

White House aides prepare for court

WASHINGTON — President Clinton told aides to "be very open" Wednesday, a day before they faced grand jury questioning in the probe of possible meddling in the Whitewater investigation.

With aides summoned to testify on Thursday, the White House bundled relevant papers for prosecutors. The appearances of at least two of President Clinton's closest aides, Bruce Lindsey and Harold Ickes, were postponed.

Special prosecutor Robert B. Fiske called the Clinton administration "very responsive and cooperative" after trying to persuade Republicans to delay congressional hearings until he completes his inquiry into whether the White House attempted to influence



President Bill Clinton

the investigation.

He said he planned to finish that part of his inquiry within a few months, after which he would have no objections to hearings.

Republican Sens. Alfonse D'Amato and William Cohen said they couldn't agree with Fiske's request to hold off on all hearings. Both said they had assured Fiske that prosecutors would get first crack at critical witnesses and that Congress would not grant immunity to anyone it called to testify.

Fiske is probing the failure of Arkansas' Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan Association and whether investors in the Whitewater land venture benefited from questionable Madison transactions during the 1980s.

Fiske is examining a series of meetings between White House officials and federal regulators who were looking into Whitewater.

He subpoenaed 10 administration officials to testify before a grand jury beginning Thursday.

Yeltsin refuses to meet with former U.S. president

MOSCOW — A peeved President Boris Yeltsin froze Richard Nixon out of the Kremlin Wednesday, complaining about the hard-line Communist company the former president has been keeping.

Nixon's meetings with Yeltsin and other government officials were all canceled as a result of his talks with Yeltsin opponents, particularly Alexander Rutskoi, former Russian vice president.

Then Yeltsin really got nasty: He took away the bodyguards and black Zil limousine his government had put at Nixon's disposal. He did the same two years ago to another former president who angered him, Mikhail Gorbachev.

Yeltsin said his snub should be no surprise.

"This is impossible after the sort of meetings Nixon has had here, and I'm glad President Clinton supports this position," Yeltsin said in unusually harsh remarks to reporters on Red Square.

Yeltsin said Clinton had distanced himself from Nixon's private visit, but Clinton said Wednesday he believed the Russian president should meet Nixon.

"It's up to President Yeltsin whom he sees and doesn't see," Clinton said. "I wish he would see him (Nixon) because I think they'd enjoy talking to one another."

Yeltsin was in no mood for a friendly chat.

"How can one do something like that? Coming to a country and looking for some sort of stains here?" he said, scowling and jabbing his finger in the air to emphasize his disgust.

A Nixon adviser accused Yeltsin of overreacting and of picking on the

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former president.

"I am surprised first of all that President Yeltsin would not find anybody but an 81-year-old former U.S. president who is his friend and Russia's friend to re-assert his macho and to tell us that Russia is a great country," Dmitry Simes told reporters.

Clinton said he talked to Nixon before he left on his 10-day trip to Russia that envisaged visits with hard-liners shunned by the U.S. administration, including ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy.

"And I said he should meet with whomever he wanted and I'd be interested to hear his reports when he got back," Clinton said Wednesday in the Oval Office.

Simes said Nixon would remain in Moscow until March 16, despite the cancellations. Still planned is his meeting with Zhirinovskiy.

Nixon on Tuesday had praised Yeltsin's government for allowing him to see members of the opposition, something Yeltsin's Soviet predecessors refused to do.

Israeli commission discovers guard let gunman into mosque

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank — An Israeli inquiry commission discovered Wednesday that army guards let gunman Baruch Goldstein enter the Hebron mosque even though he wore a marksman's protective headset and carried ammunition.

The major in charge of the guard detail greeted Goldstein at the entrance and asked why he was wearing an army uniform.

"I'm doing reserve duty," the Jewish settler answered, then walked unhindered into the Tomb of the Patriarchs where he opened fire, killing at least 30 Muslims kneeling in prayer.

The new details confirmed earlier testimony by army commanders who said security was lax before the Feb. 25 massacre, with only half of the 10 guards reporting for duty.

Hundreds of troops patrolled outside while the five-member commission spent four hours Wednesday reconstructing the shooting spree inside the fortress-like shrine in central Hebron.

The site has been closed since the massacre that disrupted the Israel-PLO peace talks.

Tensions remain high between the city's 80,000 Palestinians and 450 Jewish settlers living in six enclaves. The Palestinians have been confined to their homes under an army-imposed curfew since the massacre, while armed Jewish set-



Shamgar, according to a transcript.

Army investigator Yoav Galant, citing testimony by two guards, said Goldstein was dropped off at the Tomb by a white car. The major in charge of the guards, identified only by his last name, Rotem, said he didn't see Goldstein wearing headsets. He said after his brief exchange with Goldstein about the uniform, he lost sight of the settler.

Rotem, deployed at a point where Muslims turn left and Jews right to their respective prayer halls, insisted Goldstein didn't get past him and must have entered through a side door in the Jewish section. Army investigators said they believed Goldstein entered the mosque at the main entrance.

Commission member Abdel Rahman Zoabi, an Israeli Arab judge, took Rotem aside and prodded him: "The only one who can tell us if Goldstein entered from here is you. Nobody else saw him." Rotem hesitated, but did not respond.

Palestinians will cooperate with the Israeli inquiry even though they are distrustful because of previous leniency shown to rampaging settlers, said lawyer Abdul Ghani Ewaiye, a member of a separate 11-member PLO committee investigating the massacre.

The question of whether the army ignored the growing friction and possible warnings of an attack by Jewish extremists is a key issue.

Christopher opens talks with Japan

TOKYO — Secretary of State Warren Christopher opened what promised to be difficult talks with Japan Thursday as a top aide conceded, in diplomatic understatement, that the economic relationship between the two economic powers was "not in good shape."

"The secretary will be conveying a sense of urgency; we can't allow these problems to fester," Winston Lord, assistant secretary of state for East Asian affairs, said.

Christopher struck a conciliatory note before his arrival, declaring that "it is certainly not the intention of the United States to have a trade war with Japan."

Lord said Christopher would try to convince the Japanese that economic differences between the two countries needed "urgent attention."

His visit to Japan takes place in an atmosphere of increasingly strong U.S. measures designed to force the Japanese to open their markets and reduce the trade imbalance, now running \$59.3 billion a year in Japan's favor.

In addition to the trade talks, Christopher will address an international conference on aid to Cambodia, and will meet with Cambodian officials.

He is expected to pledge about \$30 million to the international effort to help the Southeast Asian country recover from decades of war.

Lord has emphasized repeatedly that Christopher is not in Japan to negotiate. His goal is to lay out the U.S. position and listen to Japanese ideas.

Christopher arrived in Japan armed with President Clinton's decision to revive a U.S. trade law provision that establishes a "hit list" of countries that have the most egregious barriers against U.S. exports.

If subsequent negotiations fail to remove the barriers, the law authorizes imposition of tariffs of up to 100 percent on products from the offending countries.

Typical millionaire differs from TV image

ATLANTA — Studying the lifestyles of the rich, though not necessarily famous, has given Thomas J. Stanley an intimate look at a world of sensible cars, practical watches and modest homes.

Stanley, sort of an academic Robin Leach, has spent 20 years studying rich folk. His profile of the typical millionaire is quite different from the bejeweled figures who cavort in exclusive hideaways on television shows.

The truly wealthy are more interested in watching their money grow than showing off what it can buy, he said.

"The thing that hit me right away was how frugal these people are," said Stanley, author of three books on af-

fluence and a consultant to financial institutions, charitable organizations and sales groups.

There are 1.3 million people nationwide with a net worth of at least \$1 million, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

The idea that they are all jet-setters "has as much to do with reality as 'L.A. Law' does with real law," Michael Schau, editor of Research Alert, a New York-based publication that compiles statistics on consumer behavior, said.

According to Stanley, the typical millionaire is a businessman who has lived in the same town his entire adult life, owns a small factory or chain of stores, is married and lives in a mid-

dle-class neighborhood next to people who are not nearly as rich.

Truett Cathy, the founder and chairman of the Chick-fil-A Inc. fast-food chain, is a good example, Stanley said.

"I have a nice house, not an extravagant home," Cathy said. His Atlanta-based chain had sales of \$396 million last year.

Cathy said he'd lived in the same home for 35 years, and channeled his energy into the business, leaving little time for jet-setting. He drives a 4-year-old Lincoln Continental, but is more enthusiastic about the used pickup truck he bought for \$2,500.

"I'm subject to buy anything I can get a good deal on," said Cathy.

Study reveals the power of cranberry juice

CHICAGO — A scientific study has proven what many women have long suspected: Cranberry juice helps protect against bladder infections.

Researchers found that elderly women who drank 10 ounces of a drink containing cranberry juice each day had less than half as many urinary tract infections as those who consumed a look-alike drink without cranberry juice.

The study, which appeared Wednesday in The Journal of The American Medical Association, was funded by Ocean Spray Cranberries Inc., but the company had no role in the study's design, analysis or interpretation,

JAMA said.

"This is the first demonstration that cranberry juice can reduce the presence of bacteria in the urine in humans," lead researcher Dr. Jerry Avorn, a specialist in medication for the elderly at Harvard Medical School, said.

Dr. Glenn Gerber of the University of Chicago said the work appeared sound.

The idea that people with recurrent urinary tract infections should drink cranberry juice often has "been written off as an old wives' tale," Gerber, an assistant professor of urology in the surgery department, said.

"This is really the first study I'm aware of that's scientifically looked at this," he said.

It's unclear how cranberry juice protects against the infections, but Avorn said a chemical in cranberries — also found in blueberries — may inhibit bacteria from attaching to the bladder wall, a finding of previous studies.

The study used Ocean Spray's Cranberry Juice Cocktail, which contains 27 percent cranberry juice. Avorn said any beverage containing at least that much juice should work.

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