

## Thatcher rallies Conservatives; opposition calls for resignation

By EDITH M. LEDERER  
Associated Press Writer

LONDON — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher battled shouts of derision and calls for her resignation yesterday in what the news media called a life-or-death Parliament speech to rally her Conservative Party from the embarrassment of two major Cabinet resignations.

Thatcher won solid backing from her Conservatives, including former Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine, whom she had blamed for sparking the political crisis. He

selfine had said he was leaving because the prime minister had used unconstitutional means to steer the Cabinet toward favoring an American bid over a European attempt to rescue Britain's falling Westland PLC helicopter company.

Thatcher won a technical vote to close the house that both matters could have been handled better. The opposition erupted in derisive laughter and hisses of derision.

David Owen, leader of the centrist Social Democratic Party, told Commons Thatcher "is not worthy to hold the office that she does."

accused her of a cover-up involving a leaked letter, critical of Heseltine, that subsequently led to the resignation of the second Cabinet member, Trade and Industry Secretary Leon Brittan. He took responsibility for the news leak.

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Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock had called yesterday's emergency debate, saying it was to determine if Thatcher was involved in the leaking of the letter and if she had lied in earlier statements to Parliament.

"Today the prime minister is on trial," Kinnock said in opening the debate.

Thatcher maintained that for 16 days after Brittan leaked the letter on Jan. 6, she did not know of its involvement.

She said an inquiry determined that the letter was leaked to the news media as a result of a misunderstanding between officials of the Trade and Industry Department

and bureaucrats at her No. 10 Downing St. office.

"I did not give my consent to disclosure," the prime minister told Parliament. "It was not sought. And I have indicated I deeply regret the manner in which it was made."

She said Trade and Industry officials had contacted her office seeking agreement to the disclosure, but her staff thought they were just being informed, and were not being asked for authorization.

Brittan, who resigned Friday after Thatcher first disclosed his responsibility for the leak, backed her account.



As Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos (right) examines his hand, his vice presidential running mate, Arturo Tolentino dozes off. The men were waiting for their turn to speak at a campaign rally Sunday in Bacolod city on Negros Island, 300 miles southeast of Manila. About 40,000 people attended the rally.

## Marcos says Aquino might declare martial law

By DAVID BRISCOE  
Associated Press Writer

MANILA, Philippines — President Ferdinand E. Marcos yesterday warned that Corason Aquino, his rival for president, might declare martial law if she is elected. But Aquino said only Marcos could do that, perhaps even before the Feb. 7 election.

She said Marcos' statement indicates Marcos realizes she and her running mate Salvador Laurel are going to win. "I think he is panicking," she said.

Both candidates drew big crowds yesterday — Marcos in a stadium on Panay island in the central Philippines island, Aquino at a busy intersection in the nation's business center. Reporters estimated each crowd at more than 50,000.

In addition, tens of thousands cheered mortocades of both candidates and packed other rallies.

Manila's military police chief, Maj. Gen. Prospero Olivas, meanwhile declared a city-wide "red alert," a routine measure for

Philippine elections although not usually done this early. It means soldiers cannot go on leave and security is tightened at police and military installations.

Olivas spoke of intelligence reports indicating that 200 to 300 communist rebels planned to sow terror and violence in Manila during the election.

He reported no actual incidents and did not say how the rebel presence was known or why they had not been arrested.

The alert could set up the option for Marcos of declaring a state of emergency to call off the election. He has said he would not call it off unless rebels attacked the cities.

Marcos, who ruled by martial law between September 1972 and January 1981, gave no reason for suggesting yesterday that Aquino intended to declare martial law.

"We won't allow them to declare martial law because we won't allow them to win the election," Marcos told a crowd in Bacolod, 300 miles south of Manila.

Aquino, interviewed before one of a half-

dozen rallies in the Manila area, denied she would declare martial law.

"It is only Marcos who has declared martial law. Maybe it is he who intends to declare martial law again before the election," she said.

U.S. Ambassador Stephen Bosworth told a civic club yesterday that violence, bribery and vote-buying could damage the credibility of the election and harm U.S. efforts to help after a president is "elected or re-elected."

Bosworth said the U.S. government is disturbed by reports of pre-election irregularities.

He said Filipinos' judgment on "the credibility of the election and the validity of the result will affect our ability to work with the new government in helping to address the serious problems of the country."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb stressed yesterday: "The United States government is neutral in the Philippines election campaign. We do not support any individual candidate or party. We have not been and will not be partisan."

Marcos' opponents have accused him of trying to rig the election. Thirteen people have died in violence connected with the campaign, which Marcos called early to end its popularity after 20 years in power.

Bosworth's remarks followed a warning from a member of Marcos' Cabinet, Labor Minister Blas Ople, against U.S. meddling.

Ople told a breakfast forum that U.S. congressional investigations of the Philippines and the disclosure of Marcos' war records appeared to be more than coincidence.

"If Americans do not watch out, this kind of naked, outright meddling in the Philippine election can lose them the Philippines," he said.

Marcos briefly mentioned the controversy over his more than two dozen war medals. Referring to U.S. newspaper reports questioning his claim to have led a guerrilla unit, Marcos said, "Let's ignore it completely as the inanities of bored, desperate minds."

## U.S. to beam TV to world

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — The Reagan administration plans to use satellites and cable television to get its message across to a big slice of the non-communist world.

Last April, the United States Information Agency, moving away from what one of its officials calls its "backwater" status, embraced TV technology and started beaming two hours a day of television programming to European cable television systems. USIA claims it now reaches more than one million Europeans through a number of cable companies.

By the end of next year, USIA will extend the service to Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

USIA calls its TV service "Worldnet." The centerpiece is a daily 30-minute magazine show called "America Today," a combination of news, features and interviews.

The satellite feed recently has included interviews with singer Pearl Bailey, Queen Noor of Jordan, author James Michener, astronaut Sally Ride and polo vaccine pioneer Dr. Jonas Salk.

A weekly "Science World" show offers documentaries produced by USIA with the help of American corporations.

Chrysler Corp. cooperated in one of them, showing off its computerized auto assembly line. On another, TRW told how it was able to capture an errant satellite and put it on its proper path.

The service is part of the Information Agency's effort to use satellites to promote the administration's political views and to tell the story of America's people, science and culture.

The Soviet Union, not surprisingly, is not pleased by the celestial broadcasting operation. A Moscow commentator said last year Worldnet is being "used by Washington to impose its foreign policy line upon other countries."

The trans-oceanic experiment began in November 1983 when the administration, stung by foreign criticism of the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada the previous month, arranged a satellite interview featuring top U.S. officials and 40 journalists based at five U.S. embassies in Europe.

A month later, USIA achieved another breakthrough when it arranged an extraterrestrial news conference with the crew of the Earth-orbiting shuttle Challenger, 147 miles aloft. Taking part were President Reagan in Washington, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Bonn and 70 European journalists in eight countries.

## state news briefs

### Australian beer maker bids on I.C.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A subsidiary of a company controlling nearly half of all beer sales in Australia yesterday offered \$27 million in cash for the stock of Pittsburgh Brewing Co., the ninth-largest U.S. brewer and the bottler of locally popular Iron City Beer.

Pittsburgh Brewing spokesman William Eller declined comment but said the company might respond today.

Swan Acquisition Corp., a subsidiary of The Swan Brewery Co. Ltd. of Canningvale, Western Australia, offered \$21.50 per share for Pittsburgh Brewing's 1.25 million shares outstanding.

Swan Brewery is a subsidiary of Bond Corp. Holdings Ltd., a holding company that recently acquired Castlemeane brewery of Eastern Australia, the continent's second-largest brewer, according to Swan's printed offer. Swan and Castlemeane together represent 46 percent of all beer sales in Australia.

The offer stands only if Pittsburgh Brewing's management withdraws a previous offer to pay \$26.5 million in cash and securities for the company.

Management's plan offers \$17 per share in cash and bonds with a cash value estimated at \$4 per share.

"Swan is offering cash in hand is always looked upon more favorably," said Robert P. Kanter, a securities analyst for Legg Mason Masten Inc. of Pittsburgh.

Swan said it acquired 186,700 shares, or 14.9 percent, of Pittsburgh Brewing stock between Jan. 6 and Jan. 20 when the stock was trading over the counter at prices ranging from \$17.75 per share to \$19.50 per share.

## nation news briefs

### Hundreds fired for honoring strike

AUSTIN, Minn. (AP) — Hormel fired hundreds of union meatpackers yesterday in Texas, Nebraska and Iowa for refusing to cross picket lines set up by workers who have been on strike against the company's flagship plant for more than five months.

"We have contracts in place at those plants, and we expect our people to honor those contracts," said Chuck Nyberg, senior vice president of Geo. A. Hormel & Co., which is based in Austin.

Minnesota's governor asked both sides yesterday for a 48-hour cooling-off period.

The president of the union local in Austin said the firings increased the stakes in the dispute that began in August when 1,500 workers went on strike over wages and other issues.

"The fact that the company has fired those people puts us in a position to bargain. The company will have to bargain with us all," said Jim Guyette, president of Local P-9 of the United Food and Commercial Workers union.

Nyberg said a "substantial portion" of the 800 union workers at Hormel's Ottumwa, Iowa, plant were fired when they honored Local P-9's picket line.

"A few" workers were fired at the company's Dallas plant, and "about 60" were fired at a plant in Fremont, Neb., Nyberg said.

Union spokesman Al Zack said the international union had not yet determined how many workers were fired. "The lowest number I've heard from Ottumwa is 50, but I'm also hearing numbers as high as 650," he said. Guyette said eight workers were fired at the Austin plant for their activities on the picket line. Local 431 in Ottumwa asked the Austin workers to stop picketing.

"We already have applications on file and we are starting to interview people who want to work in these plants," Nyberg said.

In Austin, the Hormel plant was open yesterday, but pickets walked outside and National Guardsmen continued to patrol.

Pickets will be sent to other plants this week as well as to a stockholders' meeting today in Houston, said Ray Rogers, a strike strategist hired by Local P-9.

The union also called for a national boycott of Hormel products. It said 500,000 letters would go to unions nationwide this week seeking support for the boycott of SPAM, bacon and other Hormel products.

Local P-9's parent union did not sanction the boycott or pickets at other Hormel plants, said Zack.

"We said it made no sense to spread the misery, to put workers at other Hormel plants in jeopardy in what we thought was a hopeless cause," Zack said.

## Challenger launch delayed again

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Fierce winds and a stubborn hatch bolt forced NASA yesterday to again scrub the launch of Challenger with schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe aboard, the second straight shuttle mission hindered by fickle Florida weather.

Although the weather was perfect at the scheduled launch time of 9:37 a.m. EST, the problems with the hatch started about an hour before that. They were not resolved until shortly before noon when workers used a backhoe on the bolt after contending with the late delivery of tools, a drill with a dead battery, and broken drill bits.

By the time the workers' comedy of errors ended, the winds strengthened and sent gusts of 30 mph whipping across a runway where Challenger would land if there were an emergency after liftoff. Winds of more than 17 mph are considered dangerous for a landing.

Launch director Gene Thomas called off the effort about 12:30 p.m., the third weather postponement in as many days for the flight.

Officials rescheduled the launch for 9:38 a.m. EST today.

## world news briefs

### Azcona Hoyo takes office peacefully

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — President Jose Azcona Hoyo, taking office in Honduras' first peaceful transfer of civilian governments in more than a half-century, vowed yesterday to improve the economic and social standards of his country's 4.5 million people, most of whom are desperately poor peasants.

Azcona Hoyo, a 59-year-old civil engineer, was inaugurated in the capital's national sports stadium before about 40,000 spectators.

"To the United States of America, we reaffirm our friendship, and we vow to work for a pluralistic, participatory democracy," he said.

Azcona Hoyo's administration is expected to smooth troubled relations with the United States, which hopes to strengthen Honduras as a bulwark against communism in Central America. Vice President George Bush led the U.S. delegation to the inauguration.

The new president also pledged his administration's support for the so-called Contadora process, a multinational effort to negotiate a peace treaty to end regional conflicts in Central America.

Honduras is the third poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, after Haiti and Guyana. It has an unemployment rate of more than 40 percent, an illiteracy rate of 45 percent and a foreign debt of \$2.3 billion. Its infant mortality rate is the highest in Latin America.

It also has been one of the hemisphere's most unstable nations. In its 165 years of independence, it has suffered 385 armed rebellions and changed its government 126 times. Azcona Hoyo is the 75th president.

Since 1981, two years after the leftist Sandinistas came to power through revolution in neighboring Nicaragua, the United States has given Honduras more than three-quarters of a billion dollars in economic and military aid.

But Washington's relationship with outgoing President Roberto Suazo Cordova, 70, began souring two years ago when he started maneuvering to extend his four-year term.

Washington worked quietly to thwart Suazo Cordova's ambitions, and he retaliated last fall by reportedly blocking U.S. aid shipments to the anti-Sandinista guerrillas trying to overthrow the government of Nicaragua. Diplomatic sources in Washington and Tegucigalpa think that one of Azcona Hoyo's first acts will be to quietly lift the embargo on aid shipments.



Guarded official  
Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone leaves his West Beirut office yesterday under the guard of a policeman armed with an M-16. President Amin Gemayel has called his Cabinet to meet and consider sending the Syrian-brokered peace plan to Parliament for discussions, but Nakasone, a Sunni Muslim, said he would not attend. The full nine-man Cabinet, split along sectarian lines, has not met since last April.

## Exxon to repay consumers \$2 billion

By JAMES H. RUBIN  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Supreme Court yesterday, in effect, said Exxon Corp. must repay consumers nationwide more than \$2 billion in refunds and interest for overcharging on the sale of oil from a Texas field.

The court, without comment, let stand a ruling that the money be distributed to the states and spent on programs to help the needy and energy consumers.

The penalty against Exxon is the largest monetary judgment in American history to be upheld on appeal.

Last November, a state jury in Texas ordered Texaco to pay \$10.5 billion to Pennzoil for improperly interfering with that company's acquisition of Getty Oil Co. Appeals in the case are pending.

The judgment against Exxon, ordered by a federal judge in 1983, was upheld last July by a special federal appeals court here.

Exxon, the nation's largest corporation, was found to have overpriced oil from the Hawkins field near Tyler, Texas, between 1975 and 1981.

The corporation, in a Supreme Court appeal supported by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, said it was the victim of confusing federal regulations.

Exxon lawyers said the corporation was penalized for expanding production at a time of heightened national concern over energy shortages.

The Supreme Court also was urged by the airline industry, other oil companies, a utility company, a trucking firm, a taxicab company and a motorist to review the case and order redistribution of the money. They said they should be reimbursed for buying overpriced oil from Exxon.

\$895.5 million by classifying so-called "old" oil as "new" oil, and thus selling it at nearly twice the price.

The federal controls that created the two-tier pricing system were removed by President Reagan immediately after he took office in 1981.

The balance of the judgment against Exxon is in interest charges of approximately \$500,000 a day.

Exxon said in a statement it was "extremely disappointed" in the decision not to review the case.

"We had hoped that after a review of the case, the Supreme Court would agree that the District Court summary judgment included major inequities and that Exxon and other producers should be allowed to present their complete case in court," Exxon said.

It added that the decision not to review the case "continues a trend of judicial rulings unfavorable to the oil industry which have involved a myriad of legal issues arising from the complex regulations promulgated during the period of federal price controls."

Exxon was ordered to pay the \$2 billion to the federal government for redistribution to the states based on their energy consumption during the period of overpricing.

The states must spend the money on energy conservation, such as weatherizing buildings and reducing consumption by schools and hospitals, and to aid the poor with home utility bills.

The judgment should provide at least \$92 million by late April for Pennsylvania state energy aid programs, Attorney General LeRoy Zimmerman said.

The decision came as two groups charged that Pennsylvania's major energy assistance program is shortchanging the poor this winter. The Pennsylvania Gas Association and the Pennsylvania Public Interest Coalition said reduced grants are causing hardships for the needy.

Zimmerman said Pennsylvania probably will receive its share from the Exxon judgment within "the next two to three months."

Exxon operates the Hawkins oil field and owned two-thirds of it. In the mid 1970s, the company began to enhance the recovery of dwindling crude oil production there by spending some \$220 million to pump in inert gas to create additional pressure for forcing out the oil.

The improvements will yield approximately 70 million barrels of additional crude, Exxon said.

As part of the enhancement program, the other leaseholders in the field no longer get the specific production of their individual wells. Instead, they are paid a percentage of the field's production.

The dispute over what is old oil and what is new involves exactly when that accounting changeover took place.

Exxon said federal energy officials created "an uncertain, constantly shifting and incoherent crisscross of regulatory prescriptions" that the corporation found impossible to obey.

But U.S. District Judge Thomas Flannery, in his 1983 ruling against the corporation, said, "Exxon was hardly an innocent abroad, interpreting in the midst of confusing babble a direction sign labeled in a foreign language."

The corporation should not be allowed "unjustly to reap huge profits from its dubious exploration of the limits of regulatory tolerance," he said.

The Department of Energy also is seeking to recover billions of dollars from other businesses that allegedly violated the former federal regulations in overpricing oil.

The Daily Collegian Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1986-5

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