

Kean undecided on Williams successor

By JIM MANION
Associated Press Writer
TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — New Jersey Gov. Thomas H. Kean said yesterday he has not decided whom he will appoint to serve out the term of Sen. Harrison A. Williams Jr., who resigned rather than be expelled for his conviction in the Abscam scandal.

In a brief statement released after the resignation yesterday, the Republican governor said the action by the Democratic senator "brings to an end a sad and tragic chapter in New Jersey political history."

"The senator has been judged both by the legal system and his peers in the United States Senate," Kean said. "In light of those judgments, there is nothing further to add."

Williams was in the last year of his four-term term.

Since Kean would be expected to choose someone from his own party, much of the speculation has centered on the two contenders who have filed for the June 8 GOP senatorial primary — Rep. Millicent Fenwick and conservative Jeffrey Bell, a former speechwriter for Ronald Reagan.

A third possibility is Rep. James A. Courter, who was chairman of Kean's election campaign and who is expected to announce Monday whether he will seek re-election or try for the Senate nomination.

But at a news conference, Kean said, "I'm not ready to make any kind of an announcement at the moment."

Abscam net catches big fish

By RICHARD T. PIENCIAK
Associated Press Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — Operation Abscam may be remembered for its agents in the clothing. The biggest catch in the Abscam net was Harrison A. Williams Jr., the four-term Democratic senator from New Jersey who resigned his seat yesterday.

Abscam began following the 1977 fraud conviction in Pittsburgh of con man Mel Weinberg. Seeking to avoid prison, Weinberg volunteered to rat on fellow crooks.

Weinberg, who considers himself the world's best con, joined forces with the FBI in a free-wheeling enterprise.

According to trial testimony, Weinberg started off helping the government recover stolen art and securities in 1978.

It did not take Weinberg long to steer the probe from the peddling of phony certificates of deposit to politicians willing to peddle their office.

In November 1979, undercover agents working with Weinberg in a front called "Abdul Enterprises" were introduced to a businessman named William Rosenberg, who would later plead guilty to various Abscam charges in the case of former Rep. Richard Kelly, R-Fla.

Rosenberg told the agents, who posed as American agents for an Arab sheik looking for investment opportunities, of a number of sweetheart deals he had

with Angelo Errichetti, then the mayor of Camden, N.J.

Errichetti, according to Rosenberg, was getting kickbacks. From that moment, Operation Abscam turned decidedly political.

In December 1979, Errichetti met with the undercover agents, explaining he had wide influence throughout New Jersey. The mayor said he could arrange for the sheik to "buy" an Atlantic City casino license.

It was not long before the name of Errichetti's "old and dear friend," Harrison A. Williams Jr., was mentioned.

At about the same time, arrangements were made for the sheik's men to meet with a couple of councilmen from Philadelphia. They could clear the way for the sheik's desire to build a hotel in the City of Brotherly Love.

The councilmen had friends in Congress, and they too were pulled into the Abscam net for taking bribes in return for promising to introduce immigration bills for the sheik.

On March 23, 1979, undercover FBI agent Richard Farhart made his acting debut as "Yassin," Yassin Habib, a meeting on a yacht in Florida with the four-term senator from New Jersey and several other Abscam marks.

The sheik's judgment of the phony Arab, right down to his posed photos with the kafta-clad Farhart,

proved to be one of his biggest mistakes.

On the boat, "Yassin" nodded as if he did not speak English. In early 1980 a change in strategy dictated that the sheik speak to Williams. The Democratic senator later remarked on how Yassin's command of the language had impressed him.

With news leaking and pressure building, the Justice Department decided to take Abscam public on Feb. 2, 1980.

That afternoon Philadelphia lawyer Howard Criden sat in a Kennedy International Airport lounge with Weinberg and a man he knew as Tony DeVito, Yassin's bagman.

Criden was a little nervous, as he was finally to meet the sheik. But in between inquiring about how to address his highness, Criden pulled potential deal after potential deal from his suit pockets.

Then the phone rang. Weinberg answered, saying aloud: "He's here" and left.

Now it was the bagman's turn to pull something out of his pocket — an FBI identification for undercover agent Anthony Amoroso. Criden slumped in his chair. Unlike Williams he never got to meet the sheik.

All told, six members of the House, one senator, an Immigration and Naturalization Service investigator, a big-city mayor and several Philadelphia City councilmen were convicted. All are appealing; the cases are expected to reach the Supreme Court.

news briefs/state

Energy department plans TMI core disposal

HARRISBURG (AP) — The federal Department of Energy is working on a plan to dispose of the entire damaged reactor core at Three Mile Island, dropping its earlier opposition to taking full responsibility, Gov. Dick Thornburgh said yesterday.

Thornburgh said he was informed this week that Energy Department will go beyond its earlier statements that it would handle no more than 15 percent of the damaged core.

He called the move "an important first step in achieving a formal agreement to insure safe removal of the core."

For several months, the Energy Department has been negotiating with General Public Utilities Corp. on the issue.

"We've been trying to get them to do more," said GPU spokesman Phil Fine. "It's an important breakthrough."

Robert C. Arnold, president of GPU Nuclear Corp., the plant's operator, said the company had reached a "preliminary understanding, which should be able to form the basis for a contract. The company was very pleased with the department's assistance in the matter."

Survey shows incidence of elderly abuse

HARRISBURG (AP) — A survey of more than 1,000 people who work with aging Pennsylvanians showed 41 percent of elderly persons who were physically or mentally abused, the Department of Aging said yesterday.

Of those cases, 90 percent of the victims required medical treatment or services to protect them from further abuse, the study said.

The majority of the abused were women (76 percent). Those in their 70s were the most commonly abused age group; 88 percent were white; 85 percent were physically disabled; and 69 percent lived with the person who abused them.

Police officers, social workers, lawyers and employees of the state's 49 Area Agencies on Aging reported that more than half of the victims had been abused at least twice previously.

Lottery fix planners begin prison sentences

HARRISBURG (AP) — A former television host and an ex-lottery official were put in prison yesterday for rigging the Pennsylvania lottery two years ago with weighted pingpong balls.

The imprisonment of Nick Perry, 65, the host of the nightly Pennsylvania lottery show on WTAE-TV in Pittsburgh, and Edward Plevel, 53, who was in charge of lottery security, closed the state's case. Four other people were convicted in the scheme.

Perry and Plevel went to jail maintaining their innocence.

The drawing was rigged April 24, 1980 through the use of weighted pingpong balls that allowed only those with the numbers 4 and 6 to be drawn from a machine. Lottery officials reported a record payout on that night's winning combination, 6-6-6.

The state accused Perry of masterminding the scheme and Plevel of being the inside man.

news briefs/nation

Pentagon rejects new GI education bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon rejected yesterday the need for a new GI bill to pay for veterans' education, contending recent recruiting successes show such a program is not needed to maintain a quality volunteer military force.

The Pentagon decided to stand pat on its present program, which centers around a Veterans Educational Assistance Program, under which a man or

Relly tampons go on trial in toxic shock case

DENVER (AP) — A microbiologist who specializes in toxic shock syndrome testified yesterday that he believed the Relly brand tampon can "unquestionably" be one cause of the disease.

Despite repeated objections by attorneys for Procter & Gamble, makers of the tampon, Philip Terno of the New York University Medical Center said Relly tampons created a walled-off environment in the vagina and that its components fed bacteria linked to TSS.

He also said the tampon has a unique high salt concentration that can be conducive to growth of the bacteria.

"Yes, sir, I believe (the Relly tampon) can be a cause of the disease," Terno said. "I believe it is unquestionably."

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Use of cocaine and heroin mixture increases

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Speedballing," the simultaneous use of heroin and cocaine blamed for the death of comedian John Belushi, was popular in the 1960s and is making a resurgence among well-to-do drug users, drug experts said.

For those who could afford it, "speedballing" offered what users might feel was the best of two drug worlds — heroin, a depressant that creates a sensation of euphoric calm, and cocaine, a stimulant that speeds the body's metabolism, according to former drug users and a professor of pharmacology.

"It's like one drug is pulling you down, while the other pulls you up — and you're going sideways," said Alan Davidson, a former drug addict who now is a drug counselor at Lifeline Outreach, an East Los Angeles program.

John Kramer, a professor of psychiatry and pharmacology at the University of California at Irvine, said a "speedball" usually is mixed with water and injected into the bloodstream. However, he said, it can be snorted.

news briefs/world

Official reports massacre in Guatemala

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) — An armed band attacked two isolated villages in northern Guatemala's Quiché Province and slashed the throats of more than 200 men, women and children, a local official said yesterday.

The official said some of the dead had been decapitated.

An army spokesman first said the government had no information on the reported murders but minutes later called the report "completely false."

Prensa Libre, the largest newspaper in Guatemala, said yesterday, "In Zuculpa, Quiché, unknown persons cut the throats of 200 persons."

The massacre was reported in a telegram from Jose de Jesus Gomez Bochon, municipal secretary of the nearest town, Zuculpa, to National Police headquarters in the provincial capital of Santa Cruz del Quiché, 100 miles north of the capital.

Poles denounce French balloon propaganda

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — The martial law regime yesterday bitterly attacked a balloon propaganda campaign by a French group as a "hostile act" toward Poland. It also accused a United Nations office of bending to American pressure.

The Polish press has been filled with denunciations of the balloon campaign by a pro-Solidarity French group called "Freedom Balloons for Poland."

The group last weekend launched thousands of multi-colored, helium-filled balloons carrying messages of support, suggestions on how to resist martial law, and copies of statements on Poland made by Polish-born Pope John Paul II since martial law was declared Dec. 13.

The balloons were launched from a Danish island in defiance of Denmark's civil aviation authorities and have been drifting into northwest Poland.

Militants mob archbishop during service

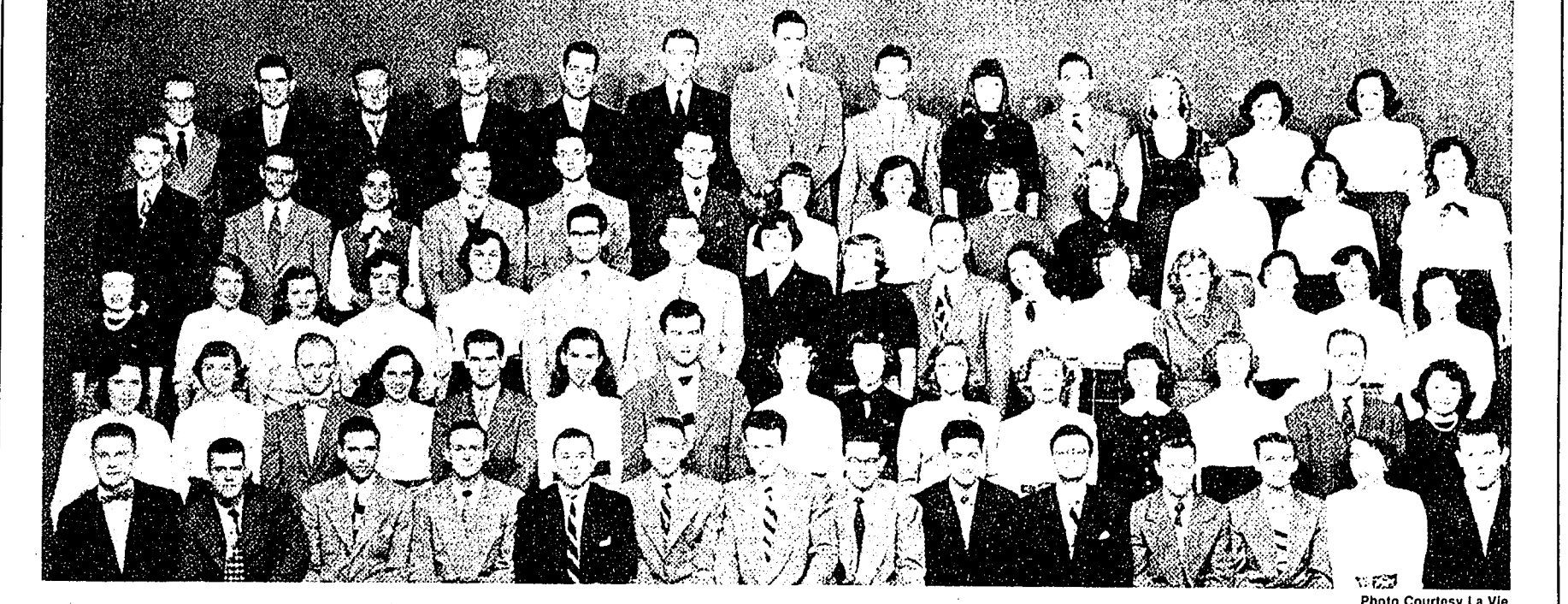
LIVERPOOL, England (AP) — A hundred Protestant militants shouting "Traitor!" and "Judas!" drove the Archbishop of Canterbury out of a church pulpit yesterday and halted his religious service to protest the upcoming visit of Pope John Paul II.

Outside, the Most Rev. Robert Runcie, 60-year-old head of the Protestant state Church of England and the worldwide Anglican Communion, was jostled by an angry crowd as he neared his car. Police

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If you have questions or cannot attend, call The Collegian editor or news adviser at 665-1828.



Watchful eye
A Polish army major watches as a woman buys bread in a Warsaw shop. Martial law authorities have appointed a special detail to police transactions and insure fair trade.

Surinam rebels attempt coup

PARAMARIBO, Surinam (AP) — Rebel troops firing submachine guns took over Paramaribo's main barracks and business district yesterday, but Surinam's left-leaning leader said he was trying to put down the coup.

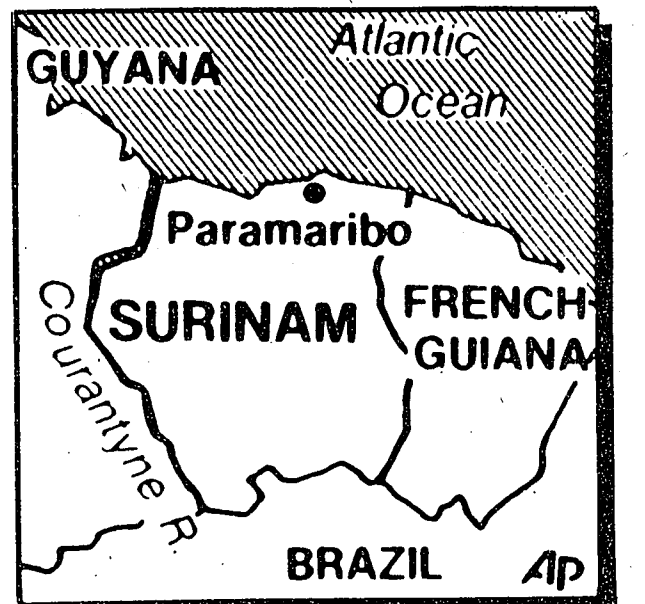
Witnesses said the rebels seized control of Paramaribo's streets and important downtown buildings, including the rebel "National Liberation Council" proclaimed a dusk-to-dawn curfew, said schools were closed until further notice, and banned gatherings of more than three people.

The communique was issued by a Lt. Ramboeus, apparently the rebel chief. But the station quickly went off the air, and reporters said Lt. Col. Desi Bouterse, Surinam's leader, and his deputy military commander, Maj. Roy Horb, surfaced at a military housing complex some four miles from the barracks.

The reporters, who said they visited the complex, said Bouterse was accompanied by loyal soldiers with at least one armored personnel carrier, and that Bouterse's commanders issued a statement calling on the public for calm and promising to do all in their power to restore order.

A diplomatic source who requested anonymity said the rebels apparently were rightists attempting a coup aimed at reversing Bouterse's leftward drift in Surinam, the world's fourth largest producer of bauxite, the ore from which aluminum is produced.

After securing the barracks, rebel troops broadcast a call for a return to civilian government, and rebel soldiers cleared the streets — on occasion firing single warning shots — the source said.



Democrats warn Reagan to break budget stalemate

By DAVID ESPO
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats told President Reagan yesterday he is risking a long paralysis in Congress unless he "forgets about victories" and begins negotiating changes in taxes and defense spending.

Sen. Ernest Hollings, the top Democrat on the Senate Budget Committee, said a "stalemate" that could last until late in the year is likely unless Reagan indicates a willingness to alter the administration's 1983 spending plan — a blueprint that Democrats and Republicans alike find unpalatable.

House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, D-Mass., saying it is "clear as a bell" that Reaganomics is not reviving the economy, issued a similar warning.

"The president sees today's economic challenges as a test of strength between him and the Democrats," O'Neill said. "As long as he keeps his political saber drawn, I see no hope for compromise... It is time for the president to forget about victories."

Meanwhile, sources said influential Senate Republicans were considering a package of changes designed to reduce the budget deficit to \$20 billion in 1983 and about \$20 billion in 1985. Reagan's budget anticipates a \$71 billion deficit in 1985 but the Congressional Budget Office estimates it will be \$160 billion.

While cautioning that no decision have been made, sources said one approach the GOP leaders were discussing would mean tax increases of between \$125 billion and \$150 billion over three years and spending increases of roughly twice that amount.

Proposals to raise excise taxes on consumer goods such as tobacco and alcohol to reduce deficits in Reagan's proposed budget were being considered, the congressional sources said.

They said a group of five senior Republican leaders headed by Senate Leader Howard Baker of Tennessee also is contemplating a recommendation to limit cost-of-living increases in Social Security and other benefit programs and to freeze hundreds of domestic programs at their current spending level.

No increase in the gasoline tax is being considered, the sources said.

Baker, who issued a letter to all 52 of his Republican colleagues soliciting their views on the budget, hopes to have a list of possible changes ready by next week.

"The White House indicated yesterday that Reagan is less willing to bend on his budget than some might believe."

"We're not interested in any fundamental retreat," said David R. Gergen, the president's assistant for communications. "We are holding firm on that."

Reagan himself took a step at statements by key House Democrats that funds for certain social programs could have to be increased rather than cut.

He told a group of National Newspaper Association members at a White House reception that an informal poll of House committee and subcommittee chairmen showed "they're discussing and entertaining proposals to add \$20 billion dollars to the spending of the budget as we sent it up."

Reagan called the actions "imitations of just what's been done for the past years that led us to this business as usual and politics as usual kind of a situation."

"They will, if allowed, bring higher inflation, higher taxes, and yes, bigger deficits," he said.

No verdict reached in von Bulow's trial

By LARRY LAUGHLIN
Associated Press Writer
NEWPORT, R.I. (AP) — A jury began deliberations in Claus von Bulow's attempted murder trial yesterday, but retired after five hours without deciding whether he was a loving husband or a clever schemer who twice tried to kill his heressive wife with insulin.

The seven men and five women considered the case from noon until 5 p.m., after being told by Judge Thomas H. Needham that they "do not have to solve any mystery" in determining whether the defendant tried to murder Martha "Sunny" von Bulow.

"You do not have to decide, really, anything except whether this defendant did what he's accused of," Needham told the blue and white-collar jurors, who sat through five weeks of testimony that jolted this seaside playground of the wealthy.

Von Bulow, a 55-year-old financial consultant born in Denmark, is charged with trying to murder his wife with insulin injections during Christmas-time visits to their walled Millionaires Row mansion in 1979 and 1980.

Needham, sending jurors back to their hotel rooms for the night, called their initial attempts to reach a verdict a "shakedown cruise."

"You have at least scratched the surface as to how each of you feel," the judge said.

The jury resumes deliberations at 9:30 a.m. today. Shortly after jurors got the case, prosecutor Ste-

Reagan, Mitterrand to discuss conflict

By R. GREGORY NOKES
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Francois Mitterrand of France will make a quick trip to confer today with Ronald Reagan in an effort to soothe irritations over mounting differences on Central America, Libya and the Soviet Union.

Mitterrand is scheduled to arrive in Washington mid-morning today for a visit lasting only about 10 hours. He is scheduled to spend three hours with Reagan, at a White House meeting and lunch.

While Mitterrand's socialist government has agreed with the United States on some key issues, the Reagan administration has been dismayed by the French stand on others, particularly in Central America.

One high-level State Department official, asking not to be named, said the French stand on Nicaragua and Salvador threatens to undercut American policy in the region.

He said the lengthening list of disagreements, if the treaty continues, could change the over-all good relationship between Washington and Paris.

The French recently concluded a deal to provide \$20 million in arms, including shoulder-mounted rockets, to Nicaragua, which the Reagan administration contends is directing and supplying arms to rebels in El Salvador.

France also has joined with Mexico in calling for recognition of the Salvadoran rebels as a legitimate political force and is backing the Mexican initiative for a negotiated solution to the conflict. The Reagan administration has rejected recognizing the rebels as a legitimate force.

The State Department official said he expects the French to take some action in the near future that will show support for Fidel Castro's Cuba, which the Reagan administration blames, along with the Soviet Union, for instability in Central America.

"We disagree with what they are doing," the official said.

Differences have emerged elsewhere. The French have resumed arms shipments to Libya's Moammar Khadafi at a time when the United States is seeking to isolate Khadafi and has cut off imports of Libyan oil.



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