

Lawsuit leads to protests

By GILES HUDSON
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON — A proposed school boycott to get black students out of classes to attend a hearing on a 28-year-old desegregation suit against Houston schools had only "negligible" impact, officials said yesterday.

The hearing had been scheduled for yesterday and today in U.S. District Court to determine whether the desegregation lawsuit should be dismissed.

The session was delayed to allow negotiations for a possible out-of-court settlement among lawyers for the Houston Independent School District, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, school attorney Kelly Freis said yesterday.

The suit filed in 1956 by the parents who wanted their minority children to attend predominantly white schools closer to their homes. School records show that of the district's 177,546 students, 19.8 percent are white; 42 percent are black, 34.6 percent are Hispanic and 3.5 percent are Asian.

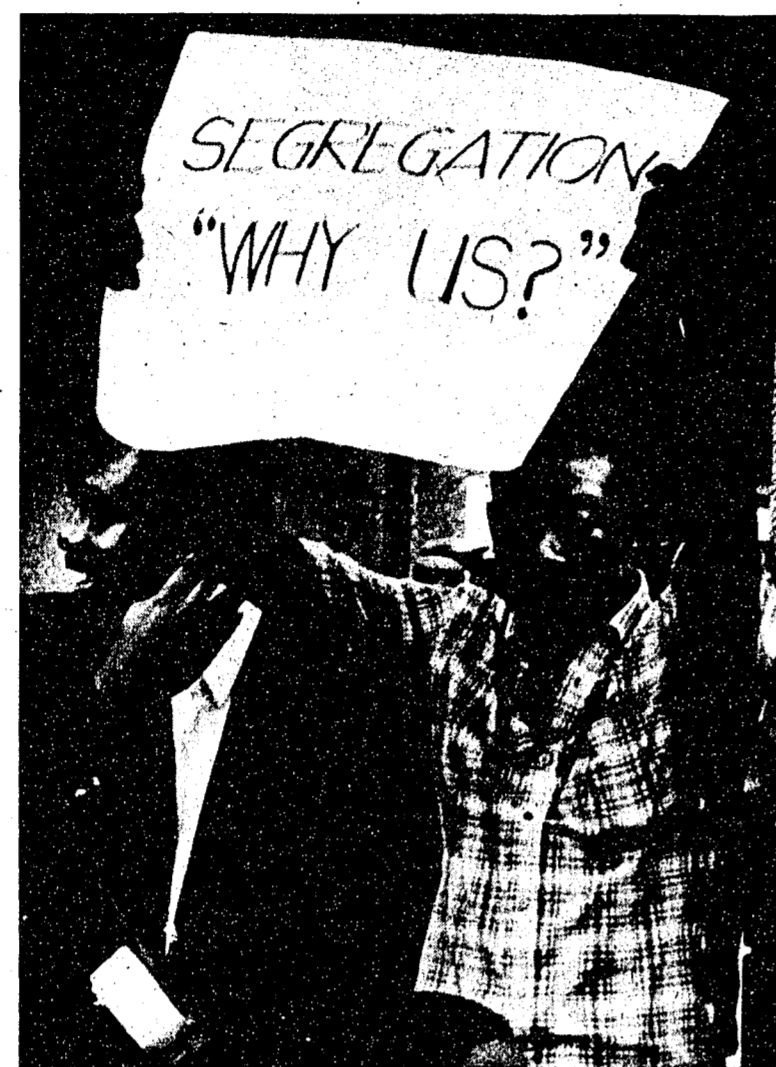
Last week, the Rev. J. Don Boney urged black students to skip classes and attend the hearing. But school spokesman Geri Konigsberg said the success of the boycott was "negligible."

"As far as I can tell there weren't any great numbers of children boycotting classes," she said.

District trustees and attorneys met behind closed doors yesterday to discuss the results of earlier negotiations.

Freis said there was a "good possibility" an emergency meeting of district officials Sunday produced a settlement proposal that could head off further court proceedings.

The suit filed in 1956 by the parents who wanted their minority



AP Wirephotos
Above, students from Tennessee State University demonstrate in front of the U.S. District Courthouse in Nashville yesterday to protest efforts to speed racial desegregation at the school. At left, the Rev. J. Don Boney, who had called for a student boycott of classes to support the NAACP and American Baptist Church school desegregation suit, holds a sign at the demonstration. Boney, hands out black arm bands to students who wish to support the boycott at Yates High School, Houston.

Iran-Iraq conflict not likely to grow

By BILL McCLOSKEY
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — A Senate report said yesterday that the Iran-Iraq war is unlikely to result in superpower hostilities because both the United States and the Soviet Union share the same short-term goal — an end to the conflict.

The Foreign Relations Committee staff report says "senior U.S. military commanders in the region do not envision realistic contingencies that would require U.S. ground troops, except for security guard duty."

There are 11,500 U.S. sailors and soldiers in the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea area.

Committee chairman Charles H. Percy, R-Ill., said: "The report shows the current U.S. energy, political and security policies have helped calm the international oil market and reduced the fears of the nations of the region."

When the investigators visited eight countries in the area in July, they found "the tanker war is having remarkably little effect on Persian Gulf exports (of oil) through the Strait of Hormuz."

The report says the military balance in the war has shifted toward Iraq in the last year because of massive French and Soviet arms sales to the Iraqis and a worldwide arms embargo on Iran.

"It is our assessment that an Iranian assault on Iraq would probably lead to a defeat for Iran unless Iraqi morale collapses," the report says, but it does list the morale of Iraqi troops as a "potentially serious" military liability.

Although the investigators found "few signs of war in Baghdad, the Iraqi capital, it said "below the surface there is war weariness."

"Recent successes have bolstered morale," the staff said, but it added that "observers believe that the war is not popular" in Iraq.

"Iran would have to find a weak spot in Iraqi defenses and hope the resulting breakthrough would affect the Iraqi morale and decision making," the report said.

On the other hand, it said, "A massive Iraqi attack on Iran's oil exporting facilities at Kharg Island remains a distinct possibility."

If Iraq were to take the "act of desperation" of closing the Persian Gulf, it could lead to "devastating air strikes on Iranian ports and air bases."

"While the United States might find it necessary to take such action, it could provide political and military opportunities for the Soviets in Iran. Therefore," the report says, "a high priority of U.S. diplomacy should be to promote a settlement of the war."

It quotes unidentified "sources in the area" as saying "without doubt Iraq in the past year has gained the capabilities provided to the Saudis by U.S. arms sales, the Saudis might well now be seeking the direct support of U.S. Air Force fighter aircraft to defend their oil fields."

U.S.-operated radar and airborne refueling tankers give the Saudis added defense capabilities, the report says.

state news briefs

Thornburgh proposes waste site

HARRISBURG (AP) — The Thornburgh administration has proposed to neighboring states a plan to place a low-level radioactive waste storage site in Pennsylvania, a top state official said yesterday.

But the proposal does not say where in Pennsylvania such a dump would be and the administration insists site selection has not started.

"We will have a site" under the proposal, said state Secretary for Policy and Planning Frank Wright. "There is no plan on where this site is going to be. Any concept of where it's going to be just doesn't exist."

Representatives from West Virginia and Pennsylvania will meet within two weeks to work on an Appalachian States Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact, said Wright.

Other border states are now reviewing the initial compact proposal and should indicate "very soon" whether they intend to participate in the upcoming drafting session, Wright said.

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR

Tuesday, August 28

- P.S. Internationale Dancers, meeting for new members, 7 p.m., 133 White Bldg.
- Circle K meeting, 7 p.m., Room 323-34 HUB.
- Gamma Sigma Sigma meeting, 7 p.m., Room 265 Willard.
- Transfer Liaison Corp. meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 320, 321, 322 HUB.

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- (1) Advising Information
 - (2) Open Question and Answer Session
- | | | | |
|------------|------------------|-------------|----------|
| Seniors | Monday, Aug. 27 | 7p.m.-9p.m. | 22 Deike |
| Juniors | Monday, Aug. 27 | 7p.m.-9p.m. | 22 Deike |
| Sophomores | Tuesday, Aug. 28 | 7p.m.-9p.m. | 22 Deike |
| Freshmen | Tuesday, Aug. 28 | 7p.m.-9p.m. | 22 Deike |

nation news briefs

Reagan hopes to 'shuttle' teacher

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan announced yesterday he has ordered a nationwide search for a school teacher to be the first citizen passenger to journey into space aboard the space shuttle.

Speaking to teachers and administrators from some of the nation's outstanding public secondary schools, Reagan began the process of elimination that will settle a question that has long occupied space buffs and dreamers: Who will be the first outsider in space?

Shuttle flights presently are restricted to astronauts, mission specialists and payload specialists, all with specific tasks to perform on board the spacecraft.

The teacher, to be selected from one of the nation's elementary or secondary schools, would be the first observer to fly a mission. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has debated for years who might be selected, and there have been reports in recent months that the possibilities had narrowed to the fields of education and journalism.

"It has long been a goal of our space shuttle program to someday carry citizen passengers into space," Reagan said. "Until now we had not decided who the first citizen passenger would be."

"But today, I am directing NASA to begin a search in all of our elementary and secondary schools — and to choose as the first citizen passenger in the history of our space program one of America's finest: a teacher."

Drug crackdown plagued by errors

SEATTLE (AP) — Sloppy testing and paperwork have forced the Navy and Air Force to reverse disciplinary action against more than 5,000 servicemen charged in a huge military crackdown on illegal drugs, the Seattle Times reported.

Meanwhile, the Army is trying to track down 60,000 to 70,000 soldiers to tell them faulty documentation of their drug tests may allow them to appeal disciplinary action, according to a copyright story in Sunday's Times.

During the last 2½ years, the Navy, Army, Air Force and Marines have conducted 6 million tests on urine samples from servicemen. About 375,000 tests indicated drug use, and 72,000 servicemen were disciplined, the newspaper said.

The testing program was started in 1982 by now-retired Chief of Naval Operations Thomas Hayward, and spread from the Navy to the other branches of the military, the newspaper said.

world news briefs

South Africa's Asians given vote

LENASTIA, South Africa (AP) — South Africa's Asians will vote in national elections today — for the first time in the country's history — for a new segregated Asian chamber of the white-controlled Parliament.

Last week, mixed-race voters elected the first chamber for South Africans of mixed race — known as "colored" here.

Opponents call the new Parliamentary system a fraud because the white chamber has veto power to overturn any decisions made by the other two houses. And the nation's black majority — 22 million people — was excluded from the plan. They have no voice in the government, are not permitted to move about freely or own land.

A boycott of the mixed-race election was called in an attempt to reduce the election's credibility, and about 70 percent of the voters did not cast ballots. The government claimed the election was legitimate, despite the low turnout.

Newest Soviet battle cruiser sails

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — The Soviet Union's newest fighting ship, the battle cruiser Frunze, sailed through the Danish straits yesterday en route to the North Atlantic, the Danish military reported. The navy's operations command called it the Soviets' most powerful fighting ship.

Capt. Sven Gobel, of the navy command, said the 25,000-ton cruiser was accompanied by the guided missile frigate Krivak "possibly for a shakedown cruise" before it joins the Soviet Northern Fleet, based in Murmansk.

He said a few Soviet naval units were exercising in the North Atlantic, "but I doubt they (the Frunze and Krivak) will have anything to do with that."

Danish military intelligence confirmed that the 825-foot-long Frunze is fresh from the Leningrad shipyard and is believed to be virtually a carbon copy of the cruiser Kirva, built in 1981. The operations command did not explain why the Frunze was considered the most powerful.

14 nations agree to make S. Pacific nuclear-free

By BARRY RENFREW
Associated Press Writer

SYDNEY, Australia — Fourteen South Pacific nations agreed yesterday to make plans to declare the region a nuclear-free zone, while stipulating each nation would retain the right to allow visits by U.S. nuclear-powered warships.

The forum, a loose consultative group, consists of New Zealand, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Vanuatu, the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Tonga, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Western Samoa and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Hawke rejected suggestions that nations choosing to allow visits by U.S. nuclear-powered warships weakened the nuclear-free zone plan.

The forum turned down a proposal by New Zealand for calling on the United Nations to declare the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone, Hawke told Australian reporters.

The new socialist government of New Zealand under David Lange has said it will not allow nuclear warships on its territory, and has banned visits by U.S. nuclear-powered warships.

Hawke said the forum had agreed that before going to the United Nations, a working party should first determine what would be involved in declaring a nuclear-free zone.

"We came to the view that it makes more sense to clarify precisely the sorts of things we have in mind, and that you're more likely to get the opportunity of maximizing support within the United Nations once we had done that work," said Hawke, who was named spokesman for the summit.

Hawke supports close military ties with the United States, including ship visits. New Zealand, Australia, Fiji and Tonga are members of the forum that regularly are visited by U.S. warships, and all but New Zealand strongly defended their right at the meeting to maintain such ties, Hawke said.

Australia said before yesterday's meeting that the working group for a nuclear-free zone would report its findings to the forum at its 1985 meeting.

Hawke proposed yesterday that none of the forum members "develop, or manufacture, or receive from others, or acquire or test any nuclear explosive devices. Canberra lets U.S. vessels use its ports under the ANZUS defense pact among Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

New Zealand and Vanuatu called for strong action on the nuclear-free plan, with Vanuatu saying U.S. nuclear-powered warships should be barred from the region, Australian officials said before the meeting.

New Zealand has warned it will also ban visits by conventionally powered U.S. warships if Washington refuses to end its traditional policy of declining to say which of its warships carry nuclear weapons.

Visits by U.S. warships to foreign ports are scheduled months in advance, and U.S. officials have said that no New Zealand port calls are planned for the next few months, to avoid any confrontation.

Arrests continue in 'safe bet' probe

By SHARON COHEN
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO — A nightclub owner yesterday became the fifth person arrested in the FBI's Operation Safe Bet, a three-year undercover probe of organized crime's ties to prostitution in suburban Chicago, authorities said.

Nick Stevens, 48, owner and operator of the Torch Club in north suburban Palatine Township, was charged with conspiracy to distribute cocaine, said FBI spokesman Bob Long.

In Operation Safe Bet, undercover FBI agents operated a credit-card processing company and handled \$30 million in payments to suburban sex clubs by customers, many of whom claimed the payments as tax deductions. The Washington Post reported Sunday.

The clubs reportedly stayed open by bribing law enforcement officials and maintaining ties to organized crime figures.

Long declined to comment on reports that as many as 75 indictments may result from the grand jury probe.

He refused to say who was targeted in the investigation, but added that "a couple of law-enforcement people who accepted bribes" are likely to be indicted.

In the sting operation, federal agents made secret recordings of conversations with customers of massage parlors.

Shuttle lavished with attention

Countdown crews hope to avoid contamination, further delays

By HARRY F. ROSENTHAL
Associated Press Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — While launch was two days away, countdown crews lavished special attention yesterday on the engines of space shuttle Discovery to avoid a repeat of the contamination that caused the last-second postponement of the ship's first flight.

The count for tomorrow's 8:35 a.m. EDT liftoff was on schedule, the weather forecast was fine and the ship's commander and pilot did some practice flying in a specially equipped trainer.

"I can guarantee you one thing, the crew is ready and we're anxious to go," said commander Henry W. Hartshfield, the only one in the crew of six to have flown in space before.

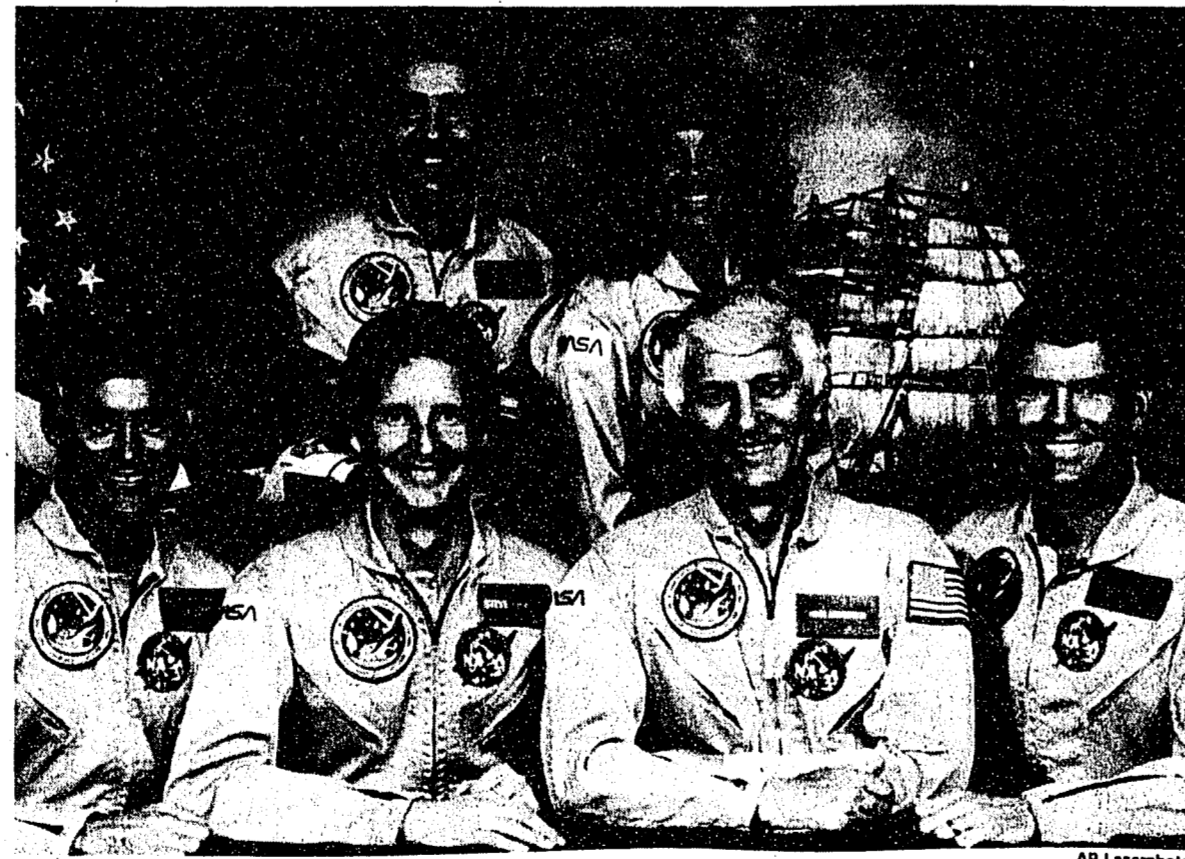
Others on the six-day flight are Judy Resnik, a mission specialist who will become the second American woman in space; Charles Walker, an industry engineer who will be the first paying customer; pilot Michael Coats, and mission specialist Steve Hawley and Richard Mulane.

Discovery is the third ship in America's shuttle fleet. It was to have made its debut in June, but a computer failure stopped the first attempt nine minutes before scheduled launch. The next day, the second try was halted four seconds short of liftoff when computers detected something wrong in a fuel valve and ordered the engines — one of them already firing — shut down.

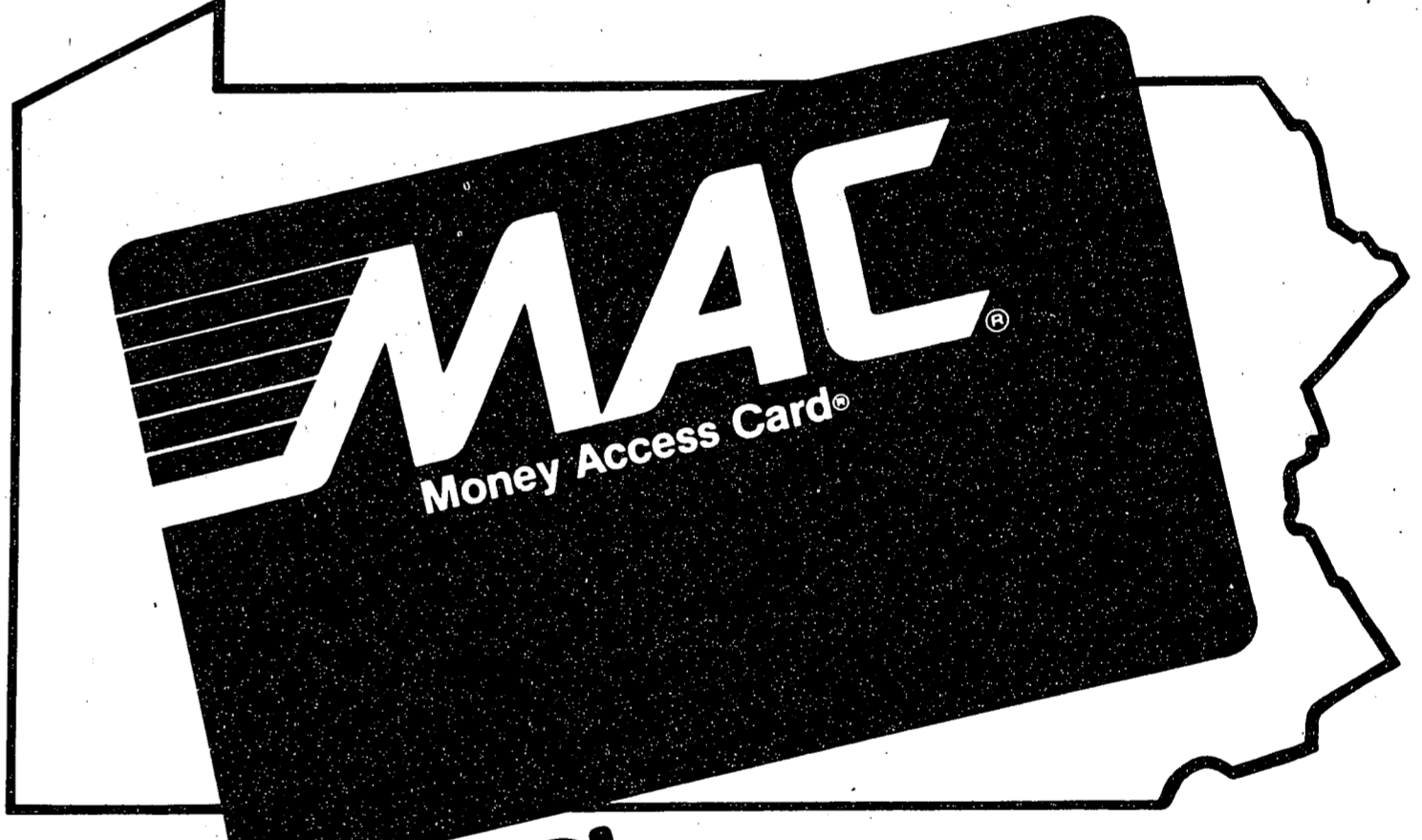
"Although not yet proven, the most plausible theory now under consideration involves the possibility of microscopic silt accumulation with helium.

Discovery's payload will weigh 20 tons, which is heavier than that on any previous flight. The crew will launch three commercial communications satellites, operate a miniature drug-making factory and conduct experiments for three days with a solar "sail," a device that will supply power for space stations of the future.

Thrown off schedule by the June launch failures, NASA decided to combine the cargoes of Discovery's first two flights, resulting in the heavy payload.



AP Wirephotos
Members of Space Shuttle Discovery crew pose for a formal portrait prior to their flight. Crew members in the back row are Charles D. Walker, payload specialist, and Judith A. Resnik, mission specialist. In the front row are: Richard M. Mullane, astronaut; Steven A. Hawley, mission specialist; Henry W. Hartshfield, astronaut and crew commander; and Michael L. Coats, pilot.



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