

# News Digest

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## Four impeachment charges proposed

All involve Clinton's involvement with Lewinsky; Hyde presses for quick vote

WASHINGTON (AP) - In a historic drama played out in the shadow of the Capitol, House Judiciary Committee Republicans drew up four proposed articles of impeachment against President Clinton on Wednesday. All cited his sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky and the long campaign to cover it up.

Republicans cited Clinton on two counts of perjury, one count of obstruction of justice and one of abuse of power - all adding up to "high crimes and misdemeanors," the draft articles said. Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., the panel's chairman, vowed to press for a vote by week's end.

Committee approval would set the stage for a vote in the House next week, thus making Clinton only the second president in American history

### Clinton under fire

to suffer the humiliation of an impeachment roll call in Congress.

Democrats countered the Republican articles with a draft proposal to censure Clinton, citing him for "reprehensible conduct with a subordinate." Lewinsky, and demanding his signature on the instrument of his censure.

"No person is above the law and the president remains subject to criminal and civil penalties for this conduct," the Democratic proposal reads. It does not accuse Clinton of perjury, nor does it demand he pay a fine.

Beginning late today, the Republican-controlled committee

will begin formal debate on the articles of impeachment.

The first article says Clinton "willfully provided perjurious, false and misleading testimony" to Starr's grand jury.

The second says Clinton "willfully provided perjurious, false and misleading testimony" in a deposition under oath before a federal judge in the Paula Jones lawsuit.

The third alleges Clinton obstructed justice by allegedly encouraging Lewinsky to submit a false affidavit; by encouraging her to testify falsely in court and several other actions.

The fourth alleges Clinton "frivolously and corruptly" asserted executive privilege in battling Starr's investigation, and thereby abused his offi-

cial power.

Hyde issued a letter to colleagues urging them to withhold judgment for now "in this most important matter."

He spoke with reporters after Rep. Amo Houghton, R-N.Y., declared publicly his intention to oppose impeachment.

Houghton said he was doing so because he was certain Clinton would not be convicted in a Senate trial. "An awful lot of people, in their heart of hearts, would like to have another option to just up or down impeachment," he said of fellow lawmakers.

Houghton is one of 30 or so Republicans whom the White House and Democratic officials in Congress have identified as holding the balance of power on impeachment in the House.



### U.N. surprise inspection halted by Iraqi officials

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Iraqi officials blocked U.N. arms monitors from holding a surprise inspection Wednesday at the Baghdad headquarters of the ruling Baath Party, a key site in Saddam Hussein's government. U.N. officials immediately denounced the move.

The inspectors withdrew after an Iraqi official demanded they first provide a written declaration of what they were looking for, the official Iraqi News Agency said.

"This was an absolutely legal no-notice inspection and they blocked us," Richard Butler, head of the U.N. Special Commission that oversees inspections, told The Associated Press in New York.

Later Wednesday, however, an Iraqi official suggested the standoff occurred because of a mistake by an Iraqi escort in declaring the site sensitive.

The incident - which has the potential to blow up into another U.N.-Iraq crisis - came two days after Butler announced that he was ordering the resumption of surprise inspections. On Tuesday, the inspectors visited 32 sites and on Wednesday, 10 more.

### Justices balk at law to keep gang members out of public

WASHINGTON (AP) - A majority of Supreme Court justices, while being told gangs threaten "enormous evils," voiced doubts Wednesday about a Chicago law aimed at preventing gang members and their friends from hanging out in public.

"There is a concern here ... for arbitrariness of the police," Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said after being told the anti-loitering law resulted in 45,000 arrests in the three years it was enforced.

In all, six of the nine justices criticized the sweeping power the 1992 ordinance gave to police.

In a case watched by states and communities across the nation, the court must decide by July whether the ordinance is constitutional. State courts struck it down.

"Gang crime is different from most every other form of criminal activity," city lawyer Lawrence Rosenthal argued in seeking the ordinance's reinstatement. "Street gangs rely on their ability to terrorize the community."

### WWII commander honored as four-star general by Clinton

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton on Wednesday made a four-star general of Benjamin O. Davis Jr., commander of the famed Tuskegee Army who never lost a single bomber to enemy fire during 200 escort missions they performed during World War II.

Davis is "a hero in war, a leader in peace, a pioneer for freedom, opportunity and basic human dignity," Clinton said. "He earned this honor a long time ago."

Clinton bestowed the honor on Davis in a White House ceremony attended by 20 of Davis' Tuskegee-trained pilots and an array of military brass, from Secretary of Defense William Cohen to Veterans Affairs Secretary Togo West and the secretaries of the Army and Air Force.

Davis received his fourth star 28 years after he retired and 100 years after his father - America's first black brigadier general - joined the Army.

Davis' supporters say today's ceremony finally corrects a glaring disservice to the leader whose lifetime of service embodies much of the modern history of blacks in the military.

## Violence erupts in West Bank ; 87 injured

### Netyanyahu, Arafat discuss troubled peace accord after recent attack.

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) - Enraged by Israel's refusal to release security prisoners, Palestinians stoned Israeli troops Wednesday in the most widespread West Bank clashes in months. A 17-year-old was killed by Israeli gunfire and scores of other Palestinians were injured.

The violence came despite U.S. appeals for calm and raised new concerns that President Clinton's visit to the region next week is triggering unrest, rather than reassuring Israelis and Palestinians about their troubled peace accord, as was intended.

Thousands of Palestinians fired slingshots at helmeted Israeli soldiers who responded with tear gas, live rounds and rubber-coated steel pellets.

In scenes reminiscent of the

1987-93 Palestinian uprising, which began exactly 11 years ago Wednesday, streets were littered with rocks and large overturned garbage containers, and walls of thick smoke from burning tires rose in the air.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu traded new recriminations Wednesday and said they would not soften their positions despite intensive U.S. efforts to get the land-for-security accord back on track.

Netanyahu has suspended Israel's troop withdrawal in the West Bank and said that with the Palestinians violating "every part of the agreement," he was not likely to change his views. A defiant Arafat said he would not drop demands that, as part of the agreement, Israel release Palestinians jailed for anti-Israeli activities and not just common criminals. "We tell our heroes in the prisons we will not close our eyes until we see them in front of our eyes," Arafat told cheering supporters. While Wednesday's violent protests outside most West Bank towns appeared to have been coordinated to some degree by Arafat's Fatah faction, the issue touched a raw nerve in many Palestinian society and many Palestinians joined in sponta-

neously. Nearly every family has had members jailed by Israel in 30 years of occupation.

Assaf Barghouti, 21, who was shot in the arm by Israeli troops during clashes north of the town of Ramallah, said he took to the streets because his father has been held for three years without charges and his uncle has already served 21 years of a life term for an attack in which Israelis were killed.

"If Netanyahu does not release the prisoners, this will be the situation every day," Barghouti said from his hospital bed.

Barghouti's grandfather, Salah, 74, dressed in a long brown robe, said he backed the rioters. "I was out there with them, collecting rocks and giving them to the young men," he said.

A 17-year-old stone mason, Jihad Iyad, died at Ramallah Hospital after being shot in the chest by Israeli troops. In Jerusalem, Nasr Erekat, a 21-year-old university student and cousin of chief Palestinian peace negotiator Saeb Erekat, died of injuries suffered two days earlier. Both were to be buried Thursday.

In all, 87 Palestinians were injured Wednesday by rubber bullets and three by live rounds. Six Israelis, including two soldiers and two riot policemen, were hurt by stones.

## Britain: Pinochet to face trial

LONDON (AP) - Gen. Augusto Pinochet is fit to stand trial on charges of genocide and Spain can start extradition proceedings against him, Britain ruled Wednesday, delighting human rights groups and setting the 83-year-old former Chilean dictator up for a long legal battle.

Chile immediately withdrew its ambassador in protest, and already-strained relations with Britain, a long-time ally, fell to a new low.

In announcing his decision, Home Secretary Jack Straw rejected complaints that a judge who cast the key vote in the 3-2 court ruling against Pinochet was biased because he heads the fund-raising arm of Amnesty International.

"The Spanish request for his extradition will now be considered by the courts," Straw said.

Since Britain's highest court ruled Nov. 25 that Pinochet has no immunity from arrest under English law, Straw had been bombarded by pleas

from governments, lawyers, legislators, widows of victims of Chilean police torture and widows of policemen slain by leftists.

Pinochet, who has not been seen in public since his arrest while recuperating from back surgery at a London hospital, is scheduled to appear before a London magistrate Friday.

The decision means that Pinochet, under armed guard at a mansion outside London, faces months and possibly years of battles through British courts fighting extradition.

Because of the expected crush of interest, court officials moved Friday's hearing - routine under extradition law - from central London to Belmarsh Magistrate's Court, 10 miles from the center of the capital.

Pinochet's lawyers may apply to a judge today for an emergency review of Straw's decision on the grounds that it is legally flawed.

In Chile, amid the joy of his opponents and anger of supporters, there

### Injured Israeli soldier charged

JERUSALEM (AP) - The Israeli army decided Wednesday to court-martial a soldier whose beating by a Palestinian mob shocked the country and froze the peace process.

Cpl. Assaf Meyara, 19, will be charged with not carrying a loaded weapon and leaving his base without permission.

However, the army will not bring charges against the young soldier for not firing his M-16 rifle on his attackers, who smashed the windows of the car he was traveling in, dragged him out and struck him repeatedly in the head with chunks of concrete.

The attack took place last week in the West Bank town of Ramallah. In response, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu suspended the Israeli troop withdrawal in the West Bank.

The army spokesman's office said a soldier should have opened fire under such circumstances. Meyara told investigators, however, that he was unable to act because he was incapacitated by one of the first rocks striking his head.

The attackers also stole Meyara's rifle as he ran to safety. The pictures of Meyara cowering under the Palestinians and not trying to fight back touched off a national debate over whether Israel had lost its military nerve.

### Daily Nebraskan

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