

Iraq denies shooting, says cease-fire in effect

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq denied its anti-aircraft batteries fired at U.S. warplanes again and insisted Sunday that the cease-fire it declared last week remained in effect.



The claims came a day after U.S. warplanes attacked Iraqi missile sites for the third consecutive day.

In Washington, Defense Secretary Les Aspin said it was not certain the Iraqis opened fire Saturday night in the southern "no fly" zone, but he stressed the pilot thought he was shot at.

U.S. military spokesmen stood by the report that American planes were fired on, and a

second pilot on the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk reported seeing gun flashes. Aspin also reported that there was "some indication" that Iraqi troops were preparing new sites for anti-aircraft missiles in southern Iraq, despite allied warnings to keep such weapons out of the air exclusion zone. But "it's a little soon to make definitive judgments," he said.

Iraq's information minister, Hamed Yousef Hummadi, called for "pragmatic, businesslike discussion" with the United States, and government-run newspapers invited President Clinton to settle disputes through dialogue.

In an interview with CNN, Hummadi said the recent U.S. attacks were "minor ones, and we are committed to the cease-fire." But if attacks continue, the two sides could be in for a difficult time, he said.

Croatia's surprise attack ends but fear of wider war heightened

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP) — Croatia said it ended a surprise offensive that shattered a year of calm with rebel Serbs, but fighting raged near the port of Zadar and there were reports of battles farther south Sunday.

Fierce fighting also was reported in eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina, where Muslims forces are trying to clear Bosnian Serb troops from a region along the border with Serbia. Fighting between Muslims and Croats was reported in central Bosnia.

The upsurge in fighting and tough words from leaders of all ethnic factions in the former Yugoslav federation threatened to undo international peace talks and heightened fears of a wider war in the Balkans.

In Geneva, where leaders of the factions met to discuss a peace plan for Bosnia, Yugoslav

President Dobrica Cosic demanded the U.N. Security Council condemn the Croatian attacks and insisted Croatia withdraw its soldiers from areas seized from Serb militants.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman said in an interview with Croatian TV that his troops attacked Friday out of frustration over Serb refusals to allow reconstruction of a bridge at Maslenica, northeast of Zadar.

Before Friday, Serbs held one end of the bridge and Croats the other. The bridge is on the only land route linking Zagreb, Croatia's capital, with the Dalmatia region along the Adriatic coast.

Croatian troops apparently seized the other end of the bridge and made other gains in territory occupied by the rebels.

"This action is now over," Tudjman said. But he said Croatian troops would not give up their gains.

WORLD WIRE

Coalition troops kill 3 Somalis, wound 5 others

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Three Somalis were killed and at least five were wounded in clashes Sunday with troops of a U.S.-led coalition trying to safeguard efforts to feed the country's starving.

Despite the presence of more than 38,000 allied troops, Somalia remains dangerous. In the volatile southern port city of Kismayu, three people were slain on Sunday.

The violence led Col. Marc Jacquelin, the commander of Belgian troops here, to warn development officials from the European Community and Belgium not to visit Kismayu as they had planned.

Belgian Development Minister Eric Derycke, who was to visit Kismayu on

Monday, is visiting to see if it is safe to re-establish an EC presence. EC delegates were evacuated in 1991, along with most foreign diplomats and aid workers, as the country slipped into chaos.

In Brussels, the aid group Doctors Without Borders announced it had evacuated seven of its nine volunteers from Kismayu to Nairobi after a demonstration Saturday protesting the presence of foreigners became violent. Shots were fired and stones were hurled at cars of the relief group.

It was not clear if the demonstration was spontaneous or staged by a local warlord opposed to the presence of the allied troops.

First black Supreme Court Justice Marshall dies

WASHINGTON (AP) — Retired Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall died Sunday of heart failure. He was 84.

Marshall died at 2 p.m. at Bethesda Naval Hospital in the Washington suburbs.

Marshall, who had been in failing health, left the court in July 1991.

The first black justice of the Supreme Court, he made his mark as a champion of civil liberties for all.

Marshall was appointed to the court on June 13, 1967, by President Lyndon B.

Johnson, climaxing a career as a civil rights lawyer, appeals court judge and U.S. solicitor general.

Among some of the more important decisions written by Marshall for the high court were those saying that shopping center owners' rights to restrict demonstrations were limited; that a teacher cannot be fired for speaking out truthfully on public issues; that possessing obscene material within the privacy of one's own home cannot be made a crime.

Residence Hall Association passes budget, funds to be allocated for retreat program

By George K. Stephan Staff Reporter

The Residence Hall Association passed its spring semester budget Sunday night, allocating funds for a retreat program that members hoped would help them learn from other universities' residence halls.

The budget provided \$750 to the program, which will send RHA members on a visit to the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kan., on March 6 and 7.

RHA officers said they would try to find ways to improve UNL residence halls by comparing them to KU's government programs and halls.

The budget listed RHA's income for the

spring semester as \$22,872, making the association's active funds \$31,363, \$17,154 of which will be divided among each resident hall's government.

In other business, two positions were filled. RHA members Andrea Casart and Eric Kaldahl were approved as National Communications Coordinator and 1993 Election Commissioner, respectively.

Funding for an alcohol awareness night at Selleck Residence Hall on Feb. 3 was also approved.

Money will go toward advertising and supplying the dinner, speaker and activities designed to teach students to be responsible while using alcohol.

Several halls announced preparations for promoting Black History Month in February through various programs promoting residents' awareness of black history.

GLC

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the Lied Center for Performing Arts. Lynch said the university should have informed the Legislature about the purchase.

Douglas called the bill another legislative attempt to manage the university.

- LB52, introduced by Sen. Kate Witek of Omaha, would delay the implementation of the multicultural education law passed last session until 1994-95.

The bill required schools to make improvements in their multicultural education.

- LB74 would change provisions for college students who are dependents of veterans. It was introduced by Withem, education committee chairman.

- LB179 proposes a multicultural education advisory committee. The bill was introduced by Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha.

- LB264, proposed by Withem, would create the Nebraska Research Initiative Commission to examine statewide education.

- LB287, introduced by Sen. Tim Hall of Omaha, would allow Nebraska bars to stay open until 2 a.m., which proponents say would generate additional revenue.

- LB323 would change funding provisions for Copeland Hall at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. It was introduced by the appropri-

tions committee.

- LB324, introduced by Withem, would change requirements for scholarships and postsecondary education.

- LB381 proposes a change for UNL athletes. Chambers, the bill's sponsor, said he introduced the bill to give athletes a better premium insurance rate.

- LB355 would adopt the State Government Assessment Act. The bill was introduced by Sens. Witek and Carol Pirsch of Omaha and Sen. Dwise Pedersen of Elkhorn.

- LB456, introduced by Chambers, would grant a stipend to UNL football players. Chambers has introduced this bill in each of the last 12 years.

- LB474, introduced by Sen. Kurt Hohenstein of Dakota City, would create collegiate license plates for every Nebraska college and university. Part of the revenue raised would be given to an athletic scholarship fund.

- LB649 would appropriate funds to UNL for science and math education training. The bill, sponsored by Withem, would require the state to match grants given by the National Science Foundation.

Once GLC lobbyists determine a position on the bills, they present their stance to the Association of Students at the University of Nebraska.

"We can't lobby on anything until we receive a directive from ASUN," Douglas said.

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