

Hijackers surrender Libyan jet, free 35 hostages

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Moslem zealots who commandeered a Libyan jetliner freed their 35 hostages and surrendered early yesterday after a 7,800-mile hijack ordeal that had taken the plane to Beirut for the third time in as many days, airport officials said.

Officials said some of the passengers left the plane after the hijackers got off. Lebanon's state radio reported that the Libyan Arab Airlines Boeing 727 would fly to Larnaca, Cyprus, with the rest of the former hostages, who included 27 passengers and eight crew members.

The surrender came after more than five hours of negotiations punctuated by bursts of machine-gun fire from the airplane as the hijack team fired warning shots to keep back security forces surrounding the airplane. Officials said there were five heavily armed hijackers on the plane, and they surrendered at 5:30 p.m. EST yesterday.

The officials said the hijackers gave themselves up to troops of Syria's peacekeeping force, which had ringed the aircraft along with units of the Lebanese army since it touched down and taxied to the end of the runway. The peacekeeping force was sent to Lebanon to enforce a truce made after the country's 1976-78 civil war.

The radio said two buses were sent to the plane for the passengers who decided to remain in Beirut.

The radio said Nabih Berri, head of the Shiite Moslem Amal militia, negotiated with the hijackers on final arrangements for the surrender, as they had demanded the release of the plane.

The hijackers seized the aircraft to back their demand for an investigation into the disappearance of their Shiite Moslem leader at the end of a

trip to Libya three years ago.

Reporters at the airport said a Shiite Moslem cleric, wearing a white turban and a black robe, boarded the plane shortly before the release of the hostages, and soon afterward a number of men left the plane. It was not clear whether they were the hijackers.

Shortly after the plane landed in Beirut, a spokesman for the hijackers also asserted he and his comrades had decided to end the hijacking, which had involved stops in four countries, and free the hostages unharmed.

The hijacker spokesman, identified only as Hamza, fired two pistol shots into the air from the front hatch of the plane as security forces moved closer, then said he would blow up the jet unless troops pulled back, radio stations reported.

"Passengers were heard weeping and pleading with him not to do it," said a well-placed airport source who listened to a radio monitor.

Crowds of Shiites supporting the hijackers gathered by the runway chanting "Allah akbar!" (God is great). They kept shouting despite stray bullets from the hijackers' warning bursts that kicked up nearby weeds.

Hamza made his threat in a message to the Beirut control tower in which he also asserted the hijackers would end the action and release the hostages without "hurting anyone." The message was broadcast by Lebanon's state radio.

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Senate approves budget outline for '82

By DAVID ESPO
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican-controlled Senate voted narrowly yesterday for a 1982 budget outline that deliberately underestimates the size of federal deficits through 1984 by at least \$50 billion a year.

But, in a clear signal of impatience with President Reagan, senators asked the administration to submit a revised plan "as soon as possible" to balance the 1984 budget as well as bring down inflation, interest rates and unemployment.

The measure cleared the Senate on a vote of 49-48.

The Democratic-controlled House Budget Committee has approved a similar plan, and its passage by the House seems assured.

Senate Democrats voted against the bill after failing, 33-45, to win approval for their own proposal to force a balanced budget in 1984. That plan, offered by Sen. J. Bennett Johnston, D-La., made no mention of cutting benefit programs or shielding personal income tax cuts from revision.

"It can't happen anywhere but Fantasy Island to have large deficits and not have economic disaster," said Sen. William Armstrong, R-Colo.

To underscore their concern, Republicans used their majority strength to vote 50-47 to instruct the committee to direct the Senate Budget Committee to produce a balanced budget plan for 1984 by next March 31.



At a meeting with reporters yesterday in the White House Press Room, House Minority Leader Bob Michel, left, and Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker answer questions concerning the budget after a meeting with President Reagan.

Helping to answer questions about the Senate's decision were Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker and House Minority Leader Bob Michel who met with reporters in the White House press room after a meeting with the president yesterday.

Sen. J. Bennett Johnston, D-La., said

state/nation/world

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Mine disaster:

Methane probable cause in Tennessee, official says

By JOHN NOLAN
Associated Press Writer
WHITWELL, Tenn. (AP) — An explosion that killed 13 Tennessee coal miners probably was caused by methane gas, officials said yesterday. In Kentucky, meanwhile, the union president said aliphod handling of explosives contributed to a blast that killed eight a day earlier.

And Kentucky's medical examiner said at least three of the victims were carrying cigarette lighters when they died.

United Mine Workers President Sam Church went to the disaster site near Popmost, Ky., as state and federal inspectors entered the Adkins Coal Co. No. 18 mine to look for the cause of Monday's explosion.

"There was loose powder all over that place . . . and there were (blasting) caps all over the face" of the coal seam, Church said.

He said he was told that the victims took 25 cases of explosives into the mine minutes before the accident, but only 15 cases were found by rescue workers.

Church said his comments were unofficial, but based on information he received from officials at the scene and

three miles inside a mountain.

"They've been mining coal in this area for 100 years and this is the first fatal explosion they've ever had," said Harry Joe Hooper, father of a miner and owner of a funeral parlor used as a makeshift morgue for the bodies.

"What makes it tough is that I knew all of them."

"I've got one back there I used to play guitar with. There's one I went to school with . . . I got home at 4:30 this morning and lay down, but I couldn't go to sleep. It's tough."

Tuesday's blast was the third fatal mine accident in Appalachia in five days — and the worst in Tennessee since 184 miners were killed in the collapse of a mine at Coal Creek, Tenn., in 1911.

Eight miners were killed in an explosion in a mine at Popmost, Ky., on Monday. And on Thursday, three miners were killed in a rock and slate fall in a mine in Bergoo, W.Va.

Before that, the last major coal mine accident was last April, when 15 men died near Redstone, Colo.

The latest explosion ripped through a section of the No. 21 mine owned by Tennessee Consolidated Coal Co., and



State, federal and local mining officials board a shuttle car yesterday to investigate the cause of an explosion that occurred Monday in a mine located near Popmost, Ky.

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Sakharov's daughter-in-law may be allowed to emigrate

By STEVEN R. HUERT
Associated Press Writer
MOSCOW (AP) — The daughter-in-law of Andrei Sakharov said yesterday the KGB secret police told her the Nobel laureate had ended his 17-day hunger strike in exile, and she would be allowed to go to the United States to join her husband.

Liza Alexeyeva, 26, said she was summoned to KGB headquarters yesterday afternoon and told Sakharov and his wife, Yelena Bonner, halted their hunger strike after being informed permission had been granted for her to emigrate.

The Sakharovs began the hunger strike Nov. 22 in Gorky to protest Soviet refusal to allow Alexeyeva to leave the country.

The Soviets announced Friday that the Sakharovs had been hospitalized to safeguard their health. The Soviet government apparently decided to allow Alexeyeva to leave and to resolve the confrontation with Sakharov, which had generated a public outcry in the West.

Alexeyeva said, however, the KGB warned that her departure date could be altered if she didn't limit her contacts with foreigners, especially Western correspondents, whose reports could "provoke anti-Soviet sentiment."

Alexeyeva said that after leaving the KGB she telephoned OVIR, the Soviet agency that issues foreign travel visas, and asked if a visa was ready. She said officials said they knew nothing about a visa for her.

She was married by proxy last June to 35-year-old Alexei Semenyonov, Bonner's son by a previous marriage. He is a graduate student at Brandeis University near Boston.

In Paris, Tantanya Yankelevich, Sakharov's step-daughter, and her husband, Frem, issued a statement pointing out that no public announcement had been made about the end of the hunger strike and Alexeyeva did not have the visa yet.

They said the news was "an encouraging sign," but added, ". . . the KGB does not always keep its promises."

Speaking with reporters in Sakharov's Moscow apartment, Alexeyeva quoted KGB agent Alexander Baranov as saying, "As a member of the KGB, I can tell you permission was granted yesterday (Tuesday) for you to leave."

She said she had no information on the Sakharovs' exact whereabouts or health other than what she learned in a letter Tuesday, which said they were in "poor condition."

"The first thing in my mind is their health," she said, adding that Baranov told her she might be able to visit them in Gorky, "but when would be up to the doctors treating them."

Sakharov, who helped develop the Soviet hydrogen bomb, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1955 for his efforts on behalf of human rights.

In Washington, White House Secretary Larry Speakes said President Reagan was "gratified" Alexeyeva was granted permission to leave and "pleased" that the hunger strike had ended. The State Department hailed the Soviet decision.

"For all of us who have been involved in this drama this is a most welcome and happy outcome," said Alan Romberg, the department's deputy spokesman.

"We would hope that this would mean that the Sakharovs, once they fully recover from the effects of their hunger strike, will be allowed to return to a normal life," he said.

Resolution sought to Greek, Turkish dispute

By DAVID MASON
Associated Press Writer
BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — NATO defense ministers struggled yesterday to resolve a dispute between Greece and Turkey, which form the strategic southeastern anchor of the Western defense alliance.

A special three-hour session produced no results, and a new round of talks was set for later in the evening, officials said.

Greece's new socialist prime minister and defense minister, Andreas Papandreu, was reported by several NATO officials to be insisting on an allied assurance of Greek security against perceived threats from Turkey.

The sources said Papandreu was insisting on phrasing in the defense ministers' communique which would at least imply that NATO would come to Greece's rescue against any attack from Turkey.

Turkey denies any such intention and was said to be refusing any allusion to Greek concern in the NATO military strategy statement traditionally issued at the

Greece and Turkey occupy the strategic southeastern wing of the 15-nation NATO alliance, formed in 1949 to balance the Soviet postwar military buildup. But centuries-old hostility between the Greeks and the Turks have brought strains to the key region of the alliance defense area.

Greece left the military wing of the alliance in 1974, after Turkey occupied part of Cyprus, an island nation whose population is predominantly of Greek background. Greece returned to full alliance membership in 1980 under a formula which aimed to smooth over the Greek-Turkish dispute.

Papandreu, who led his Socialists to victory in October elections on an anti-NATO platform, on Tuesday reiterated his reservations about NATO and said he was considering a "a process of disengagement."

Officials from several delegations said Weinberger was told the Europeans were having difficulty meeting defense spending commitments already made.

The defense ministers' two-day meeting is to be followed today and tomorrow by a session of NATO foreign ministers.

Price of crude to stay same, sheik says

By ALY MAHMOUD
Associated Press Writer
ABU DIABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani said yesterday that the basic price of crude oil will be frozen until the end of 1982.

However, sources said that some oil ministers of the 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting here are calling for a cut in the price of top-quality crude oil to combat a worldwide oil glut and sluggish sales.

Indonesian Oil Minister Subroto said the biannual ministers conference will examine the price issue today, the final day of the session.

Talking to reporters before the session opened yesterday, Yamani said, "I have no doubt" that oil prices will not change until the end of next year.

He also said Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest oil producer, would have a "nice Christmas gift" for the industrialized world that would be announced by the end of the conference.

He did not say what the gift would be, but sources said Yamani might be referring to a reduction in the price of Saudi Arabia's medium- and heavy-grade crude oil.

Subroto, president of the cartel, opened the conference with an appeal for OPEC solidarity after "two years of hectic and difficult challenges."

He said that OPEC has survived pricing disunity and was tackling a market glut of some 2.5 million barrels a day.

United Arab Emirates' Oil Minister Mana Saeed Oteiba, elected to succeed Subroto in 1982, also spoke to the conference about the necessity of a price freeze through the end of 1982. He said that would give OPEC enough time to examine a long-term strategy on pricing and production.

During their October meeting in Geneva, the ministers set the basic price of a 42 gallon barrel of Saudi Arabian "marker" crude at \$4. OPEC members were also allowed a \$4 differential — or premium — for higher quality oil.

Consumers may be billed for unbuilt pipeline

By W. AM KRONHOLM
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — The House approved legislation yesterday that would allow the industry to bill consumers in advance to help build the \$4 billion Alaska natural gas pipeline. But a parliamentary snag is going to force the House to repeat its vote, prompting opponents to say the package still might be defeated.

The House passed the legislation 233-177 to grant pricing concessions to companies building the pipeline, which would be the largest private construction project in world history.

But the measure, already passed by the Senate, immediately faced a parliamentary obstacle that stopped the measure from going to the White House.

And in a night session later yesterday, the House Rules Committee said the vote would have to be repeated before passage became final. Rep. Tom Corcoran, R-Ill., who led opposition to the package, said he hoped to defeat the package in the second attempt, expected to take place today.

"We have to pick up 30 votes, roughly," he said. "I think the chances of doing that are good."

The obstacle arose because the House and Senate passed

separate versions of an identical bill — the House acting on a House bill, the Senate on a Senate bill.

Legally, they were separate pieces of legislation. And a special federal law on the pipeline forbids either house from considering the subject twice within 60 days — a technicality sponsors apparently had missed.

Because of Corcoran's objections, the House therefore could not go through the technicality of putting its bill to a second number, the final step before sending a bill to the White House. That would have been considering two bills.

And in the Senate, Sen. Howard Mitzmanbaum, D-Ohio, notified the Senate leadership he would filibuster any attempt to put the Senate bill under a House number.

Faced with the legal dilemma, the House Rules Committee said it would go through the technicality of putting its bill to a second number, the final step before sending a bill to the White House. That would have been considering two bills.

The legislative package, under either number, waives existing antitrust and pricing laws to allow consumers to be billed for the pipeline before it is completed, a step which industry says is critical to attracting the massive capital needed for construction.

The line, not likely to be completed before at least 1987, would dwarf the existing trans-Alaska oil pipeline.

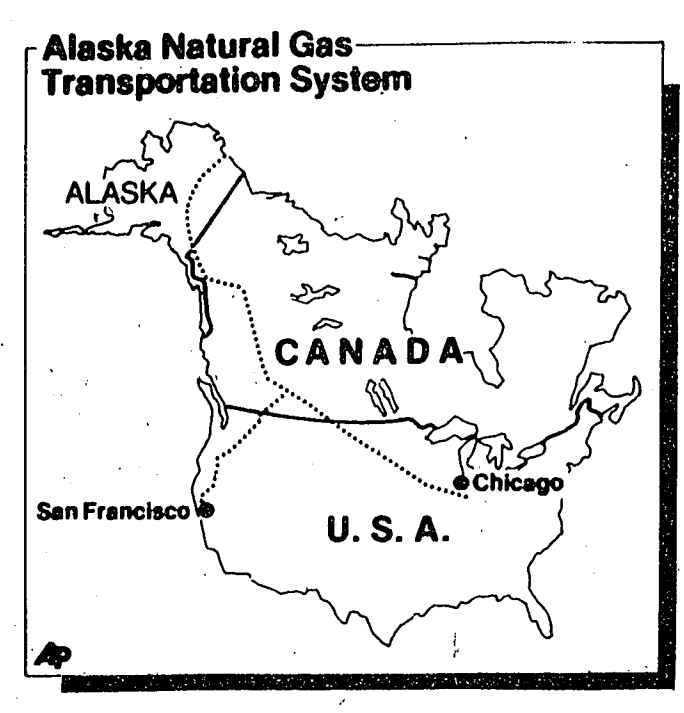
Consumer advocate Ralph Nader charged after the vote that the Democratic Party had "sold its soul" to the oil companies.

The package is intended to attract loans from world financiers, who up to now have been unwilling to risk the billions of dollars involved. It would effectively shift much of the risk from investors to natural gas customers, who could end up not going through the technicality of putting its bill to a second number, the final step before sending a bill to the White House.

The early billing authority will not affect consumers for several years, probably beginning about 1987. But then, say critics, consumers could end up paying surcharges for the 20-year life of the loans.

Corcoran said that when the billing section of the legislation takes effect residential consumers in 42 states could end up paying \$72 to \$159 a year for gas they are not receiving. Pipeline backers, however, said the potential cost was closer to \$11 to \$18 a year, and even that was unlikely.

The legislation splits the pipeline into three segments — the Alaska portion, the Canadian portion and a conditioning plant in Alaska designed to prepare the gas for transport. It also requires the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to set a target date for completion, expected to be in 1987.



School students poisoned

CHICAGO (AP) — Seven high school students were still hospitalized yesterday after being poisoned by a pesticide that was sprayed in a school cafeteria, officials said.

More than 75 Julian High School students were taken to four hospitals Tuesday after drinking a punch contaminated by the pesticide. Most of the victims were treated and released.

Of the seven who remained hospitalized, three were in fair condition and four were in good condition, hospital officials said, adding that all the students received only minor exposure to the pesticide and were expected to fully recover in a few days.

A Board of Health spokesman said the pesticide was supposed to be sprayed only in cracks and crevices, but maintenance workers had sprayed it throughout the cafeteria area.

Some of the poison apparently settled in containers later used by cafeteria workers to make punch, said the spokesman, Sherryn Rubenstein, director of the board's Bureau of Health Regulations.

The Cuban Interior Ministry said the hijackers "will be placed at the disposal of competent courts."

The Libyan plane landed in Beirut after a stop in Tehran where the hijackers freed a married couple and their child, apparently because the woman became sick. That left 35 hostages and seven hijackers aboard the plane by official Libyan airline counts.

O'Neill celebrates birthday

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan invited House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. to the White House for his birthday yesterday and gave his chief political rival permission to take a year to Ronald Reagan whenever he feels like it.

The two men were presented with handcarved and polished blackthorn walking sticks from their ancestral Irish homeland.

O'Neill, at 69 a year younger than the president, received his first and announced that "when a man has a stick of this type, a blackthorn, he is a man of dignity and honor."

"Gimme mine, quick," Reagan told Tom Geoghegan, who brought the monogrammed stockman's canes from County Clare, where they were cut from bushes around Dromoland Castle.

"It's thought that these were probably what was used originally in starting the game of golf," Reagan observed.

Then, turning to the Democratic chief, Reagan said, "When you have any moments when you really would like to use that on me, here's a box of golf balls with my name on them."

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