

## Bush, Gore wary of proposed open-border policy

**Mexico's President-Elect Vicente Fox outlines vision in talks Thursday to loosen line between Mexico and the United States.**

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

WASHINGTON - Visiting Mexican President-elect Vicente Fox was praised Thursday by Vice President Al Gore as a man with "big ideas, very large ideas."

Republican presidential nominee George W. Bush also lauded Fox but said the United States must do a better job of protecting its southern border against illegal migration.

Fox met with Gore at his home on the grounds of the Naval Observatory and with President Clinton at the White House. Fox planned a meeting with Bush in Dallas on Friday.

The Bush statement on immigration contrasted with Fox's vision of border relations. Fox has called for the eventual creation of an open border between the United States and Mexico. But Bush, on a flight from Austin, Texas, to New Orleans, said: "I believe we ought to enforce our borders."

Bush said he will elaborate on that point in a speech he is planning today.

Leon Fuerth, Gore's national security adviser, said Gore

found aspects of Fox's open-border proposals "very problematic" for the United States. Gore listened respectfully to Fox's ideas and said implementation would take 25 to 30 years, Fuerth said.

He added that Gore outlined for Fox his concept of a "hemispheric community of democracies," a proposal Gore first introduced in a speech in Mexico City in 1993.

Gore and Fox conferred as they walked alone on the grounds of the residence. They then briefed their respective staffs regarding their conversation.

Before Clinton met with Fox, national security adviser Sandy Berger said in response to a question about the open-border proposal that the United States has an obligation to enforce its laws against illegal immigration.

But Berger, making the same point as Gore, noted that Fox has never intended his proposal to be implemented over the short term.

Rather, Berger said, Fox sees his proposal as a goal that could be implemented when wage levels between the two countries are more comparable - 20 or 30 years from now.

Later, Fox greeted Clinton in the Rose Garden and thanked him for the support he offered at the time of the financial crisis that struck Mexico five years



Mark Wilson/Newsweek

President Bill Clinton listens to Mexican President-Elect Vicente Fox as he speaks to reporters in the Rose Garden of the White House on Thursday. Fox also met with Vice President Al Gore and GOP presidential candidate George W. Bush have questioned Fox's proposed U.S.-Mexico open-border policy.

ago. "When we were in crisis, we always got and saw the hand of a friend," Fox said.

Clinton said it was a "great honor" to meet with Fox, adding that his election was a "truly historic affirmation of democracy" in Mexico.

Fox has decried the billions of dollars the United States spends each year trying to keep Mexicans off U.S. soil. His open-border plan would be part of a broader goal of achieving greater integration between the

two countries. Bush said Fox has not fully explained his position. "I need to know more about what he's referring to," Bush said.

He softened his remarks by saying that, if elected, he will have "a good long-term relationship" with Fox, who takes office Dec. 1. Bush, who has met Fox several times, described him as an "interesting" man.

"He's a big, strong man, a charismatic fellow," Bush said. Gore received Fox at the official vice presidential residence,

calling him a man with "big ideas, very large ideas" for transforming cross-border relations.

Fox's proposal for an eventual opening of borders with the United States has been greeted with skepticism by U.S. business and labor groups, but Clinton said Wednesday he wants to hear more before making a judgment.

"The devil is always in the details here, so I want to talk to him about it and see what he has in mind," Clinton said.

## Vatican rips stem-cell research

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

VATICAN CITY - The Vatican condemned research using cells from human embryos Thursday, calling it "gravely immoral."

The condemnation came just one day after the Clinton administration allowed federal funding for stem-cell research.

"A good end doesn't make good an action that in itself is bad," the Vatican's Pontifical Academy for Life wrote, noting that removing cells would kill an embryo.

The Roman Catholic church teaches that life begins at conception and must be safeguarded from that point.

It "is a gravely immoral, and thus gravely illicit, act," the document said. It also said cloning to produce embryos from which to take stem cells is also "illicit."

President Clinton praised stem-

cell research, saying it offers "potentially staggering benefits" for a wide variety of medical conditions.

New guidelines were announced Wednesday allowing federal funding for research with stem cells removed from embryos.

It does not allow research on the embryos themselves.

The Vatican academy did not dispute the hope that stem-cell research offers, and it encouraged the use of cells from adults instead of embryos, which it called "the more reasonable and humane step."

"Is it morally legitimate to produce and/or use living, human embryos for the preparation of stem cells?" the academy asked. "The answer is negative."

Last week, the Vatican condemned British plans to ease a ban on human cloning to allow cloning for research on embryos and stem cells.

*"Is it morally legitimate to produce and/or use living, human embryos for the preparation of stem cells? The answer is negative."*

**Vatican's Pontifical Academy for Life**

The Vatican academy, whose members include both Roman Catholic and non-Catholic scientists, was set up by Pope John Paul II in 1994 to help the Vatican understand biomedical issues entwined with ethics.

The pope may soon speak out about stem-cell research. The Vatican said Thursday he will address a scientific conference in Rome next week on transplant advances, including cloning possibilities.

## Banned groups see no end to Belfast wars

**Despite an earlier cease-fire agreement, feuding between two protestant organizations intensifies after three members are found dead.**

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

BELFAST, Northern Ireland - Militants in two warring Protestant paramilitary groups on Thursday warned that they see no end in sight to their feud, which already has claimed three lives and brought fear back to the streets of Belfast.

"There are those on both sides hell-bent on continuing it until they feel they have drawn enough blood," said Billy Hutchinson, a politician linked to the Ulster Volunteer Force, reacting to news of the latest killing.

A gunman suspected of links to the rival Ulster Defense Association broke into a home in Belfast's hard-line Oldpark district late Wednesday and fatally shot Sam Rocket, 21, in front of his girlfriend.

The feud between the UDA and the Ulster Volunteer Force - two outlawed groups who are supposed to be observing a cease-fire in support of Northern Ireland's 1998 peace accord - first turned deadly Monday when a suspected UVF gunman shot up a car parked on Oldpark's Crumlin Road, killing two men.

One of those victims, Bobby Mahood, was being buried Thursday.

The funeral for the other, UDA veteran Jackie Coulter, is scheduled for today.

Police arrested five Protestant militants in possession of several guns soon after the attack. Among them was Rocket's older brother, who was being arraigned Thursday on weapons charges.

The Rocket family once was in the UDA fold but was expelled in the mid-1990s because of an argument over control of criminal rackets. Some family members had since realigned themselves with the UVF.

Police arrested six more Protestant militants late Wednesday after spotting them in two cars parked on Belfast's Shankill Road. They pursued them on foot into a neighborhood bedecked with UDA flags and murals. Later, they discovered six firearms - a submachine gun, rifle, shotgun and three handguns - abandoned on the pavement.

UDA representatives coldly predicted they hadn't yet evened the score for Monday's double slaying. Therefore, Sammy Rocket wouldn't be the last to die.

"This is something I was expecting, and I don't see an end to it," said John White, chairman of the UDA-linked Ulster Democratic Party.

The UVF, founded in 1966, and the UDA, founded in 1971, have killed more than 800 Catholic civilians in a campaign designed to punish the Irish Republican Army, which has roots in Belfast's most hard-line Catholic districts.

The Protestant groups called a joint cease-fire in 1994 six weeks after the IRA stopped its campaign to abolish Northern Ireland as a Protestant-majority state linked to Britain.

The Protestant groups' alliance, always under strain over competition for control of lucrative rackets such as drug trafficking and cigarette smuggling, began to unravel in 1996 when the IRA temporarily abandoned its cease-fire.

The UDA is by far the larger group, with an estimated 2,000 members. Police estimate the UVF has no more than 300.

## Flight data, cockpit recorders recovered

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

MINA SALMAN PORT, Bahrain - A man's black shoe, a plastic sandal and bits of yellow foam padding bobbed Thursday in the waters off this tiny island nation where families were burying loved ones a day after Gulf Air Flight 072 crashed, killing all 143 aboard.

Bahraini authorities and U.S. Navy divers based in the Gulf recovered both black boxes - the flight data and voice cockpit recorders - near where the plane slammed into shallow water off Bahrain's shore.

According to Bahrain civil defense chief James Windsor, neither box appeared damaged.

Windsor received the voice cockpit recorder Thursday from the U.S. Navy divers who brought it to shore.

Authorities were awaiting the arrival of experts from the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board for help with the Bahraini-led investigation. Six French government experts and an Airbus Industries representative flew in Thursday evening.

Ali Ahmedi, a spokesman and an acting

vice president for Gulf Air, said it was too early to speculate on what caused the plane to crash as it circled the airport before coming in to land. But he said there was no indication the pilot was anticipating an emergency landing.

Transportation Minister Sheik Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said he was hopeful the black boxes would provide some clues.

Under the best of circumstances, a water landing is risky, said Michael Barr, director of the aviation program at the University of Southern California. Even a pilot coming in relatively slowly onto the water, hoping to skip across its surface like a stone tossed by a child, could clip a wing and lose control, he said.

And the depth of the water would make little difference to the landing, experts said: A large airplane that crashes at high speed is going to be destroyed, whatever it hits.

Evidence of that destruction lay off Bahrain on Thursday. In waters often less than 10 feet deep, shadowy bits of wing and fuselage, mostly in small pieces, were resting on the sandy sea floor.

Most traces of the 143 victims were collected in the hours after the Cairo-to-Bahrain flight crashed Wednesday evening.



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## Weather

**TODAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
high 93, low 72

**TOMORROW**  
Partly Cloudy  
high 92, low 72

**SUNDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
high 95, low 71

## World/Nation Briefs

The Associated Press

### California Stranger stabs two children to death with pitchfork

MERCED - A stranger broke into a home and fatally stabbed a 9-year-old girl and her 8-year-old brother with a pitchfork before he was shot to death by sheriff's deputies.

Three other siblings, including one who was bleeding from puncture wounds, escaped by climbing through windows and running through fields to a neighbor's house, where one called 911.

"There's somebody in my house who I don't know," 14-year-old Jessica Lynn Carpenter told the dispatcher.

"(He's) stabbing my brother and sister with a pitchfork. You have to be careful - he's going to kill them."

The man's identity was not immediately known, but there appeared to be no connection between him and the family.

The children's parents were not at home at the time, the Merced Sun-Star reported.

### Nebraska Residents vote to change name to Girls and Boys Town

BOYS TOWN - It's now Girls and Boys Town.

In a shower of confetti and balloons, Boys Town officials announced Thursday that residents had approved a name change for the home for troubled youth.

Nearly seven of every 10 residents voted in favor of the change, intended to reflect the growing role that young girls now play at the home made famous by the Oscar-winning 1938 Spencer Tracy movie.

Ballots were distributed Wednesday to the home's 1,000 residents at all 18 sites from California to New England, including the 500 youths age 10 to 18 at the main Boys Town campus west of Omaha.

The name of the incorporated village of Boys Town, Neb., will not change.

### Florida Storm Debby is a dud; tourists asked to come back

MIAMI - Storm Debby turned out to be a dud, and officials invited tourists back to the Florida Keys on Thursday.

The mandatory evacuations order issued Wednesday for all visitors was lifted at 9 a.m., after Debby weakened and began heading south of Cuba instead of taking aim at the island chain. A state of emergency was also lifted.

Debby, which was downgraded to a tropical storm on Wednesday, weakened further as it hit Cuba, its rain bands soaking the islands in its wake. By midday Thursday, it had dissipated into a tropical wave with no definable center.

Forecasters said there would be no more advisories unless the remnants move over the Gulf of Mexico and regenerate.

### Washington, D.C. Diplomatic courier killed in Bahraini air crash

A 31-year-old diplomatic courier, carrying classified information in yellow pouches, died in the Gulf Air crash in the Persian Gulf that killed all 143 passengers and crew members, the State Department said Thursday.

The courier, Seth J. Foti, joined the service 14 months ago and was based in Manama, Bahrain, for a little more than a year, spokesman Richard Boucher said.

"His dedication to the mission of the courier service was unmatched, and he was clearly an asset to the Department of State and the U.S. government," Boucher said. "His friends and colleagues in the U.S. government will miss him very dearly."

Diplomatic couriers carry classified papers and classified equipment. Boucher said he did not know what Foti, one of 97 U.S. couriers, had with him aboard the airplane that crashed into the Persian Gulf on Wednesday night.

Three U.S. military helicopters and 10 small ships are assisting in salvage efforts, which include attempts to recover the pouches.