting of missiles, or to modernize its nuclear weapons guidance systems.

"Nobody believes this kind of thing could be secure," he said.

In Friday's meeting, officials from Commerce and the State Department argued for the sale, while the Pentagon, the CIA, and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency opposed it.

Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, the senior Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, dashed off a letter to President Bush to complain about the contemplated sale.

Work at the Daily Nebraskan.

Get free hugs!*



The Daily Nebraskan is now accepting applications for artists, copy editors, photographers and reporters for the news, sports and arts & entertainment sections for the spring staff. Pick up an application and sign up for an interview at the DN office, 34 Nebraska Union.

* Sometimes, when people are in bad moods, there are no free hugs available. But if you feel good about yourself, who cares what other people think? UNL does not discriminate in its academic, admissions or employment programs and abides by all Federal regulations pertaining to the same.

Daily Nebraskan

Editor **Chris Hopfensperger**
472-1766
Managing Editor **Kris Karnopp**
Assoc. News Editors **Adeana Letlin**
Assoc. News Editor **Wendy Navratil**
Writing Coach
Editorial Page Editor **Dionne Searcey**
Art Director **Scott Maurer**
General Manager **Dan Shattil**
Production Manager **Katharine Policky**
Advertising Manager **Todd Sears**
Senior Acct. Exec. **Jay Cruse**
Classified Ad Manager **Karen Jackson**
Publications Board
Chairman **Tom Massey**
488-8761
Professional Adviser **Don Walton**
473-7301

FAX NUMBER 472-1761
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 Massey, 488-8761. 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.
ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT
1992 DAILY NEBRASKAN