

Nation/World

from The Associated Press

Separatists warn of 'another Waco' in Texas

FORT DAVIS, Texas — Two armored personnel carriers rolled into place Tuesday in the siege of the Texas secessionists as their leader's lawyer warned of "another Waco" if officers move in for an arrest.

"There's the potential for a lot of killing, and that's what we want to stop," said Terry O'Rourke, the lawyer for Richard McLaren, the self-proclaimed ambassador of the Republic of Texas.

McLaren and his followers have been holed up in the mountain community since Sunday, when they took two neighbors hostage in retaliation for the arrest of two followers. They released both hostages Monday in exchange for one of the jailed comrades, who had been arrested on weapons charges.

By Tuesday, nearly 100 state and federal officers were stationed within two miles of the trailer the group calls its "embassy" in the rugged Davis Mountains, 175 miles southeast of El Paso.

Witness: McVeigh told me plans to bomb Oklahoma City

DENVER — Angry at the government, Timothy McVeigh disclosed in October 1994 that he was going to blow up the federal building in Oklahoma City because it was "an easy target," a former friend testified Tuesday.

"He said that he and Terry (Nichols) would do it together, that Terry would mix the bomb," said Lori Fortier, one of the prosecution's star witnesses at the bombing trial.

She said that McVeigh specifically mentioned "the federal building" in Oklahoma City, though he didn't refer to it by its name, the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

McVeigh also specified the kind of bomb he was planning to use. "He was thinking about using racing fuel and ammonium nitrate," she said. "He was going to put ... like a fuse inside the barrels."

McVeigh showed how he planned to arrange the bomb for maximum damage, using soup cans he got from the cupboard, she said: "He placed the soup cans on the floor in the same arrangement he was going to arrange the barrels in the truck."

Hope, pride mark L.A. riots' fifth anniversary

LOS ANGELES — There was hope and pride Tuesday in South Central Los Angeles, five years to the day after the area erupted in rage and flames following the acquittal of four policemen in the first Rodney King beating trial.

Community leaders unveiled the site of a new supermarket as proof of their efforts to replace some of the more than 1,000 buildings destroyed in the three days of looting and violence that left 55 dead.

"It's the fastest rebound of any urban civil disturbance in the nation ... and yet, in my view, it's still too slow," said City Councilman Mark Ridley-Thomas, whose inner city district suffered \$100 million worth of damage.

"It's tough, methodical, tedious work to rebuild a community." As he spoke, crews prepared to demolish a shopping center on south Western Avenue that was looted and destroyed in the rioting.

The \$10 million Superior Warehouse — one of five supermarkets rebuilt or under construction in the area — will open in its place this year and provide 150 jobs, Ridley-Thomas said.

Army sergeant guilty of rape

Some say the soldier's prosecution was racially motivated.

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. (AP) — A drill instructor was convicted Tuesday of raping six women trainees in the most serious case yet to come out of the sex scandal that has rocked the Army.

Staff Sgt. Delmar G. Simpson, 32, could get life in prison for his conviction on 18 of 19 rape counts.

The 6-foot-4 soldier stood at attention, unflinching, as the verdicts were read in rapid-fire succession by the head of the military jury. Simpson, who has been behind bars since his arrest in September, left the courtroom holding hands with his wife, who is stationed at an Army post in Virginia.

Prosecutors said Simpson raped the women at Aberdeen in 1995 and 1996, mostly by intimidating them with his size, his superior rank and

implied threats of harm or punishment. One trainee said Simpson threatened to kill her if she told about having sex with him.

Women's advocates — who considered the court-martial a test of how serious the Army is about sexual misconduct — said the case underscores the need for an independent investigation of how the military handles such complaints.

"The military chain of command is broken, and until that is fixed they are nothing more than accessories to the fact," said Karen Johnson, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel and vice president of the National Organization for Women.

A NAACP leader charged that the prosecution was racially motivated. Simpson is black; four of the rape victims are white.

The jury of three white men, two black men and one white woman, all of superior rank, will decide Simpson's sentence after hearing ad-

ditional testimony, beginning Monday.

Simpson already has pleaded guilty to having consensual sex with 11 trainees, including five of the rape victims. He could get up to 32 years in prison on those charges and five sexual-harassment offenses he admitted.

The judge ordered lawyers on both sides not to talk about the case before the sentencing.

Simpson is at the center of the most politically and racially charged case to emerge from a sex scandal that Army Secretary Togo D. West Jr. called "the worst we've seen" — a scandal that has exposed the complexities of integrating women into the military and renewed debate over the issue.

Since the scandal broke in November, the Army has fielded more than 1,200 sexual misconduct complaints and opened more than 300 criminal investigations at U.S. installations around the world.

Chicago columnist Mike Royko dies

CHICAGO (AP) — Mike Royko, the Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper columnist whose biting sarcasm and empathy for the common man captured the gritty essence of Chicago for more than three decades, died Tuesday. He was 64.

Royko, whose Chicago Tribune column was syndicated to more than 600 newspapers nationwide, underwent surgery last week for an aneurysm, a rupture or weakening of a blood vessel.

He had suffered the aneurysm in early April while vacationing in Florida and had been hospitalized there.

Royko's column was a cornerstone of the daily newspaper for generations of Chicago readers, first in the now-defunct Chicago Daily News, later with the Chicago Sun-Times and since 1984 with the Tribune. For most of his career he wrote five days a week.

"I think Mike Royko brought a

"*I know one yuppie male who was thrilled when he got a set of screwdrivers. He said: 'Oh, these will be perfect for prying open shellfish.'*"

MIKE ROYKO
Chicago Tribune columnist

great deal to his readers, both in humor and in skepticism and in spotting phonies," said longtime Chicago columnist Irv Kupcinet of the competing Sun-Times. "He expressed his mind without fear and did so no matter who he crossed and who he hurt."

Royko gained stature as a critic of the late Mayor Richard J. Daley at a time when most prominent Chicago-

ans treated Daley with cautious respect. Royko's 1971 biography, "Boss: Richard J. Daley of Chicago," portrayed Daley as a shrewd, autocratic politician who tolerated racism and corruption.

In typical tongue-in-cheek fashion, Royko suggested the city's motto of

Please see ROYKO on 3

Russian citizens demand official language

MOSCOW (AP) — Imagine that the United States, not the Soviet Union, collapsed at the end of the Cold War.

Suddenly, American streets were cluttered with Russian billboards, store shelves were filled with Russian products and radios played the latest hits from Moscow and Leningrad.

In reverse, this is what has happened to Russia. Today, an American arriving in Moscow is startled by the number of signs and labels in English and the abundance of American and British songs on the radio.

Too much English?

A backlash seems to be welling up, the Russian equivalent of the English-only movement in the United States and the French-only movements in France and Canada.

Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov has led the charge, calling for restrictions on the use of non-Russian words in advertising and public displays, and encouraging a renewed pride in Russia's language and culture.

"You don't see any Russian signs in Switzerland or the United States, so why should there be English signs here in Russia?" Svetlana Korolyova, deputy director of Moscow's consumer affairs department, asked recently in the English-language Moscow Times.

She was defending Luzhkov's decision to make Moscow's stores replace signs using foreign words with Russian ones. If stores comply, Moscow consumers will once again shop at "gastronom," not "supermarkets," and fill prescriptions at "aptekas," not

"drug stores." Critics have pointed out that "gastronom" itself is borrowed from French. But no matter. It sounds more Russian than "supermarket."

All this teeth-gnashing amuses Leonid Krysin, a linguistics professor at Moscow's Russian Language Institute and the author of a dictionary of foreign terms in Russian.

Sitting at a well-worn desk in an office redolent of dust and old books, Krysin observes that the English incursion is mild compared to the cacophony of Turkish and Arabic words that overwhelmed Russia in the 12th and 13th centuries.

"It's a very natural process," he says. "Since we live on the same planet, there's no way we could build walls between us."

Of course, that's precisely what the Soviet Union tried to do, and in large measure it succeeded. Even now, there's less American influence here than in most world capitals.

Borrowing words

Linguist Krysin argues that, for the most part, the torrent of English has been "a surface phenomenon," largely limited to street signs and the like. "On the whole, there aren't very many English borrowings in everyday speech."

There are many exceptions, especially in specialized fields new to Russia, such as banking and computers. Here, Russians monitor "cash flow" on their "computers," using "interfaces" and "files." A ride on the Moscow subway sys-

"*I think we as a nation have started to come to our senses ... and see that we don't have to borrow everything from the West.*"

TANYA SHESTOPEROVA

tem can be a journey into some netherworld between Moscow and New York. Signs are a jumble of English and Russian. An Adidas ad trumpets "Feet you wear." Ads for Miller beer contain long blocks of English type mixed with Russian.

How Russians react to all this depends in part on their age and politics. Older people are particularly affronted, as are political conservatives.

Young people, who listen to American and British rock and take their fashion cues from London and New York, are more open to English. Much teen slang consists of Russified English terms, such as "gira" for girl, "rinti" for parents, "shoesi" for shoes.

Beatles were to blame

In the 1960s, the unsanctioned popularity of the Beatles helped spur an interest in English among Russian youth. Now, English classes for adults are exploding in popularity.

At one of several Moscow schools run by English First, a language school based in Sweden, 23-year-old

Svetlana Grekova shifts a little uneasily on her chair when she is asked why she's studying English.

"This is what I need if I want to get a stable and reliable job," she says through a translator. Asked how many of her friends are studying English, she replies without hesitation: "All of them."

Even here at English First, there are worries about too much English.

"I have nothing against the world coming together, but we shouldn't go insane," says Tanya Shestoperova, personal assistant to the school's academic director.

Shestoperova, 22, has studied English almost her entire life and speaks it better than many Americans. Still, her Russian pride is wounded by the country's headlong dive into all things Western.

"I think we as a nation have started to come to our senses, have started to see our own cultural values, and see that we don't have to borrow everything from the West," she said.

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