

NATO strikes to punish Serbs for failure to withdraw

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Waves of NATO jets clobbered Bosnian Serb targets again Wednesday, but the Serb commander refused to bow to U.N. demands to remove heavy weapons ringing Sarajevo. He said that would leave his troops open to attack by Bosnian government forces.

As the test of wills between the Western allies and rebel Gen. Ratko Mladic hardened, other Bosnian Serb leaders tried to squelch rumors of a rift in their ranks that could complicate peace talks set for Friday.

NATO planes have flown more than 1,500 missions in the week since the alliance launched its biggest operation yet in the 3 1/2-year-old war, aimed primarily at easing the Serb threat to the besieged Bosnian capital. The attacks were prompted by a mortar attack blamed on the Serbs that killed 38 people in Sarajevo.

NATO suspended its raids Friday to allow for negotiations. But the big guns remained in place after a Monday deadline passed, and NATO jets took to the skies again Tuesday.

NATO showed film of Tuesday's

hits by U.S. and French aircraft on several Bosnian Serb targets, including military command centers and ammunition depots going up in huge clouds of smoke.

At the Pentagon, Defense Secretary William Perry said U.S. laser-guided bombs had generally hit within 10 feet of their intended targets, as planned.

"The campaign will go on as long as needed and as intensely as needed to accomplish the objectives," Perry said.

U.S. Adm. Leighton Smith, the NATO commander for southern Europe, said in Naples, Italy, that reports indicated "very successful results" from Wednesday's attacks, despite cloudy weather, but he did not give details.

NATO said it was trying to limit its attacks to selected military installations to avoid harassing the Serbs so much that they couldn't organize a withdrawal.

Gen. Manojlo Milutinovic, the Bosnian Serb forces' chief of staff, spoke of only "minor losses" among his soldiers and "several" civilian ca-

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U.S. Defense Secretary

sualties.

Bosnian Serb police and military officials reported that the latest targets included military installations in Kalinovik, 25 miles south of Sarajevo and hometown of Mladic, the Serb military commander.

"We gather he's in a defiant mood," U.N. spokesman Alexander Ivanko said of the tough-talking Mladic. "But we hope this mood will change and he will start complying with our demands."

"Every day of NATO airstrikes means his army is being clobbered, and clobbered and clobbered. For this clobbering to stop, he has to remove the heavy weapons from around Sarajevo."

Ivanko said the United Nations had not been in contact with Mladic since Monday, when he rejected U.N. demands that a senior aide to Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic had basically accepted a few hours earlier.

"There may be a certain disarray among the Bosnian Serbs and that is why orders coming from one end are not being followed through the other end," Ivanko said.

Karadzic, who recently was forced to rescind Mladic's demotion after most generals lined up behind their commander, sought Wednesday to counter growing signs that Mladic was calling the shots on the battlefield.

"I am in charge ... and our relations with General Mladic have improved," Karadzic told CNN.

He asserted that the Serbs already had accepted most of the U.N. demands, which include reopening Sarajevo's airport and roads into the city, an end to attacks on U.N. "safe areas" and guarantees of free movement for U.N. and aid workers.

In separate comments to reporters, Karadzic seemed to embrace Mladic's line rejecting the West's key demand:

that all the Serb heavy weaponry be moved at least 12 1/2 miles from Sarajevo.

"We have withdrawn as much as we could," he said. "But we can't withdraw (all) what we possess in order to protect ourselves."

While Karadzic and Mladic sought to portray their defiance as necessary to defend Serb civilians, the bigger but unspoken issue was the future of Sarajevo.

Peace talks to begin in Geneva on Friday will focus on how to divvy up postwar Bosnia. The U.S. plan would give the Serbs 49 percent of the country, compared to the nearly 70 percent they now hold, and a Bosnian Croat and Muslim federation the rest - including Sarajevo.

The Serbs, however, also want at least some of the capital city and fear that if they pull back now, they will lose all claim to it without getting anything - like Gorazde in the east - in return.

The war began in April 1992 when Serbs rebelled against Bosnia's decision to secede from Serb-dominated Yugoslavia. At least 200,000 people have been killed or are missing.

Puerto Rico left soaked by Luis

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — After sweeping away two hotels and destroying Antigua's hospital, Hurricane Luis Wednesday lashed Puerto Rico with the winds and rains that have killed three people.

One music store was reported looted in Antigua, where Luis tore through tourist shopping areas and landmarks on Tuesday.

Trees and power lines fell as Luis, one of the most powerful hurricanes in decades, passed Puerto Rico. Water and power were cut in much of San Juan and the east of the American island. Thousands of residents sought refuge in shelters.

Sixty-four prisoners took advantage of the blackouts to escape from jails. Thirty-two were captured by midday, two after a shootout with police in a San Juan suburb.

Two people died in Puerto Rico and one in Guadeloupe even before the 700-mile-wide maelstrom of wind and rain struck the Caribbean on Tuesday.

With winds of 130 mph, Luis was slowly moving northwest away from the Caribbean today, and the National

Weather Service downgraded its hurricane warning to a tropical storm warning for Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the British Virgin Islands. At 2 p.m., the center of Hurricane Luis was located in the Atlantic Ocean about 135 miles north-northeast of San Juan, the Weather Service said.

Forecasters expected Luis to dump 10 inches of rain on Puerto Rico before turning due north on Thursday as a storm over Florida keeps it away from the U.S. mainland.

"As long as it stays, (Hurricane Luis) will not have any strange ideas about coming over Florida," said Fiona Horsfall, a meteorologist at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Hardest hit by Luis were Antigua and its sister island, Barbuda. The storm "devastated" the islands on Tuesday, Prime Minister Lester Bird said, according to Puerto Rican Gov. Pedro Rosello, who spoke to him by phone.

Two hotels were washed away, a nightclub was flattened and hundreds of homes were damaged, he said, without specifying the names of the hotels.

Gay GOP Congressman rails Dole for returning contribution

WASHINGTON — A gay Republican congressman who has endorsed Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole for president chastised Dole on Wednesday for returning a contribution from a gay GOP group.

"Are you rejecting the support of anyone who happens to be gay?" Wisconsin Rep. Steve Gunderson said in a letter to Dole. "If this is so, do you intend to now reject my support and request those on your staff who happen to be gay to resign?"

Dole's campaign recently said it was returning a \$1,000 contribution from the Log Cabin Club, an organization of gay Republicans.

Dole spokesman Nelson Warfield said the campaign would not keep the money because Dole did not share the organization's views.

Log Cabin officials, however, produced a letter showing that the Dole campaign had solicited the contribution, and said the campaign decided to return it only after media inquiries. Dole aides then said campaign finance chairman John Moran should not have sent the letter.

Gunderson supported Dole's 1988 presidential campaign and was among the earliest members of Congress to endorse Dole's 1996 effort. Gunderson said he was at a

recent dinner when friends mentioned the Log Cabin episode and "I assumed my friends had mistaken yours for the campaigns of other decidedly bigoted candidates. I was embarrassed to learn I was wrong."

Gunderson closed his letter by asking Dole to "please assure me that my support of your campaign has not been misplaced, and that the recent incident is not reflective of what a Dole presidency would look like."

Warfield confirmed that Dole had received the letter but said the campaign had no immediate comment.

Four-year-old made public enemy after relieving himself in city park

NEW YORK — When nature called, 4-year-old William Schlesinger answered - and so did security in Central Park, turning a piddling problem into a tour of city bureaucracy for his grandmother.

Nancy Stein has gone through the administrative looking glass since May 23, when two scooter-riding officers watched her desperate grandson relieve himself behind a bush and handed her a \$50 ticket.

The 56-year-old New York art dealer has dealt so far with the Sanitation Department, the mayor's office, the Environmental Control Board and an administrative judge.

The shock gave way to comic disbelief over the next four months as Stein discovered that vindication involved paying a \$50 fine ... and chasing down documents ... and going to court ... and there's still no end in sight.

The Case of the Little Boy's Bladder began when William made his

"I have to go."
WILLIAM SCHLESINGER
4-year-old cited by police for relieving himself in New York's Central Park

weekly trip to Manhattan from Passaic Park, N.J. Stein and her grandson usually visit a museum or the library. On May 23, they stopped at a Central Park playground.

At 3:30 p.m., William approached his grandmother and launched his criminal career with these words: "I have to go." Not in five minutes, he added - NOW.

Stein looked for a public bathroom and found none. William was fidgeting. Stein directed him behind a bush, where the preschooler found relief.

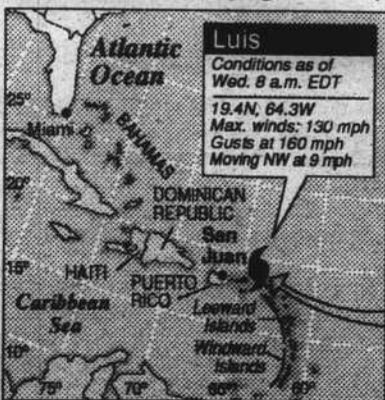
Two enforcement agents were on the scene before Stein had buttoned her grandson's pants. The agents demanded identification - thankfully, only from the grandmother - and cited her for violation of NYC Administrative Code 16-118.6 for William's deposit of a "noxious liquid."

Stein paid the fine but appealed. An administrative judge was sympathetic at a June 14 hearing but upheld the fine (and cost Stein a day's work).

Stein wanted to appeal but was told that would involve contacting two city agencies, hiring a notary public and missing another day's work. McDermott then wrote the mayor's office June 28.

"It's hard to believe that our 4-year-old could command the attention of two scooter-mounted agents," wrote McDermott, suggesting the city could focus instead on "the abandoned school-crack house about six blocks away from the scene of my grandson's crime."

Hurricane Luis



How some islands in the path of Hurricane Luis have fared:

- Antigua and Barbuda**
 - The hospital and at least two hotels destroyed, hundreds of homes damaged.
- U.S. Virgin Islands**
 - Airports closed since midday Tuesday.
 - No reports of major damage.
- Montserrat**
 - Power lines torn down.
 - Roof blown off of technical school.
- St. Vincent and The Grenadines**
 - Port Kingstown and St. Vincent Airport closed because of high seas.
- British Virgin Islands**
 - Roofs blown off some buildings in Folia.
 - Strong winds in Anguilla knocked out power and phones.
- St. Maarten**
 - High winds toppled trees onto main roads.
 - No telephone service or electricity.



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