

## Clinton sends more troops to Somalia

WASHINGTON — American reinforcements headed to Somalia Tuesday as President Clinton warned of swift retaliation if captured U.S. servicemen are harmed and Congress debated whether it was time for the White House to end the mission.

Infantrymen and heavy Army armor left a Georgia base to begin the trip to Africa, sent to bolster U.S. forces that suffered 12 deaths and 78 injuries in weekend battles with forces loyal to Somali warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid.

The Pentagon declined to comment on reports that up to eight Americans were being held. One was shown on a videotape being interrogated by his captors.

Meanwhile, Pentagon sources said the total number of U.S. soldiers being sent to Somalia would number about 650. That includes 200 replacement troops, a mechanized infantry company of at least 200 men, and the remainder made up crews for the helicopters and AC-130 gunships and support personnel.

With the heavy armor en route, Army Maj. David Stockwell, the United Nations military spokesman, said American forces would be better

equipped to evacuate soldiers after skirmishes with Aidid's supporters.

Clinton planned to meet later today in the White House with his top national security advisers to discuss the crises in Somalia and Russia. White House Communications Director Mark Gearan said Clinton was returning early from his three-day trip to California for the session.

Clinton's decision to send in reinforcements won an influential endorsement today in Congress, but many other lawmakers joined the chorus urging the president to order American forces home.

Republican Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana, a leading member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, echoed Clinton in saying additional troops were "imperative for the safety of those that are there now."

"There are things that can be done to make things safer while we debate the policy," Lugar said on Fox television. Sen. Sam Nunn of Georgia, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, also said the deployment was necessary to protect American troops while the overall policy is debated.



But another Senate Republican, John McCain of Arizona, said the humanitarian mission to feed starving Somalis and the more difficult job of restoring political order should be left in United Nations' hands.

The United Nations said Tuesday it was seeking the release of the captured Americans. On Monday, Clinton warned of "appropriate" retaliation if the captured Americans are mistreated, and said it was no time to end the deployment he inherited from the Bush administration.

## China defies Clinton by detonating nuclear weapon

BEIJING — China detonated a nuclear device underground Tuesday, defying an international moratorium on nuclear testing and a personal plea from President Clinton. The government said it needs to develop nuclear weapons for its self-defense.

In response, Clinton directed the U.S. Energy Department to prepare for possible resumption of underground nuclear testing.

"The United States deeply regrets this action. We urge China to refrain from further nuclear tests and to join the other nuclear powers in a global moratorium," Clinton said in a statement issued by the White House.

As foreign governments denounced the test, picked up by seismic monitors, China said it will stop nuclear tests only after a comprehensive test-ban treaty is in place.

In a statement acknowledging the detonation, Beijing repeated its vow not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

"It is entirely for the purpose of self-defense that China develops and possesses a small number of nuclear weapons," said the statement, read over China Central Broadcasting radio station.

"China has always exercised utmost restraint on nuclear testing," it said.

In a clear reference to the United States, the statement said it was up to countries with the largest nuclear arsenals to "bear the special responsibility by taking the lead to cut down their own nuclear development."

It pledged China will work with other countries to achieve a test-ban treaty "no later than 1996," but made no promise regarding testing before an agreement is reached.

Seismic monitors picked up the blast early Tuesday in far northwestern China, said the London-based Verification Technology Information Center and the Swedish defense research agency FAO.

"So far 71 seismic stations have detected the explosion. More will pick it up as time goes by once they realize



it is on their seismometers," said Vipin Gupta of the Verification Technology Information Center, which accurately forecast China's last nuclear tests, in 1992.

The test could undermine the moratorium on nuclear testing being observed by the world's four other acknowledged nuclear powers, the United States, Russia, France and Britain. It could also undermine Clinton's push for a permanent worldwide ban on nuclear testing and worsen already strained relations between China and the United States.

In extending the nine-month moratorium set by Congress in October 1992, Clinton had warned that if another country tests before Sept. 30, 1994, he would seek congressional authorization to resume U.S. testing.

There have been reports for weeks the Chinese were preparing a nuclear test. Clinton publicly urged Beijing to drop such plans.

China said on Sept. 20 only that it had taken note of the U.S. appeal.

Gupta, an American physicist from DeKalb, Ill., and foreign affairs consultant with the center, said the test was conducted at China's Lop Nor test site. The site is north of the Taklimakan desert, about 1,450 miles west of Beijing in Xinjiang province.

He said the detonated device was 80 to 90 kilotons, which is medium-sized. Nils-Olov Bergkvist of Sweden's FOA said the strength of China's nuclear devices has varied from 10 to 160 kilotons.

## Jordan to announce retirement

NEW YORK — Michael Jordan, the world's most famous athlete and basketball's greatest player, will announce his retirement Wednesday, according to NBC and published reports.

"Dateline NBC," the Denver Post and the Chicago Sun-Times reported the news almost simultaneously Tuesday night.

Jordan, NBA scoring champion the last seven years, leader of the three-time champion Chicago Bulls and two-time Olympic gold-medal winner, is expected to cite his father's slaying this summer as the reason for his retirement at age 30.

"It's time for me to move on to something else," the Sun-Times quoted Jordan as saying. "I know a lot of people are going to be shocked by this decision and probably won't understand. But I've talked it over with my family and friends, and most of all I'm at peace with myself over the decision."

His father's death apparently robbed Jordan of his desire to play, the Post said.

Dateline NBC producer Neil Shapiro said the show learned of Jordan's plans from "authoritative sources close to the NBA."

The Bulls have scheduled a news

conference at 10 a.m. CDT Wednesday to make what they called a "major announcement."

Jordan threw out the ceremonial first pitch at Tuesday night's playoff opener between the Chicago White Sox and the Toronto Blue Jays at Comiskey Park in Chicago. He left after the seventh inning, got behind the wheel of a black Mercedes-Benz and drove off.

Jerry Reinsdorf, owner of the White Sox and Bulls, said from the ballpark: "I have nothing to say tonight. We'll have something to say tomorrow."

The NBA refused comment, deflecting queries to the Bulls.

## Governor lauds report urging welfare program changes

By Steve Smith  
Senior Reporter

Gov. Ben Nelson told a group of student Democrats Tuesday that a report encouraging welfare recipients to get back into the work force was a step in the right direction for welfare reform in Nebraska.

"The welfare system in our state

today is not a safety net, it's a spider web — people can't get out," Nelson said at a meeting of University of Nebraska-Lincoln Young Democrats members in the Nebraska Union.

Nelson said tight government supervision affected the current system so it no longer served as a transitional program for its recipients.

"We're kidding ourselves to think

we're doing the right thing by making choices for people," Nelson said. "It's costly and it's time-consuming."

Nelson will see the final draft of the report Oct. 14. It was prepared by Mary Dean Harvey, director of the Nebraska Department of Social Services, and Omaha Housing Authority director Bob Armstrong.

The governor said proposals made

in the report would help welfare recipients "bridge the gap" to get back into the work force.

Nelson said the report engineered a new way of looking at welfare in the state. "If you want to get different results, you've got to do things in a different manner," he said.

Nelson said the plan would focus on putting people on welfare for a

limited period of time.

During that time, he said, the state would emphasize helping recipients improve their job skills and employment opportunities.

"We've got to build bridges to continue helping (recipients) after they're off welfare," Nelson said. "We need to get across to people that with self-sufficiency comes self-esteem."

## Union Board ponders green space proposal

By Rebecca Oltmans  
Staff Reporter

The Union Board held an emergency meeting Tuesday night to, as board member Joel Weber put it, "take a concrete stand on the issue of green space."

No pun intended. However, board members decided to wait until they learned more about the intended uses of the space before taking a position.

"It's not a matter of opinion," Nebraska Union director Daryl Swanson said, "but how both the parking lot or green space will affect the union."

"It's a mixed bag of advantages and disadvantages," Swanson said of UNL chancellor Graham Spanier's proposal to turn the parking lot north of the union into a flat, grassy area.

Union Board members also had mixed reactions to Spanier's proposal.

Some members said the union needed to consider the safety of students who parked in lot at night.

"For those students who come to study at night in the crib, taking a safe lot from them discourages their use of the union," board member Amy Adkins said.

But Kevin Brown said the green space idea was no different from proposals at many other universities.

"I've been on St. Louis University campus and they're knocking buildings down for green space," Brown said.

Members on both sides of the issue agreed on at least one point: that the project was pretty much already in the

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—Swanson  
Nebraska Union director

works despite objections. Frank Kuhn, assistant director of the union, said fewer students might object to the space if it would be "usable" for various student activities, and not just a landscaped space. The board will meet Tuesday in the union with University of Nebraska-Lincoln landscaping and administration representatives to learn more about the proposal.

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Daily Nebraskan

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 Doug Fiedler, 436-7882. 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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