state/nation/world

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Defense minister says army gave power to Aquino

Associated Press Writer

MANILA, Philippines - Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. whose criticism of government policies has prompted calls for his resignation, said yesterday that he was no mere appointee and that he and the military handed power to

President Corazon Aquino. Aguino's vice president and foreign minister, Salvador Laurel, meanwhile suggested voters be allowed to decide whether presidential elections should be held next year, as urged by Enrile. "I thought it would be more fair not only to the people, but also to Aguino and myself to know what the people feel about our tenure,"

Laurel told a news conference.

'In the final stages of the revolution, we (the military) had complete control almost of the levers of power in the land. We decided not to accept that power and wield it.'

> Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile

Enrile, who also was defense minister under President Ferdinand E. Marcos but helped lead his ouster, has insisted Aquino call elections to legitimize her govern-

But a recently drafted constitution that is to be submitted to a referendum next year would keep

Cash piling

up at USX

PITTSBURGH - USX Corp. Chair-

man David Roderick said yesterday

that work might not resume at the

company's steel plants until spring

unless a contract settlement is

reached with the United Steelworkers

ergy and steel giant has accumulated

\$2.7 billion in cash and may have an

additional \$1 billion or more by year's

end to fend off a possible takeover bid

Because of pressure from Icahn to

by New York investor Carl Icahn.

restructure USX, the company i

offering modest "golden parachutes"

to its top executives, Roderick said.

The USX chief also said Australian

investor Robert Holmes a Court, who

August by announcing USX stock

purchases, told him that he has sold

million worth of USX stock.

outstanding.

his stake in USX for a profit. Holmes a Court had bought more than \$15

The chairman of the diversifed

steel and energy concern did not

paid for the USX shares. But based or

current market prices of about \$26 a

share, the stake the Australian had

acquired represented less than 1 per-

cent of total USX common stock

Icahn, who holds about 29 million

shares, or an 11.4 percent stake worth

about \$750 million, is negotiating with

said Roderick, who was scheduled to

meet Icahn again yesterday af-

"Neither Mr. Icahn nor USX is

to buy the company, he said.

ternoon in New York.

disclose how much Holmes a Court

first fueled takeover speculation in

Meanwhile, Roderick said, the en-

By EARL BOHN .
AP Business Writer

union within 12 days.

tainted Feb. 7 balloting in which government officials declared Marcos the victor. Marcos fled to Hawaii two weeks later in the face of a military and civilian revolt. Enrile told a nurses convention vesterday, "In the final stages of the revolution, we (the military) had complete control almost of the levers of power in the land." He said: "We decided not to accept that power and wield it, but

instead we handed it to a civilian government headed by Mrs. Aqui-And so, therefore, no one can tell us that they handed to us an appointment of a position because we were holding those positions before any one of them had their positions.

Enrile told the nurses he would resign if Aquino demanded but would first have to consult the military - "the people I represent in the government.' In recent weeks, Enrile increas ingly has criticized Aquino's poli-

negotiated peace with communist ro Benigno told reporters yesterday that Aquino believes her position as national leader reflects

cies, especially that of seeking a

will continue to remain for quite some time, as the center of political gravity in the Philippines," he

"the continuing support of the

Laurel told his news conference that when the new constitution is put to a referendum next year, voters should be asked separately if he and Aquino should remain in office until 1992 or if elections

Reagan supports Aquino anti-rebel policy been critical of the Aquino government's efforts to negotiate peace with the rebels. Rep. Stephen Solarz, D-N.Y., head of the House

> on the CBS Morning News yesterday that he believes Enrile will soon be booted out of Aqui-"I think this is utterly unseemly," he said of Enrile's public statements. "I think it is completely counterproductive. I think it creates problems for the Philippines in terms of the international image of the country and the efforts on the part of the new president to elicit invest-

subcommittee on Asian and Pacific affairs, said

but my guess is that he is not going to be in the cabinet much longer. declare the United States will have nothing to do with Enrile if he attempts to seize power militarily in the Philippines. The State Department spokesman, without mentioning Enrile, said, "U.S. support for Mrs. unity."

ment from the United States and other countries,

On Monday, Redman had responded to reporters asking about U.S. support for the Philippines in light of Enrile's statements by saying, "I don't see any need to reiterate that every day." Yesterday, he said the reasons for that support

"bear repeating," including her "clear mandate from the Filipino people" — a reference to the February election in which she claimed victory over ex-President Ferdinand E. Marcos. Redman made no direct reference, however, to

a statement earlier in the day from Philippine Vice President Salvador H. Laurel, who said Filipinos should be given a chance to decide during a Jan. 23 constitutional plebiscite whether they want to add the presidency to the ballot in May. Enrile has called for new presidential

a well-defined program to restore democratic institutions, economic prosperity and national

tration proclaimed its "complete and unequivocal" support for Philippine President Corazon Aquino yesterday, rejecting her defense minster's assertions that she isn't doing enough to ombat a communist insurgency. Meanwhile, the head of a congressional panel said criticism of Aquino by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile was "utterly unseemly." "We believe that the Aquino government and the Filipino people have made substantial progress in developing an effective program for dealing with the threat of the communist insur-The referendum is tentatively said State Department spokesman The statement, which did not mention Enrile's rate the question of tenure from increasingly political remarks, followed a routhe main body of the constitution tine State Department reaffirmation of support Aguino maintains she won an so that the constitution will be for Aguino's government on Monday and a simielectoral mandate in the fraud- judged exclusively on its merits." lar statement from the White House on Tuesday.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Reagan adminis

School leader reported dead, but she was playing hooky

public address system that a girl who School officials tried to verify the girl.' "Girls just started jumping up and Rumors began circulating through so it wasn't until Monday that stuscreaming," junior Thomas L. But- the 1,650-student school and Brandl dents were told the girl was really

But the report was a hoax. The girl students. was merely playing hooky. And belong weekend, it was three days before the students were told the truth. The mixup began last Thursday when school officials received a call the girl's aunt, Harold Pollnow, an

The Milwaukee Journal.

said. "I had no qualms that it was an dents and Brandl said. adult at the time. Knowing the family "It shocked me, especially when

MILWAUKEE - Students at Wash- and knowing how well-liked the girl they said she took an overdose," said ington High were shocked when was, I never thought there would be sophomore Nora Glass, 16. "Everywas a top campus personality had report, but could not reach any relatives, Principal Jerome Brandl said. cause of parent-teacher conferences,

> said the decision was made to tell alive. Brandl wrote a letter for teachers to read in class explaining that an "Rather than allow too many rumors to circulate, we shared whatever information we had," he said. Brandl said he told students that afternoon that he couldn't confirm the girl's death, but it wasn't until Thursday evening that she called him

to say she was all right.

investigation was under way and veal who made the hoax call, Brandl may never learn who called.

Brandl said he and the girl's parents agreed on a date for her return to Throughout the day Thursday, stuclass, but he wouldn't say when she The caller said the girl, a senior dents and teachers dealt with grief would be back. She will be punished whose identity is being withheld, had over the girl's death. Counselors were for playing hooky last week, he

Say AAHHH

Sergeant Major Philip Coombes of the Royal Engineers uses a mine detector on Rani the elephant in Sheffield, England, yesterday. The army was called in when the elephant, appearing at a local circus, developed a

USX for access to its books and has not agreed to postpone a formal offer Feds make largest cocaine Both issues are under negotiation, aid Roderick, who was scheduled to

By ANDREA ROWAND

doing anything that might be consid-MIAMI — U.S. Customs agents the Customs Service. ered hostile toward the other," he said. "We are still in a friendly mode. inspecting a furniture shipment dis-Obviously if the discussions are not covered 4,620 pounds of cocaine, the then closely examined the containers successful we'll each be making our largest amount ever seized in this themselves and found a false floor in country, federal officials said yester- one container that covered up hun-

dy the company had begun two weeks said Drug Enforcement Administra- DEA office in Miami.

and chairs when they spotted empty, meant for two distributors.

missioner of the Southeast Region of

Court briefly put them in play on Wall

The cocaine, seized earlier this

No arrests have been made and Street, Icahn proposed buying the month, had a wholesale value of more none are expected immediately, but outstanding stock for \$31 per share as than \$46 million and would be worth an investigation is continuing, said an alternative to a restructuring stu-

Galanos said the shipment, now the end of the decade, said Dr. David Dr. Sheldon M. Wolff of Tufts Uni-Icahn told stock regulators he Customs agents were checking two stored in dozens of cardboard boxes Baltimore, a Nobel laureate who was versity, the other co-chairman, said messages have not been frank and might formally solicit shares from 40-foot-long containers that held sofas at a DEA office, might have been co-chairman of the study.

Academy calls for AIDS commission exist to quadruple the 1986 AIDS commonly is spread by sexual activresearch funding by 1990 to about \$1 ity and sharing contaminated needles WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Na- billion in newly available funds," during drug abuse, behavior people tional Academy of Sciences, lament- Baltimore told a news conference. can influence, he said.

ing "woefully inadequate" federal "We emphasized that these funds programs to cope with America's must be new appropriations, not can protect themselves against the new health threat, called yesterday funds redirected from other health for creation of a National Commis- and research efforts." An additional \$1 billion a year —

jor report on the increasing problems stantial contributions from state and f acquired immune deficiency syn- local governments, industry and pridrome, said the only way to avoid a vate sources — should be spent on health catastrophe in this country education and public health prochandise, said George Heavey, com- was to launch "perhaps the most grams, said Baltimore, director of wide-ranging and intensive efforts the Whitehead Institute for Biomediever made against an infectious dis- cal Research in Cambridge, Mass. These programs would include sex

A panel of experts convened by the education in schools, efforts to get academy said the nation should be people at high risk of getting AIDS to spending about \$2 billion annually by change their sexual habits, blood 1990, most of it new federal money, in screening to identify those infected a multipronged effort to thwart the with the AIDS virus, rehabilitation Research into the nature of the of providing disposable syringes to viral disease, treatments and vac- addicts who refuse treatment, the Federal education efforts to date cines should get \$1 billion a year by panel said.

that until ways are developed to pre- clear than because of inadequate "Our committee believes that suffi- vent the disease, the best hope of

vaginal - with an infected or possi-The prestigious academy, in a ma- mostly federal money but with sub-

The panel said a vaccine to prevent AIDS, or developing safe and effecfor drug abusers and testing the idea presently is the best way to slow the

Dauphin county man escapes

state news briefs

PITTSBURGH (AP) - A Dauphin County murderer in a Pittsburgh hospital for a hernia operation escaped from his bed early yesterday wearing only his hospital gown, authorities said. George Brown, 38, who was sentenced to life in prison for a 1978 murder in Dauphin County, escaped from West Penn Hospital, several hours before scheduled surgery. Brown was an inmate at

the State Correctional Institution at Pittsburgh. Thomas Seiverling, assistant to the warden, said Brown "did not have any civilian clothing at all and escaped in his hospital gown,

the time has been suspended without pay pending a state police Seiverling said Brown escaped from the State Correctional Facility at Camp Hill on March 6, 1981, was recaptured and was

Seiverling said an unidentified prison officer guarding Brown at

Numbers kingpin gets 14 years

PITTSBURGH (AP) - A federal judge sentenced reputed mobster Anthony Grosso to 14 years in federal prison yesterday after Grosso pleaded guilty to running an illegal gambling organization that netted him \$1 million a year. Grosso, 72, long reputed to be the illegal numbers boss of western

Pennsylvania, faces additional prison time for his guilty plea to gambling charges in state courts. He pleaded guilty Monday to a 68-count federal indictment charging him with running an illegal lottery, evading payment of a \$30 million tax lien and failing to pay a federal excise tax on

Grossohad faced a maximum 340 years in prison and an \$8.2 million fine on the federal charges.

He must serve up to 68 months of the federal sentence before he becomes eligible for parole, authorities said. Grosso also pleaded guilty in Common Pleas Court Tuesday to maintaining a corrupt organization, criminal conspiracy, gam-

bling and 14 counts of lottery violations. According to the charges, Grosso and his second-in-command. Norman Fabec, 44, supervised a numbers operation that had gross profits of at least \$23 million annually and perhaps as much as \$35

nation news briefs

Farmers move cows

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Officials plan a series of surprise inspections of farms in a state-subsidized dairy project because farmers have been playing "musical cows," moving them from barn to barn to meet production deadlines. "It's like the old story of the general who convinced the enemy

not to fight because he took his small army and paraded around and around," said Dean Brown, deputy director of agriculture. When the Point MacKenzie dairy project was begun, the state set deadlines by which farmers were required to have certain numbers of cows milking in order to qualify for low-cost land and low-

Inspectors began noticing familiar faces as they went from farm to farm to see if the required number of cows were present. They discovered farmers were shuffling the cows just ahead of the inspectors so each farm would have the required number. Assistant Attorney General Lance Nelson said farmers must consistently milk the same cows on the same farms to meet the

But Milburn Tucker, largest operator on the project, admitting loaning cows to other farmers and insisted there was nothing wrong He said the law only requires cows be milked on the property, "regardless of whether the cows have wings."

Federal shutdown cost disputed

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) - A House subcommittee estimates the half-day shutdown of the federal government on Oct. 17 cost the taxpayers \$33 million, but the Reagan administration rejected the

"There has never been an accurate figure for the costs of these things and there never will be," said Office of Management and Budget spokesman Ed Dale. Dale said the estimate by the House civil service subcommittee was misleading because "they are trying to put a value on the price

of work lost. It's not a cash cost.' When it passed the \$576 billion spending bill to operate the government, Congress provided that the 556,000 federal workers sent home early be paid for a full day's work.

The subcommittee estimated this provision cost the government \$28 million because "we're paying people for time they didn't work," said Andrew Feinstein, the panel's staff director.

world news briefs

Saudi government fires oil minister RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) - Sheik Ahmed Zaki Yamani,

Saudi Arabia's oil minister for the past 24 years and OPEC's leading figure, has been fired, the official Saudi Press Agency reported yesterday. The terse announcement gave no reason for the replacement of

the 56-year-old Yamani. Yamani is considered the architect of the 1973 Arab oil embargo that triggered the first major oil price rise and reshaped the world

There had been rumors Yamani was on the outs with the royal family, and King Fahd appeared to undercut him at a critical juncture of the Oct. 6-22 meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Geneva. But there was no direct evidence

Yamani was in danger of losing his job. The surprise announcement issued before dawn in Riyadh said Planning Minister Hisham Nazer had replaced Yamani. Nazer is considered one of the key ministers in this kingdom of 11 million

The announcement came between two key OPEC meetings, one that agreed to continue interim production curbs through Dec. 31, and a Dec. 11 meeting in Geneva where the 13-nation oil cartel will try to line up a new production-sharing agreement or prodution quotas among members.

Lebanese form force to battle PLO BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) - Leftist militias formed a joint force yesterday to fight the growing strength of Palestinian guerrillas in

southern Lebanon, and heavy fighting broke out around Beirut's huge Bourj el-Baranjneh refugee camp. Reports said at least two people were killed and eight wounded in the 90-minute battle between the Palestinians at Bourj el-Baranj-

neh and the Shiite Amal militiamen ringing it. A Palestine Liberation Organization statement issued in Cyprus claimed its fighters repulsed Amal's attempt to storm the camp's Mashnouk district behind a mortar barrage. It said one Palestinian was killed and three were wounded. An Amal statement charged the Palestinians started the fighting

by hurling hand grenades at Shiite positions and a nearby Syrian A spokesman at the west Beirut office of Amal's leader, Justice Minister Nabih Berri, said five civilians outside the camp were

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