

Boeing to buy McDonnell Douglas

WASHINGTON (AP) — Boeing Co. announced a \$13.3 billion deal Sunday to buy McDonnell Douglas Corp.

The purchase would reduce the number of major world airplane makers from three to two, a result akin to removing either General Motors, Ford or Chrysler from America's Big Three lineup of automakers.

If approved by federal regulators who enforce antitrust laws, the combined company under Boeing's name anticipates sales of \$48 billion next year, officials of both companies said. It would be headquartered in Seattle, where Boeing is based, while St. Louis-based McDonnell Douglas would continue to operate under its own name as a major division of Boeing.

The officials said they anticipated no trouble gaining federal approval for the deal concluded last Tuesday after

three years of discussion.

The combined company will have operations across the spectrum of aerospace, from commercial aircraft to military planes to space satellites and launch vehicles.

The workforce will number nearly 200,000, with major operations in 26 states. Although some consolidation of corporate headquarters staff was anticipated, the officials said no major layoffs were expected, at least in the immediate future.

Although the companies characterized it as a merger, the terms clearly show Boeing is buying McDonnell. McDonnell shareholders will receive Boeing stock worth \$13.3 billion. McDonnell's operations will be melded into Boeing's, the McDonnell name will not be part of the new company, and the top officer and two-thirds of the board of directors will be Boeing

people.

McDonnell, once the world's dominant manufacturer of military planes, had struggled to keep up its commercial aircraft business, hurt by competition from Boeing and Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium.

For Boeing, the deal solidifies its strength in commercial aircraft, adding the production capacity of McDonnell to help meet strong orders from the world's major airlines.

Major Boeing programs include Boeing 777 and 747 commercial airliners, the F-22 fighter, the AWACS radar plane, the Comanche helicopter and portions of the space shuttle.

McDonnell Douglas programs include the MD-11 civilian airliner, the Navy F-18 fighter, the Air Force F-15 fighter, the Delta III launch vehicle and the C-17 cargo plane.

Yugoslavian court revives opposition election victory

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — A court controlled by President Slobodan Milosevic restored an opposition election victory in Serbia's second-largest city in an apparent attempt to placate anti-government protesters, the opposition said Sunday.

Although voting lists showed that the opposition coalition Zajedno, or Together, clearly won the Nov. 17 municipal elections in the city of Nis, the local electoral commission proclaimed Milosevic's Socialists the winners.

Courts or commissions annulled opposition victories in more than a dozen Serbian cities, touching off nearly four weeks of daily protests by tens of thousands of people — the largest against Milosevic since he came to power in 1987. Milosevic called for repeat municipal elections in some cities, which the opposition boycotted as it appealed the rulings.

One from Two

Boeing Co.'s purchase of McDonnell Douglas Corp. would create a combined company under Boeing's name with McDonnell Douglas Corp. as a major division. Also resulting from the deal would be:

- No immediate major layoffs
- Yearly sales of \$48 billion
- Only two major world airplane makers, where three had existed before.

Barge rams into mall

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A quick-thinking crew may have narrowly averted a disaster when a freighter barreled into a riverfront stretch of stores, restaurants and hotel rooms.

Rescue workers with dogs picked through what was left of the ritzy Riverwalk complex Sunday in search of anyone who might have been trapped or killed when a grain freighter tore through it Saturday.

"We're pretty confident that, so far, there has been no loss of life," Coast Guard Capt. Thomas Landvogt said.

Mayor Marc Morial said 116 people were treated at hospitals — many injured in the panic that fol-

lowed the crash. All but three were released.

Early reports of deaths were never confirmed, and those reported missing were later accounted for. At midday Sunday, there was no sign of bodies or trapped survivors in the pancaked wreckage or the murky river below.

The Liberian-registered freighter Bright Field, operated by a Hong Kong company, apparently lost power about 2 p.m. as it headed downriver. Its helmsman managed to avoid two cruise ships holding about 1,700 people and crashed into the riverside mall near its central food court.

Citadel probes alleged abuse

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — A male Citadel cadet used a rifle butt to shove two female freshmen against a wall and then struck them in the head, one of the women's father told a Charleston newspaper.

The two cadets, Kim Messer of Clover, S.C. and Jeanie Mentavlos of Charlotte, N.C., have been subjected to other abuse since entering the Citadel in August with two other women, Harvey Messer said in Sunday editions of The (Charleston) Post and Courier.

"She has been living in terror for God knows how long. She wouldn't tell us until very recently," he said.

The military college is also investigating accusations that someone sprayed one male and two female cadets with a flammable liquid and set their clothes on fire about four weeks ago. Officials said no one was injured.

The Citadel has suspended one male cadet and relieved three student officers of military duties pending an investigation into the allegations. The school has not named the cadets.

Citadel spokesman Terry Leedom told the newspaper he had not heard of the two women being hit. "If that did occur, that's totally and completely unacceptable," he said.

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