

state/nation/world

The Daily Collegian
Monday, March 29

Haig doubtful on aid to El Salvador

By GEORGE GEDDA
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. said yesterday the Salvadoran national elections "deserve our support," but reaffirmed that future American financial backing will depend on a continuation of the existing government's reform movement.

Haig, appearing on NBC's "Meet the Press," said "the very fact of free elections... is a step toward democratization."

But, he said, if Salvadoran voters elect a constituent assembly dominated by rightist political forces, "that's their business."

"We have supported the current regime based on the reforms they have instituted," he said, "and it will be adherence to those principles that will determine the level of American support."

The Reagan administration was presumed to be supporting the Christian Democratic party, President Jose Napoleon Duarte in yesterday's election.

Duarte appeared to be facing his biggest challenge from the National Republican Alliance, headed by Maj. Roberto D'Aubuisson.

D'Aubuisson, assassinated by former U.S. ambassador to El Salvador Robert White as a "pathological killer," has said he may try Duarte on charges of treason if his party wins.

Haig, alluding to critics of administration policy toward Central America, said Americans should be "more clear-eyed and clear-headed" about the alternatives to existing anti-communist regimes in the region.

Observers encounter high turnout

By ROBERT PARRY
Associated Press Writer

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — U.S. observers praised Salvadorans who jammed polling places yesterday, enduring long lines in blistering heat and braving gunfire to cast votes in El Salvador's national elections.

Returning to the capital after the polls closed last night, American observer Rev. Theodore Hesburgh said the election was fair and the message sent by the voters was, "We are voting against violence and for democracy."

"You should be very proud," Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., said earlier in the day to a woman in a line of more than 100 people that stretched all around the center of Santa Tecla, eight miles south of the capital.

Kassebaum headed an eight-member U.S. delegation, among some 200 observers from about 40 countries who came to monitor the election of a constituent assembly. The vote is strongly supported by the Reagan administration as a means of leading the Central American country out of its 2 1/2-year-old civil war.

Leftists boycotted this election, and gunfights between leftist guerrillas and government soldiers kept polling places closed in Usulután, the country's fourth-largest city. Elsewhere, sounds of street fighting could be heard by the wailing lines of voters.

Clark Kerr, president emeritus at the University of California at Berkeley, said he was overwhelmed by the heavy turnout in Santa Tecla, where the voters seemed in a festive mood.

"This is amazing," he said. "I've never seen people so anxious to vote. This one lady we stopped and talked with said they were voting for peace."

Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame University, said the heavy turnout indicated "the people are fed up with nonsense."

Rep. Bob Livingston, R-La., another observer, also stopped in Santa Tecla before heading out to the western provinces to watch voting there.

Santa Tecla is a moderate-sized working-class town that appears well off by Salvadoran standards.

Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., went on the most perilous trip for the observers, heading by helicopter to the eastern provinces where much of the fighting with leftist guerrillas has occurred.

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U.S. Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., left, and The Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame University, watch Salvadorans vote in San Miguel during yesterday's elections. The two were part of an eight-member delegation from the United States.

"I was just simply amazed to see this crowd this early," he said. "It isn't anything like you would see at home."

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state news briefs

Welfare cuts bill faces fight in state Senate

HARRISBURG (AP) — Although it has been rewritten to attract more votes, legislation cutting off welfare cash grants to 68,000 able-bodied Pennsylvanians appears headed for a floor fight this week in the state Senate.

The Republican-backed bill, which also would force thousands of welfare recipients to do public service work to get payments, passed the House last week after it was reworked by a joint conference committee to get Democratic votes.

If the Senate approves the measure, it goes to Gov. Dick Thornburgh, who has pushed similar legislation during his administration.

Senate Republican Leader Robert J. Bell, whose caucus controls the Senate with 28-24 majority, said he feels the bill has a good chance of passage, despite strong Democratic opposition and the fact that three Republicans voted against an earlier version.

But Senate Democratic Leader Ed

nation news briefs

Rescue team works to free trapped trooper

LAFAYETTE, N.J. (AP) — A state trooper being rescued on a spelunking expedition in this Sussex County community fell, becoming wedged in a chilly, narrow crevice, and rescue workers drilled gingerly through the rocks yesterday trying to reach him.

Parameedics who reached the legs of 48-year-old Scoutmaster Donald Welter yesterday morning were unable to detect any sign of life from the trooper sergeant, who has been jammed in the Crooked Swamp Cave since 3 p.m. Saturday.

Rescuers managed to pull on Welter's legs, bringing him to a more level position. When he first fell into the crevice,

Spring freeze damages southern fruit crops

(AP) — A late March freeze snuffed the blossoms of spring in Dixie orchards yesterday, costing fruit growers millions of dollars, as temperatures dropped to record lows from Maine to the Carolinas.

A "replay of January" in the West dumped a foot of snow in parts of California.

The entire apple crop in western North Carolina, where most of the state's \$24 million crop is grown, was wiped out as temperatures dipped into the low 20s, officials said. Damage to peach orchards was extensive.

The multi-million dollar peach crop in South Carolina also suffered as temperatures dropped to 19 degrees in Walhalla, 26 at Greer and 29 in Columbia.

Engine trouble causes plane crash, 4 dead

WESTMINSTER, Md. (AP) — A small plane developed engine trouble and crashed into a cornfield near here yesterday, killing four people, according to Maryland state police.

The Piper Cherokee Cruiser developed engine trouble shortly after takeoff from the Carroll County Airport around 2 p.m., said Sgt. Jerry Gooding. The single-engine plane hit several trees and took a sudden nose dive into the cornfield about 1 1/2 miles northwest of here, Gooding said.

The plane's pilot was apparently trying to land the aircraft in the field when it crashed about 2:15 p.m., Gooding said.

Two of the plane's occupants, identified by state police as Eberhard Gorg Trams, 56, of Cherry Chase, and John Edward Don Carles III, 29, of Bethesda, were pronounced dead at the scene of the crash.

The pilot, Francis Lightfoot Fenwick, 33, of Bethesda County, was dead on arrival at Carroll County General Hospital here, said Trooper Walter Drumm.

A third passenger, Elaine Isabel Dion, 20, of Bethesda, died after she was taken by helicopter to the shock trauma unit at Baltimore's University Hospital, Drumm said.

Airport manager Jack Poage said the plane took off in a westerly direction and crashed one mile west of the airstrip.

world news briefs

Birth control may ease expected explosion

WASHINGTON (AP) — An expected explosion in world population by the end of the century can be blunted with improved birth control methods and increased support of international family planning efforts, a new Congressional study said.

The Office of Technology Assessment report released yesterday said more than 20 new or improved contraceptive methods will be available in the next decade.

But yearly worldwide family planning assistance will have to increase ten-fold by the year 2000 — to \$10.7 billion annually — to supply needed levels of these contraceptive methods and services, it said.

Fertility has been declining worldwide, but population growth is continuing because of past high birth rates, falling death rates and declining infant mortality.

"Even if growth rates continue their current decline, the world's population is expected to increase from 4.5 billion in 1981 to between 5.9 billion and 6.5 billion in the year 2000," said the study.

Argentinian groups fight to save penguins

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — A Patagonian newspaper report last month saying that the Secretary of Maritime Affairs had authorized the annual "processing" of 40,000 Magellan penguins brought an outcry from environmentalists and a few small environmentalists' groups.

Public response was unprecedented for such an issue here, with "Save the Penguin" editorials appearing in newspapers across the country and pro-penguin clubs flooding conservationists' offices.

A temporary injunction barring the slaughter was issued while a federal court studies the matter.

"We've won the battle, but the war is not over," Gustavo Costa, a director of the Argentine Wildlife Foundation, said.

Magna Carta escapes harm in cathedral fire

SALISBURY, England (AP) — Fires, apparently started by arsonists, broke out in the 750-year-old Salisbury Cathedral housing the original copy of the Magna Carta but the cathedral would have been burned to the ground, Hugo said yesterday.

The Rev. Keith Hugo, spokesman for Bishop Sydney Evans of Salisbury, said thieves apparently started two fires early Saturday "as an act of spite."

They found only a few pence in the offertory boxes. Cathedral authorities had collected donations from the boxes a

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR SPECIAL EVENTS Monday, March 29

Pass/Fail.
Eco-Action, "On-going Crisis at Three Mile Island" — films, 12 to 6 p.m., HUB Assembly; Bev Davis, TMI area resident, on effects of TMI accident, 7:30 p.m., HUB Gallery Room.
"Behind the Red Star," 4 p.m., 112 Kern. Robert Theberge, Ph.D. cand., on his experiences in People's Republic of China.
Aikido Club meeting, 6:30 p.m., IM Wrestling Room.
NSSLHA meeting and lecture, 7 p.m., 318-19 HUB.
Penn State Marketing Club meeting, Second Mile Sunday's registration/Runner's Committee, 7 p.m., 323 HUB.
Keith Ward, piano recital, 8:30 p.m., Music Bldg. Recital Hall.
PANHEL Debate, Women's Awareness Week — Political Awareness, 8:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Room.

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Letters to the Editor



Eagerly awaiting Salvadorans line up to vote near the capital before yesterday's national elections. They began lining up before dawn to wait for the polls to open.

Journalists protest association's end

By THOMAS W. NETTER
Associated Press Writer

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Fifty Polish journalists have culled an open letter here protesting the dissolution of their professional association in favor of a new, pro-Marxist group, informed sources said yesterday.

Poland's Roman Catholic primate meanwhile called in a sermon for conciliation with the military rulers.

Sources said the journalists' letter was addressed to the editor-in-chief of the popular Warsaw daily Zycie Warszawy (Warsaw Life), but an editor on duty at the newspaper, which is favored by the intelligentsia, said he knew nothing about such a letter.

The journalists' letter is a protest against the dissolution of the Polish Journalists' Association, headed by prominent Communist liberal Stefan Bratkowski, and its replacement last Wednesday by the Association of Journalists of People's Poland.

The group of writers joins the Independent Association of Students as the second major social group to be dissolved since the authorities imposed martial law here last Dec. 13. The authorities also banned the independent labor union, Solidarity.

"The activities of the chief board of the (old) association were among the brightest spots in the history of Polish journalism," the protest letter said. "It served well the interests of society and readers and journalists."

Protestors burn bills on TMI anniversary

By RICH KIRKPATRICK
Associated Press Writer

HARRISBURG (AP) — A group protesting the financing of the Three Mile Island cleanup burned utility bills on the steps of the Capitol yesterday to mark the third anniversary of the nuclear accident.

Organizers of the Project David protest said they had collected about 1,200 bills from customers of Metropolitan Edison Co., which owns 50 percent of TMI. About 75 people stood in brisk temperatures to listen to speeches and watch the bills being burned on a charcoal grill.

Project David founder William Keising said the bills represented about \$20,000 owed this month to Met Ed, which has a total of about 300,000 customers.

"It's a symbol," said John Murdoch, a retired state employee after he placed his own utility bill on the smoking, flaming coals.

Although he is served by a different utility, Pennsylvania Power and Light Co., he said its own nuclear plant now under construction at Berwick could be hit with the same kind of accident.

"I think it's a means for giving the public the opportunity to address their real feelings on TMI and nuclear power in general," he said, noting that TMI's Unit 2 was damaged in the nation's worst commercial nuclear accident on March 28, 1979. Since then, progress on the cleanup has slowed because Met Ed's parent, General Public Utilities Corp., says it does not have enough money to cover the estimated \$1 billion cost.

A number of protesters carried signs, including one proclaiming that yesterday was day 1,096 for the 578,000 people in the region held "hostage" by the plants. "Shut down TMI forever," read the sign.

Richard Orsi of York, who stood on the Capitol steps with his wife, Laurie, and 4-month-old son Nathan, said people are increasingly upset with higher electric bills in the wake of the accident.

"The bottom line for me is to get it cleaned up and closed down," he said.

In a speech, Keising, a free lance writer, said the company should be forced into bankruptcy so the "community" can take over the plant and assure that ratepayers are not saddled with cleanup costs.

He urged that Met Ed customers continue withholding payments until they are guaranteed that they won't be charged for cleanup.

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission has approved \$37.5 million in higher rates to pay for cleanup. But the money can't be used until GPU's undamaged Unit 1 is returned to service, still at least six months to a year away. GPU customers are paying \$15 million a month for replacement power.



A group of protestors pour a jar full of Metropolitan Edison Company electric bills onto a lighted charcoal grill on the front steps of the Capitol in Harrisburg, Pa. The group is protesting the financing of the Three Mile Island cleanup project.

Leftists boycott elections

By TOM FENTON
Associated Press Writer

SANTO DOMINGO, El Salvador (AP) — While many Salvadorans were casting ballots for a new constituent assembly yesterday, a bearded guerrilla named Oswaldo and his comrades fingered their automatic rifles in an ambush on the Pan American Highway and vowed to fight on for "an authentic democracy."

"We're not interested in what the people are voting for today. We want a real democracy. The 25-year-old rebel chief in sweat-soaked fatigues said in an interview.

The 60-member assembly will be empowered to rewrite the constitution and name a provisional government until new elections are held, probably next year. Leftists are boycotting the elections, charging their candidates would be assassinated by the rightist parties.

Oswaldo and members of his band, perhaps 10 in all, had set their ambush on an unpaved section of the highway two miles southeast of this village and about 40 miles east of the capital.

The guerrillas were strung out along a 30-foot ridge overlooking the highway.

Two RPG-2 rocket grenades lay in launchers atop field packs at road level but were partially hidden by an indentation of the bank.

"My name is Oswaldo. I can't tell you my last name or where I came from for security reasons," said Oswaldo, adding that he was a member of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

The U.S. government says the front, named after Marxist guerrilla Farabundo Marti who was killed in 1932, is split into five factions.

Oswaldo identified himself as a member of a faction calling itself the Armed Forces of Liberation.

The U.S. government says the FARL was formed as the military wing of the Communist party of El Salvador and is headed by Jorge Shafik Handal, a former University of El Salvador law student. He is said to have later traveled to the Soviet Union, Vietnam, Ethiopia and Eastern Europe seeking arms.

Oswaldo said members of the group were flankers for rebels "carrying out an operation around San Vicente," the nation's fifth largest city some eight miles to the east.