



Photo by Randy J. Woodbury

**Baker replies**

MICHAEL BAKER, JR., president of the University Board of Trustees, flew home from his home near Pittsburgh to University Park yesterday to discuss a letter sent to the trustees by student leaders calling for University President John W. Oswald's resignation. Baker (left) and Oswald (right) held an afternoon press conference where Baker made a 50-minute reply to the letter.

# Cambodians surrender 39 crewmen

By Associated Press  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Cambodia surrendered 39 American freighter crewmen in the face of military force early today after U.S. Marines recaptured the ship seized by the Khmer Rouge government three days ago.  
President Ford announced the return of the full crew after a tense and uncertain day of troop landings, bombings and false hopes.

Two helicopters were reported lost in the operation and military officials indicated the Marines took casualties.  
Ford said the crew was unharmed and the ship was intact, but that Marines who landed on a small island off Cambodia still were under hostile fire as they sought to disengage following return of the crew.

The civilian freighter was seized Monday about 90 miles off Cambodia but within about eight miles of the small island of Koh Tang, which Cambodia claims.  
The U.S. government immediately demanded return of the ship and sought diplomatic help through the People's Republic of China.

But no diplomatic help was forthcoming in this clash with a Communist government which had taken power in Cambodia only days earlier.  
Last night the White House announced that Marines were landing from U.S. ships which had rushed to the Gulf of Thailand.

As hundreds of Marines stormed onto the island, U.S. planes bombed Cambodian air installations on the mainland.  
When Marines seized the freighter S.S. Mayaguez, hopes rose that the crisis was over. But the ship was empty, although warm food was in the galley.

As the U.S. assault continued, a Cambodian ship flying a white flag approached the U.S. destroyer Wilson and handed over 30 of the ship's crew.  
It was not immediately clear how the remaining nine were returned, but Ford said in a one-minute nationally broadcast and televised statement that all 39 were safe.

As the day wore on, members of Congress in Washington generally supported Ford's decision to strike with military force.  
After the successful retrieval of the ship and crew, more support was voiced for the President's action.

Speaking in measured and somber tones, Ford said:  
"At my direction, United States forces tonight (last night), boarded the American merchant ship SS Mayaguez and landed at the island of Koh Tang for the purpose of rescuing the crew and ship which had been illegally seized by Cambodian forces. They also conducted supporting strikes against nearby military installations."  
"I have now received information that the vessel has been recovered intact and that the entire crew has been rescued."  
"The forces that have successfully accomplished this mission are still

under hostile fire but are preparing to disengage.  
"I wish to express my appreciation and that of the entire nation to the units and men who participated in these operations for their valor and sacrifice."  
Ford's decision to use troops underlined a basic administration belief that diplomacy held little hope for recovering the ship and its crew.

Sources said efforts were made through China to convince Cambodia to give in to the American demands, but the Chinese never responded and both Ford and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger were convinced from the start of the crisis on Monday that force would have to be used.  
During a series of three National Security Council meetings Tuesday and yesterday the plans were shaped and a number of options considered.

One source said before the operation began that Kissinger was determined that if troops were to be used it would be a strong, sharp blow.  
So, when word was received of a Cambodian radio broadcast last night offering to "evict" the Mayaguez, it was ignored.

The orders then were issued for the Marines to open their first combat in Southeast Asia since U.S. forces withdrew from Vietnam in 1973.  
As the crisis continued, a split developed between Kissinger and Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger. Kissinger wanted a quick and punishing strike even if the crew was put in danger.

The Defense chief advised caution for fear of over-reacting. Kissinger's view won out and the operation was put into effect as soon as the Marines could be moved into position and the carrier Coral Sea placed in the Gulf of Thailand to provide support.

This came about 7 p.m. EDT and the Marines, at first 135 of them, landed on the island. After meeting strong resistance, reinforcements were called in along with air strikes against the Cambodians.

A Pentagon spokesman later said the Marine forces totaled "a couple of hundred."  
Although newsmen picked up hints of the operation during the day yesterday, the first real word came from the White House at 9:18 p.m. EDT when presidential spokesman Ron Nessen read a statement that, at Ford's direction, the Mayaguez had been seized and the Koh Tang Island invaded.

As the battle developed, American planes struck at the Cambodian air base near the port of Sihanoukville.  
During all of this, Ford sat in the ornate State dining room of the White House, hosting the Dutch prime minister.

It wasn't until word came from the military commanders in the area that all of the crew members had been recovered safely that Ford walked into the White House briefing room to face newsmen and the broadcast audience.

## Trustee reviews Oswald letter

EDITOR'S NOTE: A copy of the letter mailed to the University Board of Trustees by student leaders asking for University President John W. Oswald's resignation is printed on page 3.

By DEANNA FINLEY  
Collegian Staff Writer

A letter asking for University President John W. Oswald's resignation was reviewed by the President of the Board of Trustees who disclaimed the letter's charges as "either false or misinterpretation of facts."

Michael Baker Jr., president of the Board of Trustees, said at a news conference in Old Main yesterday, "Students did this believing they were doing the right thing, but they have been misinformed and to some extent, I think they have been duped."

The letter, written by former Undergraduate Student Government Senator Doug Ford, was signed by Ford and 29 other student leaders.

The letter said students were concerned about what they thought were lavish furnishings and entertainment for administrators, Oswald's refusal to meet with members of USG and Oswald's intent to thwart PennPIRG.

After a 50-minute dissertation by Baker in Oswald's defense, Oswald said his reaction to the students' action was "much surprise, some disappointment, but certainly not anger." Oswald said he was disappointed that student leaders, some of whom he has only come to know and work with during the past three weeks, didn't discuss the matter with him prior to taking action.

In reference to his rapport with USG and other

student organizations, Oswald said, "I don't intend to give up on students, although I am puzzled as to how to deal with a group who has dealt with the issue based on misinformation."

Baker commented on Ford's statement that University administrators have given Penn State an "affluent and wasteful" image in Harrisburg.

He said he feels Penn State does not have a bad reputation in the state capital, and cited letters in support of Oswald from Lieutenant Governor Kline, State Budget Secretary McIntosh, and House Representative Ben Wilson.

In reaction to part of Ford's letter which said that this administration has "used threats and intimidations as a way to deal with students," Baker said, "It's utterly ridiculous. It shouldn't be honored with an answer."

Baker said he condoned Oswald walking out of a PennPIRG meeting a few weeks ago because he said the presence of Ralph Nader's representatives at the meeting did not meet Oswald's agreement to meet with only elect student representatives.

Oswald has not been able to agree with PennPIRG supporters on a funding system for the potential organization and Baker said the Board of Trustees will not take action without Oswald's recommendation. The issue has come to an impasse, Baker said, and he is fearful that all of their work will "go down the drain."

Much of the 90-minute meeting was spent justifying students' complaints of lavishness — the part of the administration.

Giving parties and dinners for visiting guests is "a direction the Board has asked R. Oswald to go," Baker

said. "In the past administrations not enough time has been spent in public relations. Entertaining is one of the most misunderstood costs we have. You have differences of opinion on what constitutes 'lavish' entertainment."

Baker said that one Penn State visitor contributed \$500,000 to the university because of the impression he received from Dr. and Mrs. Oswald. Baker said the costs of entertainment for public relations have not been audited, but he estimated the costs to be \$25,000 a year.

He also said that it was the Board's idea to furnish the President's home, and that it would insult visitors if Oswald's office was not furnished in a manner "befitting the dignity of a university president."

Speaking on the tuition increase issue, Baker said "there is no man who has worked harder to keep tuition down than Dr. Oswald." Baker said the Board is no longer influential in the issue because they have lost their bargaining power with Harrisburg. "Consequently, the president is alone when he goes to Harrisburg," he said.

Student board member Dion Stewart said that the Student Advisory Board and other organizations working with Oswald have done themselves a disservice by their letter-writing action.

"They have essentially asked him to resign after working with him, which puts us in an awkward situation to give him advice," Stewart said. Stewart said he is trying to talk to student leaders to make advances in student participation because "Oswald has co-operated with us."

## PennPIRG petitioning to continue

By MIKE SCHWARTZ  
Collegian Staff Writer

Students for a Pennsylvania Public Interest Research Group need 100 more signatures to have half of the students on this campus signed up.

At a meeting last night Pete Hladish, petitioning coordinator, said, "We are trying to make up for the branch campuses which have been a little slow by getting more signatures up here."

Hladish also said petitioning will continue until the end of this term. He said there will be tables set up in front of Pattee tomorrow.

Those who have petitions out now, Hladish said, may return them to the OTIS office in 20 HUB.

After the meeting, Kyra Goidich, president of Students for PennPIRG is behind the letter calling for the resignation of University President John Oswald.

"Students for PennPIRG is no more behind the letter than any other student organization named on the letter," Goidich said. "PennPIRG, which is not yet in existence, is completely separate from the Students for PennPIRG."

She said she doesn't want the Trustees to be influenced by the letter in their decision on PennPIRG. "I don't want the Trustees to think that PennPIRG is behind it, because it is not true."

Earlier in the day, Hladish discussed the finding proposals for PennPIRG. He said Oswald had presented six funding proposals to PennPIRG.

One proposal was a mandatory fee with no student refund possible. "OregonPIRG is the only state which uses this funding plan now," Hladish said.

The proposal preferred by the Students for PennPIRG is the mandatory fee with a student refund clause. This allows students who don't want to support PIRG to get their money back.

"This plan has averaged about 85 per cent student participation," Hladish said. "It also makes the professional staff of PennPIRG accountable to the Students. The students may get a refund if PennPIRG doesn't show it's doing anything."

Another funding plan proposed is the "negative check-off," also called the Minnesota Plan. Hladish said that by this plan the PennPIRG cost would be in a separate box on the tuition bill and the student "would take some affirmative action to have it removed from his bill." This plan averages 60 to 70 per cent student participation, Hladish said.

The proposal which Oswald supported is the "positive check-off," which averages 11 to 15 per cent student support, Hladish said. "There is a box on the student tuition bill which the student would check if he supported PennPIRG. He would then add the PennPIRG money to his total bill," he said.

"This is an unusual action," said

Thomas "Doc" Sweitzer, students for PennPIRG coordinator. "Many people won't know how to do it." He said it is similar to tax forms which have the question of public support of political campaigns.

Sweitzer said that with the "positive check-off," PennPIRG would be more an advertising group than a consumer research organization. "There would be a need to spend money to educate people and we are not interested in becoming a public relations firm."

The other two proposals submitted by Oswald would have students collecting money on campus, but average less than 10 per cent of student support.

## Court denies ACLU injunction

Candidates for next week's primary elections and their workers do not expect to be allowed to campaign in some of the campus residence halls.

Common Pleas Court Judge R. Paul Campbell yesterday rejected the local American Civil Liberties Union's (ACLU) request for a preliminary injunction against the University's dorm canvassing policy.

According to ACLU attorney Virginia Eisenstein, Campbell ruled that "there was no clear right to an immediate injunction, no compelling reason therefore and no immediate and irreparable harm."

"The ACLU now has the option of

appealing the decision or proceeding to the final injunction request," Eisenstein said. Yesterday's court action named Penn State students Steven Brush (9th-political science) and Michael Mullen (12th-accounting) as plaintiffs. Brush is involved in the case because he said he wants to work in the borough primary elections.

According to Eisenstein, Mullen is challenging the policy as a resident of Pennypacker, one of the 20 dorms which have banned canvassing, because he wishes to be able to hear canvassers in his building.

She said the ACLU was maintaining an

active interest in the case although the ruling prevents a final injunction before the primary.

"Chances are we're not going to decide to appeal it," Eisenstein said. "Unless the ACLU wants to fund an appeal, we will proceed to the final injunction."

"We feel that this is a very important issue and feel that just because we won't get relief before the election, we still have an interest in future elections," Eisenstein said.

Brush said he and Mullen would still remain as plaintiffs even after yesterday's developments.

## House authorizes refugee aid

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Responding to White House urging, the House yesterday quickly voted to authorize \$507 million for resettlement of South Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees, then began considering an appropriation to provide the actual funds.

Before the authorization vote, the House reversed a decision by its Judiciary Committee to authorize "such funds as are necessary" and substituted instead the \$507 million figure. The vote was 353-54.

The bill was passed 381-31, with five members voting present, and sent to the Senate.

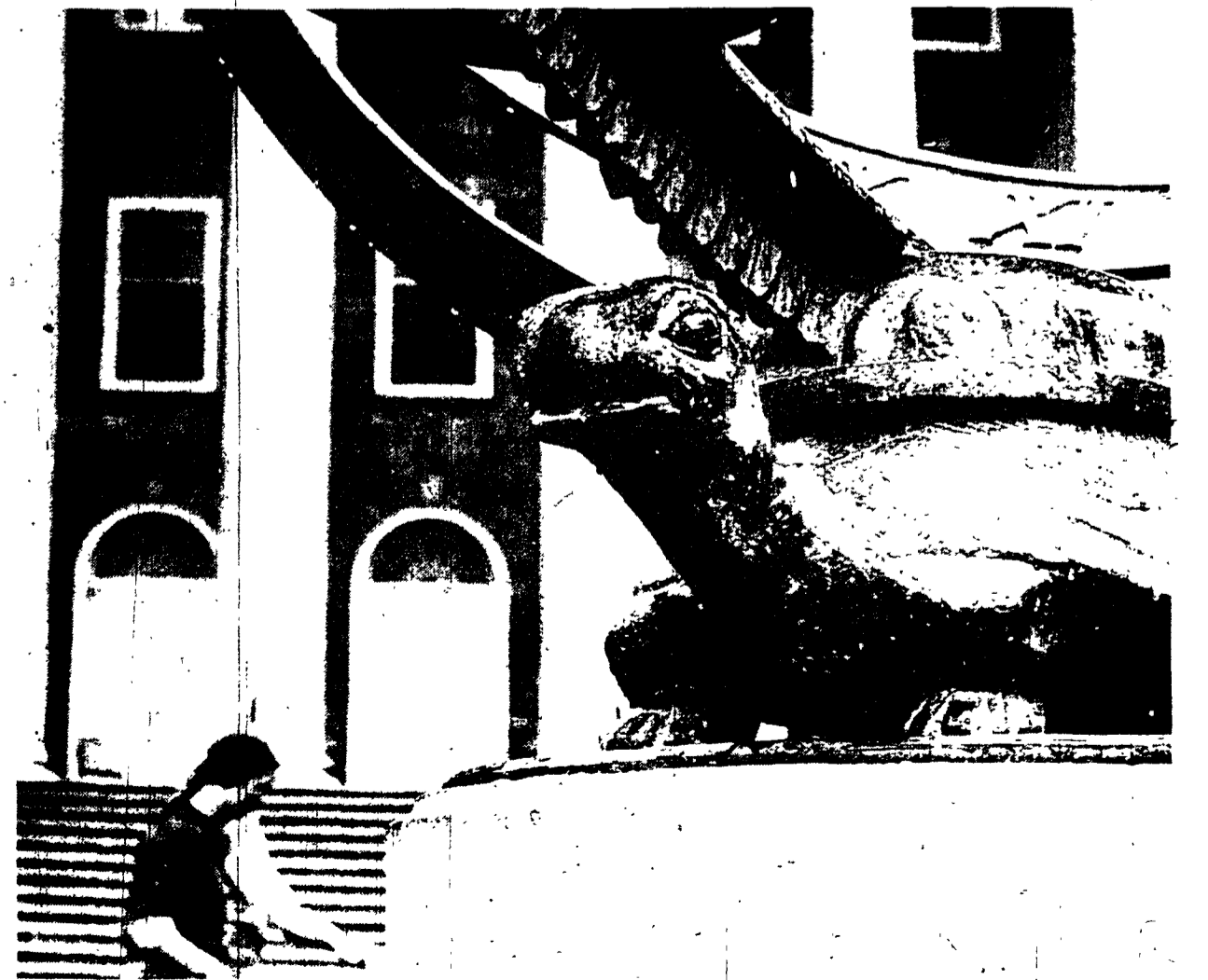
The amount was the full request President Ford made May 6 when it was estimated 130,000 refugees would need resettlement assistance. Current estimates are that 115,000 persons are involved, and the companion appropriation measure before the House had been set at \$405 million to reflect the lower estimate.

The program would provide for such

resettlement costs as food and medical care, shelter, transportation, job training and employment services at an estimated cost per refugee of \$15 per day for three months.

### Weather

Variable cloudiness, with showers later today. High 72. Showers and mild tonight. Low 57. Some showers, cooler tomorrow. High 64.



Slow Time

THIS METAL TURTLE holds the old sun dial clock in front of Old Main.

Photo by Ira Joffe