

state/nation/world

U.S. plot against Khadafy reported

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Reagan yesterday ordered an investigation into the leak of intelligence documents disclosed in a published report...

White House spokesman Bill Hart, who at first had refused to comment on the report in yesterday's editions of The Washington Post...

Hart refused to say what appropriate action might entail or whether the investigation would include the use of the detector tests on people with access to the classified documents.

Nor would he directly confirm the existence or credibility of the documents quoted by the Post.

The report quoted unidentified government sources as saying Reagan this fall authorized the Central Intelligence Agency to support covert operations to undermine the Khadafy regime...

Reagan, returning to the White House from a weekend at his Camp David retreat in Maryland, ignored reporters' shouted questions about the report.

"We do not comment on alleged intelligence activity or intelligence activities," Hart told reporters...

South Africa restricts riot coverage

By The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — A senior government official yesterday accused some foreign correspondents of "unprofessional and unethical" behavior in reporting new restrictions on riot coverage...

Louis Nel, head of the Bureau of Information in the Foreign Ministry, said some senior members of the Foreign Correspondents Association broke a promise of confidence...

"This indeed constitutes an escalation of the reign of terror of the Botha (South African President P.W. Botha) regime. Television has not shot one child in South Africa."

Nel also criticized a statement by the foreign correspondents Saturday that called the new ban the start of a slide toward a totally controlled press.

Marcos announces new elections soon

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Ferdinand E. Marcos, facing mounting U.S. criticism and a growing insurgency at home, said yesterday he is willing to hold elections within three months to settle questions of his popularity.

"Both the chairman and vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, Dave Durenberger, R-Minn., and Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt., wrote Reagan expressing their opposition to the plan, the Post said."

The newspaper also reported that a narrow majority of the members of both the House and Senate intelligence panels supported the president's decision.

According to the report, the object of the plan is to disrupt and frustrate Khadafy's subversive and terrorist plans and perhaps lure him into some foreign adventure or terrorist exploit.

Sen. Benigno Aquino, could oppose Marcos. "A snap election... is about the best thing that can happen to this country," Assemblyman Homobono Adaza said, and could remove Marcos from power.

Marcos, dismissing allegations that he was responsible for massive voter fraud in previous elections, said members of the U.S. Congress would be invited to observe the election.

U.S. rep. warns against vote fraud

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — A leading congressional critic of the Philippine government said new elections announced yesterday by President Ferdinand Marcos could drive his democratic opponents into the communist camp if the balloting is "fraught with fraud."

The White House and State Department would not comment on the election plan. "Everything depends on how the election is conducted," Solarz said.

He called for a reconstitution of the Philippine election commission to ensure that "a clear majority of its members are independent."

state news briefs

New MOVE charges may be filed

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Little chance exists of the city filing criminal homicide charges in the fatal MOVE confrontation with police, but investigators also are studying the possibility of several other charges, according to District Attorney Edward Rendell.

Rendell said Saturday investigators were focusing on the four children who died in the MOVE house May 13 and not on the seven adults in trying to determine if evidence warranted charges of risking a catastrophe or reckless endangerment.

The U.S. attorney's office in Philadelphia also is investigating the MOVE confrontation to determine if the victims' civil rights were violated. In addition, the Philadelphia Special Investigations Commission, which Mayor W. Wilson Goode appointed, has been holding hearings since Oct. 6 in an attempt to unravel the events.

The commission has no power to indict, however. When the hearings resume Tuesday, renowned pathologist Dr. Ali Hamel is scheduled to testify, and several sources close to the commission told The Philadelphia Inquirer he is expected to challenge the findings of the Philadelphia medical examiner's office and rule the deaths homicide rather than accidental.

The sources emphasized that the word homicide, when used by a pathologist, does not necessarily carry a criminal implication but indicates the victim died at the hands of another person. Rendell said that to charge any of the city participants with homicide, prosecutors would have to prove that actions by the city caused the children's deaths.

LCB raids fraternity parties

INDIANA (AP) — Agents for the Liquor Control Board conducted a rare raid on six Indiana University of Pennsylvania fraternities over the weekend, breaking up parties and confiscating kegs of beer.

The agents, armed with search warrants, charged several fraternity presidents with selling alcohol without a license — a misdemeanor punishable by fines.

LCB spokesman Robert Ford said agents are eyeing fraternities "across the state" for charging admission to parties where beer and liquor are served.

Fraternity members said search warrants revealed that undercover LCB agents visited parties at the various houses in October by using IUP student identification cards.

A raid party swooped down upon the Delta Chi house at about 11:30 p.m. Friday, ending the party abruptly. Thomas Halligan, Delta's rush chairman, said the raid party blocked all the exits and shouted "no one leave."

"They came in like an army. They busted in and took control," he said. While Halligan acknowledged that charging admission to parties is "definitely illegal," he also said the practice is common throughout the country.

nation news briefs

U.S. to scrap minority hiring quotas

NEW YORK (AP) — The chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission said yesterday that he expects President Reagan to adopt a new executive order on hiring that abolishes preferential treatment for women and minorities.

The Cabinet is reportedly split over the proposal by Attorney General Edwin Meese III to eliminate numerical hiring goals imposed on companies doing business with the government.

Clarence Pendleton, who as chairman of the Civil Rights Commission has been a strong supporter of Reagan's civil rights policies, denied that there was any discussion in the Cabinet.

"I think it's going to be clear that there's going to be an order signed where there won't be any preferential treatment, and where statistical imbalance in the workforce will not trigger a finding of discrimination," Pendleton said in an interview on the CBS-TV program "Face the Nation."

Executive Order 11246 was issued by President Lyndon Johnson and revised in 1971 by President Richard Nixon to authorize the Labor Department to impose numerical hiring goals on government contractors.

"What Ronald Reagan would like to do is take the executive order back to the same level it was when Lyndon Johnson signed it on Sept. 28, 1965," Pendleton said.

Eleanor Holmes Norton, former chairwoman of the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission, said she believed Reagan and his administration want to take civil rights policies back further than 1965.

"They are lost in the 1950s," she said.

2 French agents guilty in bombing AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) — Two French secret agents early today pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the July 10 sinking of the Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior.

The change in the charges from murder to the lesser charge of manslaughter came as a surprise to spectators in the crowded courtroom.

Maj. Alain Mafart and Capt. Dominique Prieur pleaded guilty to the charges of manslaughter and will face sentencing. Some legal observers said the government's decision to accept the pleas to the lesser charges indicated it might deport the couple.

Mafart and Prieur had been charged with murder, arson and conspiracy. Prime Minister David Lange had said yesterday that the couple probably had no physical connection with blowing up the Rainbow Warrior that was blasted by two mines while docked in Auckland harbor.

The Rainbow Warrior was to have led a flotilla to protest French nuclear tests at Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific.

Guatemala, Argentina hold elections (AP) — Guatemalans voted yesterday to choose a civilian president they hope will end military rule and pave the way for increased economic aid from the United States. It was this Central American nation's first civilian election in 10 years.

Eight civilian candidates ran for president. The military — which has run the government since 1970 through a series of governments — is expected to turn over power Jan. 14.

Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, 42, of the Christian Democratic Party, and Jorge Carpio Nicolle, 52, of the Union of the National Center were considered the leading candidates.

Neither was expected to get the required 50 percent plus one vote needed for victory. If needed, a runoff between the top two contenders would take place Dec. 8.

Meanwhile, President Raul Alfonsin's center-left Radical Civic Union headed for a convincing victory in Argentina's first interim congressional elections in 20 years.

With 17 percent of the total nationwide vote counted in balloting for the House of Deputies, the Radical Civic Union led with 1,158,013 votes or 45 percent of the total.

The main opposition, the labor-based Peronist Party, had 703,301 votes for 27 percent. The leftist Intransigent Party had 140,916 votes for 5 percent and the conservative Central Democratic Union 124,928 votes, also about 5 percent. The remaining votes were divided among several small parties.

The outcome of the elections, the first ever held here under a state of siege, is seen as a referendum on Alfonsin's policies. He declared the siege Oct. 25 in a crackdown on a small group of militant rightists.

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