

U.S. reacts cautiously to Polish crisis

By LAWRENCE L. KNUTSON
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. said yesterday the United States has suspended a pending \$200-million food package for Poland "until the situation clarifies" over Warsaw's crackdown on the Solidarity labor movement.

But U.S. assistance already agreed upon will be allowed to go through, said Haig, who returned to Washington late yesterday after an overseas trip cut short by events in Poland.

The Communist government in Poland tightened yesterday its declaration of martial law after it moved to ban the Solidarity movement and arrested many of its leaders. The shaken union was able to mount only scattered strikes to protest the crackdown

designed to end its year-long flirtation with power.

"I think it's very important at this time that food and humanitarian relief already in the pipeline will proceed, but at a time like this we are going to hold in abeyance a decision on further aid to the government of Poland until the situation clarifies," Haig said.

Haig flew to Washington from Brussels after canceling the remainder of a tour which would have taken him to the Middle East and Asia. He conferred with President Reagan over the situation in Poland late yesterday.

The secretary said it is too early "to draw any definitive conclusions" about Poland but that he would report militarily in the event of Soviet intervention in that eastern European country "would have lasting consequences in East-West relations."

"The real question is whether or not the West would acquiesce by conscious policy in a meaningful rollback of reforms," he said. "We don't anticipate they will."

Among possible economic sanctions, he indicated, would be a cutoff in food and other economic assistance and a possible suspension of Western bank loans.

"The West has made it clear it would not contemplate military actions from the beginning," said the official. "Its tools are diplomatic and economic."

"We want to strike a stance that avoids extremes," he said. "Clearly, we want to tread a fine line between talking positions which would incite violence and bloodshed and perhaps intervention, on one hand, and avoid positions which would acquiesce in the repression of the reform process."

U.S. officials said the government of Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski felt it had to crack down on "defiant" Solidarity by arresting many of its leaders because it was calling for elections that could topple the Communist regime.

One official said he believes the leader of the Solidarity movement, Lech Walesa, was not arrested because he is regarded as a moderate who can be useful in helping negotiate a solution to the current difficulties.

"These officials also said there is no way of knowing whether Polish troops would fire on Polish workers in the event of a clash, and they say they also cannot be sure whether Polish troops would fight Soviet troops if they tried to intervene. They are understood to believe some might fight in both cases, while other units might not.

At the State Department, officials urged Americans to "defer their travel to Poland at this time." That exhortation was hardly surprising, since the Polish Foreign Ministry told the U.S. embassy earlier that "no foreigners from the West can enter Poland."

Meanwhile, a senior administration official said Haig's plane predicted that the United States and its allies would impose diplomatic and economic sanctions if Poland tries to crush hard-won political reforms.

The official, who insisted on anonymity, said the NATO allies have made clear from the outset of the reform movement last year that they would not respond militarily in the event of Soviet intervention.

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meaningful rollback of reforms," he said. "We don't anticipate they will."

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Palladino: NRC's power stronger than prosecution

By DON WATERS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's authority to halt construction or operation of nuclear power plants which violate NRC standards is a far more potent weapon than fines or criminal prosecution, the agency's chairman said yesterday.

"The true effect of a given civil penalty or other sanction imposed upon a given licensee is not always predictable," Nunzio J. Palladino told a House Government Operations subcommittee.

But it is virtually certain "that the NRC can cost a licensee millions of dollars if the agency requires him to halt construction or shut down while inspections, verifications or rework are carried out," he testified.

"So it behooves the licensee to get the work done right the first time or catch the mistakes early," he added. "That power is a very credible deterrent."

Palladino noted that the NRC recently used this weapon when it revoked the interim operating license of the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant in California after it was found that miscalculations had been made in the facility's ability to absorb earthquake shocks.

While praising Palladino's actions, Rep. Toby Moffett, D-Conn., chairman of the environment, energy and natural resources subcommittee, said the NRC enforcement program has traditionally not been "a credible deterrent to utility misconduct."

And, Moffett said, "the NRC is often too slow to respond to allegations of massive breakdowns in quality assurance," such as occurred at the Zimmer Nuclear Power Station owned by the Cincinnati Gas & Electric Co.

Moffett lauded the NRC for assessing "an unusually large civil penalty" of \$200,000 in that case, but also released documents showing the NRC's auditing office criticized the way the NRC's investigative branch handled the probe.

Palladino acknowledged that such internal problems exist and said he and other NRC commissioners are "trying very desperately to improve" the agency's investigative operations.

One document released was a Nov. 16 letter from Palladino to Rep. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., in which the chairman said the Zimmer investigation should have been more comprehensive but that public health and safety had not been jeopardized by its faults.

On another topic, Palladino and a fellow commissioner, Peter Bradford, said they doubted that public health and safety would be jeopardized by nuclear power plants in operation in the next two years would be met.



Christmas twist

Mat Leavell (left) and Mark Leavell (right) sit around their family's Christmas tree in Monroe, Mich. The family tradition of hanging the tree upside-down started two years ago when Mat was 18 months old, to keep him out of the tree.

state/nation/world

Thousands march in support of Solidarity

By MARK S. SMITH

Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — Tens of thousands marched in world capitals, youths in West Berlin smashed windows and West European labor unions charged France's leaders with tyranny. But most Western governments said yesterday there is little they can do about the declaration of martial law in Poland.

"We shall observe a policy of strict non-intervention, and we expect the same of all signatories of the Helsinki Final Act," British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington said, referring to East-West agreements on European security and cooperation signed in Helsinki, Finland, in 1975. The "final act" of the accords deals with human rights.

Portugal formally condemned the Polish government and praised the "heroic" Polish people in a statement issued in Lisbon after a special cabinet meeting. The statement condemned "pressures brought to bear on Poland by various Warsaw Pact countries" and related the government's position that "such interference in the internal affairs of Poland is inadmissible."

In Paris, all major unions and parties of the left and right — except the Moscow-line Communist Party — joined in a march and a mass rally near the Polish Embassy. There was no official police estimate of the crowd, which appeared to number in the tens of thousands.

Boulevard Montparnasse was packed by lines of

people 50 abreast for more than a mile. Their banners demanded freedom for jailed Solidarity members. There were reports of 23 other demonstrations throughout France.

About 10,000 young people paraded through downtown Milan, past the offices of the Polish national airline LOT, in what police said was a peaceful protest of the military council takeover in Poland and the arrest of thousands of members of the independent trade union Solidarity.

In downtown Reykjavik, Iceland, about 2,000 people gathered in sub-zero temperatures to protest the Polish moves.

In Australia, several hundred protesters, mostly Polish immigrants, staged demonstrations at the Polish consulate in Sydney and around a civic Christmas tree in Melbourne. The latter group sent a telegram to Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser calling for an end to diplomatic relations with Poland.

Fraser said Australia will be ready to accept Polish refugees if necessary. He said the government would ignore Polish requests for economic aid if the Soviet Union intervened in Poland.

There were demonstrations as well in Naples, Madrid, Copenhagen and Vienna.

Outside the Polish embassy in The Hague, demonstrators carried signs saying, "Under Socialism, People Die! — Not Generals!"

In West Berlin, the protest was less even-tempered.

Gangs of youths shouting "Hands off Poland" smashed windows at ticket offices of LOT and East European airlines. The youths also burned flags of Western nations, in protest of the "non-interference" policy. Union leaders in the West accused Polish authorities of totalitarianism.

Poland's government "has now placed itself on the same level as other dictatorial regimes," the Danish Federation of Trade Unions said.

In Brussels, the 70-million member International Confederation of Free Trade Unions filed a complaint with the International Labor Organization, a branch of the United Nations, accusing the Polish government of stifling Solidarity.

The International Trade Workers Federation in Geneva said Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish premier, "will find that bayonets cannot dig up coal and that tanks cannot produce food."

Britain's Trades Union Congress "condemns this act of repression," General Secretary Len Murray said. Newspapers used even stronger words.

Copenhagen's Berlingske Tidende asked, "Is Freedom Finished?" In Paris, Le Matin printed a picture of Solidarity national leader Lech Walesa with the caption: "Hope Assassinated."

Amsterdam's De Telegraaf said Jaruzelski "in a desperate attempt to keep Soviet tanks out of the country, has turned Poland into a military dictatorship."



Showing support

Elias Walendowski, 5, holds up his solidarity button at an AFL-CIO rally in support of the Polish Solidarity movement. He is the son of Tadeusz Walendowski, a Polish refugee, who spoke at the rally.

Visa granted to Alexeyeva

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet authorities yesterday gave a Moscow-born exile a visa to leave the Soviet Union within a week.

"I'm very happy to go out to join my husband. I must leave the Soviet Union by Dec. 21," the daughter-in-law of Nobel laureate Andrei Sakharov said in halting English while displaying her visa.

Sakharov and his wife Yelena Bonner drew worldwide attention to Alexeyeva's long battle to emigrate by staging a 17-day hunger strike in Gorky, a Volga River city 250 miles east of Moscow where Sakharov was banished nearly 60 years ago.

The Soviet government branded the

hunger strike a "fresh provocation" aimed at fanning anti-Soviet sentiments in the West. But when Sakharov's condition deteriorated last week, authorities relented and announced that Alexeyeva could leave.

Sakharov, 60, won the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize for his work on behalf of human rights in the Soviet Union.

The 26-year-old Alexeyeva went to the visa office at midday yesterday and was issued the travel documents in about one hour. She told Western reporters waiting at the front door that she would decide on travel plans later this week.

"Yelena is coming back from Gorky on Wednesday and then we will discuss it," she said.

New Hinckley info disclosed

By LARRY MARGASAK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — John W. Hinckley Jr. took target practice in Colorado several months before he shot President Reagan, prosecutors disclosed yesterday.

In a memorandum filed in U.S. District Court, the prosecutors in the Hinckley case said: "We will introduce evidence to show that Mr. Hinckley engaged in target practice in late 1980 and early 1981 at a rifle range in Colorado."

The memorandum said the rifle range is located near Denver and car protectors used by Hinckley at the target practice were recovered from the defendant's room at his parents' house in Evergreen, Colorado.

The legal paper, by U.S. Attorney Charles F.C. Ruff and Assistant U.S. Attorney Roger M. Adelman, did not elaborate.

The memorandum was filed on orders of U.S.

District Judge Barrington D. Parker. He asked the prosecutors to outline the evidence they will present in the first part of Hinckley's trial, in which the government will attempt to convince a jury that Hinckley shot President Reagan and three others on March 30.

Hinckley has admitted the shootings, but has pleaded innocent by reason of insanity.

Yesterday, Adelman asked Judge Parker to reconsider his ruling that has prosecutors from using a statement provided by Hinckley several hours after the allegedly shot Reagan. Adelman said the statement could be crucial in showing the jury that the target practice was sane during the March 30 shooting.

Adelman argued that Hinckley was rational enough while making the statement to ask law officers about the Academy Awards and a basketball game.

Hinckley was not present at yesterday's hearing, which Parker originally scheduled to determine if Hinckley remains competent to stand trial.

Baker opposes domestic cuts

By DAVID ESPO
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republican Leader Howard Baker suggested yesterday that the administration's major budget cutting thrust for the next several years would be in the same domestic programs that bore the brunt of the 1981 cuts.

At the same time, Baker called for tax increases, cuts in benefit programs and "more token savings" in defense spending in the 1983 budget President Reagan is preparing for submission to Congress next month.

"I agree with others who say that you've cut all you can cut for all practical effect from discretionary programs," said Baker, R-Tenn., who helped shepherd Baker's proposals for spending cuts through Congress.

"And there may be some of them that you maybe have to go back and repair some of the damage that's been done. We may have overdone it already in some of them," he said.

He did not specify which of the hundreds of domestic programs that have been cut he had in mind. But the so-called discretionary programs, which do not include defense or benefit programs such as Social Security and food stamps, bore the brunt of the \$39 billion in spending cuts Congress approved.

Baker made his remarks before a group of Gannett newspaper executives. His office released a partial transcript of the session.

Baker's comments come as the Reagan administration is preparing the 1983 budget.

Budget Director David Stockman, in a preliminary briefing for several Republican senators last week, reportedly said the major budget cutting thrust for the next several years would be in the same domestic programs that bore the brunt of the 1981 cuts.

Several sources said Stockman indicated Reagan does not intend to call for tax increases or higher defense cuts. Stockman indicated cuts in benefit programs would be targeted for about \$18 billion in 1983 and 1984, far less than some Republican senators would like, these sources said.

But Baker, in his public remarks, outlined this advice for the administration:

- Tax increases, which he called "revenue enhancement" measures, possibly including a "windfall profits" tax on a deregulated natural gas industry, excise taxes on tobacco or alcohol and closing some of the "loopholes" in the tax bill Congress approved earlier this year.
- Cuts of unspecified size in benefit programs, although Social Security is "off limits" until a presidential commission makes a report on the subject next year.



Santa's elves?

Members of the Pagans motorcycle club get Santa out of his sleigh and onto a motorcycle as they help him deliver toys as part of the Toys for Tots campaign in Wington, Del.

Israel plans annexation of Syria's Golan Heights

By ARTHUR MAX
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's parliament, defying international protest, adopted legislation yesterday to annex the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights of neighboring Syria.

Syria called the move "a declaration of war" and vowed to defend its territories.

"In little more than eight hours, 69-year-old Prime Minister Menachem Begin won Cabinet approval, presented the action to the 120-member Knesset, and forced it through the three-step legislative process into law.

Egypt said Begin's government had violated the U.S. sponsored Camp David accords. A U.S. State Department spokesman in Washington said any unilateral change in the Golan's status would be a violation of the 1979 pact between Israel and Egypt.

Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr., returning to Washington from a NATO meeting in Belgium, said the United States regrets "this very

surprising announcement." Developments in Poland forced Haig to return home early and cancel a meeting he had scheduled with Begin.

Begin, directing his forces from a wheelchair, rammed the surprise annexation bill through the parliament, formally extending Israel's borders to encompass the strategic heights which Israeli forces captured from Syria during the 1967 Middle East war.

In Damascus, state radio carried a government statement saying the action was "a declaration of war on Syria and the abrogation of the cease-fire... the Syrian government will defend its territories and its national interests."

After renewed hostilities in the heights in the 1973 Middle East war, Syria and Israel agreed to a cease-fire, with the help of the United States.

The parliament bill passed its first reading with a 60-17 vote and went to committee for only three hours. It returned to the floor for the final two votes, each approving the bill by 63-21.

Begin told the house he had not consulted with

Washington on the surprise move, knowing the United States would object. "To invite their 'no' and then not take it into account would not be politically wise," he said.

The low vote total reflected the absence of several dozen members of the Knesset, Begin called the opposition party of guard, and most Labor members were absent for the first vote on an issue that deeply divides their party. In the final two readings Labor members were split.

The bill was supported by Begin's Likud Bloc and coalition allies, and opposed by a scattering of splinter parties and dissenting Laborites.

Begin acted with a speed that stunned the nation. The prime minister came out of hospital after 10 days of recuperation from a broken bone in his hip joint, and called an immediate Cabinet meeting at which he won unanimous approval for annexing the heights. Then, seated in a wheelchair, he put the bill to the Knesset, or Parliament, for ratification.

The same method was used in 1967 to annex predominantly Arab East Jerusalem, arousing an international protest.

Begin directed his forces from a wheelchair, rammed the surprise annexation measure that would have declared the annexation measure due to close the door to peace talks with Syria.

Spokesmen on the amendment, Begin assisted it did not preclude negotiations. "But that's obvious," he said. "The moment that Syria says it is ready for peace, that same moment we are ready to negotiate."

Syria, regarded as Israel's most implacable enemy, has been involved since last spring in a dispute with the Jewish state over Syrian anti-aircraft missiles in Lebanon.

David Kinche, director general of the Foreign Ministry, told reporters the annexation came "at a lengthy period of increasing frustration at seeing the growing extension of Syria." He said the failed Arab summit in Morocco last month, at which Syria opposed all peace moves, made up Israel's mind.



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