

Source: Gorbachev, military share power

By MICHAEL PUTZEL
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev is, in effect, sharing power with his military high command as the Kremlin tries to re-establish central authority over its restive republics, a key Soviet source says.

U.S. officials said the increased military influence is especially apparent in arms control talks and appears evident in the Soviets' handling of separatist movements in the Baltic republics as well.

"There clearly is new military influence that didn't exist two months ago" in arms talks, said one U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The White House on Wednesday accused the Soviets of backtracking on earlier agreed-upon elements of a nuclear weapons accord, and spokesman Marlin Fitzwater suggested internal Soviet problems were responsible.

He did not elaborate, but another official, speaking privately, said: "There are more and more people who believe the military's role is expanding" and that it was obvious during Foreign Minister Alexander A. Bessmertnykh's visit to Washington this week.

Another U.S. official, while acknowledging

that Soviet authorities were imparting that message to their American counterparts, expressed some skepticism.

"It may be an effort to get us to pull our punches" on arms control and Soviet handling of the independence movements in the Baltic republics, said the American source.

President Bush's national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft, called the report speculative and said, "I wouldn't have any comment on it."

A prominent Soviet reformer, Deputy Moscow Mayor Sergei B. Stankevich, told The Associated Press in Moscow on Monday that Gorbachev appears to have fallen under the influence of Communist Party hardliners and militarists as his reformist colleagues have been dropped from power or have deserted him.

During the Bessmertnykh visit, one Soviet source told the AP the Soviet president "is not completely in control."

"He can't make decisions on his own and expect them to be carried out," said the source, who is well placed to observe Kremlin decision-making.

U.S. observers say the generals most likely to be sharing power with Gorbachev are Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the general staff, and Boris Gromov, the last commander of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. Gromov recently was named deputy chief of the Interior Ministry, the agency

in charge of internal security.

The United States and other Western governments have expressed concern and in some cases have condemned the Soviets' handling of the defiant Baltic republics, where a score of people have been killed in bloody military assaults.

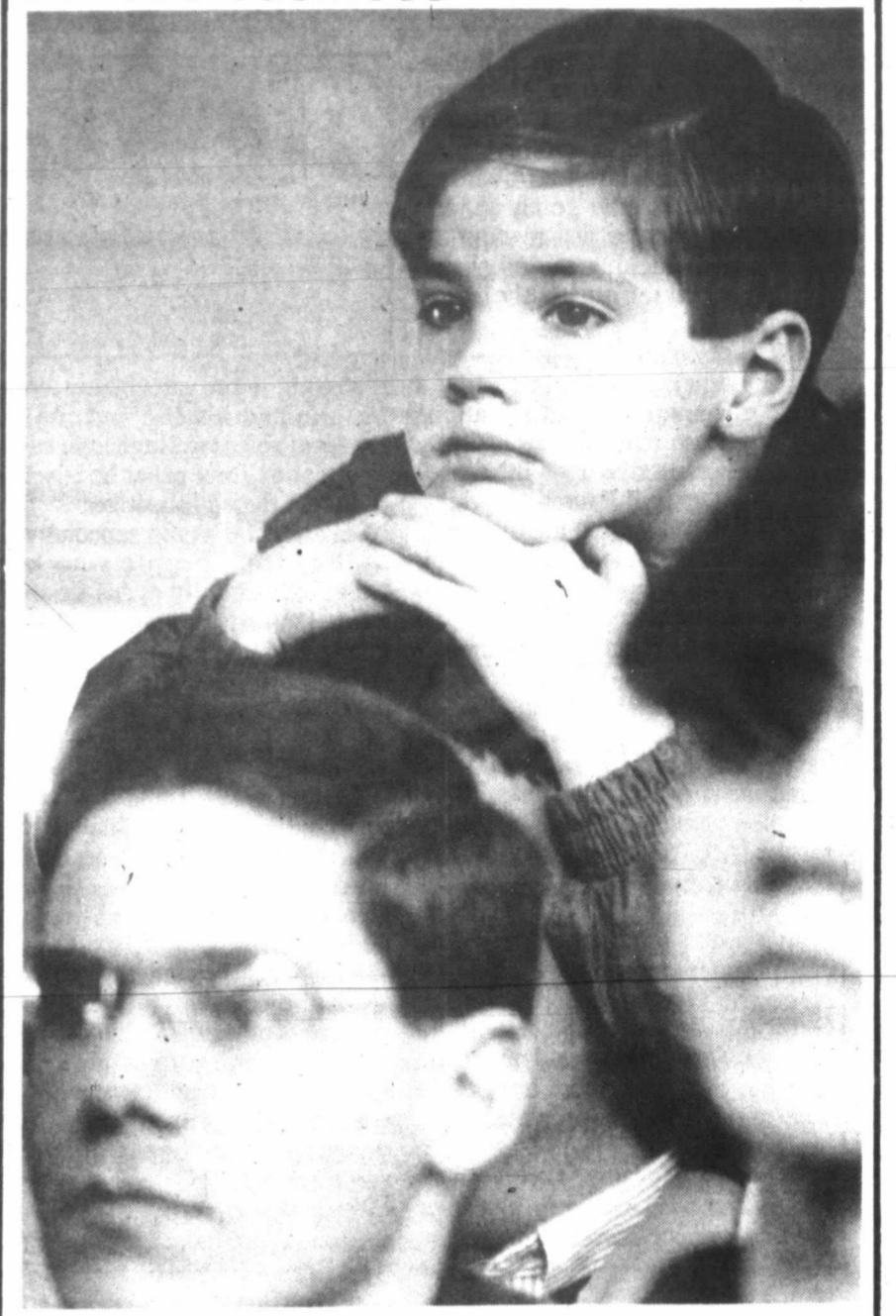
The Soviet source said the military high command is pressing Gorbachev to go along with a nationwide crackdown to restore order in the crisis-torn country. Defense Minister Dmitri Yazov, who is generally viewed as loyal to Gorbachev and supportive of his reforms, is "not necessarily" among those urging the Soviet president to get tough, this source said.

The crackdown has ranged from bloody assaults on separatist government facilities in the Baltics to giving the KGB blanket authority to search foreign and domestic business offices for black-market activities.

A second Soviet official, also speaking on condition he not be identified, said preservation of the union has become the single highest priority for the Kremlin, taking precedence over the political, economic and foreign policy reforms that have been the hallmark of Gorbachev's six-year rule.

"This is the most critical moment in the last 100 years, perhaps in the millennium of our country's history," the source said.

Serious business



(Staff photo by Jean Streetman-Ward)

Five-year-old Ray Anderson's face reflects the gravity of the war in the Persian Gulf as he sits on the shoulders and rests his chin on his father, Joe Anderson of Canadian, during a rally supporting American troops Wednesday in Canadian.

Lithuania's relations with Moscow improve

By JOHN DANISZEWSKI
Associated Press Writer

VILNIUS, U.S.S.R. (AP) — The absence of Soviet troops on the streets of Vilnius overnight signaled an improvement in relations with Moscow, Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis said today.

Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh, in an interview with Pravda, said the West was reacting emotionally to unrest in the independence-minded Baltics and endangering superpower relations.

Government spokesman Audrius Azubalis said there was no visible Soviet troop presence on the streets of Vilnius overnight following a pullout of Soviet troops Wednesday.

Landsbergis, noting the absence of military patrols, said, "perhaps this is a good sign ... this is a step toward a better situation."

But, the Lithuanian leader warned Wednesday that Soviet soldiers still occupied several republic-owned buildings and cautioned the West not to be taken in by Kremlin promises of a pullout.

Soviet Interior Minister Boris Pugo said all paratroopers had left the Baltic region and two-thirds of the "black beret" Interior Ministry troops were withdrawn.

Military officials said Soviet paratroopers were sent in early January to protect non-Lithuanian residents, mostly Russians, from alleged discrimination. They were also ordered to round up draft evaders.

But many saw the move as a move against the Baltic independence movements. Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, independent between the wars, were forcibly annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940. They now want to secede from Moscow.

Twenty people have died in Lithuania and Latvia in the Soviet crackdown, which has included armed assaults on Lithuania's main television station and Latvia's Interior Ministry.

Bessmertnykh said the United States and other western countries failed to understand why the Kremlin had acted the way it did toward the Baltics.

"It is easy to fall prey to emotions, which is happening in the West," Bessmertnykh said. "But the West does not fully understand what is going on there."

He said the Soviet leadership regretted what had happened in the Baltics, but that events there should not impede foreign relations, especially with the United States.

"There are dangers, especially if the other side is locked into a purely emotional response and into immediate political calculations, at the same time overlooking the possibility of destroying the historic trend toward the positive development of the world," Bessmertnykh said.

He said nobody was denying the right of the Baltic states to become independent, but echoed President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's demand that they must do so within the framework of the Soviet Constitution.



(AP Laserphoto)

Two Soviet soldiers try to keep warm by a bon fire while guarding the Radio and Television building in Vilnius, Lithuania Thursday.

Sixth round of talks on access to Heathrow Airport fail

LONDON (AP) — A sixth round of U.S.-British talks on airline access to London's crowded Heathrow airport broke up in failure Wednesday, leaving unresolved the question of whether two of the biggest American carriers can fly there.

Officials from both countries ended the two-day meeting without scheduling further negotiations in the four-month-old dispute over landing rights for American Airlines and United Airlines at Heathrow.

"The U.S. side is disappointed," said Charles Angevine, deputy assistant U.S. secretary of state for transportation affairs. "It's quite unclear where we will go from here."

Paul McKie, a spokesman for the British Department of Transport, said the United States cut off the talks

"on the grounds that its negotiating mandate was exhausted."

"We'd understood this was an urgent matter for the U.S. If that is right, they will need to get a more constructive negotiating mandate and return to the table," McKie said.

The stalemate is endangering the survival of Pan American World Airways and Trans World Airlines, said Cyril Murphy, a senior executive for United Airlines' international operations.

"Unfortunately as a consequence of the failure to reach this agreement, and the Gulf war, it means the United States has two carriers which are at substantial risk," Murphy said.

American has agreed to buy TWA's London and other overseas routes for \$445 million, while United

agreed to buy most of Pan Am's London routes for \$400 million. The sellers are among the weakest airlines in the United States.

The buyers, which are among the biggest and strongest U.S. carriers, say they should be given access to Heathrow under the air services agreement between the two countries, which allows the existing airlines' successors to assume their Heathrow slots.

But British law has barred new entrants from congested Heathrow since the late 1970s. The British Civil Aviation Authority last week urged scrapping those restrictions, however, and the decision now lies with British Transport Secretary Malcolm Rifkind.

Angevine said the British want

restrictions on the size of any new entrant's operation at Heathrow, including their ability to provide service from that airport to other destinations. He said no progress was made on this issue.

Britain also has requested permission for a British carrier to fly one more route from continental Europe to the United States, he said.

In addition, Britain wants British airlines exclusively to be granted services from certain U.S. airports to Heathrow, and also wants British carriers to be able to participate in U.S. frequent flier programs, he said.

"We're asking for nothing except for Heathrow succession rights for at least two U.S. carriers," Angevine said.

Commuter plane crash injures 17 passengers

BECKLEY, W.Va. (AP) — A twin-engine commuter airplane coming in for a landing crashed on an airport runway, injuring 17 of 19 people aboard, airline officials said.

USAir Flight 4743, enroute from Charlotte, N.C., crashed late Wednesday at Raleigh County Memorial Airport, said Mike Holcomb, a spokesman for CCAIR, which operates USAir's commuter flights out of Charlotte.

Federal investigators today were to begin investigating the crash of the turboprop Jetstream 31 aircraft.

"We were coming in over the runway and it just went down," said passenger Blair Frier of Beckley. "It was like the plane hit an air pocket or something."

The plane's 17 passengers suffered injuries ranging from cuts to broken bones and neck and back injuries, said sheriff's Cpl. C.T. Darlington.

The two crew members appeared uninjured at the airport terminal, reporters for The Register-Herald newspaper of Beckley said. The crew members declined comment.

There was light drizzle and fog, with visibility at 3 miles, when the plane crashed, officials said.

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Briefly

TALLINN, U.S.S.R. (AP) — Estonian bankers have accused Moscow of renegeing on promises of greater financial independence, and companies in the secessionist Baltics are trying new ways of cheating the system to survive.

"Moscow is reimposing central control over everything. There have been nice words in the past but the aims are to make us more dependent on the U.S.S.R.," said Rein Otsa, president of the Bank of Estonia.

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Huge tax breaks nearly double cost of expensive bank bailout

By DAVE SKIDMORE
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — "Preposterous tax breaks" are helping to nearly double the cost of the nation's most expensive bank bailout, according to a congressional report.

The report, released Wednesday by the House Budget Committee's task force on urgent fiscal issues, faulted the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. for its handling of the failed First Republic Bank of Dallas.

The agency arranged the takeover without considering the \$960 million in tax breaks that would go to the acquirer, NCNB Corp. of Charlotte, N.C., the report said.

That's one of the biggest factors driving up the ultimate cost of the rescue to between \$4.7 billion and \$6.7 billion, as much as double the FDIC's current estimate of \$2.9 billion, the report said.

Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., chairman of the task force, said the agency considered only the cost to its insurance fund, which is financed by premiums paid by banks, rather than benefits that would come out of taxpayers' pockets.

"In its rush to protect its own

insurance fund, the FDIC laid out a red carpet for NCNB that smothered American taxpayers," Schumer said, echoing similar criticism leveled at savings and loan bailouts.

"NCNB received preposterous tax breaks, goodies that are still paying handsome dividends," he said.

The breaks essentially allowed the NCNB to double-dip, Schumer contended. The FDIC provided \$1.3 billion in cash and forgave a \$1 billion loan, wiping out First Republic's embedded losses.

Yet, the tax breaks, approved in two "private letter" rulings by the Internal Revenue Service, allowed NCNB to deduct the losses from future earnings.

Schumer backed his argument with a six-page memo from Jerome Kurtz, former IRS commissioner in the Carter administration.

"The tax law forming the basis of the IRS ruling seems doubtful at best and the policy reasons that moved the IRS to reach these conclusions is not at all apparent," Kurtz wrote.

In hindsight, Schumer said a competing bid from Wells Fargo & Co. may have been cheaper because it would have returned 75 percent of the tax breaks to the

FDIC fund.

IRS spokeswoman Gail Ellis said the agency would have no comment until it could review the report. FDIC spokesman Alan Whitney said, "Under the law at the time, our response was to pick the bid that was the lowest cost to the FDIC."

Schumer's study also criticized the FDIC's handling of the nation's second most expensive bailout, the \$2.7 billion rescue of MCorp of Dallas in 1989.

He contended the FDIC should have rejected the winning bidder, Banc One Corp. of Columbus, Ohio, and accepted a bid from Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co., a firm specializing in using junk bonds to engineer corporate takeovers.

The report provided no direct comparison of the bids, but it said Kohlberg Kravis was willing to invest \$517 million of its own money, compared with \$375 million from Banc One.

It said Kohlberg Kravis was rejected primarily because of FDIC concerns about public reaction to regulators dealing with a junk bond firm.

Whitney, however, said experience in the banking industry is a legitimate criterion for deciding among bids.

Senate OKs bill granting disability benefits for some victims of Agent Orange exposure

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vietnam War veterans suffering from certain illnesses due to exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange would be entitled to receive permanent disability benefits under legislation awaiting President Bush's signature.

The Senate, on a vote of 99-0 on Wednesday, codified as law what had been an administrative program of the Veterans Affairs Department and sent the bill to the White House.

Administration officials said earlier this week that the president would sign the measure.

"No other issue has elicited as much emotional concern," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., a Vietnam veteran who was an organizer of Vietnam Veterans Against the War.

The House had approved the measure, 412-0, on Tuesday.

Final passage comes amid continuing debate over the effects of the herbicide and one of its contaminants, dioxin.

Agent Orange was sprayed by U.S. troops in Vietnam to remove jungle cover. Many veterans contend it is responsible for cancers, birth defects in their children and other ailments.

In floor debate Wednesday, Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., expressed doubts about the past scientific studies on the herbicide's link to various diseases.

"I hope this study at least puts this issue to rest. It's far from perfect, but it provides for an independent review," said Simpson, who voted for the measure.

Under the legislation, Vietnam veterans who suffer from non-Hodgkins' lymphoma and soft-tissue sarcoma would be eligible for permanent disability benefits. Survivors also would be entitled to the benefits.

Veterans who developed chlorenchyma within one year of their military service in Vietnam also would be eligible for benefits.

The bill also requires the Veterans Affairs Department to decide

whether former servicemen suffering from other diseases determined as linked to Agent Orange are eligible for the same benefits.

The National Academy of Sciences will conduct the scientific reviews to determine the link and the department will base its decision on the studies, the law stipulates.

Passage of the bill comes six months after a House committee concluded that White House officials during the Reagan administration "controlled and obstructed" a federal study of Agent Orange exposure among Vietnam veterans.

The House Government Operations Committee said a secret White House strategy to deny federal liability in toxic exposure cases led to the cancellation of the Centers for Disease Control study in 1987.

Sen. Alan Cranston, D-Calif., who is in California undergoing treatment for prostate cancer, was the only senator not to vote Wednesday.

New Mexico should reclaim land from Texas, Senate says

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — New Mexico was cheated out of more than 600,000 acres because of a boundary mistake and should reclaim the land from Texas, the state Senate says.

The Senate on Wednesday voted unanimously for a measure requesting the attorney general to pursue New Mexico's claim.

Sen. John Morrow, D-Capulin, who sponsored the memorial, said he wants to correct "a very serious mistake" made in 1859.

According to Morrow's memorial, New Mexico lost 603,485 acres when John Clark, a boundary commissioner, "bungled the job" of drawing a north-south boundary line between Texas and New Mexico.

Congress ratified the mistaken boundary in 1891 and again in 1911, over the objections of New Mexico, which didn't become a state until the following year, the memorial says.

The measure, which carries no legal weight, but expresses the sentiment of the Legislature, asks the attorney general to negotiate a re-drawing of the state line or payment for the land.

Morrow got some teasing from his colleagues about trying to expand his senatorial district, which borders the disputed acreage. But the rancher insisted he is serious about the action.

"We have given land back to the Indians. ... I think there are precedents set," Morrow said.

The disputed narrow strip of land on the state's eastern edge includes the town of Farwell, Texas.

Morrow and other senators said the land claim might provide some leverage for New Mexico in dealing with Texas over water from the Pecos River.

New Mexico paid \$14 million to Texas last year for failing to deliver the amount of water in the Pecos River specified in a compact between the states.

The state engineer has warned that if a drought continues, New Mexico will owe water — or money — to Texas again.

The payment, which settled a lawsuit, "is an expensive reminder that interstate mistakes can later be rectified if one state so petitions," Morrow's memorial says.

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Ground combat deaths heighten war debate on Capitol Hill

By JIM DRINKARD
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The commander of Operation Desert Storm said today the first ground combat deaths in the Persian Gulf war ought to bring home to Americans that "war is going to kill people." The casualties are heightening congressional debate over President Bush's ability to sustain popular support for a long and bloody land war.

Commenting as the deaths of 11 U.S. Marines in the initial Iraqi assault on the Saudi Arabian town of Khafji were disclosed Wednesday, some Democratic lawmakers said Bush needs to do more to prepare the public for the likely carnage that full-scale ground fighting could bring.

"I think we have expectations that are unrealistic," said Rep. Les Aspin, D-Wis., chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. So far, he said, the war has been "essentially devoid of casualties," creating "a standard impossible to match."

But House Speaker Thomas S. Foley, D-Wash., said the public has no illusions about the potential human cost.

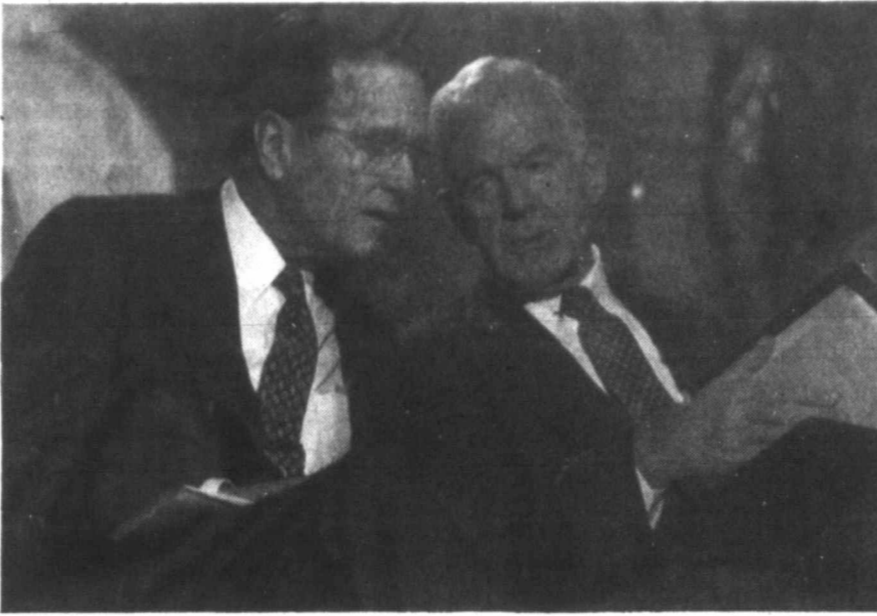
"I don't think the country is without realism on this. Any idea that the war can somehow be costless ... is now gone," Foley said. "People expect that it could be a war that could produce much more serious loss of life and casualties."

President Bush was silent on the deaths of the Marines when he went to Capitol Hill on Wednesday for a brief speech.

"He's very saddened by any casualties, and we certainly are following this incident," was the only comment from presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater.

In an interview on CNN, Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of U.S. and allied forces in the Persian Gulf, said that "perhaps in the euphoria of the high-technology weapons and this sort of thing, we had lost sight of the fact that lives are being lost. ... There are human lives involved here, and war is going to kill people."

The general added that "if this is



President Bush talks with House Speaker Tom Foley in the Rotunda of the Capitol Wednesday during a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt's Four Freedoms speech. Bush said during the ceremony that the goal of the Persian Gulf war is the "triumph of moral order."

sobering to the American people, I don't think that's unhealthy. As a matter of fact, I think it's important

that the American people understand that." The president plans to travel Fri-

day to three bases in North Carolina and Georgia that have troops deployed in the gulf region. He plans to meet privately with the families of soldiers missing in action, the White House announced.

The bases he will visit are Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station in Havelock, N.C.; Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, N.C.; and Fort Stewart in Savannah, Ga.

Administration officials, meanwhile, went out of their way to deny a rift between the president and Secretary of State James A. Baker III. Fitzwater disclosed that Bush had not seen in advance a U.S.-Soviet statement, suggesting a cease-fire, that Baker issued shortly before the president delivered his State of the Union address Tuesday night.

The statement was widely interpreted as movement toward a new peace overture to Iraq. Fitzwater denied there was any policy change or that the United States had accepted a linkage of the war to Israeli-Palestinian relations.

"Massive withdrawal is the way for (Iraqi leader) Saddam Hussein to get out of Kuwait," the spokesman

said. "We're anxious that no one should think we're altering policy."

Some members of Congress seized on the U.S.-Soviet communique as a diplomatic way out of the conflict with Iraq.

"It's a step in the right direction," said Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y. "Now that we have proven our point that we are willing and able to fight, we should be seeking ways to put an end to the conflict and move to the negotiating table."

Some lawmakers said they believe Americans need to be steeled for losses so that national resolve to achieve U.S. goals can be maintained.

"It has been relatively bloodless," said Rep. Les AuCoin, D-Ore. "But that will all change if we go to the ground — and that's where we're heading."

"Public opinion won't shift until there's a very large loss of life," said Rep. Gary Ackerman, D-N.Y. "There is some magic threshold, maybe around 1,000. It is the president's job to prepare the American people for the possibility that this won't be a six-day war."



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Lifestyles

Newsmakers

Andrea Adcock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Adcock of Pampa, was named to the Dean's List in December at Abilene Christian University.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must complete at least 12 semester hours and earn a 3.45 grade point average.

Adcock is a Pampa High School graduate. ACU is affiliated with the churches of Christ.

Two Pampa students were named to the Dean's List at Southwest Texas State University. Named were **Aaron Anderwald** and **Timothy Teague**.

To qualify for the Dean's List, an undergraduate student must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 during the semester while taking at least 12 semester hours of course work.

Christopher Wallis, a senior at Pampa High School has qualified for the Navy's Air Traffic Controller "A" School and will travel to the Recruit Training Center in San Diego in October to begin his Navy training.

Wallis is the son of Frankie Wallis of Pampa.

According to Petty Officer Dan Treadwell of the Pampa Recruiting Station, Wallis enlisted in the Navy before graduation from high school to obtain a guaranteed seat

in the school he has chosen. After completing his recruit training, Wallis will receive 16 weeks of additional training at Millington, Tenn.

Army National Guard Pvt. Donald A. Harris III has completed training at the U. S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

During the course, students received training which qualified them as light-weapons infantrymen and as indirect-fire crewman in a rifle or mortar squad.

Instruction included weapons qualifications, tactics, patrolling, land mine warfare, field and combat operations.

The private is the son of Rhonda Sparling of McLean, and grandson of Janis M. Moore of Panhandle. He is a graduate of McLean High School.

Ara Maxwell, 10, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Maxwell of White Deer and a model with the Diane Dick International Modeling and Talent Agency has recently returned from the International Modeling and Talent Association in Los Angeles, Calif.

More than 900 people from throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada, Guam, Ireland, Columbia, the Caribbean and Australia attended.



Ara Maxwell

The convention featured workshops, seminars, auditions and interviews with agents for those attending. Ara competed in nine different competitions, winning second place in TV beauty, and winning top ten in runway, fashion print, sitcom and Toys-R-Us.

Among the agencies scouting at the convention were Ford, Wilhemina, Faces, Click, and Zoli. Ara had 22 call backs from agencies interested in her including Atlantic, Kheatieue Talent Services, Wilhemina, Kidder Around, and Maxine Arnold.

Teacher and student study string art



St. Vincent's School teacher, Molly Meeks, and student Amy Pyle talk about string art and how to use straight lines to make a curve. The school will have open house, Friday, 8-3:30 p.m.

Sharpshooting hoopsters



These young people participated in the "Hoop Shoot Contest" sponsored by the Elks Lodge in Borger on Jan. 19. They came home with trophies for their efforts. Left front, Seth Stribling, first place for 12-13 year olds, Matt Evans, first place for 10-11 year olds, and Kyle Gamblin, first place for 8-9 year olds. Back row, left, Christopher Peak, second place for 12-13 year olds, and Ronnie Proby, third place for 10-11 year olds.

Campus winners in Elks' Hoop Shoot contest

The Elks Lodge in Borger sponsored a free throw competition for schools in our area. Each student who participated in the Borger "Hoop Shoot" had to first win the free throw competition at their school. Campus winners were:

Austin Elementary: 8-9 year olds: Matt Heasley, Jennifer Fatheree. 10-11 year olds: Matt Evans, Jamie Wells. 12-13 year olds: Seth Stribling, April Lopez.

Baker Elementary: 8-9 year olds: Chad Clardy, Gloria Resendiz. 10-11 year olds: Ronnie Proby, Bernice Solis. 12-13 year olds: Richard Proctor, Momy Rodriguez.

Mann Elementary: 8-9 year olds: Cody Shepard, Christi Lee. 10-11 year olds: Jason Williams, Rebecca McConnell. 12-13 year olds: D. J. Champion, Stacy Tambunga.

Lamar Elementary: 8-9 year olds: Larry Harley, Teresa Brown. 10-11 year olds: Tanisha Wilbon, Gabe Wilbon. 12-13 year olds: Yvette Brown.

Travis Elementary: 8-9 year olds: Kyle Gamblin, Mandy Wells. 10-11 year olds: Lucas Jaramillo, Nicole Watson. 12-13 year olds: Andrew Underwood, Angelica Miranda.

Wilson Elementary: 8-9 year olds: Emmy Barrick, Kevin Osborn. 10-11 year olds: Heather Petty, Juan Portillo. 12-13 year olds: Michelle Rios, Thad Born.

Pampa Middle School: Chris Peak.

Suzie Wilkinson 665-0356
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 Someone to Stand By You.

AARP income tax preparation available

Beginning Feb. 1 and continuing through April 12, the AARP of Pampa will again be sponsoring the Tax-Aide Program for local citizens. Volunteers will be available Tuesdays and Fridays, at the Pampa Senior Citizens' Building, 500 W. Francis, from 9-3 p.m. This is a free service.

Volunteers for the free tax counseling include Carl Hills, Mary Hills, W. C. Epperson, Betty Epperson, Twila Feiner, and Willine Fox.

Tax-Aide helps over 1.3 million people yearly file federal, state, and local tax returns. The program receives funding and operational support from the Internal Revenue Service. More than 27,000 volunteers are trained as counselors, coordinators, and instructors to insure that this assistance reaches 9,500 Tax-Aide sites across America.

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FALL & WINTER MERCHANDISE
60% TO 75% OFF
LARGE SELECTIONS

PURSES & BELTS 60%-75% OFF **NEW SPRING ARRIVING DAILY**

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5% Extra For Credit Card Purchases

Valentine's beginnings

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Many myths surround the origin of Valentine's Day.

At the Roman festival of Lupercalia, on Feb. 14, young couples were brought together by drawing names at random from an urn.

According to researchers at Hallmark Cards, tradition says a Christian martyr named St. Valentine, imprisoned in Rome in A.D. 269, restored the sight of his jailer's blind young daughter. On his execution day, Feb. 14, he supposedly sent the girl a farewell note signed, "From Your Valentine."

DECA contest set for Friday

Twelve Pampa High School DECA members have been busy preparing for the District Career Development conference. The conference is scheduled to be held at Tascosa High School in Amarillo, on Feb. 1 and 2.

The students have spent many hours preparing for the competition with the help of Larry Hollis, L. T. Johnston, David Norton, Tom Caldwell, Rutley Chalk and Kent Crow. Each person participating in the competition will be competing in one of the ten different marketing areas. The DECA members will be testing their knowledge and skills against students from schools across the Panhandle.

The PHS DECA members will compete in the following areas: Chrystal O'Dell and Peggy James-advertising and display; Jeannette Gutierrez and Jennifer Harper-apparel and accessories; Humberto Resendiz-full serve restaurant; Becky Whitley, Monica Parker, and Jenny Everson-general marketing; Shasta Nowell and Kristie Shipley-general merchandise retailing; Brandon Parker-vehicles and petroleum; Chris Swindle-hospitality and tourism. Each student will take a 100 question test and participate in a judged role play. The top six winners in each area will advance to the state competition in Ft. Worth, Mar. 7-9.



Dear Abby

Abigail Van Buren

Bumper stickers encourage teen-agers to drive smart

DEAR ABBY: Not long ago, while I was vacationing in Dallas, my wife and I saw 10 or 15 cars with teen-age drivers that carried bumper stickers which read: IF I'M DRIVING IRRESPONSIBLY, CALL MY PARENTS. (OR MY MON OR MY DAD.) Each sticker had a telephone number, obviously handprinted, at the bottom — printed with black, indelible markers.

I was so taken with the idea that I asked one of those teen-age drivers where he got the bumper sticker. He replied that his parents had made him put it on his car because he had gotten several tickets for moving violations. He said the stickers were the brainstrom of a teen-ager who lived in another state — and who was selling them.

My own son will soon be driving, and I would like to get some of these bumper stickers, especially the one that says CALL MY DAD. Could you find out where I can order them?

GEORGE IN TUSCALOOSA, ALA.

DEAR GEORGE: The teen-ager who originated the idea was Fred Stangle of Albuquerque, N.M., who by age 17 had been involved in four speed-related accidents and received two speeding tickets. After one of Fred's friends was seriously in-

jured in a speed-related accident, he began thinking about how he could persuade himself (and his friends) to slow down. His brainstrom resulted in a bumper sticker similar to those used on the back of fleet trucks. The stickers come in the three versions you mentioned: CALL MY MOM, CALL MY DAD and CALL MY PARENTS.

The bumper sticker's real potential is as a punishment for teens who drive recklessly. Instead of taking car privileges away entirely, parents can insist that their teen-agers drive around with the sticker on the bumper for a designated period of time.

The bumper stickers may be purchased for \$2 each or three for \$5 by writing: Fred Stangle, P.O. Box 11633, Albuquerque, N.M. 87192. (Be sure to specify which parent is to be notified.) I think it's a great idea!

Everything you'll need to know about planning a wedding can be found in Abby's booklet, "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." To order, send a long, business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage is included.)

A Special Sale of Noritake
 Select or add-on to your pattern of world famous Noritake Dinnerware now during our Sale of settings, sets and special-order open stock accessory pieces. Save as well on Noritake Crystal, Casual Glassware and Giftware.

ONEIDA Place Setting Sale

Deluxe Pattern
 5 Piece Setting Reg. \$30.00 **\$19⁹⁹**

Community Pattern
 5 Piece Setting Reg. \$45.00 **\$29⁹⁹**

Heirloom Pattern
 5 Piece Setting Reg. \$60.00 **\$39⁹⁹**

Choose now from Noritake patterns of place setting and open stock.

Copper Kitchen
 Coronado Center 665-2001

Veterans' calls flood help lines

By CHRIS TORCHIA
Associated Press Writer

Gary Parmenter, a Vietnam veteran and victim of post-traumatic stress disorder, was watching TV coverage of the Persian Gulf war when it all came back with a jolt. On the screen was a bruised U.S. Marine aviator, Chief Warrant Officer Guy Hunter, who had been captured by the Iraqis. Parmenter had known Hunter in the Marines. "It's scary, because I made some progress over the past six months, and I feel like I'm slipping back," said Parmenter, 42, of Norwood, Mass. He is one of hundreds of veterans of World War II, the Korea conflict and especially the Vietnam War for whom the Persian Gulf War brought back combat memories and the fear, anger and depression associated with them. "To be honest with you, I went out and got drunk," said Vietnam veteran Allan Findlay, 43, of Indianapolis. "That was the only way I could deal with it." Veteran centers across the coun-

try say calls from former GIs have increased as much as tenfold since the Persian Gulf war began. "When the bombing started, people just started crying and were unable to go to work the next day, just became totally withdrawn," said Larry Rappe, a social worker at The Veterans Center in Pensacola, Fla. Television coverage of Iraqi missile attacks, American warplanes screaming off runways and troops camped out in Saudi Arabian deserts brought back many veterans' wartime nightmares. "The first thing that came to my mind was: 'Damn, it's starting all over again,'" said Floyd Whitehead, a 39-year-old Marine veteran of Hope, Ind. "I found myself back in the bush. The last three or four days, I ain't been able to drink a cup of coffee unless I use a straw. I've been shaking so bad." The federal Vietnam Veterans Counseling Center in Atlanta is signing up five to 10 new veterans a week for counseling. "We've gotten an inordinate amount of calls dealing with their

trauma and symptoms of delayed stress," said Linwood Bradley, clinical coordinator of the center. His caseload has nearly doubled since the war began, he said. In Bismarck, N.D., the Vietnam Veterans Center, one of about 200 across the country run by the federal Department of Veterans Affairs, reported that before the war, about eight or 10 veterans sought counseling every week. Now it's up to 30 a week. Many report symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, which can include nightmares, intense depression, difficulty in relationships and the use of alcohol and drugs. "These guys are experiencing flashbacks. Some can't eat, some can't sleep, some are becoming distant and withdrawn from their families," said Michael Milne, executive director of the Wilkes-Barre, Pa.-based Veterans of the Vietnam War. Milne says his organization, which runs a nationwide hot line, has been receiving about 100 calls a day from veterans — 10 times more than before the war.

Travelers are staying home, and it's clobbering the travel industry

By COTTEN TIMBERLAKE
Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — Fear of Iraqi-sponsored terrorism is keeping vacation and business travelers at home, and it's clobbering the travel industry worldwide. There have been several dozen relatively minor terrorist attacks around the world since the Persian Gulf War began — but many people are travel-shy, particularly Americans, industry experts say. In addition, many American companies, including IBM, have told their employees to stay put or cut back on business trips. Businessmen are being told to rely on ground travel, telephone conferences and faxes. International airlines and hotels have reported drops in reservations, and increasing cancellations and no-shows. Tourism is Europe's biggest single export earner and the industry, already hurt by the global recession and the weak dollar, is heavily dependent on American business. The Times of London said in a recent editorial that it detected "the specter of the great American wimp" in the reaction to Saddam Hussein's calls for terrorist action. "The American market is very susceptible to something like this.

They just are more nervous," said Sue Morris, a spokeswoman for the English Tourist Board. But some believe that Americans will not stay home for long. Richard Branson, owner of Britain's Virgin Atlantic Airways, told Sky television: "They're just as likely to be mugged or hurt in New York or L.A. as they are in Europe and hopefully, they'll be brave enough to actually come to our shores again soon." The British airport management company BAA said passenger traffic at Heathrow and Gatwick, London's other main airport, fell 22 percent in the week following the outbreak of war. Scandinavian Airlines System says traffic to its main European destinations is down one-fifth. It is reducing its work force by 3,500 people, or 16 percent. British Airways says it has cut its passenger capacity nearly 10 percent, and KLM Royal Dutch Airways said it was combining services and using smaller aircraft. In Paris, the famous restaurant Fouquet's on the Champs Elysees is serving at least 15 percent fewer customers, said manager Joel Minot. "Fewer people are coming, I believe, both out of some fears of terrorism, and also because they want to stay home and follow the

events on television," he said. Optimists say January is not the tourist season anyway and that travelers are just postponing trips. "People are planning to come a little bit later," said Richard Brundley, manager of London theater ticket agent Edwards and Edwards. "If the war doesn't escalate, we should be OK." Some fear the crucial summer season could be hurt if the war drags on, and that the industry would face a worse year than 1986, when the U.S. attack on Libya and the Chernobyl nuclear accident scared off many Americans. Europe is especially hard hit because it has been a favorite target of terrorists. The deadliest attack was the December 1988 bombing of Pan Am's Flight 103 over Scotland, which killed 270 people. But fewer people also are traveling to the United States and Asia. The British company Bass said its fiscal first-quarter pre-tax profit fell 10 percent partly because its 1,600-hotel Holiday Inn chain "was now experiencing the effect of hostilities in the gulf." The number of travelers to Thailand has fallen 8 percent, said the Thailand Tourist Office in London.

Greenspan warns of deep recession if Gulf War lasts past April

NEW YORK (AP) — Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, says the recession could be long and deep if the Gulf War lasts past April. Just last week, he told Congress he expected the war's economic consequences to be slight. In an interview published today, Greenspan said he expected a swift

recovery from the recession if the war is relatively brief and Persian Gulf oil fields are not extensively damaged. Greenspan said the optimistic assessment he gave Congress was based in large part on the assumption that the war would be short. He said last week that he expect-

ed the recovery to begin no later than summer. Greenspan said the economy is in the "most confidence-sensitive cycle I've seen in decades. The risks that confidence will not come back sufficiently adequately to bring the economy out of its recession is regrettably higher than I would like," he said.

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REPORT OF CONDITION

Consolidating domestic subsidiaries of the NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE of PAMPA in the State of Texas, at the close of business on December 31, 1990 published in response to call made by Comptroller of the Currency, under title 12, United States Code, Section 161. Charter Number 09485 Comptroller of the Currency Southwestern District

ASSETS	
Cash and balances due from depository institutions:	
Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin.....	2,464,000
Interest-bearing balances.....	800,000
Securities.....	1,001,000
Federal funds sold.....	4,100,000
Loans and lease financing receivables:	
Loans and leases, net of unearned income.....	17,641,000
LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses.....	573,000
Loans and leases, net of unearned income, allowance, and reserve.....	17,068,000
Other real estate owned.....	705,000
Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases).....	1,105,000
Other assets.....	329,000
Total assets.....	27,572,000
Total assets and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823(j).....	27,572,000
LIABILITIES	
Deposits:	
In domestic offices.....	25,369,000
Noninterest-bearing.....	5,287,000
Interest-bearing.....	20,082,000
Other liabilities.....	189,000
Total liabilities.....	25,558,000
EQUITY CAPITAL	
Common stock.....	1,250,000
Surplus.....	1,250,000
Undivided profits and capital reserves.....	(486,000)
Total equity capital.....	2,014,000
Total equity capital and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823 (j).....	2,014,000
Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, equity capital and losses deferred pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1823(j).....	27,572,000

Jerry Foote
January 29, 1991

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the correctness of this statement of resources and liabilities. We declare that it has been examined by us, and to the best of our knowledge and belief has been prepared in conformance with the instructions and is true and correct.

Directors: L.C. Hudson
L.R. Hudson
Steve McCullough