

WORLD WIRE

U.S. accuses nations of unfair trade

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration accused 44 countries Wednesday of using unfair trade barriers to keep American products from being sold in their markets.

As it has in previous years, Japan led the list of alleged infractions followed by the 12-nation European Community and China.

The 275-page report covered the gamut of trade practices the United States considers offensive to American producers from Japan's near-total ban on rice imports to what the administration charged was improper protection of U.S. copyrights and patents by the government of Venezuela.

U.S. will send aid package to Russia

WASHINGTON — Strapped for cash, the Clinton administration is preparing a modest aid package for Boris Yeltsin that will send several hundred American helpers rather than huge amounts of money to Russia, officials said Wednesday.

The Americans are to help modernize farms and factories, create an effective transportation system and remake state industries into private businesses.

"Most of this aid... is not money

that's going to go from the Treasury to the Central Bank in Moscow," one official said.

Rather, money will go to "people from our food industry, retired American farmers, retired American business executives, people who have expertise" who would go and work in Russia for six months to two years, said the official, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity.

Actor killed by blank gun on set

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP) — Actor Brandon Lee, son of the martial arts movies legend who died at age 32, was hit by a projectile and killed Wednesday in an accident on the set of the movie he was starring in.

Lee, who was 27, was struck in the abdomen when a gun rigged to

shoot blanks fired the object. He died at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, where he had undergone surgery.

The actor was starring in "The Crow," an action-adventure film based on an adult comic book of the same name.

Thousands of Muslims escape from enclave

TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Thousands of desperate Muslim refugees scrambled aboard U.N. trucks Wednesday to flee Serb-encircled Srebrenica. U.N. officials said six died before they could reach safety.



Bosnian government officials later charged that the town had come under renewed attack, and radio reports indicated Serbs had torched nearby villages. A cease-fire in effect across Bosnia since Sunday was in danger of collapsing.

Two of the victims were children who were trampled to death in the "mad rush and stampede" to board the U.N. convoy, which evacuated more than 2,000 people to Tuzla.

Four other people died en route, and the 14 trucks were so crammed with refugees that a young, blond-haired boy fell off during the journey. The Muslim boy ran after a truck, sobbing, until a Bosnian Serb soldier, Maj. Vlada Dakic, boosted him aboard.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic said he signed an international peace agreement last week in

New York because the costs of continued fighting were too great.

"If we'd chosen the war option, there would be enormous suffering and casualties for an extended period of time," he said at a news conference. "We weren't sure we could win the military victory."

Panic gripped thousands of Muslims trapped by Bosnian Serb forces in Srebrenica, 45 miles southeast of

There was a mad rush and stampede onto the trucks.

—Lyndall Sachs
UNHCR representative

Tuzla, representatives of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said. Some of the refugees have been on the run from Serb forces for almost a year.

UNHCR representative Lyndall Sachs said the Muslims' desperation to escape boiled over with the arrival late Tuesday of a relief convoy that stayed overnight to ferry refugees out.

"There was a mad rush and stampede onto the trucks," she said.

The refugees in Wednesday's convoy joined some 2,346 who fled on 19 trucks Monday.

U.N. approves enforcement of no-fly zone

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Security Council increased international pressure on Bosnia's Serbs on Wednesday by authorizing NATO warplanes to shoot down aircraft that violate a ban on flights over Bosnia.

But the council bowed to the demands of Russia, a longtime Serb ally, and ruled out the pre-emptive bombing of Serb airfields as part of the long-delayed enforcement measure, diplomats said.

With the resolution, the international community hopes to pressure Bosnian Serbs to sign a peace agreement already approved by Bosnia's Croats and the Muslim government.

In another development, the United States apparently persuaded its allies on the council not to endorse or approve the peace plan, apparently because Washington wants to retain some flexibility should the plan fall through.

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Union Board

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major, said she thought smokers' rights already had been taken away, and they would be further persecuted if they were required to reorganize their daily schedules to smoke.

Todd Neeley, a junior management major and a non-smoker, called the possibility of a smoking ban unfair.

"If I don't want to smoke or breathe someone else's smoke, I'll leave," he

said. "Smokers can't quit their habit just like that. It's very addictive, and non-smokers should be more tolerant of that fact."

But Nancy Keller, a junior non-smoker, said that because even secondhand cigarette smoke had been proved to cause a number of lung and throat diseases, it is not a "harmless, individual activity."

"I have bronchitis, and every time I walk by someone who's smoking, or a room filled with smokers, it hurts," Keller said. "It's their prerogative to smoke, but they need a separate, en-

closed area to do it in."

"Don't force it on others," she said.

Two other students who spoke at the forum announced that petitions—one to keep smoking in the Nebraska Union and one to eliminate it—were being circulated, and both urged students to sign.

The Union Board will decide whether to allow smoking in the Nebraska Union during its next two meetings — Tuesday and April 13. Both meetings will have open forums for students, faculty and staff to voice their opinions about the issue.

Student leaders sworn in

Incoming president says students will keep fighting proposed NU budget cuts

By Andrea Kaser
Staff Reporter

The new president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska said at Wednesday's inauguration that his victory had only just sunk in, but that the novelty of it would not keep ASUN from continuing to fight the university budget cuts.

"Up until now, (the victory) seemed like a dream to me, but now it's a reality," Keith Benes said.

"The budget axe still looms over the university. If that doesn't scare the students, believe me it should."

ASUN and the Government Liaison Committee will continue to meet with state senators and university regents to lobby against the proposed 5 percent cut, he said.

Benes told new senators they had a responsibility to fight for the goals set out in VOICE's platform. Working as a team will fulfill their responsibility to their constituents, he said.

"I can't guarantee we will win every fight," he said, "but I can guarantee... I'll be there to fight that fight."

Before NU President Martin Massengale swore in Benes as the new University of Nebraska-Lincoln student regent, an office that is required of the student body president, he commended the outgoing president, Andrew Sigerson.

Massengale said he had some doubts about Sigerson when he first came to office. Sigerson reminded him of a scrawny freshman football player, Massengale said, and he wondered if Sigerson would be able to fill the massive shoulder pads he had taken on.

But Sigerson gave the role as student regent a new significance, Massengale said.

"Andrew has been a real force this past year in working for students," he said. "His presence has been felt on the Board of Regents."

Showing his approval of Sigerson, Massengale gave him a Nebraska football helmet.

In Sigerson's farewell speech, he said ASUN

had stuck to its principles throughout the year.

"We said what we were gonna do and then we did it," he said. "Is there anything else student government should be expected to do?"

Sigerson said ASUN stuck to its positions on safety, parking, student fees and minority affairs. Even though many students say student government doesn't make a difference, Sigerson said, ASUN has done so over the past year.

"We challenged that thought and we said, 'We will make a difference,'" he said.

Sigerson, like Benes, said later the reality of leaving office hadn't sunk in.

"I don't think it's hit me yet," he said. "I'm gonna miss it."

New senators in stiff suits, dresses and ties nervously came forward to take the places of the exiting senators, who, although dressed the same, were more at ease with a year of ASUN already behind them.

Some, however, did not have to give up their places. Trent Steele was re-elected as first vice

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—Benes
ASUN president

president. Doug Oxley and Michelle Dyer, senators for the Graduate College, were also re-elected.

Massengale told the new officers and senators they soon would feel the weight of their responsibility.

"When you take action or speak, you'll know that someone is listening," he said.

Their duty as leaders is to speak and behave in a way that honors their constituents, he said.

All three outgoing officers, including Sigerson, Steele and former Second Vice President Elizabeth Healey gave speeches, as well as the new officers, Benes, Steele and Second Vice President Jill Anderson.

Before the inauguration ceremonies, the outgoing senate approved a new bylaw that would give minority student groups \$1,000 for travel expenses to educational conferences. Half of the money would come from the ASUN budget and the other half from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

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