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Air Force to maintain MX missiles at 6 bases

Proposed plans call for emptying silos at F. E. Warren Air Force Base

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Air Force announced Wednesday that planned rail-mobile MX nuclear missiles will be based at six Air Force installations in Louisiana, North Dakota, Washington, Texas, Arkansas and Michigan beginning in 1992.

The Bush administration plans to take 50 MX missiles out of their silos at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., and place them on trains that would move around the country during a superpower crisis.

The Air Force announced it selected the following for rail garrison sites: Barksdale Air Force Base, La.; Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.; Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash.; Dyess Air Force Base, Texas; Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.; and Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Mich.

It earlier said the main operating base for the rail garrison scheme would remain at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming.

Each base would have four to six trains.

Other installations considered but rejected were Minot Air Force Base, N.D., Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont., Eaker Air Force Base, Ark., and Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo.

"The selections for Peacekeeper (MX) Rail Garrison basing were made using specific operational requirements, including access to the National Rail Network, land

availability, installation security, environmental impact and other factors," the Air Force said.

Under the rail basing scheme, two missiles will be placed aboard 25 trains to be housed at existing Air Force locations. The trains will remain on base on a day-to-day alert basis and would disperse only during a national emergency.

"After leaving the installations, the trains will have access to more than 120,000 miles of available commercial track. This dispersal will offer enhanced ICBM survivability in the event of an enemy attack," the Air Force said.

Plans call for the first train bearing two MX missiles to become operational in 1992.

In Louisiana, Sen. J. Bennett Johnston, D-La., and Rep. Jim McCrery, R-La., hailed the selection and said the system will create up to 500 new jobs and generate as much as \$100 million in the Shreveport-Bossier area.

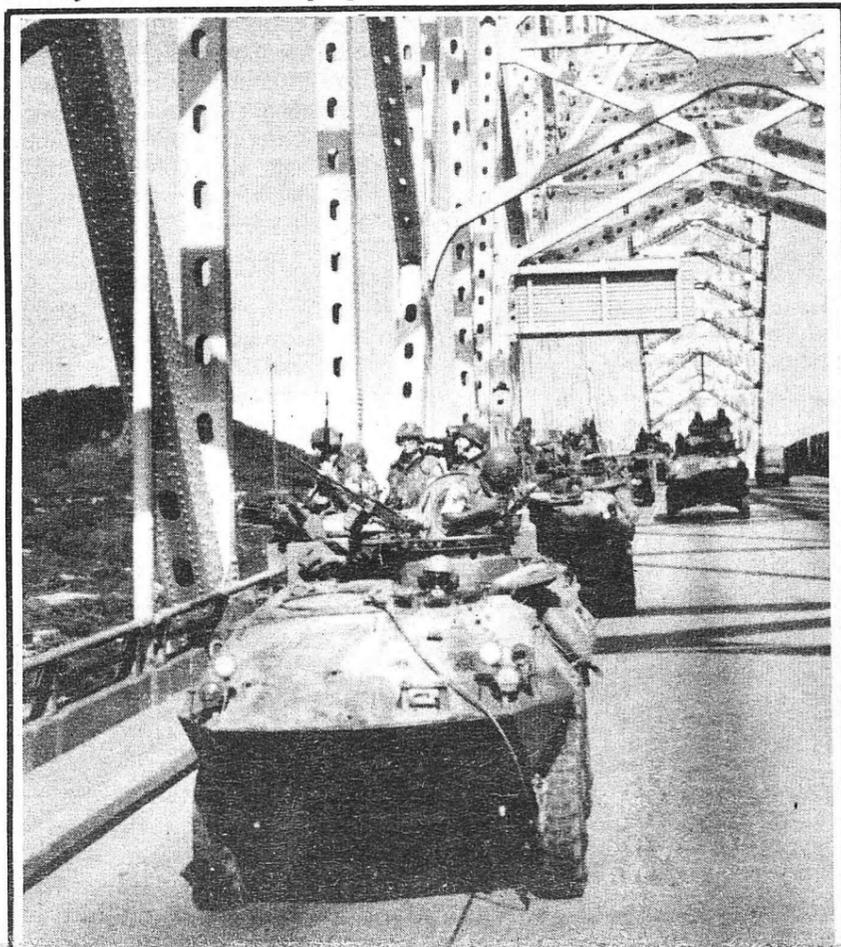
But Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said he remained opposed to missile despite the selection of the Michigan base.

"As the threat from the Soviets and their allies diminishes, why should we go ahead with this \$10 billion redundant nuclear weapons system?" Levin asked.

Referring to news reports that the Army may seek to end M-1 tank

production in 1991, Levin said, "If tank production ends, we lose many more jobs than the MX program

would create in Michigan. That's not a good tradeoff, for Michigan or for the nation."



IMMEDIATE RESPONSE — Marines from D Co., 2nd LAI Bn., Marine Forces Panama, cross the Bridge of the Americas Tuesday. Immediately following notification from the Joint Task Force headquarters, the Marines mounted their light armored vehicles and once again asserted America's rights under the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Robert C. Jenks)

Armed services draft plans for major budget cuts

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — The U.S. armed services have drafted plans for major cuts in military personnel and weapons by 1994 to meet Defense Secretary Dick Cheney's call for deep budget cuts,

the Washington Post reported this week.

The Post said more than 250,000 military personnel could be cut and three active-duty Army divisions, five Air Force fighter wings and 62 Navy ships could be eliminated.

Citing Defense Department officials, the Post said the proposed reductions would dramatically change the face of the armed forces and force major shifts in U.S. military strategy and the global deployment of ships, aircraft and personnel.

It would mean a 16 percent reduction in active Army combat divisions, a 20 percent cut in the Air Force's fighter wings and an 11 percent cutback of naval ships, the paper said.

It said military leaders had proposed to start the cuts in the fiscal 1991 budget that begins next Oct. 1, with the full reductions scheduled to be completed by 1994.

But Cheney "is still engaged in a political duel" with Office of Management and Budget Director Richard Darman, who is seeking even deeper military spending cuts, the Post said.

Cheney reportedly began planning for major military cuts two months ago.

But he has toughened his resolve in response to reduced East-West tension sparked by the political

upheavals sweeping Eastern Europe and political pressures from

Darman, who is anxious to reduce the federal deficit, the Post said.

Noriega claims RP willing to talk with U.S. concerning differences

PANAMA CITY, Panama (Reuter) — Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega said Wednesday that Panama would be willing to hold direct talks with the United States over whatever differences exist between the two nations.

"We are open and disposed to discuss under equal conditions the situation of Panama and the United States," said Noriega in an address. "We are open to discuss anything."

Noriega, who narrowly survived a bloody coup attempt Oct. 3 in which 10 people died, also charged that the United States had backed the plotters with close to \$3 million.

He said the money was mainly used to recruit backers but he did not elaborate.

"The presence (of the United States)...is real and specific," he told a group of Americans here for a conference on U.S. intervention in Central America. "There is no doubt...that they spent almost \$3 million."

Noriega has charged on earlier occasions that the United States was involved in the coup. The United States has denied having a role, but U.S. officials have said they knew

about it in advance and U.S. troops blocked roads to Noriega's headquarters the day it occurred.

Noriega is under indictment in two U.S. courts on drug trafficking and other charges, which he has denied.

The Panamanian leader also said that elections would be held when social and economic conditions in the country improved, but did not give a date. He added that elections also depended upon an end to what he called U.S. aggression.

The United States has no formal diplomatic relations with Panama's government, which annulled elections held last May in which the opposition claimed victory.

Meanwhile, Panama's civilian opposition warned in a statement that any new U.S. economic sanctions aimed at ousting Noriega would only hurt the Panamanian people by deepening the country's economic crisis.

Secretary of State James Baker said earlier this month that the United States was considering imposing additional sanctions. The existing U.S. sanctions include forbidding U.S. companies to pay taxes in Panama.

AF set to discuss tour length changes

HOWARD AFB (24 COMPW/PA) -- There will be four meetings at the Howard AFB base theater Monday that will include discussions on prorations and tour lengths.

8 a.m. -- Unaccompanied personnel on short 15-month or extended short 27-month tours.

10:30 a.m. -- Accompanied personnel whose dependents never joined them in Panama; 30, 36, 42 and 48-month tours and those who had their tours changed to 27 months.

1 p.m. -- Personnel who early-returned their dependents.

3 p.m. -- Military married to military without dependents.

Inside:

'Slain' pilot alive... p.3

Europe faces battle... p.5

Army wins 'war'... p.6

Noticias breves... p.8

U.S. news

Thornburgh concerned with security threat

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Attorney General Dick Thornburgh defended his scuttling of a key Iran-Contra trial Wednesday, saying "I've got a job to do" in protecting national security secrets.

In a testy session with reporters, Thornburgh also said he would "go where the evidence leads" in the Housing and Urban Development Department scandal. He did not, however, respond to demands for an independent investigation of former HUD Secretary Samuel Pierce, who served in the Reagan Cabinet with Thornburgh.

Thornburgh appeared for only the second time at a daily briefing for Justice Department reporters. The meeting became somewhat heated

over Thornburgh's persistent attempts to stop "news leaks" by instituting more restrictive press policies.

Last week, a federal judge dismissed all Iran-Contra charges against Joseph Fernandez, the former top CIA official in Costa Rica. Thornburgh had barred the use of some intelligence information at the Fernandez trial, although special Iran-Contra prosecutor Lawrence Walsh said it involved "fictional secrets" already known to the public.

Fernandez said later that his CIA superiors approved of his efforts on behalf of White House aide Oliver North's secret, illegal supply operation on behalf of the Nicaraguan Contras.

"It's not easy" balancing national security against a defendant's right to a fair trial, Thornburgh said.

"You can run but you can't hide from making tough decisions in this office," the attorney general added. "I've got a job to do."

The American Civil Liberties Union asked top congressional leaders Wednesday to investigate Thornburgh's actions in the Fernandez case.

Morton Halperin, director of the ACLU Washington office, said "there is a strong possibility that Thornburgh's action stemmed more from the CIA's desire both to protect Fernandez and to cover up its own involvement in the Iran-Contra affair, as well as from Thornburgh

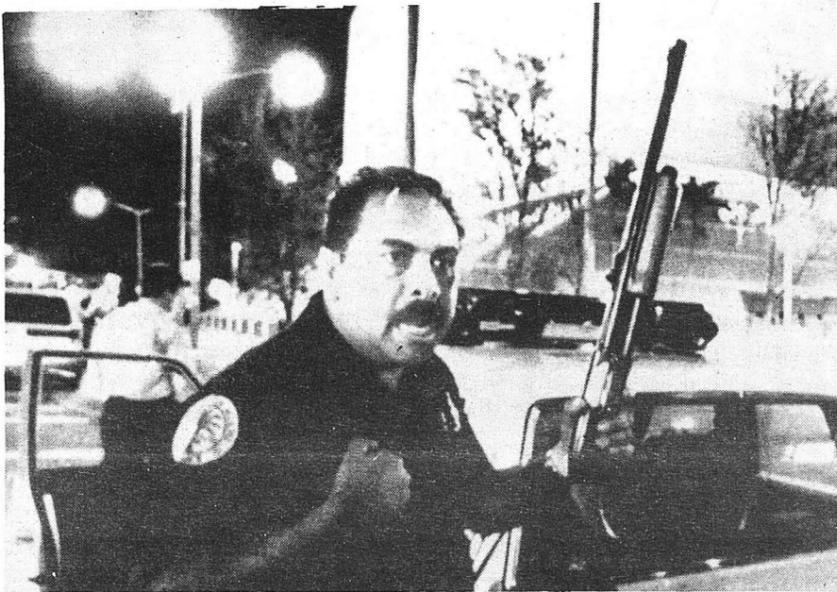
and the Bush administration's reluctance to see the case go to trial than from any real threat to national security."

Thornburgh spokesman David Runkel said, "He very carefully cross-examined the intelligence agencies on their reasons for keeping this material out of the trial and was satisfied that there are national security concerns."

Thornburgh also was questioned about the scandal during the Reagan administration at HUD and calls by Democratic members of Congress for a special prosecutor.

"Dick Thornburgh is going to go where the evidence leads," the attorney general said, but he did not elaborate.

Miami police officer to testify in own defense



A shotgun-toting Miami police officer stands in front of the Miami Arena in Miami's Overtown after a fatal shooting of a black motorcyclist by a white Miami police officer touched off riots in January. (AP Laserphoto)

MIAMI (UPI) — A Hispanic policeman who killed a black motorcyclist in January, sparking three days of racial riots, was following routine police procedure just before the shooting, a criminologist testified Wednesday.

Meanwhile, defense attorney Roy Black said Miami Officer William Lozano would testify Thursday to give his own account of the Jan. 16 shooting.

"He wants to explain what happened so he wants to testify," Black said during a court recess. "I have no doubt that when one is a public official, a police officer, there are expectations that you explain your actions."

Lozano, 31, is charged with shooting motorcyclist Clement Lloyd, 23, while he was fleeing another officer in a patrol car. Lloyd was shot in the head and died instantly. His passenger, Allan Blanchard, 24, died the next day from injuries suffered in the ensuing crash.

Lozano, a five-year policeman, is charged with two counts of manslaughter and would face 60 years in prison if convicted.

William J. Bopp, a criminologist at Florida Atlantic University, testified Wednesday that Lozano was using routine law enforcement procedure when he stepped into the street after hearing Lloyd's motorcycle.

Lozano, who was sent to Overtown to investigate a report of a domestic disturbance, was discussing an unrelated matter with an Overtown resident just before the shooting.

"When Officer Lozano walked into the street, he was engaging in a routine form of police activity," Bopp said. "And that police activity he engaged in violated no police standards that I'm aware of — If you're curious as a police officer, you must investigate."

The shooting, which occurred in the black community of Overtown following a parade honoring Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, set off three days of rioting in Miami's black communities.

Lozano claims he shot Lloyd in self-defense as the motorcyclist tried to run him over with his high-performance Kawasaki Ninja 600. Prosecutors claim Lozano's life was never in danger and the shooting was unjustified.

There was no way for Lozano to know he was about to be involved in a potentially dangerous situation, Bopp said.

"Also, it is my opinion," he volunteered, "that it could not have been reasonably foreseeable to Officer Lozano when he walked out into the street that anybody's life, including his own, could have been in jeopardy just by walking in the street."

Cancer linked to power lines

WASHINGTON (AP) — A study by a leading U.S. health scientist has found a statistically significant link between cancer and human exposure to electromagnetic fields from the network of electrical wires that criss-cross the nation.

The unpublished findings by Dr. Genevieve Matanoski of Johns Hopkins University add to a rising sense of concern in the American scientific community that health risks from power distribution lines no longer can be ruled out.

Ms. Matanoski, a professor of epidemiology, said in a telephone interview Wednesday her findings were preliminary and required further testing.

The major conclusions from her study of 50,000 New York state telephone workers are that there may be an increased risk of leukemia among active workers, and that incidence rates for almost all types of cancer are highest among linemen, whose exposure to electromagnetic

fields is the highest in the telephone worker group.

Ms. Matanoski also found exceptionally high rates of breast cancer among male technicians who work on central office telephone switching equipment. Her study found two cases of breast cancer among 9,500 central office technicians; ordinarily the incidence rate for males would be about one in one million, she said.

Ms. Matanoski reported on her study at a technical meeting sponsored jointly by the Energy Department and the Electric Power Research Institute in Portland, Ore., Nov. 15. She said she expected to publish the findings early next year.

Ms. Matanoski stressed in the interview that she was not yet convinced of any health danger associated with power lines, but said she no longer was willing to rule it out. She said she needed to study a larger number of workers in further research.

Rape victim returns to Wall Street

NEW YORK (UPI) — A woman attacked and raped by a gang of teenagers during a Central Park jog last spring has returned to her job at a top Wall Street investment firm and spends her leisure time jogging in the city, sources said Wednesday.

The 29-year-old woman, who was left for dead after the April 19 assault, returned to work as an associate in corporate financing at Salomon Brothers at 1 New York

Plaza on Monday, the sources said.

Her six alleged assailants are charged with rape and attempted murder and are now involved in pretrial hearings.

The woman, who was brain damaged in the attack, also has returned to her running routine, the sources said, jogging in Manhattan with family members and friends.

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hemisphere

Bush to complain about Cuba at summit

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Bush, prompted by a Nobel Peace Prize winner, said Tuesday he will urge Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to halt support to those "fueling revolution" in Central America, particularly Cuba's Fidel Castro.

Speaking with reporters in the Oval Office, Bush also said he would protest the abuse of any U.S. citizen's rights abroad, but added he would look with disfavor at any attempt by

Americans to overthrow a government.

The president was apparently referring to the arrest Sunday of an American church worker in violence-torn El Salvador by authorities who said they found a large cache of weapons in her yard.

Bush, preparing for a weekend summit in the Mediterranean with Gorbachev, said he got a telephone call early Tuesday from Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, who won the

1987 Nobel Peace Prize for seeking a regional solution to conflict in Central America.

The president said Arias asked him to urge the Soviet leader to stop support to those exporting violence into the region.

"As Mr. Arias said, there is one person most responsible for support of the FMLN (leftist guerrillas) trying to deny democracy to Central America, deny democracy to El Salvador, and that is Fidel Castro," Bush said.

The president quickly added that Arias "at the same time coupled" Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega as sharing responsibility with Cuba's communist leader.

The Bush administration announced Monday that Soviet arms in Central America would be a chief topic at the summit, particularly since the crash Saturday of an aircraft carrying Soviet-made missiles into San Salvador. The Salvadoran government charged the plane came from Nicaragua.

"I'm very concerned about the events in Central America," Bush

told he reporters he summoned to the Oval Office for the purpose of minimizing expectations about the summit.

"I will be urging Mr. Gorbachev to do what they should have done some time ago — cease support for those who are fueling revolution, exporting it in this hemisphere," Bush said.

"I don't think I'm blindsiding Mr. Gorbachev by this, but I will raise with him, at Arias's request, the fact that the Soviet Union should stop feeding Fidel Castro," the president said.

Six Jesuits priests were massacred in San Salvador earlier this month during a rebel offensive. Bush has said that Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani assured him government forces were not involved.

On Sunday, in a further twist of events, Jennifer Jean Casolo, an American church worker, was arrested in the Salvadoran capital after authorities said they found large quantities of ammunition and explosives in her yard.



EL SALVADOR STATEMENT — President Bush talks to reporters aboard Air Force One. Bush said Tuesday he will urge Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to halt support to those "fueling revolution" in Central America, particularly Cuba's Fidel Castro. (AP Laserphoto)

Bush OKs Colombia meet

BOGOTA, Colombia (Reuter) — President Bush will travel to Colombia in February to attend an anti-drug summit with the presidents of Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, the presidential press office said this week.

Presidential spokesman Carlos Osorio said that current plans called for the summit to be held in Cartagena, a seaside Caribbean resort.

He said the exact date, agenda and venue of the summit would be determined by a meeting of foreign ministry officials of the four countries involved.

The three nations account for virtually the entire global supply of cocaine. Nearly all the world's coca leaf, the raw material for cocaine, is produced in Peru and Bolivia and the leaf is then refined into cocaine in Colombia.

Representatives from the three South American countries will meet

in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, Jan. 10, to adopt a common stand to take to the summit with Bush, a senior Bolivian official told Reuters last week in La Paz.

The official, Deputy Social Defense Minister Gustavo Rico, said officials at the meeting would seek to adopt a strategy to combat coca production, cocaine refining and drug trafficking.

Bush has said he will allocate more than \$250 million in military and law enforcement assistance to the three countries next year to help them in their anti-narcotics campaigns.

The presidents of Colombia, Peru and Bolivia already had met in early October in Ica, Peru, to discuss anti-narcotics strategy and invited Bush to a summit to discuss the topic.

Bush accepted the invitation within hours.

The announcement by Colombia is the first official statement that the summit will be held in that country.

'Slain' pilot turns up alive

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (UPI) — A Nicaraguan pilot who Salvadoran officials said died in the crash of a small plane that was smuggling anti-aircraft missiles to El Salvador's rebels surfaced Tuesday alive and well in Managua.

"Here I am, alive," Mauricio Quiroz, 36, told reporters in the Nicaraguan capital of Managua.

Salvadoran military officials had identified Quiroz as the pilot of a two-engine Cessna 310 aircraft loaded with Soviet and U.S.-made anti-aircraft missiles that crashed Saturday in southeastern El Salvador.

The officials said they used evidence collected at the crash site to determine that one of the four bodies found in the wreckage was Quiroz. Three crewmembers also died, one apparently of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani Sunday suspended diplomatic and commercial ties with Managua, saying the crash proved that Nicaragua was secretly arming the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front guerrillas.

The heat-seeking, shoulder-fired

SA-7 and Redeye missiles are not known to have been used to date in the FMLN's 10-year-old war against the government.

Quiroz, dressed in a captain's uniform of the Nicaraguan airline Aeronica, displayed his pilot's license and passport as well as verification that he piloted an Aeronica flight to Panama on the day of the El Salvador crash and returned to Managua the following day.

"It was a commonplace commercial flight," he said. Quiroz said he had not operated small planes like the Cessna 310.

"I am not familiar with this type of airplane, the Cessna 310 that carried those arms. I have never flown that type of airplane," he said. "I have been a commercial pilot for Aeronica since 1981 in (Boeing) 707 and 727 aircrafts."

Quiroz said he flew with Nicaragua's Sandinista Air Force in 1979 and 1980 but never held military rank. After leaving the military he immediately obtained a post as a commercial pilot for Aeronica, which has scheduled flights to Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Mexico.

RP regime frees two, retains Endara's guards

PANAMA CITY, Panama (UPI) — Two key Panamanian opposition figures arrested by intelligence officers on their return from Washington were interrogated for about 21 hours before being freed Tuesday, the leaders' colleagues said.

Opposition Christian Democratic Party Vice President Guillermo Cochez and Francisco Artola, a trusted adviser to opposition leader Guillermo Endara, were arrested at Panama City's Omar Torrijos International Airport about 6:45 p.m. Monday as they arrived from a U.S. visit.

They were released about 4 p.m. Tuesday. Government authorities declined to confirm the arrests.

Cochez and Artola had traveled to

Washington to represent Panama's opposition at the Organization of American States general assembly held Nov. 13-18.

The opposition attributed the arrests to anger in the government of Panamanian Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega over reports the Central Intelligence Agency is recruiting exiled dissidents for new covert attempts to oust the military strongman, who has been indicted in the United States.

The purported \$3 million CIA scheme was disclosed Nov. 16 by the Los Angeles Times.

"The detention of the two prominent leaders of the Democratic Civil Opposition Alliance falls within

the context of the campaign that the regime has launched against the opposition under the slogan, 'an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth,'" an opposition statement said.

In Washington, the State Department condemned "this outrageous act."

"This is only the latest of many human rights violations perpetrated by the Noriega regime in its desperate effort to cling to power," State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said.

The Panamanian government said after disclosure of the purported CIA plan that it could not guarantee the safety of opposition leaders or U.S. citizens living in Panama.

Since the aborted Oct. 3 coup

attempt to oust Noriega, Panamanian authorities have detained at least three other opposition leaders at the airport, including Guillermo Marquez Amado, Roberto Arosemena and Mario Galindo. The three said Panamanian authorities interrogated and tortured them.

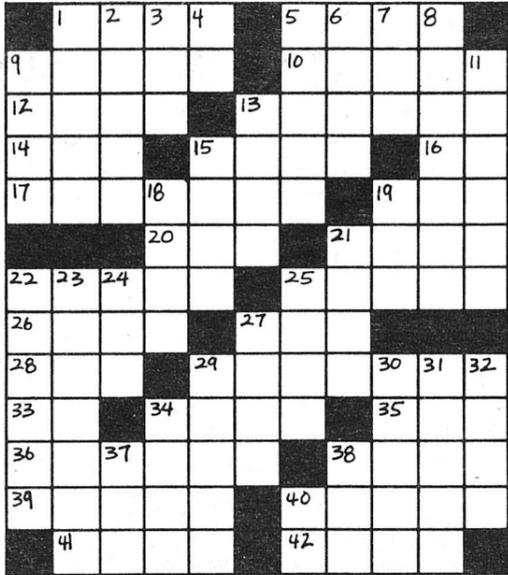
Officials of Panama's G-2 intelligence unit detained two of Endara's assistants, Miguel Batista and Ivan Mojica, Nov. 19 on unspecified charges. Opposition sources said the two still have not been released.

Endara, who kept a low profile since the failed coup attempt, went into hiding after his two assistants were arrested.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Roman philosopher and patriot
- 5. Bind tightly together (naut.)
- 9. Claws
- 10. Dens
- 12. Metal
- 13. One to whom property is bailed (L.)
- 14. Evening (poet.)
- 15. Lament
- 16. Music note
- 17. Give up hope
- 19. Skin tumor
- 20. Skill
- 21. Shell for ice cream
- 22. Happening each day
- 25. Leagues, as of German states
- 26. Begrudge
- 27. Distress signal
- 28. Pig pen
- 29. Sleeveless garments
- 33. Native fort
- 34. Young sheep
- 35. Perish
- 36. Mountain nymphs
- 38. Piece of baked clay
- 39. Taut



- 40. Moved, as by using a pole
- 41. Having toes
- DOWN**
- 1. Cut, as a roast
- 2. Fragrant wood of agalloch
- 3. 2,000 lbs.
- 4. Ahead
- 5. Instinctive discernment
- 6. Scold
- 7. Trouble
- 8. Profess
- 9. Bound
- 11. Nets
- 12. Lure
- 15. Cunning
- 18. Chummy
- 19. Gained
- 21. A point, as on a tooth
- 22. An absolute ruler
- 23. Chief star in Scorpio
- 24. Climbing plant
- 25. Missile weapon
- 27. Problems in addition
- 29. Compact stones, commonly green
- 30. Urban official (Rom.)
- 31. Vexed
- 32. Plant ovule
- 34. Final
- 37. East by northeast (abbr.)
- 38. Also
- 40. Point (abbr.)

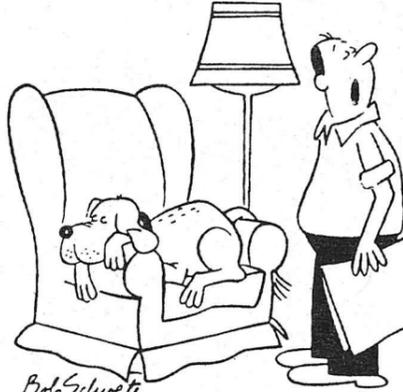
LAFF-A-DAY



"It's the latest rumor...and that's the truth!"



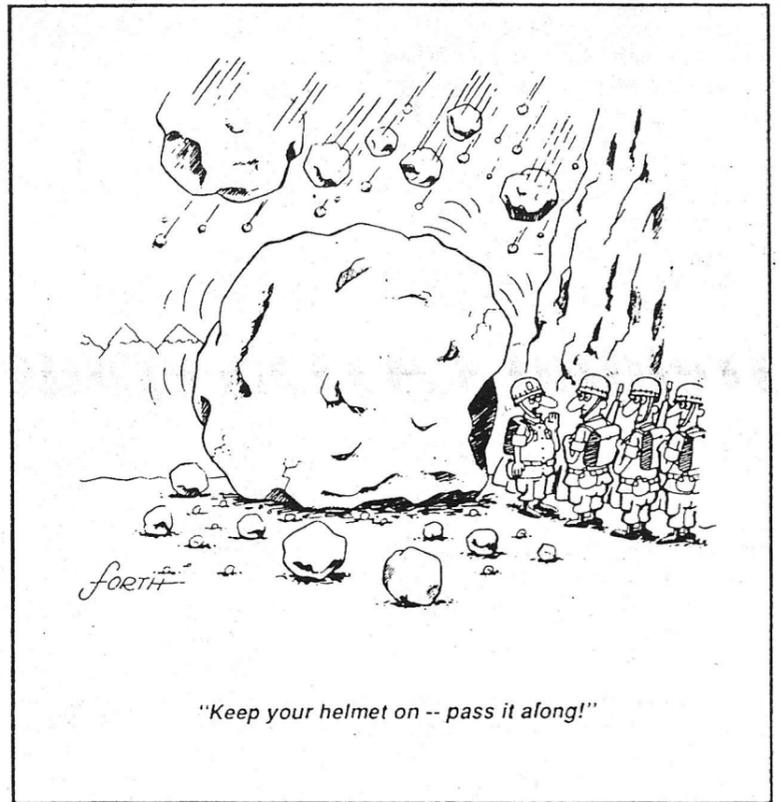
"Be patient! There are no shortcuts to success. You've been with us only 22 years."



"Rattle the can opener, will you, hon!"



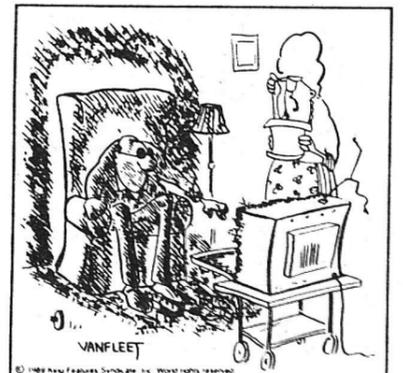
"The best things in life got me five to ten!"



"Keep your helmet on -- pass it along!"



"I'd like you to meet my bitter half."



"The warranty just ran out."

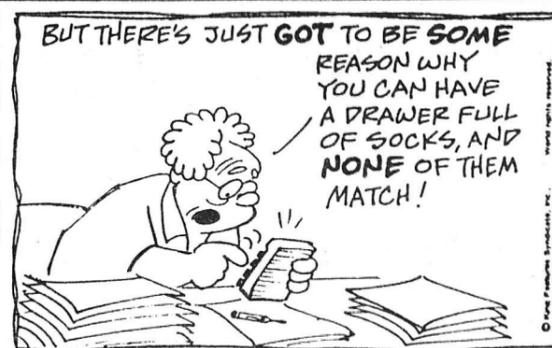
MagicMaze

E X P L O D E R N D L I U B S
 X F A F A R M E R I P M U K K
 P A S H E P M C A D D I C O J
 Y R E K Y L S E R E L D D E P
 S R X C I F X H S D L B S Y E
 H A T A O P I E E I U U A E D
 E N M N L W P R N P B I I K D
 P C X O E P B E E S H D L C L
 H H R H I S M O R M D E O O E
 E E S K A A F A Y A A S R J E
 R R S F N O J O C K Y N Y D R

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions -- forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

- | | | | |
|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Sailor | Builder | Fireman | Peddler |
| Umpire | Caddie | Jockey | Rancher |
| Sentry | Farmer | Lineman | Shepherd |
| Skipper | Explorer | Mailmen | |

Professor Phumble



BUT THERE'S JUST GOT TO BE SOME REASON WHY YOU CAN HAVE A DRAWER FULL OF SOCKS, AND NONE OF THEM MATCH!

Answers to King Crossword



world roundup

EC summit facing battle over future

PARIS (Reuter) — European Community leaders have agreed to smooth Eastern Europe's path to democracy with cash but the battle over the future of the Community itself remains to be fought.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, so often a discordant voice at EC gatherings, praised the "harmony and unanimity" of the leaders' dinner in Paris Saturday.

But she made clear that next month's regular EC summit in Strasbourg will be a more combative affair if France tries to use the upheavals in the Soviet bloc to propel the Community faster towards a common EC currency and central bank.

"It really would be very ironic if we were insisting that Eastern Europe moves to full democracy and full human rights as a condition of aid, while we ourselves take something out of the heart of parliamentary control and out of democratic accountability," she told a news conference.

The 12 Community leaders agreed that the breaching of the Berlin Wall, the revolts in the Soviet republics and the daily retreat of communism in the East bloc must not lead to any revision of the post-World War Two borders in Europe.

French President Francois Mitterrand, who currently chairs EC meetings, will make that clear in telephone calls to President Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev

before their shipboard summit off Malta Dec. 2-3.

But Mitterrand believes that as Europe's ideological barriers are dismantled, a strong and deeply-integrated European Community will be needed as the central pillar of the continent's new political order.

Having chaired a three-hour debate on Eastern Europe at the Elysee Palace Saturday, he intends to use the Dec. 8-9 summit in Strasbourg to move the Community in that direction by accelerating its drive for economic and monetary union.

"We will now have our minds clearer to talk about EC structures (in Strasbourg)," he said after the dinner.

The monetary union model favored by Mitterrand and European Commission President Jacques Delors would create a federal central banking system and give EC institutions control over the budgetary policies of the member states.

Thatcher has vowed to fight such an enormous transfer of power to Brussels and insists that the Community should concentrate on its plans to become a giant barrier-free market by the end of 1992.

Other leaders made clear Saturday that the changes in Eastern Europe were bound to overshadow the Strasbourg summit, whatever the formal agenda.

West German Chancellor Helmut

Kohl, while reassuring his partners that Bonn would not be seduced away from EC integration by the prospect of reunification with East Germany, stressed the urgency of helping the leading reformers — Poland and Hungary.

"If the reforms in Poland and Hungary...should fail it would have unpredictable consequences for the whole of Europe and not least for

East Germany," he said.

Kohl's role in the monetary union debate in Strasbourg will be pivotal, since his government is split between those who want to send a strong political signal to the Community and those who worry that the Delors plan will erode the leading role of the West German mark and the Bundesbank in the EC's economic affairs.



HARMONIOUS THATCHER? — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, often a discordant voice at European Community gatherings, has praised the "harmony and unanimity" of the most recent gathering. She is shown here with Cypriot President George Vassilou. (AP Laserphoto)

Ireland's AIDS epidemic center of controversy

DUBLIN, Ireland (Reuter) — Dublin, the city at the center of the fastest-growing AIDS epidemic in Europe, has been hit by a dispute over the sale of condoms, widely recognized as one of the most effective measures for preventing the killer disease.

The number of AIDS cases is

Care for some cocoa wine?

LAGOS, Nigeria (Reuter) — Hot cocoa in the morning may well have to make room for chilled cocoa wine in the evening if two Nigerian entrepreneurs have their way.

For the past year, Ekenem Industries Ltd. of Lagos has been marketing wines made from fermented cocoa beans, using a patented process that removes the chocolate taste and smell to create a beverage almost identical to grape wine.

"It's popular," co-owner Edet Ekanem told Reuters, adding that in just two months the company sold about \$40,000 worth of wine at \$15 for a 12-bottle case.

Cocoa wine is one of many new products, ranging from cocoa breads to chocolate-covered corn candy, that Africa's big cocoa-producing countries are studying to boost domestic consumption and reduce a glut that has torpedoed world prices.

Ekanem thinks people could develop a taste for cocoa wine, even if their usual tippie may be Beaujolais or Cotes du Rhone.

He said free samples given to the Nigerian presidency and the U.S. Embassy in Lagos got favorable reviews.

"Last year when the U.S. embassy had their wine night they commented

doubling every nine months in Ireland but the sale of condoms is confined by law to pharmacies and family planning clinics.

The Irish Family Planning Association was taken to court last month for selling condoms at a record store in the Irish capital.

"In this case, the law is clearly an

ass," said Richard Branson, chief of Britain's Virgin record store chain, after the court threw out a case against the stall at his Dublin shop on a technicality.

"I want to make condoms in Ireland as common as sliced bread," he said after the court dismissed the case because the notice to prosecute was given more than six months after the original complaint was filed by an anonymous protestor.

Branson's Dublin store sells up to 350 condoms a day, many of them to rural clients visiting the city who are too embarrassed to buy them locally in this predominantly Catholic state where abortion is illegal. Up to 4,000 Irish women go to Britain each year for abortions.

After the court decision, Branson told reporters it was incredible that at a time when every other government was trying to promote condoms in the worldwide fight against AIDS, Ireland was trying to stop their sale.

Irish Family Planning Association chief Christine Donaghy was equally scathing in her criticism of Irish state policy after the case against the stall in the record store, which was set up by her organization.

"This summons will cause Ireland to be seen, once again, as the laughingstock of Europe as our contraceptive laws and policies remain incomprehensible to our European neighbors — and rightly so," she said.

The case broke in the same week that an Irish government health spokesman told a World Health Organization seminar in Dublin that AIDS is spreading faster here than anywhere else in the European Community.

"We are now entering the epidemic

phase of the disease," government health spokesman Liam Flanagan said.

"The number of cases of AIDS in Ireland is doubling every nine months," he said. In Britain the figure doubles every two years, in France and West Germany every two-and-a-half years, he added.

The disease is spread mainly by the growing community of drug addicts who transmit it through shared needles and sexual intercourse.

The addicts, who account for about 60 percent of AIDS cases, are a major concern because officials fear they could be the main conduit for transmitting the disease to the heterosexual community.

The timing of Flanagan's statement was not lost on Donaghy.

"In the light of the seriousness of the world AIDS crisis and the rising rate of unplanned pregnancies, this summons only serves to highlight the ludicrous nature of the contraceptive laws," she said.

Her association, which gives advice to about 60,000 people a year, argues that the contraceptive laws are both medically and morally unnecessary and now, in the era of AIDS, positively dangerous.

Under a 1975 law contraceptives — condoms, birth control pills, diaphragms and inter-uterine devices — could only be prescribed by doctors to couples. This was amended in 1985 so that condoms could be sold in pharmacies and family planning centers without prescription to anyone over 18.

Up to 95 percent of the Irish population is Catholic. The church has a major influence on social issues and was a prime mover in helping to defeat referendums to legalize abortion and divorce.

sports

Army won 'The War'

commentary

by Spec. John Moreland

FORT CLAYTON (USARSO PAO) — That's funny. I didn't think airmen knew what PT tests were. That must be tradition too.

The author (fiction writer) of Tuesday's less-than-stellar Turkey Bowl commentary did get one thing right; Army grabbed overall honors. But the article failed to qualify Air Force's second-place finish as distant.

No surprise here.

Why? Because the football game is all Air Force can boast of, and that's controversial. Their consciences should be haunting them by now. Anyone remember their only touchdown — maybe a flag that was pulled short of the goal line? If not for a questionable call, the game is a 3-3 tie.

Game highlights on SCN showed irrefutable evidence that the Air Force runner's flag was pulled at the 4-yard line. Too bad Turkey Bowl hasn't instituted the NFL's instant replay rule.

Now let's sling a little mud.

Army, runners that they are, would've run by Air Force all day on a dry field. The mud slide the game was played on was an advantage for the bigger, I mean heavier, airmen.

Gotta take exception to the remarks about Army's fans. Where were the fans? Working — bearing the burden of protecting America's

treaty rights and deterring the increased threat to all serving here. Obviously the same burden Army had been shouldering while the Air Force team was practicing football.

Even with their speed negated by the mud, Army played a good, clean game; and well, if not for that shaky call, who knows....

Enough point-and-counterpoint.

Army's track and biathlon athletes are to be lauded. Combined they didn't concede a single point advantage. That's not "respectable." It's phenomenal.

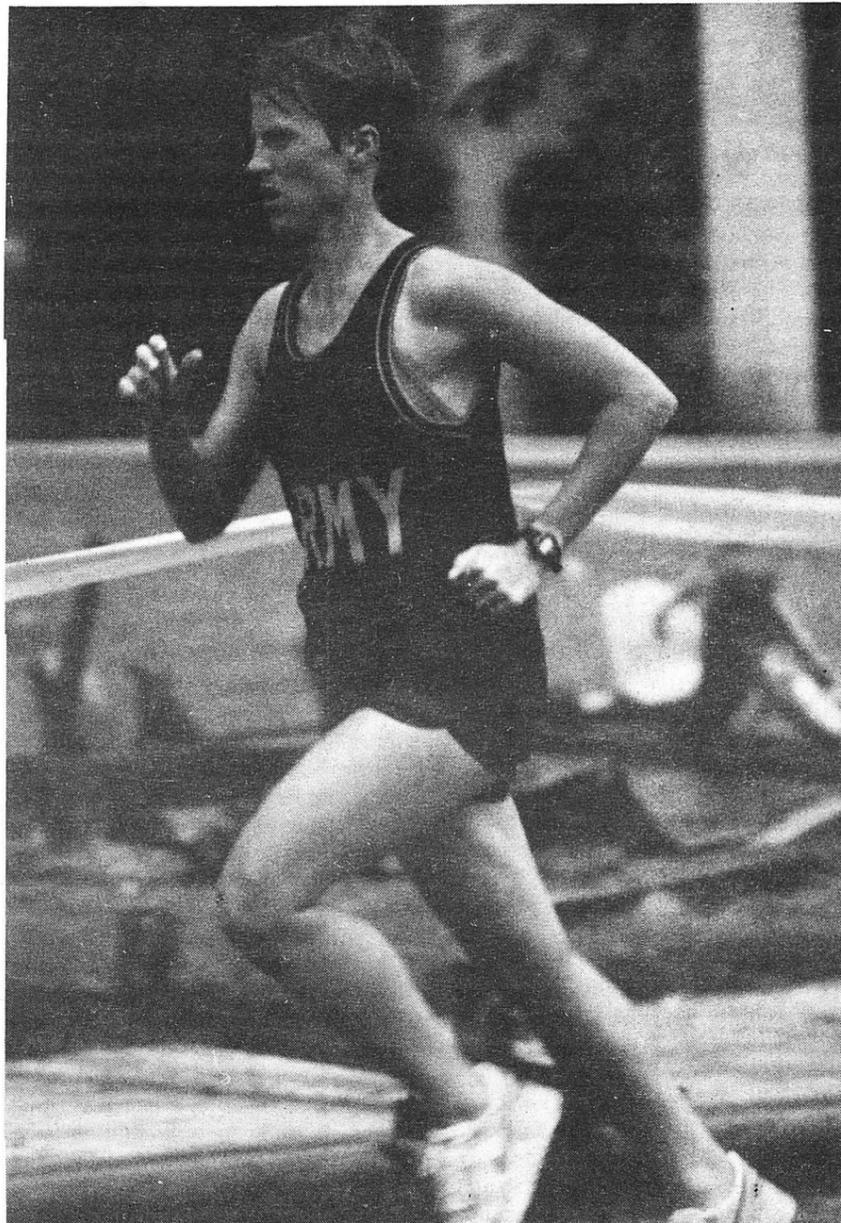
Our 10-K racers, who earned national acclaim running the Army 10-Miler in October, outdistanced the Turkey Bowl field easily.

Army team member, Richard Downie, best described Air Force's running effort when he quipped, "They started off like F-16s but finished like C5As."

To soldiers, fitness is a matter of pride. Yet, Air Force made jest of being so badly mismatched.

The Army does make runners of its soldiers. That was evident Turkey Bowl day. Army notched a string of first place finishes: men's 10-K, men's 2-mile relay and the men's and women's biathlon.

Their success is a credit to Army's emphasis on fitness. Air Force, you can rest assured Army is more reliable than an alarm clock. As long you remain in Panama, our thundering cadences will break your morning calm — at least until you break your PT or PC (whatever) tradition.



Army athlete Susan Sine soundly defeated all competition in the women's biathlon. She finished with a time of 18:06, trouncing her closest competitor by more than two minutes. (U.S. Army photo by Spec. Bob Blocher)

Transactions

by The Associated Press

BASEBALL

National League

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Signed Walt Terrell, pitcher to a three-year contract. Placed Brian Fisher, pitcher, on waivers for the purpose of giving him his unconditional release.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS — Activated Danny Manning, forward, from the injured list. Waived Carlton McKinney, guard.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS —

Waived Undra Johnson, running back. Signed Bobby Morris, running back.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Traded Mikko Makela, right wing, to the Los Angeles Kings for Ken Baumgartner, defenseman, and Hubie McDonough, center.

NEW YORK RANGERS

— Signed Rob Zamuner, center.

COLLEGE FLORIDA

— Announced that Kelly McKinnon, guard-forward, has left the basketball team.

UCLA — Named Greg Giovanazzi men's assistant volleyball coach.

Cambio de jugadores

BEISBOL

Liga Americana

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Walt Terrell firma contrato por tres años. Brian Fisher fué despedido.

BALONCESTO

Asociación Nacional de Baloncesto

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS — Regresa Danny Manning. Carlton McKinney sale del equipo.

FUTBOL

Liga Nacional de Futbol

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS —

Renuncia Undra Johnson. Bobby Morris firma contrato.

HOCKEY

NEW YORK ISLANDERS

— Intercambian a Mikko Makela para Los Angeles Kings por Ken Baumgartner y a Hubie McDonough.

NEW YORK RANGERS

— Contratan a Rob Zamuner.

UNIVERSITARIO

FLORIDA — Anunció el retiro de Kelly McKinnon del equipo de baloncesto.

UCLA — Nombran a Greg Giovanazzi como el asistente del entrenador de volibol.

Mavericks fire coach

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Mavericks coach John MacLeod confirmed Wednesday that he has been removed as head coach of the team.

"I was told that noon today that I would be relieved of my duties as coach of the Mavericks," MacLeod said.

He said there "were a multitude of reasons, and the team had a multitude of problems, and I am relieved of my job."

"They felt the change was needed, so I'm out." Assistant coach Richie Adubato has been named interim coach, radio station KLIF reported.

The Mavericks were playing at home Wednesday night against the Charlotte Hornets. Going into the game, Dallas was 5-6, including a 47-point loss last Saturday to Seattle.

The team also has been stung by the loss of forward Roy Tarpley, who was indefinitely suspended following his arrest on driving while intoxicated charges. Tarpley had been suspended before because of drug problems.

"There are things in the coaching ranks that you don't have any control over. You don't have any control over injuries and you don't have control over drug problems," MacLeod said.

The loss to Seattle was the team's worst ever in Reunion Arena and their second worst in franchise history.

MacLeod, owner Donald Carter, general manager Norm Sonju, and Rick Sund, vice president of basketball operations, met Wednesday morning to discuss the team's poor start.

MacLeod joined the Mavericks on June 4, 1987, succeeding Dick Motta, who retired May 20, 1987.

In the 1988 playoffs, MacLeod took the Mavs to the seventh game of the Western Conference finals against the eventual NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers.

Bruins win 5-1, take 8 of last 9

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Cam Neely extended his goal-scoring streak to a league-high eight games and Bobby Carpenter and Ken Linseman each scored twice as the Boston Bruins defeated the St. Louis Blues 5-1 Tuesday night for their eighth victory in nine NHL games.

The Bruins raised their record to 10-2-1 against teams outside the Adams Division.

Peter Zedel scored for the Blues, whose six-game home unbeaten streak came to an end. St. Louis had been 4-0-2 in that stretch.

Carpenter got his seventh and eighth goals for Boston. Neely, who entered the game tied with seven players for the league lead in goals, got his 18th of the season at 4:34 of the second period to snap a 1-1 tie. His shot from the left circle, off a pass from Linseman, bounced off the stick of goaltender Vincent Riendeau, over Riendeau's head and into the net.

Neely's goal-scoring streak is one short of the team record set by Phil Esposito during a 76-goal season in 1970-71.

Duran wants 'fair shake' in bout with Leonard

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Roberto Duran said Wednesday he expects the ringside judges to favor Sugar Ray Leonard when the two fight Dec. 7.

"I'm aware of the judges," Duran said through an interpreter. "I hope they're fair and give me a fair shake if we go the distance, but I'm looking for a knockout. I can't expect to get a decision. Most of the judges are in favor of Sugar Ray Leonard."

Leonard dismissed Duran's comments at a news conference

leading to the Las Vegas, Nev., bout in which Leonard will defend his World Boxing Council super middleweight crown.

"I don't think he means that," Leonard said. "What's he going to say when he is asked a question like that?" Leonard and Thomas Hearns fought a controversial draw last June. Leonard feels he beat Hearns but many others believe Hearns was robbed. Leonard, 33, admits he was at something short of his best.

"When you try to analyze and

come up with theories as to why certain things happened, my last fight was not that impressive because I'm my worst critic," he said. "But, you know something, people try to figure out what motivates Ray. They say Duran has more motivation than I do. Yet the fact of the matter is that they don't know Ray Leonard. They don't know what makes me tick. (Marvin) Hagler made me tick. He (Duran) makes me tick."

Duran has waited 9 1/2 years for a rubber match with Leonard. The 38-

year-old Panamanian weighed 159 1/2 after Tuesday's training session, according to trainer Carlos Hubbard. Each fighter must weigh 162 or less or forfeit \$1 million.

Leonard, a 2-1 favorite in the outdoor bout at the new Mirage hotel, is guaranteed \$12.6 million. Duran, the WBC middleweight titleholder, signed for \$7.6 million, but promoter Bob Arum said \$1.6 million will be deducted to pay a debt to the Internal Revenue Service.

Mike Trainer, Leonard's lawyer, said Duran's handlers asked for the 162-pound limit. Duran reportedly weighed close to 200 pounds before training.

"The fact of the matter is that Roberto Duran wanted to fight for Ray's super middleweight (168-pound) title because it gave him an opportunity to win his fifth title," Trainer said.

"When I negotiated with his representatives for this bout, they were the ones who indicated that they really wanted Duran to fight for the middleweight championship because they felt that he was far more effective if he had to make the weight of 160 or less.

"The fact of the matter is we didn't give a hoot what Roberto Duran weighed. His people felt the heavier he was, the worse shape he was in and worse condition he would be in, and therefore the worse performance he

would put on. It was their suggestion. If they went back to him and said it was something Ray Leonard did or something Mike Trainer did, that's not true and it's a misrepresentation."

Mirage officials said nearly all of the 16,305 stadium seats have been sold. The fight will be shown in the United States and Canada on pay-per-view and closed circuit.



Roberto Duran expects to knock out Sugar Ray Leonard Dec. 7 in Las Vegas, Nev., but says most of the judges will be in favor of Leonard. Leonard is a 2-1 favorite in the outdoor bout at the new Mirage hotel, and is guaranteed \$12.6 million. (photo by Grover Mateney)

A perfect 10-0

Crimson Tide's Curry makes good

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP)—His Georgia Tech losing streak was ridiculed, and the skeptical said Bill Curry wasn't an "Alabama man." Someone even threw a brick through his window.

But win a few football games, and how things change.

With a 10-0 record, Alabama is assured of at least a tie for the Southeastern Conference title heading into its game on Saturday at Auburn, and the Crimson Tide has moved up to a No. 2 national ranking, with a chance for No. 1.

"We, as a staff, are obviously pleased to have been able to demonstrate that we can coach," Curry said. "But I don't think in terms of vindication, of getting the guy down at the filling station to believe that I'm good. That's just not important to me."

Not when he was an undersized, All-Pro center in the NFL. Not when he won only two games his first two years at Georgia Tech, his alma mater. Not when people doubted he could follow in the footsteps of Bear Bryant at Alabama.

"I think I'm a good salesman. I used to sell women's shoes, and I'll guarantee you that's great training for anything," Curry said in an interview. "But you can't do that with a football team. You've got to earn their respect and that takes years."

Alabama locked up at least a share

of the SEC title three weeks ago with a victory over Louisiana State. The Tide can clinch it outright and earn a trip to the Sugar Bowl against Auburn, a team Curry has never beaten — not in seven years at Georgia Tech or two seasons at Alabama.

Curry understands the importance of the game.

As Curry walked off the field at Baton Rouge, there were chants of "We want Curry" and he passed near a banner that read, "Curry, Our Next Winning Legend."

Legend? Not many people thought of Curry as a future legend when then-Alabama President Joab Thomas named him to replace Ray Perkins in 1987.

After all, Curry had a 31-43-4 record in seven years at Tech, once one of Alabama's most hated rivals. But Thomas, calling football a game and "nothing beyond that," talked as much about Curry's integrity and concern for academics as his coaching.

Such talk was heresy to many in the state, and Thomas received death threats.

The grumbling over Curry's hiring grew louder when Alabama lost to lowly Memphis State in 1987 and finished up a 7-5 campaign with three straight losses, including a 10-0 shutout to Auburn. Last season, the Tide fell to Auburn again, blew a 15-0

lead against LSU to ruin the Tide's SEC title hopes, and even was beaten on homecoming by Mississippi.

No one seemed to notice that Alabama finished 9-3 despite injuries. There were reports that wealthy alumni were trying to buy out the final three years of Curry's five-year contract.

It was after the Ole Miss loss than one irate fan threw a brick through Curry's office window.

"If you ever let your life be controlled by one of those people, you'll live in fear the rest of your life," he said.

Last week, an irate Curry said death threats had been made against his players and said he had asked the FBI to investigate.

"I believe very strongly that to speak publicly on it was the right thing to do," Curry said. "I think that had a hand in shutting it down."

Curry may have had no connection to Bear Bryant, but he studied under some of football's best. Bobby Dodd tutored him at Georgia Tech, and he played for Vince Lombardi at Green Bay and Don Shula at Baltimore.

"The fact is, I can't be any of those guys," Curry said. "I've got to be me. But I learned something great from each one."

"Coach Dodd taught us about field position and ball security and how to win football games. He taught us how to improve our odds of winning.

NBA standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	8	4	.667	-
Philadelphia	7	4	.636	1/2
Boston	7	7	.500	2
Washington	7	8	.467	2 1/2
Miami	4	11	.267	5 1/2
New Jersey	3	10	.231	5 1/2

Central Division

Indiana	7	4	.636	-
Detroit	8	5	.615	-
Chicago	8	6	.571	1/2
Atlanta	6	6	.500	1 1/2
Cleveland	6	6	.500	1 1/2
Milwaukee	6	6	.500	1 1/2
Orlando	6	7	.462	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	8	3	.727	-
Denver	9	4	.692	-
San Antonio	7	5	.583	1 1/2
Houston	8	6	.571	1 1/2
Dallas	5	6	.455	3
Charlotte	3	9	.250	5 1/2
Minnesota	2	11	.154	7

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	10	2	.833	-
Portland	11	3	.786	-
Seattle	7	7	.500	4
Phoenix	5	5	.500	4
L.A. Clippers	4	7	.364	5 1/2
Sacramento	4	8	.333	6
Golden State	3	9	.250	7

U.S. experts to investigate Avianca jet explosion

BOGOTA, Colombia (UPI) — U.S. aviation and bomb experts are in Colombia to help investigate a mysterious explosion that downed an Avianca Airlines Boeing 727 jetliner, killing all 107 people aboard, officials said Wednesday.

A team from the Seattle-based Boeing Co. joined Colombian experts to examine the remains of Flight HK 1803 and decipher the "black boxes," which contain crucial flight information and all radio communications between the pilots

and the control tower, civil aviation director Yasid Castano told RCN radio.

The FBI also dispatched a bomb specialist to Colombia, the Washington Post reported. The newspaper said the bomb specialist

was sent at the request of the Colombian government to help determine whether the crash was caused by a criminal act.

The American experts arrived amid reports that two leftist politicians from the Patriotic Union Party had been slain in the past 48 hours.

Hours after the crash, a caller claiming to be a member of the drug mafia hit squad "The Extraditables" told Caracol Radio the plane had been attacked because "there were five snitches aboard." Police have been unable to determine the authenticity of the call.

Castano said it would be about two weeks before investigators revealed the contents of the jetliner's black boxes, which investigators hope will help them determine what caused the crash.

The 727 exploded Monday morning during a flight from Bogota to Cali, crashing outside the capital four minutes after taking off from El Dorado International Airport. All 101 passengers and six crew were killed.

Investigators have been unable to determine what caused the powerful explosion. Witnesses said they saw two explosions, one small blast followed 15 seconds later by a much larger one that blew the plane into three large chunks.

Observers and the press have discussed several possible causes for the accident, including mechanical failure and a bomb attack by drug cartel hitmen, but officials have refused so far to pinpoint any specific cause.

Goldwater feels fine after right hip replaced

PHOENIX (AP) — Former U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater was released Wednesday from a hospital where he underwent hip replacement surgery earlier this month. He said he feels fine.

"If I don't run out of parts, I'll probably be here the rest of my life," said Goldwater, 80, referring to St. Luke's Medical Center, where he has had several major reconstructive surgeries.

Goldwater has suffered from degenerative arthritis of his hips and knees since his early 60s.

The Nov. 14 surgery replaced an artificial right hip he received in 1975. Goldwater had had similar surgery on his left hip in June, and had previously had his left knee replaced.

Goldwater's "high level of activity" wore on the original artificial hip, said his orthopedic surgeon, Anthony K. Hedley.

Hedley said Goldwater would receive therapy at his suburban Paradise Valley home and probably would be able to walk aided only by a cane by early next year. Goldwater's daughter would stay with him for a few weeks, Hedley said.

"I want him to get back to doing exactly what he wants to do," Hedley said.

Hedley said Goldwater's hips wouldn't need further replacement.

Goldwater, who retired from the Senate in 1987 following five terms, appeared relaxed in his wheelchair as he was questioned about world affairs and whether he thought his style of "shooting from the hip" was responsible for his medical troubles.

"When I shot from the hip, I fanned. I didn't get any recoil," Goldwater joked.

U.S. sends lawyer for Casolo

WASHINGTON, (Reuter) — Former U.S. attorney general Ramsey Clark will travel to El Salvador today to represent an American church worker held there after police discovered a large stash of arms in her garden, a spokesman said.

Clark, who served former president Lyndon Johnson, had hoped to travel Wednesday but was forced to delay his departure due to problems in getting a visa from Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani's government.

"We have the visa in hand now and he will travel today," a spokesman for Clark said.

Clark has been retained to represent Jennifer Casolo, a 28-year old Connecticut native who has worked in El Salvador for more than four years for the U.S.-based Christian Educational Seminars.

Casolo was detained in San Salvador Sunday after police, acting on a tip from a guerrilla who was under interrogation, found a large stash of arms and ammunition, including 21,000 rounds for AK-47 rifles, 103 grenades and explosives, under Casolo's home.

An ecumenical group of church leaders said they would go to El

Salvador today to support Casolo.

Human rights groups have said the government is trying to use the case to prove that international humanitarian groups aid Salvadoran guerrillas.

Bob Schwartz, an aide to Clark, harshly criticized the U.S. government for attempting to try Casolo in the press.

Fitzwater, commenting on the Casolo case Monday, told reporters, "There are indications of her involvement, that's for certain." Schwartz said the statements seemed to indicate that the government was trying to distort and manipulate public opinion on recent events in El Salvador.

He said reports on the recent killing of six Jesuit priests, which human rights groups have said probably were carried out by the military, have disappeared from the news media due to the new emphasis on the Casolo case.

The Clark aide said that after a great number of interviews with people who knew Casolo and her case he did not know of any evidence linking her to the arms.

Company claims development of direct AIDS test

TORONTO, (Reuter) — A Canadian biotechnology company claims to have developed a test for AIDS which detects the deadly virus directly without waiting for the weeks to develop after exposure.

James Rae, president of Cangene Corp., said Wednesday, "This is so accurate...if there is no reaction then it is absolutely guaranteed they don't have HIV (the AIDS virus)."

The test can be done with a single drop of blood at room temperature and in a single test-tube.

"It's very simplistic," Rae said. The technique has been licensed for an undisclosed price to Dutch

pharmaceutical company Akzo N.V. for development and global marketing.

But the Canadian company sees the technique, which can be directed at any virus or bacterium, as having much wider applications in agriculture and industry.

It could be used to test rapidly for salmonella, the bacterium which causes severe food poisoning, allowing manufacturers to check their output on the production line rather than storing a food while they await results, the company said.

Egg producers and dairy firms

could be certain their products were free of the disease as soon as they rolled off the production line, rather than waiting two days for the results of current tests.

The test, called Nucleic Acid Sequence Based Amplification or NASBA for short, checks for a predetermined nucleic acid specific to a particular virus or bacterium. If it finds it, a reaction starts.

"It will multiply the number of molecules (of the organism), from say 10 or 100 to well over one billion within three hours," Rae said.

News briefs

by The Associated Press

Free elections coming

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia — The Communist-controlled Parliament on Wednesday swiftly ended the party's 40-year monopoly on power in a frantic effort to satisfy the demands of the growing pro-democracy movement. A member of the ruling Communist Politburo said the first free elections in four decades could be held within a year.

Comaneci defects

BUDAPEST, Hungary — Nadia Comaneci, who charmed the world with her pixie face and flashy style at the 1976 Olympics, fled to Hungary from her native Romania in a pre-dawn dash to freedom, the state-run MTI news agency said Wednesday.

Pre-dawn raid

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — Leftist rebels invaded parts of the capital's most affluent neighborhoods before dawn Wednesday and dug in after often-fierce combat with government forces. How many people had been killed in the latest guerrilla offensive was not clear. Eleven bodies of combatants were seen lying in the streets.

Stock market drops

NEW YORK — The stock market fell in generally lackluster trading Wednesday amid continued uncertainty about interest rates. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials fell 13.23 points to 2,688.78.

Noticias breves

por la Prensa Asociada

Libertad de elecciones

PRAGA, Checoslovaquia — El miércoles el Parlamento Comunista rápidamente puso final a 40 años de monopolio en un verdadero esfuerzo de satisfacer a las crecientes demandas del movimiento pro-democrático. Un miembro del Politburo comunista declaró que las primeras elecciones libres podrían ser dentro de un año.

Defectó Comaneci

BUDAPEST, Hungría — Nadia Comaneci, quién conquistó al mundo con su rostro de hada y su deslumbrante estilo en la olimpiadas de 1976, viajó a Hungría desde su país en un vuelo de madrugada hacia la libertad,

reportó la agencia de noticias MTI.

Ataque al amanecer

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — Rebeldes izquierdistas invadieron las áreas de la capital de mayor población antes del amanecer del miércoles. El número de muertos no ha sido verificado. Once cadáveres fueron encontrados tirados en las calles.

Baja bolsa de valores

NUEVA YORK — El miércoles la bola de valores bajó intensamente y la incertidumbre relacionada con los intereses continua. Los porcentajes del Dow Jones de 30 industrias bajó de 13.23 puntos a 2,688.78.