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<center><H1>July 30, 1999</H1></center>

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<!-- <H3>CATEGORY</H3>

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<H3>TOP STORIES</H3>

Cohen: U.S., South Korea Wont Rule Out Force Against NK

(Pacific Stars And Stripes)....Jim Lea

U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen would not rule out military action from the United States and South Korea if Pyongyang fires a Taepodong-2 missile.

<p>

Caldera Isnt Worried

(European Stars And Stripes)....Gregory Piatt

The secretary of the U.S. Army said on Wednesday that he isnt worried about losing two top commands in Europe when Army Gen. Wesley K. Clark is replaced by Air Force Gen. Joseph W. Ralston next spring.

<H3>ASIA</H3>

U.S. To Upgrade South Korea Missiles

(International Herald Tribune)....Don Kirk

The United States promised Thursday to help South Koreans counter growing military pressure from North Korea by trying to meet their demands for enhancing the number and range of their missiles.

<p>

Abandoning Taiwan

(Washington Times)....Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough

...Adm. Dennis Blair, the commander in chief, Pacific, or Cincpac, expressed the Clinton administration's pro-Beijing views in meetings this week with members of Congress and staff.

<p>

US Air Force Plane Allowed SAR Stopover

(South China Morning Post)....Glenn Schloss and Oliver Chou

A US air force cargo plane was granted permission from Beijing to land in Hong Kong yesterday, ending a two-month ban apparently imposed in retaliation for NATO's bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade.

<p>

Asia Is Whispering: "Yankee Come Back"

(Business Week)....Stan Crock and Michael Shari

...Some regional leaders who once decried U.S. meddling are suddenly scrambling

g for a spot under America's security umbrella.

**<p>
Philippine-US Drills 'Not A Provocation'**

**

(South China Morning Post)....Associated Press
**

Joint Philippine-US military exercises planned for early next year were not intended to provoke China, Manila's military chief of staff said yesterday.

**
<H3>DEFENSE DEPARTMENT</H3>
**

Gen. Tilelli To Retire, Cohen Announces

**

(Pacific Stars And Stripes)....Jim Lea
**

Gen. John Tilelli Jr., the top U.S. military commander in South Korea, will be retiring after 36 years in the Army, Defense Secretary William Cohen announced Thursday.

**<p>
New Pentagon Medical Budget Board To Lead T**

**ricare Reforms

(Newport News Daily Press)....Tom Philpott
**

Next budget year, for fiscal 2001, the focus will be on health care reform, Pentagon officials have decided.

**
<H3>ARMY</H3>
**

**Soldier Dies In Kosovo

(European Stars And Stripes)....Marni McEntee
**

A U.S. Army soldier was killed with a handgun early Wednesday in what Kosovo Force officials are considering an accidental shooting.

**<p>
Army Secretary On Patrol

(European Stars And Stripes)....Gregory Piatt
**

Troops lead Caldera on tour of town.

**<p>
Proper Resting Place

(European Stars And Stripes)....Marni McEntee
**

Soldiers help re-bury massacred Albanians.

**<p>
Army Chief Of Staff Visits With Fort**

**Jackson Soldiers

(Columbia (SC) State)....Dave Moniz
**

The Army's top general says his service has to figure out how to find and keep more soldiers before he can tackle other pressing concerns.

**<p>
Hale Nuptials

(Washington Times)....Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough
**

Retired Maj. Gen. David R. Hale, the first general court-martialed in 45 years, has remarried. The new bride is one of four women with whom he engaged in the improper relationships that led to his eight guilty pleas on charges of lying and conduct unbecoming an officer.

**<p>
Army Junior ROTC Gains More Acceptance, Sc**

hools

(USA Today)....Steve Komarow

The Army and Education Department will announce today the expansion of Junior ROTC to increase the number of kids drilling in uniform to nearly a quarter of a million next year.

<H3>NAVY</H3>

Atlantic Fleet Leader Made The Call To End Burial-At-Sea Backlog

(Norfolk Virginian-Pilot)....Dale Eisman

The Navy's move this week to clear out a backlog of 49 human remains at the Portsmouth Naval Medical Center awaiting burial at sea was personally directed by Adm. J. Paul Reason, commander of the Atlantic Fleet, the Pentagon disclosed Thursday.

<p>

Union: Navy Prolonged Strike

(Norfolk Virginian-Pilot)....Karen Weintraub

...The Navy, which accounts for 95 percent of the shipyard's business, has continued to pay the company during the strike for work contracts signed before the walkout began. It's just following federal law, the Navy says.

<p>

Navy Can't Pay Shipyard \$3 Million Owed

(Bangor Daily News)....Sara Kugler, States News Service

The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard finished \$3 million worth of maintenance on the USS Helena submarine last year, but the U.S. Navy still hasn't paid the bill.

<p>

Puerto Rico Says Navy Owes \$8.8 Million For Water

(Baltimore Sun)....Unattributed

The U.S. Navy owes the Puerto Rican government \$8.8 million for water it has been drawing from a river since 1985 without a permit, the island's Department of Natural and Environmental Resources says.

<H3>AIR FORCE</H3>

Air Force, Policy Experts Debate Whether Raptor Should Fly Or Die

(Inside The Air Force)....Adam J. Hebert

The Air Force agrees its air-superiority capabilities are currently the best in the world, but the F-22 Raptor fighter is not being designed for today, it is intended for 2010 and beyond, according to Lt. Gen. Gregory Martin, the Air Force's top uniformed acquisition official.

<H3>BALKANS</H3>

Albright Calls On KLA To Curb Its Claims Of Authority

(Washington Post)....Peter Finn

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, July 29 - Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright received a rapturous reception from Kosovo Albanians here today, but a U.S. official said she cautioned their leadership that the Kosovo Liberation Army is moving too quickly to assert control over the battered Serbian province.

**<p>
Kfor Problems

(Washington Times)....Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough

The view among many in the Pentagon is that NATO's Kosovo peacekeeping mission, known as Kfor, is shaping up to be a real problem.**

**<p>
Clinton To Propose Ending Tariffs To Boost Development In Balkans

(Wall Street Journal)....Bob Davis

President Clinton plans to propose eliminating tariffs on a host of imports from the Balkans to pressure the European Union to do the same and boost economic development in the war-ravaged region.**

**<p>
EU Tries To Entice Balkans On Peace

(Philadelphia Inquirer)....Colleen Barry, Associated Press

Ahead of today's international Balkan peace summit, the European Union yesterday offered the region's nations a greater place in the West if they end differences that have fueled nearly a decade of ethnic war.**

**<p>
Some Camps For Refugees To Stay Open This Winter

(Washington Post)....Reuters

Some refugee camps in Macedonia will remain open throughout the winter to provide help for thousands of Kosovo Albanians unable to return home, the U.N. refugee agency said today.**

**
<H3>NATO</H3>
**

**European NATO Members Face Defense Budget Crunch, GAO Says

(Aerospace Daily)....Unattributed

The defense budgets of key NATO members may shrink in coming years to make room for deficit reduction and domestic spending, according to the General Accounting Office.**

**<p>
Britain Eyes NATO Post

(Washington Times)....James Morrison

Britain could win the post of NATO secretary-general if it only had a candidate.**

**
<H3>CONGRESS</H3>
**

**Officials Speak Against Move To Close Selective Service System

(San Antonio Express-News)....Sig Christenson

A move this week by a Republican-led House panel to kill the Selective Service System was criticized by its director as shortsighted, while others warned the**

action might even encourage misadventures on the part of America's adversaries

<H3>IRAQ</H3>

Iraq: Bombing Deaths Reported

(New York Times)....Reuters

Western air strikes killed 8 civilians and wounded 25 others in southern Iraq, Iraqi military officials said.

<p>

Indian Loan To Iraq Breaks U.N. Embargo

(Washington Post)....Unattributed

India will extend a \$25 million loan to Iraq in a deal that violates U.N. trade sanctions imposed on Iraq for invading Kuwait in 1990, India's oil minister said.

<H3>RUSSIA</H3>

Kosovo War Convinces Russia That Military Needs Updating

(Chicago Tribune)....Michael McGuire

If Russia's generals begin to see an inflow of cash to modernize the nation's impoverished armed forces, some will toss an ironic salute to President Clinton and thank the bombing campaign in Yugoslavia.

<H3>AMERICAS</H3>

Experts Want Troops To Stay In Panama After Canal Return

(Washington Times)....Kristina Stefanova

U.S. troops need to be stationed in Panama after the canal is returned in December because Colombian drug traffickers and communist Chinese business interests in Panama pose a security threat to the United States, said experts at a House hearing yesterday.

<p>

Search For Bodies Continues In Colombia

(Washington Post)....Unattributed

Rescue teams battled through dense fog and thick jungle as they hunted for the last three bodies of a crew of seven who died when a U.S. reconnaissance plane slammed into a mountainside in Colombia.

<p>

Colombia Crash Enables Peek At Hush-Hush Roles

(Chicago Tribune)....Paul de la Garza

The crash of a U.S. spy plane that killed five Americans and two Colombians has thrown an unwelcome light on the growing and increasingly controversial role of American forces in Colombia's anti-drug efforts.

<H3>AFRICA</H3>

Sudan, Angry At U.S. Attack, Freed Bomb Suspects, Officials Say

(New York Times)....James Risen

Immediately after the bombings of two American embassies in East Africa last August 7, Sudan detained two men suspected of being involved in the plot, but angrily released them two weeks later, after an American cruise missile strike on Sudan, American officials said Thursday.

<H3>OPINION</H3>

Those Men In Havana Are Now Chinese

(Wall Street Journal)....Jaime Suchlicki

In February, a top-level Chinese military delegation, led by Defense Minister Chi Haotian, visited Cuba.

<p>

The Oops Files

(Washington Post)....Stephen S. Rosenfeld

In the current wobbly post-Cold War phase of American global engagement, it seems that mistakes tend to be committed more out in the open, or they go public sooner.

<p>

Navy Chief Must Do Right By Family Of 'Deserter'

(Newport News Daily Press)....Jim Spencer

The Navy can never repay Leonard Smith's wife and kids for the pain and suffering it put them through.

<p>

Lessons From Bosnia

(Wall Street Journal Europe)....Carlos Westendorp

This is my last week as the international community's High Representative in Bosnia-Herzegovina, a post I have held for the last two years.

<p>

What Dayton's Failures Teach The West

(Wall Street Journal)....James Lyon

SARAJEVO, Bosnia--As world leaders meet here today to plan how to spend billions of dollars on a new "Balkan Marshall Plan," they may want to consider the serious problems becoming evident with the Dayton Peace Accord, the 1995 agreement that ended the Bosnian war.

<p>

Losing Private Ryan

(National Review)....Andrew J. Bachevich

Why the citizen-soldier is MIA.

<p>

Aircraft Overkill - (Letter)

(Washington Post)....Edward W. Overton Jr.

The July 22 op-ed article by Air Force historian Richard Hallion, "Why We Need the F-22," protests too much.

<H3>EDITORIAL</H3>

The F-22 Pause

(Washington Post)....Editorial

In the 1990s, the Pentagon solved its budget problems in part by taking what some now call a procurement holiday.

<p>

No Way To Treat A Soldier

(Washington Times)....Editorial

...The shabbiness with which the expendable are treated can be breathtaking. Case in point this week is the dismissal of NATO Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Wesley Clark. Gen. Clark's three-year tour of duty was to have ended in July 2000 -- and could at that time have been extended.

<p>

Clinton And General Clark

(Christian Science Monitor)....Editorial

What kind of message is President Clinton sending to America's fighting forces when he cuts short the term of the general who won the Kosovo war?

<p>

Rockets Overhead

(The Economist)....Editorial

Within the next few weeks, a handful of metal tubes soaring into space at several miles per second could force some recalculations by military planners down on earth.

<p>

Rebuilding The Balkans

(New York Times)....Editorial

President Clinton's meeting with more than 30 other national leaders in Sarajevo today offers a chance to get the postwar reconstruction of Southeastern Europe off to a sound start.

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<P>Pacific Stars and Stripes

July 31, 1999

Pg. 1 </P>

<P>Cohen: U.S., South Korea Wont Rule Out Force Against NK </P>

<P>By Jim Lea, Stripes Osan Bureau Chief</P>

<P> SEOUL U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen would not rule out military action from the United States and South Korea if Pyongyang fires a Taepodong-2 missile.</P>

<P> At a joint news conference following talks with South Korean Defense Minister Cho Song-tae in Seoul, Cohen was asked if there is a military option among the "strong punitive steps" the United States, South Korea and Japan have threatened if a missile is fired.</P>

<P> "There are a number of negative consequences that (will) flow from a missile launch, he said, but "it would not be appropriate for me to spell out in advance" what they might be.</P>

<P> "Certainly there will be diplomatic and economic consequences," ; Cohen said. "Beyond that, we would have to reserve our judgment as to what would be an appropriate measure of response."</P>

<P> While not discussing what military action might be taken, he also would not flatly rule that out.</P>

<P> At the news conference, Cho reiterated that the United States and South Korea believe Pyongyang is preparing to test-fire a Taepodong-2. That belief is based, he said, on the fact that the North has been modifying and preparing a missile launch site for the past several weeks.</P>

<P> Cho said it will take some time for the North to prepare for the firing and expressed confidence that "we will be able to gain prior indication of any imminent launch."</P>

<P> Cohen said North Korea faces an important choice.</P>

<P> "Pyongyang can take advantage of the opportunities for new economic and political openings," he said, "or it can reject those opportunities by launching a missile and taking other actions that signal a preference for confrontation over cooperation and isolation over integration with the world."</P>

<P> No matter which course North Korea chooses, Cohen said, "the United States and South Korea will maintain a strong alliance based on shared values and close security cooperation."</P>

<P> Cho said South Korean and U.S. strategy is to "make North Korea realize it has more to lose than gain from a missile firing."</P>

<P> Among other issues discussed at the news conference, Cohen said South Korea's response to the June 15 Yellow Sea incident proved the value of maintaining a well-trained, well-equipped and well-led and ready force and strong U.S.-South Korean cooperation."</P>

<P> In that encounter, one North Korean torpedo boat was sunk and several other craft were damaged by South Korean patrol boats. Two South Korean boats were damaged and seven sailors were wounded, the Defense Ministry says. There have been unconfirmed reports that 30 North Koreans were killed and 70 others were wounded.</P>

<P> As soon as the incident erupted, the United States ordered more naval forces into the Korean theater, including two AEGIS guided-missile cruisers loaded with Tomahawk cruise missiles. Several EA-6B Prowler reconnaissance aircraft also were sent to the region.</P>

<P> The aircraft carrier USS Constellation and its battle group also are headed to the region on what the Navy says is a "routine deployment."</P>
>

<P> The carrier USS Kitty Hawk also is scheduled to return on Aug. 25 to Yokosuka, Japan, where it is based. When it arrives, it will mark the first time two U.S. aircraft carriers have been in the western Pacific at the same time.</P>
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<P> There also are two Military Sealift Command ships the USNS Observation Island and USNS Invincible in the area. Both are equipped with radar designed to track missiles built on Scud technology, such as the Taepodong. </P>

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<P>European Stars and Stripes

July 30, 1999

Pg. 1</P>

<P>Caldera Isnt Worried </P>

<P>By Gregory Piatt, Staff writer</P>

<P> UROSEVAC, Kosovo The secretary of the U.S. Army said on Wednesday that he isnt worried about losing two top commands in Europe when Army Gen. Wesley K. Clark is replaced by Air Force Gen. Joseph W. Ralston next spring.</P>

<P> Speaking at a news conference after visiting Army troops in Kosovo, Louis Caldera said Ralston, currently the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was a good selection for NATO's supreme allied commander Europe and commander of all U.S. forces in Europe.</P>

<P> "Those CINCs (commanders in chief) are suppose to be purple," Caldera said about the impartiality of commanders toward other services. "For an officer in a joint environment, I dont have any concerns that he can get the job done."</P>

<P> Caldera said the Army will compete for other four-star commands and the vice chairmanship of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that will open next year.</P>

<P> It was reported that Pentagon officials said four-star officers in several other regional commands also will step down next year after three-year tours. Caldera said the Army will compete for slots in the "Southern Command, ACOM and CENTCOM."</P>

<P> Pentagon officials said Gen. John H. Tilelli, commander of the combined U.N.-U.S. forces in South Korea also will be replaced in December by Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz, who is now commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command.</P>

<P> Clark, the longest-serving regional commander in the group, was asked this week by Secretary of Defense William Cohen to step down from the post of SAC EUR and commander of EUCOM.</P>

<P> Reports say Cohen had discussed with President Clinton the possibility of making Clark an ambassador so as to retain the generals talents.</P>

<P> Clark, who headed U.S. forces in Latin America for a year before taking

the NATO post, became SACEUR in 1997. He was the senior military official on the diplomatic team that led to the 1995 Dayton peace accords that ended the fighting in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Clark, 54, will leave three months short of the end of his term, which expires in July 2000. Clark was expected to fulfill his three-year term or longer. Many of his predecessors served in the post for four years or more.

Ralston's term on the joint chiefs ends on May 1, 2000. Military rules require he take another post, request a 60-day extension or retire, a U.S. NATO military official said.

The Washington Post reported on Wednesday that the NATO position was the only one that could persuade Ralston to stay in uniform. Ralston was considered for the chairmanship of the Joint Chiefs, but withdrew from consideration on June 9, 1997, after he admitted to committing adultery.

At the time, Cohen said the affair wouldn't disqualify Ralston from replacing the then-retiring chairman, Army Gen. John M. Shalikashvili.

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<P>International Herald Tribune

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>U.S. To Upgrade South Korea Missiles</P>

<I><P>Seoul Wants Longer-Range Rockets to Meet the North's Threat</P>

</I><P>By Don Kirk, International Herald Tribune</P>

<P> TOKYO -- The United States promised Thursday to help South Koreans counter growing military pressure from North Korea by trying to meet their demands for enhancing the number and range of their missiles.</P>

<P> Defense Secretary William Cohen, who met with top officials in Seoul, was as receptive to South Korea's long-standing request for revision of a 1979 agreement with the United States limiting the range of the country's surface-to-surface missiles to 180 kilometers (112 miles), South Korean defense officials said.</P>

<P> The South Korean officials, contacted by telephone from Tokyo, also disclosed that the United States had agreed to supply 100 air-to-surface Popeye missiles capable of wiping out enemy ground installations from as far away as 110 kilometers. They said the agreement was reached before Mr. Cohen's visit.</P>

<P> Following meetings Thursday with President Kim Dae Jung and Defense Minister Cho Sung Tae on how to respond to a possible North Korean missile launching, Mr. Cohen said the United States supported South Korea's desire to join the Missile Technology Control Regime and wanted to work with the South Koreans "to accommodate their needs as far as their missile capabilities."</P>

<P> As a member of the regime, South Korea would be free to develop missiles with a range of 300 kilometers, far enough to reach the North Korean capital, Pyongyang. South Korean officials have said privately that such missiles could probably travel 500 kilometers, enough to reach almost any target in the North.</P>

<P> South Korean strategists see the ability to strike at least as far as Pyongyang as of paramount importance in view of Seoul's proximity to North Korea. The capital lies 30 kilometers south of the Demilitarized Zone that has divided the peninsula since the Korean War, within easy range of North Korean artillery massed above the DMZ.</P>

<P> South Korean military and diplomatic officials have stepped up their drive for missiles in the midst of North Korean threats to fire an advanced version of the Taepo Dong 1, the long-range ballistic missile launched last Aug. 31 over northern Japan.</P>

<P> The Popeye, they noted, could be effective in attacking North Korean positions on shore in case of a confrontation similar to the one in the Yellow Sea a last month in which a North Korean vessel was sunk, killing 30 men on board.</P>

<P> Brigadier General Cha Young Koo, an assistant to Mr. Cho, said of the Popeye accord, "This gives some strong message that they should stop such actions. The situation today is a little precarious. This kind of cooperative relationship is an important message to North Korea."</P>

<P> South Koreans appeared heartened by confirmation that the South would acquire the Popeye missiles, produced by Lockheed Martin at a cost of \$800,000 a piece, over a three-year period from 2000 to 2003.</P>

<P> "It is very significant for South Korea," said Park Young Ho, a senior researcher at the Korea Institute of National Unification, a government think tank. "It gives some psychological relaxation."</P>

<P> Mr. Park saw South Korea's interest in increasing its inventory of missiles as complementing the "sunshine policy" of engagement with the North advanced by President Kim. The government, he said, "can take this issue to show that South Korea is well prepared while keeping the sunshine policy."</P>

<P> Mr. Kim, meeting Mr. Cohen, said North Korea should still be given an incentive not to carry out the threat of military actions, according to a presidential spokesman.</P>

<P> Mr. Cho said, however, that the United States and South Korea would mobilize "all available means" to respond if the North actually fired a Taepo Dong-2 missile. Neither Mr. Cohen nor Mr. Cho specified the nature of the response.</P>

<P> Robert Einhorn, an assistant secretary of state, discussed the possibilities of South Korea's joining the Missile Technology Control Regime with South Korean diplomats.</P>

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<P>Washington Times

July 30, 1999</P>

<U><P>Inside the Ring</P>

</U><P>Abandoning Taiwan</P>

<P>By Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough</P>

<P> The Clinton administration has made punishing Taiwan its main policy option in the dispute between Taipei and Beijing over Taiwan's assertion it sho

uld have a ``state-to-state" relationship with China. China perceives the remark as a statement of independence and a threat to the ``one-China policy," which the United States endorses. As a rebuke, the United States has held up announcement of a planned arms sales to the island, and the visit of a Pentagon delegation to Taiwan was put off.</P>

<P> Now comes word that the chief of the U.S. Pacific Command and the leader of the 100,000 troops in the region would not defend Taiwan if it declared itself an independent state and not a part of China.</P>

<P> Adm. Dennis Blair, the commander in chief, Pacific, or Cincpac, expressed the Clinton administration's pro-Beijing views in meetings this week with members of Congress and staff. Adm. Blair said Taiwan has become ``the turd in the punchbowl" of U.S.-Chinese relations.</P>

<P> If Taiwan declared independence, ``I don't think we should support them at all," the admiral told several congressional aides. The remark was the clearest sign the administration is aligned with the communist regime in China and would not live up to its defense obligations under the Taiwan Relations Act to prevent an armed aggression against the island.</P>

<P> ``It was a dangerous remark," one congressional source said. ``The problem is China, not Taiwan."</P>

<P> Subsequently, Navy Capt. T. McCreary, a spokesman for Adm. Blair, confirmed the four-star admiral met with members of Congress and some staff last week. But Capt. McCreary denied that Adm. Blair had referred to Taiwan as quoted or had suggested the United States would not defend the island.</P>

<P> ``Adm. Blair clearly supports the policy that China and Taiwan must achieve one China in a peaceful fashion," he said.</P>

<P> Intelligence and diplomatic assessments of the China-Taiwan rift are that Beijing will react forcefully to Taiwan's lurch toward independence.</P>

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<P>South China Morning Post

July 30, 1999

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<P>US Air Force Plane Allowed SAR Stopover</P>

<P>By Glenn Schloss and Oliver Chou</P>

<P> A US air force cargo plane was granted permission from Beijing to land in Hong Kong yesterday, ending a two-month ban apparently imposed in retaliation for Nato's bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade. </P>

<P> The Foreign Ministry's go-ahead for the landing signalled that Beijing was starting to lift its sanctions on the US military, which have included preventing warships from visiting Hong Kong, analysts said. </P>

<P> The C-130 Hercules touched down at Chek Lap Kok airport at about 6.30pm on what the US Consulate described as a "rest and recreation stopover". </P>

<P> It was on a routine flight from an undisclosed location in Southeast Asia to a military base in Japan, a consulate spokesman said. </P>

<P> The crew and aircraft were scheduled to stay in the SAR until tomorrow, the spokesman said. </P>

<P> Two other US military flights and eight warship visits, which need to be approved by authorities in Beijing through the Foreign Ministry Commissioner's office in Hong Kong, have been denied permission to visit the SAR. Last year, 67 flights were allowed to land. </P>

<P> It is not clear why permission was granted for the US Air Force cargo plane to land. Beijing has said the ban was normal "under the current circumstances" but did not refer directly to the bombing of the embassy in Belgrade, described by Washington as accidental. </P>

<P> Diplomatic analysts said no indication had been received from the central Government about what permission for the landing meant for future visits. </P>

<P> If it indicated the ban was being lifted, "it is a small signal but nevertheless an important signal", said military analyst Paul Beaver, spokesman for the Jane's Defence Group. </P>

<P> Mainland adviser Li Kwok-keung said the landing was a clear signal of an improvement in Sino-US relations. </P>

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Business Week

August 9, 1999

Asia Is Whispering: "Yankee Come Back"

The bellicose rumblings from Beijing are giving Asian governments a bad case of the jitters. China refuses to scale back on the warlike rhetoric targeting Taiwan, which has edged closer in recent weeks to asserting its independence. Beijing's argument with Manila over some potentially valuable real estate in the South China Sea has gotten nasty. And a bold assertion by the Chinese that they have the neutron bomb is reminding its neighbors how lethal an Asian arms race could be.

So Asian governments want an insurance policy--and they're looking to Washington to get it. That's an interesting twist: Some regional leaders who once decried U.S. meddling are suddenly scrambling for a spot under America's security umbrella. That could mean an increase in the U.S. military's already considerable influence in the region. But Washington has to tread carefully: It wants to help its friends without arousing the ire of an already irritated China.

The Philippines offer a perfect example of Yankee Come Back syndrome. Manila kicked the U.S. out of its two huge military bases in 1991. But since then the Chinese have intensified their interest in the Spratly Islands, which may be sitting on huge natural gas deposits--and which Manila claims.

Now the Filipinos want the Americans to come visit--often. So on July 22 the USS Blue Ridge, flagship of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, sailed into Manila harbor greeted by red, white, and blue balloons and the Philippines Navy band. The fleet arrived three days after a Philippines patrol boat collided with a Chinese fishing boat in disputed waters, provoking a howl of outrage from Beijing. But Philippines President Joseph Estrada sees China as the bully. He wants the U.S. to show that small countries aren't "helpless in the face of expansionist designs."

The visit of the Blue Ridge also fortuitously gave the U.S. a chance to show force just as the latest Taiwan crisis heated up. Officially, the U.S. has frowned on President Lee Teng-hui's separatist pronouncements. But the presence of a U.S. flagship not far from the Taiwan Strait is a none-too-subtle reminder of America's high level of interest in the region. Mindful of this, China has

as signalled its willingness to negotiate over the Spratlys.</P>

<P> The China question is not the only one nagging Asian leaders. Japan now fears North Korean missiles, so it's cooperating with the U.S. on research for a missile defense system. Singapore worries about a spread of anti-ethnic Chinese violence from Malaysia and Indonesia: Its government is upgrading port facilities to handle the biggest U.S. aircraft carriers.</P>

<P> LOCAL COP. Local politics in Asia still have an anti-American tinge, so the region's leaders cannot reconstruct the kind of U.S. presence that characterized the cold war. For example, a proposed landing strip in Okinawa has run into local opposition. But though Asians may not want a police station next door, they still want cops on the beat. "What [Asians] want is a constant flow of U.S. Navy traffic through the region," says a senior State Dept. official. That also works for the U.S. Navy, which needs flexibility. "The era of bases is over," says the Seventh Fleet commander, Vice-Admiral Walter F. Doran. "That's not necessarily a bad thing."</P>

<P> Building up the U.S. military profile will still be tricky. If the U.S. and Japan cooperate on missile defense, for example, China will feel compelled to bolster its missile arsenal. There's no easy solution. But in these times, many Asian governments will be glad to see those U.S. flattops steaming into port.</P>

<I><P> By Stan Crock in Washington and Michael Shari in Singapore, with bureau reports </P></I>

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<P>South China Morning Post

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Philippine-US Drills 'Not A Provocation'</P>

<P>By Associated Press in Manila </P>

<P> Joint Philippine-US military exercises planned for early next year were not intended to provoke China, Manila's military chief of staff said yesterday . </P>

<P> Although Philippine military officials stressed the drills were not related to tension in the disputed Spratly Islands, Beijing has expressed concern about the warming defence relations between Washington and Manila. </P>

<P> General Angelo Reyes said some of the exercises would be held at a military base in northern Nueva Ecija province. </P>

<P> Others would be held in Palawan province, which has jurisdiction over islands in the Spratlys chain occupied by Filipino soldiers. </P>

<P> General Reyes said: "We would not want to deliver any political message here. This has no relation whatsoever to the Spratlys issue. </P>

<P> "Our policy is to seek a diplomatic solution to the problem in the Spratlys and we would not want to do anything to deviate from that particular thrust." </P>

<P> The manoeuvres, to be held from February to March, will be the first major joint military exercise between the Philippines and the United States in four years. </P>

<P> They will involve a mix of military and non-military activities such as search and rescue, environmental protection and civic action. </P>

<P> At least 600 soldiers would participate from each side, including army, navy and air force personnel, General Reyes said. </P>

<P> Tension increased after Philippine navy patrols collided with and sank two Chinese fishing boats in May and early this month in contested parts of the South China Sea. </P>

<P> Philippine officials said it was an accident. </P>

<P> General Reyes said potential Beijing objections were hindering an offer by Taiwan to sell surplus fighter jets to the Philippines at bargain prices. </P>

<P> "Acquiring the jets from Taiwan would have political consequences," he said. </P>

<P> He admitted the Philippines could "launder" the sale by routing the jets through a third country first, but added: "Beijing would know that and we don't want to harm our good relations with Beijing." </P>

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Pacific Stars and Stripes

July 31, 1999

Pg. 3

Gen. Tilelli To Retire, Cohen Announces

By Jim Lea, Stripes Osan Bureau Chief

SEOUL Gen. John Tilelli Jr., the top U.S. military commander in South Korea, will be retiring after 36 years in the Army, Defense Secretary William Cohen announced Thursday.

President Clinton will nominate Gen. Thomas Schwartz as his successor, Cohen said. Schwartz is now in charge of the U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort McPherson in Atlanta, which Tilelli headed before being assigned to Korea in 1996.

Air Force Master Sgt. Jeff Melvin, a command spokesman, said Friday that the change has not been officially announced, and information on when it will take place will not be available until that announcement is made.

During a news conference at the South Korean Defense Ministry on Thursday, Cohen lauded Tilelli for his more than three years of duty as commander in chief of the U.N. and ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Commands and as U.S. Forces Korea commander.

"He has distinguished himself during some very difficult times (and) has made an extraordinary contribution to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia," Cohen said. "I know General Schwartz agrees with General Tilelli's statement that we achieve strength through alliance. Let me say that our (ROK-U.S.) alliance has never been stronger and that is in large part due to General Tilelli's magnificent service to our country and the security of the region."

Tilelli, from Holmdel, N.J., graduated from Pennsylvania Military College in 1963.

He served two tours in Vietnam and four in Germany. He also led the 1st Cavalry Division in the Middle East during Operations Desert Shield and Desert

Storm. He has served as the Army's vice chief of staff.</P>

<P> Schwartz, from St. Paul, Minn., is a 1967 West Point graduate and has spent his career as an infantry officer.</P>

<P> A Vietnam veteran, he also served two previous tours in South Korea, one as operations officer of 1st Battalion, 31st Infantry, and one as chief of staff of the ROK-U.S. Combined Field Army. </P>

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<P>Newport News Daily Press

July 30, 1999</P>

<U><P>Military Update</P>

</U><P>New Pentagon Medical Budget Board To Lead Tricare Reforms</P>

<P>By Tom Philpott</P>

<P> Defense leaders, civilian and military, teamed up last year to press for major improvements in service pay and retirement, which Congress is about to enact into law.</P>

<P> Next budget year, for fiscal 2001, the focus will be on health care reform, Pentagon officials have decided. The goal will be to make TRICARE more satisfying for patients and providers, to improve military pharmacy benefits and to ensure better access to health care for service elderly.</P>

<P> Recent healthcare budgets have been so underfunded that they put great strain on current programs, and made new initiatives impossible to consider. That will change, Defense officials have promised.</P>

<P> The change agent will be a new nine-member medical budget panel, called the Defense Medical Health System Board. Its chairmanship will rotate among t

he service vice chiefs. Its permanent vice chairman will be the under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness, a position now held by Rudy de Leon. Indeed, since last April, de Leon has led internal negotiations to form the powerful board.

"This is a significant group that will be making key recommendations to the secretary of Defense on military medicine," said de Leon in an interview. "We're probably on the verge of spending as much time in the fall of 1999 on medical [issues] as we did in the fall of 1998 on pay and benefits."

The board became necessary in part because reforming military medicine is an expensive proposition and Defense officials don't see overall defense spending rising further to pay for it. That means the dollars will have to come through new efficiencies or a substantial shift of resources from other defense programs.

"Congress is still struggling with that topline issue [on pay and retirement] and what to do in the out years," said de Leon. "So in the short term, if I need more investment [for medical care], I'm really looking toward how internal dollars are allocated."

That's where the new medical budget board comes in, said de Leon. "Deliberations on what the benefit is have to go hand and hand with the mechanism to finance it.... We really want this board to be that mechanism -- for discussing the issues, resolving the issues and then, ultimately, financing the issues."

New efficiencies alone, he said, won't produce enough savings to improve the health care benefit the way service people expect and deserve.

"There is additional investment necessary," de Leon said. "That's part of why I want to build a consensus of what the benefit is and then, financially, how to move forward. If we're going to put more dollars into medical, then the services need to participate and have a say [so that] they understand what the tradeoffs are."

For de Leon, the need for a medical budget board was reinforced earlier this year as Defense health officials struggled to prepare a report to Congress on redesigning the pharmacy benefit. In the end, the report lacked the kind of sweeping recommendations lawmakers sought.

"I didn't have the mechanism for working the issue strategically, from a fiscal point of view.... the way we had about pay [reform]," de Leon said. "So that's what we're trying to construct."

De Leon and his staff heard so many complaints earlier this year about delays in making TRICARE appointments and in processing claims that he visited a number of TRICARE regions to interview users. In the Norfolk, Va. area, he called the TRICARE patient appointment number. The phone rang 19 minutes before someone answered.

"I don't understand why I've had to intervene in Tidewater and Camp Lejeune areas to, essentially, get fulltime representation of the claims bearer," he said.

<P> Yes, the intervention had an impact, de Leon said. But that he had to do it ``tells me the system is not efficient....They are improving. But my definition of improvement is where family members are confident the system is responsive, and we're not having to engage in calling the line ourselves just to make sure everything is working."</P>

<P> Lt. Gen. Ronald Blanck, the Army surgeon general, said he and his counterparts in the Air Force and Navy want the National Mail Order Pharmacy program opened to beneficiaries 65 and older, a population that finds it increasingly difficult to get seen by military physicians. Blanck said the NMOP initiative would cost \$267 million a year.</P>

<P> It's the kind of initiative the medical budget board will consider and decide how to pay for it. The surgeons general will serve as ex-officio board members. Full board members, besides de Leon and the four vice chiefs, will include the three service under secretaries and Dr. Kay Bailey, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.</P>

<P> One major initiative the board is expected to back is service-wide implementation of Medicare subvention, also called TRICARE Senior Prime. The program, which uses Medicare dollars to expand access to in-service care for the elderly and disabled, is being tested at 10 stateside locations. Pentagon officials want it adopted nationwide, at both military and veterans hospitals, as soon as possible.</P>

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<P>European Stars and Stripes

July 30, 1999

Pg. 1</P>

<P>Soldier Dies In Kosovo </P>

<P>By Marni McEntee, Staff writer</P>

<P> UROSEVAC, Kosovo A U.S. Army soldier was killed with a handgun early Wednesday in what Kosovo Force officials are considering an accidental shooting.</P>

<P> Spec. Igor Katz, 20, of the 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, of the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, N.C., was shot in the head at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, according to Maj. Erik Gunhus, a public affairs spokesman for Task Force Falcon at Camp Bondsteel.</P>

<P> Army officials in Germany reported Thursday there were no indications the death was the result of hostile actions. A statement released by KFOR headquarters in Pristina later Thursday indicated Katzs death was the result of an accidental shooting.</P>

<P> Katz was evacuated to the 67th Combat Support Hospital at Camp Bondsteel. He was pronounced dead by an Army doctor at 10:20 a.m.</P>

<P> According to officials, Katz was stationed in the city of Urosevac, a predominantly Albanian city about 4 miles away from Task Force Falcons headquarters at Camp Bondsteel.</P>

<P> The Armys Criminal Investigation Command is handling the inquiry. They have questioned another soldier involved in the shooting, but he was not taken into custody. The Army refused to release that soldiers identity Thursday.</P>

<P> Soldiers are required to remove the ammunition from their weapons before going indoors at military bases in the Balkans. After the ammunition is removed, they also are required to "clear" weapons by firing into a safe container.</P>

<P> One soldier, who asked not to be identified, claimed Katz was involved in a game of Russian roulette that went awry.</P>

<P> However, officials wont speculate as to how the soldiers would be able to play the game with a semiautomatic handgun. The game usually is played by placing one bullet in the cylinder of a revolver and spinning it, thus taking a deadly chance on whether the bullet will be fired.</P>

<P> "You can't play Russian roulette with a 9 mm.," said a soldier, who did not want his name used.</P>

<P> Members of the mortar platoon in which Katz served were shaken by his death, the soldier said.</P>

<P> The platoon was reassigned to another area after the shooting.</P>

<P> Maj. Casey Griffith, operations officer for the battalion, said the shooting has affected everyone at the Urosevac headquarters.</P>

<P> "Everybody feels sad. It hits you in the family," Griffith said. "The guys are a really tight unit."</P>

<P> A brief ceremony for Katz was before Katzs body was flown back to the Un

ited States.</P>

<P> He is survived by his stepmother, Elena Sinilo of Davie, Fla.</P>

<P> Katz is the third U.S. soldier to die during the NATO peacekeeping mission in Kosovo.</P>

<P> Spec. Sherwood Brim, 30, and Sgt. William Wright, 27, died July 18 when their armored personnel carrier lost a track and overturned.</P>

<P> <I> (Contributing to this report: Staff writers Marion Callahan in Heidelberg, Germany, and Greg Piatt in Pristina, Kosovo.) </P></I>

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<P>European Stars and Stripes

July 30, 1999

Pg. 6</P>

<P>Army Secretary On Patrol </P>

<I><P>Troops lead Caldera on tour of town </P>

</I><P>By Gregory Piatt, Staff writer</P>

<P> UROSEVAC, Kosovo Soldiers of this squad from Bravo Company of the 3rd Battalion, 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment were ready on Wednesday for the secretary of the Army, Louis Caldera.</P>

<P> They cleaned their weapons, shined their boots and made sure their battle dress uniforms were crisp, given the spartan conditions they have in this town in the southwestern part of the U.S. sector in Kosovo.</P>

<P> "Yeah, were ready to take the secretary of the Army out on patrol," said Pvt. 2 Ruben Garcia as he waited for Caldera to arrive. "A priv

ate taking the secretary of the Army on patrol is like I dont know what to say
."</P>

<P> Caldera visited Kosovo on Wednesday to check on the troops and talk to U.S. field commanders. But his visit ended by going on patrol in Urosevac Serbian and Albanian neighborhoods.</P>

<P> Although Garcia couldnt put into words what it meant to go on patrol with Caldera, he and a couple of his squad mates knew what they wanted from him.</P>

<P> "I hope to get a secretary of the Army coin," said Garcia, talking about a commanders coin usually given for special recognition.</P>

<P> Several others from the seven-soldier squad chimed in agreement with Garcia. These soldiers were honored to be able to escort Caldera, and they hoped they could get something to remember the patrol. Caldera later gave them the much-coveted coin.</P>

<P> "This is a great feeling because I am the first one in my family to meet someone this high in the command," said Pfc. Jarod Odum. "I feel proud that my squad was chosen to take him on the town."</P>

<P> The company, which is attached to the 82nd Airborne, was rebuilt in February when members of the company were sent to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, said Capt. Jose DeVarona, who is the officer in charge of the squad.</P>

<P> DeVarona was proud of his soldiers after they reformed the company and then shipped out of Fort Bragg, N.C., to the Balkans a month later.</P>

<P> This was the second time the squad was picked to take someone on patrol, DeVarona said. The squad took a retired colonel on patrol recently, the captain said.</P>

<P> "Its a great honor to be asked for by name," said Staff Sgt. John Harrell, the squads leader. "The men are ecstatic and happy, and even some have lost sleep over it." The squad took Caldera on a tour of Serbian homes that were burned, and showed him special graffiti on the walls of businesses and homes and ransacked Albanian homes.</P>

<P> After the patrol, Caldera talked to a Serbian man who protected his Albanian neighbors homes when Serbs were burning and looting Kosovar homes before KFOR troops arrived in the province.</P>

<P> The Serbian man was attacked by Serbs for protecting his neighbors homes, Caldera said. Now the mans neighbors are protecting him from returning Albanians who are looting and burning Serbian homes, Caldera said. U.S. soldiers also are helping to protect some Serbian homes from retaliatory attacks, Caldera said.</P>

<P> "Our soldiers are doing a great job," Caldera said.</P>

<P> "But Ive heard frustration from our soldiers about the burning and looting."</P>

<P> One Bravo Company soldier, who asked not to be named, said that two or three houses in Urosevac are being burned a day. The town has only one working fire truck and can put out only so many fires, he said.</P>

<P> "When the truck runs out of water, we just let them burn," the soldier said.</P>

<P> But Caldera said the soldiers who patrol and try to stop the looting and burning were setting the stage for rebuilding a civil society.</P>

<P> Calderas jaunt down what soldiers in Urosevac call "burn alley" ; and into Serbian and Albanian quarters was "a priceless opportunity with our soldiers in KFOR." </P>

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<P>European Stars and Stripes

July 30, 1999

Pg. 8</P>

<P>Proper Resting Place </P>

<I><P>Soldiers help re-bury massacred Albanians </P>

</I><P>By Marni McEntee, Staff writer</P>

<P> SOJEVO, Kosovo Sgt. Gary Stead strode a dozen paces back from the muddy hole in the ground where the bodies of three elderly men executed by Serbian paramilitary police in April were being exhumed on Wednesday.</P>

<P> At the edge of the grave, the sons and grandsons of the men put on latex gloves and white hospital masks before they removed the bodies of Shaqir Kquiku, 81, his brother Shukri, 66, and their nephew, Haki, 60. Other relatives stood nearby, waiting to perform a proper burial ceremony in a community cemetery.</P>

/P>

<P> "Man, oh, man," said Stead, shaking his head.</P>

<P> "I've seen dead bodies before," he later added. "What really bothers me is the family members standing around mourning. I'm a sensitive person.</P>

<P> "It's hard to believe that a person can kill another person, just because they believe their religion is bad," said Stead, of the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment.</P>

<P> "Muslim or Christian Orthodox, it doesn't make a difference. A person is a person," Stead said, referring to the faiths of ethnic Albanians, who are Muslim, and Serbs, who practice Orthodox Christianity.</P>

<P> Stead, soldiers from his command and members of the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, volunteered to help monitor and secure the exhumation of these men, whom the Serbian special police lined up against a corn crib and shot down on April 9. The murders are among 400 suspected war crimes reported in Kosovo 80 of which are in the sector patrolled by U.S. troops, according to officials with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.</P>

<P> The work has turned ground-pounding soldiers into participants in the investigation and recovery of war crimes victims and security for their families. "There's no job in the Army called grave exhumation," said Capt. Brian Linville, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, from Schweinfurt, Germany. "I didn't force anyone to do this. I told them the stuff you're going to see is going to upset you but this is the stuff we came here to do. To give these people a chance to get on with their lives."</P>

<P> Linville said the duty isn't easy for him, either. "I like sandy beaches and palm trees and laughing kids. I don't need to see three old guys who got murdered and dumped in a hole. It's the kind of thing that doesn't leave you."</P>

<P> The three victims had stayed behind at the farmhouse after most of their family members fled to Albania to escape the Serbian paramilitary, which was rumored to be making its way to their village. A few of the young men in the family had stayed near the house, hiding in the fields.</P>

<P> On April 9, the men in hiding heard the shots that killed the three old men, apparently after they told the Serbs that they did not have the keys to one of the cars on their property.</P>

<P> The young men waited in the fields until the Serbs left the farmhouse for a few hours, then sneaked back and removed the bodies.</P>

<P> Under the cover of darkness, the men were buried side by side in a single grave in a back pasture.</P>

<P> "They were killed for just no reason at all," said Shefki Kqini

ku, who returned from London for the burial of his only brother, Haki. "It is misery, what those Serbs have done to these people.</P>

<P> After the bodies were exhumed, soldiers carried them in an Army truck to the cemetery, where they received a proper burial.</P>

<P> The experience Wednesday served as a reaffirmation of U.S. military policy for 1st Sgt. Jesus Febo, also from the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade.</P>

<P> The soldier said he chose to help with the exhumation because he wanted to understand what happened to the people in Kosovo before NATO decided to intervene with its air campaign.</P>

<P> "It makes me think that what we're doing here is a good thing," Febo said. "I'm glad the U.S. chose to participate in the protection of these people">

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<P>Columbia (SC) State

July 29, 1999</P>

<P>Army Chief Of Staff Visits With Fort Jackson Soldiers</P>

<P>By Dave Moniz, Staff Writer</P>

<P> The Army's top general says his service has to figure out how to find and keep more soldiers before he can tackle other pressing concerns.</P>

<P> Gen. Eric Shinseki, the new Army chief of staff, spent several hours talking to soldiers at Fort Jackson Wednesday to get a handle on mounting personnel woes.</P>

<P> "I can't work other issues until I solve this one," said Shinseki, who's been on the job for about four weeks. "I've got to figure out how to fill this force up with great soldiers."</P>

<P> The Army and the other services are experiencing debilitating personnel shortages that have defied traditional solutions. This year, the Army is expecting to miss its goal of 74,500 recruits by 7,000 to 8,000, and next year could be as difficult or worse.</P>

<P> The challenges are not limited to the Army.</P>

<P> In addition to recruiting difficulties, the Navy and Air Force are losing skilled and experienced personnel at levels that will not sustain the current force.</P>

<P> Shinseki visited Fort Knox, Ky., Wednesday morning before flying to Columbia. Fort Knox is home of the Army Recruiting Command.</P>

<P> Among those Shinseki spoke to Wednesday were 20 young soldiers the Army is about to put in recruiting offices. He met with a group of specialists and corporals, all 21 to 23 years old, at the Army's Recruiting and Retention School at Fort Jackson.</P>

<P> Commanders are hoping that placing young faces in recruiting offices will energize the force and help the Army connect with young adults, who polls show are increasingly disconnected from military life.</P>

<P> Shinseki got a brief tour of Fort Jackson, the Army's largest basic training site, and spoke with Maj. Gen. John Van Alstyne. During his two-year command here, Van Alstyne has made basic training significantly more challenging and developed several retention programs that will be used at other training bases.</P>

<P> Shinseki said he is hopeful that some of the Army's personnel remedies will soon make a difference. Among the Army's solutions are putting younger recruiters in the field and sending other young soldiers back to their hometowns for short stints as informal recruiters.</P>

<P> Shinseki lauded the recruiting and training methods of his sister service, the Marine Corps. But he said the Army has done a good job in recent years at teaching history and values to recruits, a Marine Corps hallmark.</P>

<P> Shinseki also briefly addressed the future size and shape of the Army. He said he's in the middle of an analysis that should determine how the Army ought to be configured in the future. Shinseki said he would like to focus on getting Army forces to the field faster when responding to regional contingencies.</P>

<P> He also said he is interested in studying whether the Army should turn to civilians to recruit the force. None of the four military branches uses civilians to enlist recruits.</P>

<P> "It's a full-court press to find out what combination of things we ought to pursue," Shinseki said.</P>

<P> Dave Moniz Covers The Military In South Carolina And Reports On Military Trends In The Southeast. </P>

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**<P>Washington Times
**

July 30, 1999</P>

<U><P>Inside the Ring</P>

</U><P>Hale Nuptials</P>

<P>By Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough </P>

<P> Retired Maj. Gen. David R. Hale, the first general court-martialed in 45 years, has remarried. The new bride is one of four women with whom he engaged in the improper relationships that led to his eight guilty pleas on charges of lying and conduct unbecoming an officer.</P>

<P> According to the May issue of Assembly, West Point's alumni magazine, Hale, 54, was married to ``Melina" in a ceremony on Long Island. ``Melina" is Melina Maka, 30, the ex-wife of Hale's aide-de-camp at a NATO command in Turkey. The Makas were divorced after Hale befriended Mrs. Maka. In fact, all four women, the wives of Hale's aides, were divorced after meeting Hale.</P>

<P> In Assembly, a West Point classmate of Hale's writes, ``All right, time for a little `Ball & Chain' or `Blood, Sweat & Tears news.' Today, I had the pleasure of attending David `The Great Turkey' Hale's wedding out in Southampton, Long Island. Dave's new bride is a lovely lady named Melina." </P>

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<P>USA Today

July 30, 1999

Pg. 5</P>

<P>Army Junior ROTC Gains More Acceptance, Schools</P>

<P>By Steven Komarow, USA Today</P>

<P> WASHINGTON -- The Army and Education Department will announce today the expansion of Junior ROTC to increase the number of kids drilling in uniform to nearly a quarter of a million next year.</P>

<P> The addition of 50 high schools to the program, beginning in September 2000, will push the total to 1,420 -- double what it was in 1993.</P>

<P> The trend marks a turnaround in national attitudes.</P>

<P> Junior ROTC membership dipped below 94,000 students in the 1971-72 school year, during the Vietnam War.</P>

<P> "We've finally healed that terrible division we had," says sociologist Amitai Etzioni of George Washington University.</P>

<P> Junior ROTC was founded in 1916 to prepare young men for military service. The Army still supports the program as a source of potential recruits, but the JROTC is co-educational now and less focused on military skills.</P>

<P> "We no longer teach military tactics. Basically, what you're teaching is leadership," says retired Army sergeant major Bernard Boulden, JROTC instructor at Dunbar High School. Dunbar is the site of today's announcement, featuring retired general Colin Powell, a JROTC graduate.</P>

<P> Boulden, who served 28 years in the Army, says his program includes "leadership labs" in which students must clearly instruct peers to carry out missions, sometimes as simple as rearranging a roomful of chairs.</P>

<P> The Army says the high school graduation rate in JROTC is 20 percentage

points higher than the average at some schools.</P>

<P> Etzioni says that JROTC appeals to many parents, but that the growth reflects a change in the students. Not only don't they recall Vietnam, "they don't remember the Cold War."</P>

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<P>Norfolk Virginian-Pilot

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Atlantic Fleet Leader Made The Call To End Burial-At-Sea Backlog</P>

<P>By Dale Eisman, The Virginian-Pilot </P>

<P> WASHINGTON -- The Navy's move this week to clear out a backlog of 49 human remains at the Portsmouth Naval Medical Center awaiting burial at sea was personally directed by Adm. J. Paul Reason, commander of the Atlantic Fleet, the Pentagon disclosed Thursday.</P>

<P> It was a mistake to keep so many remains in storage -- sometimes for months -- a spokesman told reporters, and Reason ``made the right call" in ordering extra efforts to remedy the situation. The Navy hopes to have most buried, after a shipboard ceremony for each, by the end of next week, said Rear Adm. Craig Quigley.</P>

<P> The exceptions will include cases where the family has requested a later date or burial in a particular area of the ocean, Quigley said; the latter remains will be buried the next time the Navy has a ship going through that area.</P>

<P> Only three remains currently are awaiting burial by the Pacific Fleet, the Navy said.</P>

<P> Reason and other senior Navy officials learned of the large backlog in Po

rtsmouth after the Navy helped locate the body of John F. Kennedy Jr. and then assisted in his at-sea burial earlier this month, Quigley said. The Norfolk-based destroyer Briscoe hosted members of the Kennedy family and helped them scatter the ashes of Kennedy, his wife, Carolyn, and sister-in-law Lauren Bessette in waters off Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

The assistance to the Kennedys prompted howls of protest from families of military veterans who had been awaiting ceremonies for their dead loved ones. Reason agreed those delays "were completely unacceptable," Quigley said.

Burial at sea is available to anyone killed on active duty and veterans holding something higher than a dishonorable discharge. Also eligible are U.S. civilian personnel of the Military Sealift Command, military dependents and other U.S. citizens who are determined eligible . . . due to notable service or outstanding contribution to the U.S.

Kennedy fell into the latter category, the Pentagon has said, due to a variety of charitable endeavors. The Briscoe, already at sea, was diverted to Martha's Vineyard on orders from Adm. Jay L. Johnson, the chief of naval operations, and Defense Secretary William S. Cohen.


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Norfolk Virginian-Pilot
July 30, 1999

Union: Navy Prolonged Strike

By Karen Weintraub, The Virginian-Pilot

Taxpayers are picking up the company's share of the 17-week-old strike at Newport News Shipbuilding.

And if strikers approve the proposed settlement today, taxpayers will pick up the tab for raises and increased benefits too.

<P> The Navy, which accounts for 95 percent of the shipyard's business, has continued to pay the company during the strike for work contracts signed before the walkout began.</P>

<P> It's just following federal law, the Navy says.</P>

<P> ``It's perfectly legal and completely immoral," says John Duray, spokesman for the United Steelworkers of America, whose Local 8888 represents 9,200 hourly workers at the shipyard.</P>

<P> The Navy's payments have dragged out the strike, Duray said, by buffering the company against the impact of losing more than one-third of its work force. More than 6,000 striking Steelworkers are scheduled to vote today on a proposed contract that would bring an end to the 117-day-old walkout.</P>

<P> ``It seems to me bad public policy for the federal government to adopt regulations that would tend to prolong labor disputes rather than encourage their settlement," Duray said. ``It puts the Navy on the company's side. It puts the Navy in the business of strikebreaking."</P>

<P> Lt. Steve Mavica, a Navy spokesman, said the Navy did not take sides in the dispute.</P>

<P> The Navy has continued to make payments during the walkout because it is under contract to do so, he said.</P>

<P> And, under federal law, it also must pay most of the company's strike-related expenses, such as for talking to the media, hiring security guards and leaving supplies lying around unused.</P>

<P> Mavica said the walkout will definitely add to the Navy's costs, but he will not know by how much until it is over.</P>

<P> ``The Navy will experience increased costs as a result of the strike," Mavica said last week. ``The Navy has not relaxed the contract terms and conditions of any of its contracts. . . . Nor is there any situation involving Navy payment for substandard or noncompliant work."</P>

<P> But the shipyard has promised to save taxpayers money, too.</P>

<P> Earlier in the strike, the company agreed to cut the Navy's costs by \$360 million a year, by eliminating jobs and improving efficiency.</P>

<P> Any added costs from a new contract will mean deeper cuts, the company said. The shipyard would not say how much the settlement reached last week with union organizers would cost, but said the tentative deal would be costlier than the \$140 million ``final offer" made before the strike began.</P>

<P> The company would not comment further on the cost of the strike to the Navy.</P>

<P> Newport News Shipbuilding is the Navy's only builder of aircraft carriers and one of two builders of submarines.</P>

<P> Mavica said his comments came in response to a press release the Steelworkers put out earlier this month slamming the Navy for continuing to pay the shipyard.</P>

<P> In the release, the Steelworkers also accused the Navy of unsafe practices at the yard.</P>

<P> Mavica said the Navy has not changed its safety standards and has paid only for work that was completed.</P>

<P> ``If at any time deficient practices become known, or work is observed which is not consistent with the program's strict standards, appropriate action would be taken to ensure the protection of the work force, the public and the environment," Mavica said.</P>

<P> Payment schedules are determined by the type of contract, he said. Some contracts are paid according to shipyard costs, others as progress is made.</P>

<P> ``In the case where actual work is not performed, the contractor's cash flow will suffer for whatever period of time the schedule is not maintained," he said.</P>

<P> The only contract that has been significantly affected by the strike, Mavica said, is the one for construction of the aircraft carrier Ronald Reagan, which is behind schedule. The Navy has no plans to move any carrier overhaul work out of the yard, he said, although the Navy has the legal authority to do so.</P>

<P> Duray said the 750,000-member Steelworkers union will continue to use its political muscle to lobby against ``Navy strikebreaking."</P>

<I><P> Staff writer Christopher Dinsmore contributed to this report. </P></I>

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<P>Bangor (ME) Daily News

July 29, 1999</P>

<P>Navy Can't Pay Shipyard \$3 Million Owed</P>

<P>By Sara Kugler, States News Service</P>

<P> WASHINGTON - The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard finished \$3 million worth of maintenance on the USS Helena submarine last year, but the U.S. Navy still hasn't paid the bill.</P>

<P> And both the Maine and New Hampshire congressional delegations have asked Navy Secretary Richard Danzig to come up with the overdue money for the work on the 362-foot Pacific Fleet ship.</P>

<P> In a June 27 letter to Danzig, the delegations asked for the secretary's "personal assistance in directing reimbursement to the shipyard for the additional work on the Helena."</P>

<P> "The employees of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard have worked diligently to sustain a high level of performance while meeting the challenges of a shrinking workload and reduced workforce," the congressmen wrote in the letter. "They understand that the future of the shipyard is tied to their ability to perform, and they deserve a level playing field as they engage in this effort."</P>

<P> "We just have to work more hours and try to get more work done and somehow try to make up that loss, which is very unfair to our employees," said Terry Eleftherion, president of the Professional and Technical Engineers union at the shipyard. "To throw the result of their mistake on the backs of our employees is not fair."</P>

<P> But Eleftherion doesn't even know what that mistake was, or if it was a mistake. The three-sentence notice he received from the Navy last week contained no explanation.</P>

<P> "[The Navy] is unable to provide any additional funding for the U.S.S. Helena [maintenance work] ... There are no remaining FY98 funds available to provide. Due to the funding constraints in FY98 there does not appear to be any possibility of future FY98 funds forthcoming," the notice stated.</P>

<P> Dick Kole, a spokesman for Naval Sea Systems Command, the Naval agency that oversees shipyards, said he could not comment on the situation because the agency is still investigating the matter.</P>

<P> The day after Eleftherion received the notice, he wrote to each Maine and New Hampshire congressman, asking for their help.</P>

<P> "I could complain to the Navy but they'll tell me just what they said in that letter - we don't have any money," Eleftherion said. "I'm confident that the congressional delegation will be successful in their efforts; the only issue I have is the speed with which that will be accomplished."</P>

<P> Eleftherion is not only concerned about forcing shipyard workers to work overtime, which is funded by a separate Navy budget line, but said if the ship yard doesn't get its money soon, the damage could extend into next year.</P>

<P> Each year, the Navy examines shipyards' budgets and sets what are called "man-day rates," or how much it costs for one man to do a day's work. These rates help the shipyard give estimates for work they will contract that year.</P>
>

<P> There are multiple factors that help determine man-day rates, such as the wages of the staff and the cost of a day's utilities.</P>

<P> And if Portsmouth's books show they're \$3 million in the hole in October, Eleftherion said that could hurt this year's productivity statistics.</P>

<P> "By the Navy doing this, they have unofficially increased our man-day rate, which will make us appear to be more expensive than we really are and make the employees here appear to be less efficient than they really are," Eleftherion said. "Even though the Navy knows they caused the problem, they won't take that into consideration when they raise our man-day rates. They'll hold it against us, so it's a pretty serious issue." </P>

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<P>Baltimore Sun

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Puerto Rico Says Navy Owes \$8.8 Million For Water </P>

<P> SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico -- The U.S. Navy owes the Puerto Rican government \$8.8 million for water it has been drawing from a river since 1985 without a permit, the island's Department of Natural and Environmental Resources says.</P>

<P> Department secretary Daniel Pagan said the Navy failed to present a permit to draw water from the Rio Blanco in the eastern town of Naguabo, near Nava

I Station Roosevelt Roads in Ceiba, the San Juan Star reported yesterday.</P>

<P> "Our position is that we're taking the water legally," Navy spokesman Roberto Nelson was quoted as saying in the newspaper. The Navy base had applied in 1986 for permission to draw water, but never received a response from the department.</P>

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<P>Inside The Air Force

July 30, 1999

Pg. 1</P>

<P>Air Force, Policy Experts Debate Whether Raptor Should Fly Or Die</P>

<I><P>Two very different 'middle grounds' proposed </P>

</I><P> The Air Force agrees its air-superiority capabilities are currently the best in the world, but the F-22 Raptor fighter is not being designed for today, it is intended for 2010 and beyond, according to Lt. Gen. Gregory Martin, the Air Force's top uniformed acquisition official.</P>

<P> Other experts, however, were highly critical yesterday of the plans to procure an expensive fighter with no current threat. The air-to-air mission within the Air Force is already in the best shape within the best air force in the world, according to Michael O'Hanlon, Brookings Institute scholar.</P>

<P> "Other countries do not want to challenge us in the air," he said, adding that no potential enemies can afford to buy more than a handful of the "advanced fighters" the Air Force keeps saying in the pipeline and are better than the F-15.</P>

<P> Martin, O'Hanlon and other defense policy experts spoke at a July 29 forum sponsored by the libertarian Cato Institute. The session was held in respon

se to last week's House passage of a fiscal year 2000 defense appropriations bill that eliminates all procurement money for the F-22.</P>

<P> O'Hanlon advocated a compromise solution of purchasing perhaps 125 F-22s, rather than the planned 339, in order to secure some benefit from the more than \$20 billion that has been spent on the program already. "There is no challenge to this air supremacy team," said retired Rear Adm. Eugene Carroll, now deputy director of the Center for Defense Information. It is not the characteristics of a fighter aircraft alone that determine air dominance, he said, it is the full package of the air war team, including support assets and superior training. "We don't offer anyone a fair fight," he said, pre-empting the Air Force argument that the F-22 is needed to ensure there are no fair fights.</P>

<P> Carroll presented his own, very different view of a middle ground -- back the House decision to kill production funding while maintaining funding for research and development. This will postpone the production of a "high-risk, untested program," until it is more proven, he said.</P>

<P> Existing modernization programs cannot modernize the military force, even if they work out perfectly, according to Chuck Spinney, an analyst with the Defense Department's program analysis and evaluation directorate.</P>

<P> The new systems are much too expensive to replace older aircraft on a one-for-one basis, meaning average ages of aircraft will continue to rise along with maintenance requirements and failures, he said. The F-22 is indicative of a larger problem, he said. Spinney said if he were able he would kill all three TACAIR modernization programs, including the Navy F/A-18E/F Super Hornet and the Joint Strike Fighter, and start the procurement process over.</P>

<P> U.S. fighters are at their oldest average ever, and the problem is only going to get worse, he said. Spinney and Carroll questioned the wisdom of replacing existing tactical aircraft with fewer, but more technically advanced platforms, like the F-22. Advanced avionics and electronics are high-risk applications that can drive the cost of aircraft up, forcing them to be procured in smaller numbers.</P>

<P> Four wings of F-15s are being replaced by three wings of F-22s, a move that also bothered former Air Combat Command chief Gen. Richard Hawley (Inside the Air Force, April 29, p2).</P>

<P> Martin said, however, that the F-22 is designed to fight when it is outnumbered, adding the aircraft probably will be when first deployed to fight in a theater. The Air Force has been subjected to much criticism that it is pursuing a "Cold War relic" in the F-22, a plane originally designed to fight numerically superior Soviet forces.</P>

<P> The F-15 cannot compete with upcoming international products, Martin maintained. One slide showed an F-15 "head-on engagement timeline" with a Russian SU-35 fighter, showing the Eagle "at a disadvantage in all engagement metrics."
.</P>

<P> The F-22 would restore the advantage to the Air Force, Martin said, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff argued the same point in a letter to Congress this week.</P>

<P> "Lessons over the past 50 years have taught us that air superiority is the prerequisite for successful military operations. . . . It was the wisdom of our predecessors in the 1960s and 1970s who pushed ahead with the complement of aircraft that allowed us to win Desert Storm and Operation Noble Anvil [the U.S. Air Force portion of Operation Allied Force] so decisively," wrote the Joint Chiefs in a July 28 letter to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-MS).</P>

<P> The chiefs called for congressional leadership to restore the F-22s procurement funding, "to guarantee control of the skies in the next century." The full text of the letter and an Air Force point paper are reprinted with this article.</P>

<P> Martin also defended the cost of the Raptor program, showing that, since 1967, the cost of cars has increased about 10 times in then-year dollars -- the same as air superiority fighters. Furthermore, much of the cost growth has come from program delays, extensions, and quantity cuts.</P>

<P> Martin was especially interested in rebutting an allegation made in a recent series of Baltimore Sun articles about the F-22, which said the Air Force engaged in a 15-year pattern of deceit to win approval for the plane, promising performance at a price the service knew it could not meet.</P>

<P> On the surface, "it would certainly look that way, wouldn't it?" Martin said, citing the service's promise of an Advanced Tactical Fighter for \$35 million per copy. But, the Air Force's officers "take the best information they have at the time, and try to make it work," he said.</P>

<P> Plus, the \$35 million figure was used as a goal to hold everything in check, he said, and later new requirements and needs added weight and cost to the program.</P>

<P> "I don't look at that as a program of deception. [Officers] told the best story they could about [the F-22] in an environment that loves to cut things down," Martin said.</P>

<P> At the conclusion of the forum, Maj. Anthony Murphy of the F-22 Program Element Office gave implicit approval to the proceedings. Commenting on his experience as an F-15 pilot during Operation Desert Storm, he said once two F-15 Eagles encountered 14 enemy aircraft headed to Iran. "I'm very thankful the F-15 made it through healthy debates such as this."</P>

<I><P>-- Adam J. Hebert </P></I>

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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 23</P>

<P>Albright Calls On KLA To Curb Its Claims Of Authority</P>

<P>By Peter Finn, Washington Post Foreign Service </P>

<P> PRISTINA, Yugoslavia. July 29Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright received a rapturous reception from Kosovo Albanians here today, but a U.S. official said she cautioned their leadership that the Kosovo Liberation Army is moving too quickly to assert control over the battered Serbian province.</P>

<P> Albright's warning echoed a sense among some foreign officials here that the KLA--an ethnic Albanian militia that fought for independence from Serbia--is exploiting U.N. difficulties in establishing international rule here and is creating an unofficial government that will be hard to displace.</P>

<P> The KLA has occupied state property, appointed officials, begun exercising local government authority and sanctioned expropriation of Serbian property, according to U.N. officials. The U.N. response, particularly outside Pristina, the provincial capital, has been ineffective, U.N. officials acknowledge.</P>

<P> In addition, Albright's one-day visit here came as the province's dwindling Serbian population is feeling particularly threatened by the ethnic Albanian majority following the massacre last Friday of 14 Serbian farmers and the burning of a number of Serb-owned houses since NATO troops occupied the province seven weeks ago. Kosovo's prewar Serbian population of 200,000 has fallen to 50,000--compared with about 1.6 million ethnic Albanians. In Pristina, a prewar Serbian population of 40,000 has fallen to just 1,000.</P>

<P> Against that background, Albright basked in the cheers of several thousand ethnic Albanians in central Pristina and promised they will no longer have to fear oppression from Belgrade--capital of both Yugoslavia and its dominant republic, Serbia--but she also told the crowd that their freedom must be "based on tolerance, law and respect for human rights."</P>

<P> "Never again will people with guns come in the night," she said. "Never again will houses and villages be burned, and never again will there be massacres and mass graves."</P>

<P> In a private meeting earlier with Hashim Thaqi, the KLA political leader, Albright said that the group must recognize that the United Nations will be the ultimate authority here for the immediate future, a senior U.S. official said. The official did not characterize Thaqi's response.</P>

<P> The agreement ending NATO's 11-week bombing campaign against Yugoslavia provided for continued Serbian sovereignty over Kosovo--at least in theory--but stipulated that the United Nations would be the governing authority pending provincial elections, and that a NATO-led peacekeeping force would serve as the guarantor of security for ethnic Albanians and Serbs alike.</P>

<P> As Thaqi arrived for the meeting at the U.N. mission here, a shot rang out, leading some U.S. officials to reconsider whether Albright should address the crowd as scheduled. The source of the gunfire was never determined, but Albright insisted on speaking, officials said.</P>

<P> Later, Albright traveled to a monastery outside Pristina to meet Serbian Orthodox Bishop Artemije, to whom she stressed that NATO and the United Nations are committed to a multi-ethnic Kosovo and want Serbs to continue to live here. Several hundred Serbs demonstrated outside the monastery, shouting "Serbia!" and "Slobo!"--a reference to Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.</P>

<P> According to a U.S. official, the bishop told Albright that the demonstrators were for the most part not Kosovo Serbs, but had been bused in from Belgrade. The Serbian Orthodox Church has called on Milosevic to resign, and church leaders have acknowledged that ethnic Albanians were the victims of major crimes by Serb-led Yugoslav troops and Serbian police forces during the Belgrade government's brutal spring campaign to purge the province of its ethnic Albanian majority.</P>

<P> Albright described the killing of the Serbian farmers as "dreadful," but she also pointed out that some "pretty disgusting things" had happened to the province's ethnic Albanians in the past few months--a conjunction of atrocities that some Serbian leaders found less than sympathetic to their recent grief.</P>

<P> Zoran Andjelkovic, the Belgrade-appointed Kosovo governor who has been ignored by foreign officials here since the arrival of the NATO-led peacekeepers, said her remarks showed a lack of humanity. In response, a U.S. official declared: "Some Serbs need to face the fact that they are in a deep, deep hole that they dug themselves."</P>

<P> Andjelkovic said in an interview that the Kosovo Serbs are willing to cooperate with NATO and the United Nations, but he complained that the United Nations seems willing to deal only with those Serbs--such as church leaders--who condemn Milosevic. Andjelkovic, for instance, has not been invited to U.N.-sponsored meetings of Serbian and ethnic Albanian leaders.</P>

<P> After leaving Kosovo this evening, Albright met in Rome with Ibrahim Rugova, leader of the ethnic Albanian Democratic League of Kosovo, a political rival of the KLA. Albright's spokesman, James P. Rubin, told reporters afterward that Rugova promised to return to Kosovo immediately.</P>

<P> Rugova has infuriated Western officials by not remaining in Kosovo since

the war ended, facilitating the KLA's emergence as the dominant force there. Rugova also has refused to participate in an interim government, headed by Thaqi, that was set up by agreement between his party and the KLA during failed peace talks in France before the war began.

Albright plans next to attend Friday's Balkans stability conference in Sarajevo, which will be attended by President Clinton and 40 other world leaders. In proceedings there today, Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari warned Balkan leaders that they must bury their conflicts if they want European and U.S. reconstruction aid or hope to enter the European Union.

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<P>Washington Times

July 30, 1999</P>

<U><P>Inside the Ring</P>

</U><P>Kfor Problems</P>

<P>By Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough </P>

<P> The view among many in the Pentagon is that NATO's Kosovo peacekeeping mission, known as Kfor, is shaping up to be a real problem. Officials tell us the peacekeeping is turning into a difficult peace-making chore.

<P> According to a recent Pentagon intelligence report, the Kosovo Liberation Army is resisting efforts by the Kfor to demilitarize. Recently, Kosovar rebels blocked Kfor troops from gaining access to areas where arms caches are being hidden, including an arms depot at a school in Bajgora.

<P> The French also appear to be souring on the Kfor mission. According to the Pentagon sources, Paris plans to withdraw all its forces from countries neighboring Kosovo by Sept. 15 and will cut their Kfor contingent in the province to 5,000. Currently, the French have about 1,200 troops in Macedonia and a little over 5,000 troops in Kosovo. Financial and logistical constraints are the off

icial reason for the French troop cutback. Some in the Pentagon suspect the French are cutting back for political reasons.</P>

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<P>Wall Street Journal

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Clinton To Propose Ending Tariffs To Boost Development In Balkans</P>

<P>By Bob Davis, Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal</P>

<P> SARAJEVO, Bosnia -- President Clinton plans to propose eliminating tariffs on a host of imports from the Balkans to pressure the European Union to do the same and boost economic development in the war-ravaged region.</P>

<P> Under the plan, dubbed the Southeastern Europe Trade initiative, tariffs on agricultural goods, footwear, wine, brandy, flowers, glassware and other goods would be ended for a five-year period at a total cost to the U.S. of \$80 million. The plan is patterned after the Andean Trade Initiative of the early 1990s when the Bush administration tried to encourage farmers in Peru, Colombia and other nations to grow crops other than illicit drugs.</P>

<P> Mr. Clinton will unveil his plan at a meeting in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the new Balkan Stability pact, which includes nations in the region, the U.S. and European Union.</P>

<P> The numbers involved in the trade plan are modest, in part, because the Balkan economies are so small. Moreover, the region's trade flow is dominated by Europe rather than the U.S. Mr. Clinton hopes that the trade initiative will spur the EU, which has higher tariff walls against agricultural imports, to make a similar offer.</P>

<P> "The president believe it is critical to help these [Balkan] countries turn into viable economies and integrate them in the global trading system," said

d White House economic adviser Gene Sperling.</P>

<P> However, Mr. Clinton's offer hardly amounts to full free trade. For instance, he won't offer to cut tariffs on such politically sensitive industries as textiles and apparel, which are protected in both the U.S. and Europe by powerful lobbies. Congress must approve the Clinton trade plan and the administration wants to reduce potential opposition.</P>

<P> The trade plan is designed to reinforce the administration's efforts to isolate Serbia so long as its leader Slobodan Milosevic remains in power. The U.S. would eliminate tariffs for Kosovo and Montenegro, provinces of the former Yugoslavia, but not for Serbia. The tariff cuts would be administered under a U.S. program known as the Generalized System of Tariffs, which eliminates tariffs on goods from poor nations.</P>

<P> "The message will be simple," National Security Adviser Samuel Berger said earlier in the week. "With Milosevic you [Serbia] are excluded from the Stability Pact and the rest of Europe."</P>

<P> Mr. Clinton also plans to propose several initiatives to boost private investment in the Balkans, including a regional equity fund that would be funded by the World Bank and other multilateral funding institutions. </P>

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<P>Philadelphia Inquirer

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>EU Tries To Entice Balkans On Peace </P>

<P>By Colleen Barry, Associated Press</P>

<P> SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina - Ahead of today's international Balkan peace summit, the European Union yesterday offered the region's nations a greater place in the West if they end differences that have fueled nearly a decade of ethnic war. </P>

<P> Under heavy security, Balkan leaders met here to consider a stability pact promoted by the United States and Europe, aiming to promote peace in the region. The unstated - but everywhere apparent - goal is to isolate Slobodan Milosevic, the Yugoslav president blamed for much of the Balkans' bloodshed. </P>

<P> President Clinton, who will arrive today for the summit of 40 nations, emphasized in letters sent to seven regional leaders that Yugoslavia would not benefit from the world's efforts to rebuild the Balkans as long as Milosevic is in power. </P>

<P> Western officials view the pact as a crucial first step toward bolstering a region that dragged Europe into World War I, endured a half-century of communist rule, and exploded into violence when Yugoslavia disintegrated in 1991. </P>

<P> Presenting the deal yesterday, European Union officials tried to persuade the Balkan delegations, who are eager for international aid but wary of some of the strings attached. </P>

<P> EU President Martti Ahtisaari said the Balkan countries' ability "to cooperate and establish good neighborly relations" would be an important criterion for eventual EU membership. </P>

<P> The United States and its European allies also are dangling the carrot of reconstruction and development aid to the Balkans for their cooperation promoting democracy, human rights and disarmament. </P>

<P> "The stability pact is a unique window of opportunity to build lasting security, prosperity and democracy in southeastern Europe," the EU's Balkan coordinator, Bodo Hombach, said in opening remarks on two days of meetings on the future of the Balkans. </P>

<P> The benefits of the pact would be extended to Yugoslavia if it made a clear move toward democratization, Hombach said. </P>

<P> He referred to ongoing anti-Milosevic protests in Serbia, saying: "I have the impression that work is proceeding where the stability pact can grow." </P>

<P> Milosevic, indicted as a war criminal over the conflict in Kosovo and considered a main force behind the bloody Bosnian war, was not invited to the Sarajevo meetings. In Belgrade, Serbian officials denounced the gathering and warned that stability in the region depends on Serbia. </P>

<P> "There is no united southeastern Europe without Yugoslavia," said Ivica Dacic, a spokesman for Milosevic's ruling Socialist Party. </P>

<P> Instead of a government delegation, three Yugoslav opposition figures were invited to the conference: Serbian Democratic Party president Zoran Djindjic, Social Democratic League of Vojvodina leader Nenad Canak, and ex-central bank chief Dragoslav Avramovic. </P>

<P> The stated purpose of yesterday's meeting was for Balkan leaders to off

er their own vision for bringing stability and democracy to the region, but few specific proposals were announced. </P>

<P> Bosnian leaders announced a 15 percent reduction in their country's military forces and called on its neighbors to make similar cuts. Albania also pressed for the summit to make specific mention of Kosovo, Bosnian leaders said at the news conference. </P>

<P> Slovenia and Croatia, however, are reluctant to commit themselves to a pact that might tie their own chances for membership in the EU to the performance of poorer candidates, such as Albania and Macedonia. </P>

<P> As the meeting began, Bosnian authorities closed major streets in this modest-sized capital. Residents were ordered to stay off their balconies overlooking major routes from the airport to the venue at the Zetra sports complex, site of the 1984 Winter Olympics. </P>

<P> Helicopters cruised over the city, and heavily armed international peacekeepers stood guard along major streets and the Zetra complex. </P>


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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 25</P>

<P>Some Camps For Refugees To Stay Open This Winter</P>

<P>By Reuters </P>

<P> SKOPJE, Macedonia, July 29Some refugee camps in Macedonia will remain open throughout the winter to provide help for thousands of Kosovo Albanians unable to return home, the U.N. refugee agency said today.</P>

<P> "We would like to close the camps in Macedonia by winter, but we still h

ave thousands of people who will not be able to return because of harassment and the current situation," an agency spokeswoman told reporters, a reference to wartime devastation that left many of their homes uninhabitable.

The agency said 22,800 refugees remain in Macedonia, of whom 8,200 live in five camps, while the remainder are housed in private homes. The majority are ethnic Albanians who were victims of a campaign of terror and expulsion waged by Serb-led Belgrade government forces. At least 300,000 took refuge in Macedonia, while about a half-million fled to Albania.

Among the refugees remaining in Macedonia are 5,000 Gypsies, many of whom are accused by Kosovo Albanians of collaborating with Serbian authorities. They have been shunned by ethnic Albanian refugees in camps abroad and have faced retaliation when they return home. Most of the Gypsies live with relatives in Macedonia, which has a large Gypsy community.

More than 740,000 refugees have returned to Kosovo, the U.N. spokeswoman said. She said the refugee agency had examined 450 villages in Kosovo--about a quarter of the total--and established that 54 percent of all dwellings had been destroyed or suffered severe damage during the war.


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Aerospace Daily
July 30, 1999

European NATO Members Face Defense Budget Crunch, GAO Says

The defense budgets of key NATO members may shrink in coming years to make room for deficit reduction and domestic spending, according to the General Accounting Office.

Key U.S. Dept. of Defense leaders have urged the NATO nations to step up defense spending in order to buy precision weapons. The U.S. provided the lion's share of precision weapons and all-weather capability used during Operation

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July 30, 1999</P>

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<P> Key U.S. Dept. of Defense leaders have urged the NATO nations to step up defense spending in order to buy precision weapons. The U.S. provided the lion's share of precision weapons and all-weather capability used during Operation

Allied Force and is urging its NATO allies to build their own arsenals of smart weapons.

Germany, France, Italy and the U.K., which account for 75% of European NATO defense spending, plan to maintain their military budgets at constant levels through 2002, but big acquisition programs like the Eurofighter will claim more of the money. Increased spending for social issues including public pensions and health care "means that member countries are likely to continue to face significant challenges in modernizing their defense forces to meet NATO requirements," GAO said.

The three newest members of NATO, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, want to increase their defense spending levels. Hungary and the Czech Republic plan to invest nearly \$1 billion a year in their military forces by 2001 and to maintain that level for several years. Poland has budgeted nearly \$2.5 billion, almost a \$1 billion increase between 1999 and 2003.

However, all three nations said they had to balance social and defense spending priorities to ease internal tensions. "U.S. embassy and DOD officials were concerned that Hungary's 1999 defense funding difficulties may continue in later years even though NATO requirements would continue to grow," said the GAO. "Given the experience of 1999, U.S. government officials we interviewed expressed some concern about future defense budgets for these countries."

The report, requested by Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), found that internal budget pressures are also stretching defense spending between modernization efforts and real-world operations. "Finally, out-of country deployments, particularly in Bosnia and Kosovo, are requiring significant budgetary resources in the NATO European countries we studied," GAO concluded. "Combined with the expense of large aircraft purchases and high personnel costs, these operations are affecting the ability of NATO countries to carry out restructuring and modernization, according to foreign officials and U.S. embassy officials."

One of the largest modernization programs, the EF-2000 Eurofighter, includes Germany, Italy and the U.K. Germany, which plans to buy 180 planes, has put several other procurement programs on hold in order to concentrate funds on buying the fighters. Italy may fair better, since its industry stands to gain from the Eurofighter work. In the U.K., Eurofighter cost overruns account for nearly half of the cost growth experienced by U.K. weapon systems purchases and could squeeze out other programs in a flat budget.

The report - "Implications of European Integration for Allies' Defense Spending" (NSIAD-99-185) - found that membership requirements for the European Union and use of the European economic and Monetary Unit (the Euro) are not affecting defense budgets directly, but are complicating budget allocation decisions as members try to meet the deficit reduction requirements.

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<P>Washington Times

July 30, 1999</P>

<U><P>Embassy Row</P>

</U><P>Britain Eyes NATO Post</P>

<P>By James Morrison, The Washington Times</P>

<P> Britain could win the post of NATO secretary-general if it only had a candidate.</P>

<P> NATO officials would accept a Briton for the top civilian job in the alliance now that the most likely candidate, German Defense Minister Rudolf Scharping, has taken himself out of the running to succeed Javier Solana of Spain, the Reuters news agency reported Thursday.</P>

<P> "The job could be ours if we have a candidate," a senior British official said.</P>

<P> The official mentioned Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, Defense Secretary George Robertson or former Prime Minister John Major as candidates who would be accepted.</P>

<P> NATO foreign ministers are expected to meet informally to discuss a replacement when they attend the U.N. General Assembly session in September.</P>

<P> German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder has told President Clinton that Mr. Scharping is unavailable for the position, the German newspaper Sueddeutsche Zeitung reported.</P>

<P> Mr. Solana is leaving at the end of the year to take the position of the foreign policy representative of the European Union.</P>

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<P>San Antonio Express-News

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Officials Speak Against Move To Close Selective Service System</P>

<P>By Sig Christenson, Express-News Staff Writer</P>

<P> A move this week by a Republican-led House panel to kill the Selective Service System was criticized by its director as shortsighted, while others warned the action might even encourage misadventures on the part of America's adversaries. </P>

<P> "I believe that it's wrong," said Gil Coronado, a Corpus Christi native and longtime San Antonian who has headed Selective Service since 1994. "I think it's like turning in the fire truck because there's been no fire in the last few years." </P>

<P> A \$70 billion spending bill approved by a House Appropriations subcommittee on veterans affairs calls for eliminating \$18 million in funding for the Selective Service System. </P>

<P> Another \$7 million would be used to shut down the agency, Selective Service System Deputy Director Willie Blanding said. </P>

<P> If the agency's \$25 million annual budget isn't restored, Selective Service would remain in business "as long as the money lasts, which is a short time," Blanding said. </P>

<P> Coronado likes to call the Selective Service System the nation's "third tier" of defense. </P>

<P> Revived by President Jimmy Carter after the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan, the agency has 180 full-time civilian workers and a budget that's modest by Washington standards. </P>

<P> It registers 1.8 million 18-year-old males each year and would be given the task of drafting them if Congress authorizes military conscription. </P>

<P> The controversial draft ended with the tail end of America's involvement

t in the Vietnam War. An all-volunteer military replaced it. </P>

<P> Coronado, reached in Dallas while en route to a weeklong Mexican vacation, said he remained optimistic that the funding cut would be reversed. </P>

<P> But Blanding conceded the House panel's attempt to kill his agency came as a surprise. </P>

<P> "It was unexpected," he said. </P>

<P> Just what prompted the subcommittee's action wasn't clear Thursday. </P>
>

<P> A spokesman for U.S. Rep. James T. Walsh, a New York Republican who chairs the panel on veterans affairs, didn't return phone calls. But a spokesman, Jim O'Connor, earlier this week said the agency isn't needed. </P>

<P> That view is shared elsewhere on Capitol Hill, where attempts to kill the agency seem to occur like clockwork. </P>

<P> Three years ago, U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., sought to slash \$24 million from the agency, a move that would've ended peacetime registration. </P>

<P> One congressional aide said high-tech advances that have multiplied the lethality of combat are shortening the half-lives of wars, making a dramatic resumption of conscription unlikely. </P>

<P> Since Vietnam, the U.S. military has engaged in limited, relatively brief conflicts in Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf and the recent Kosovo air campaign. </P>

<P> Coronado, a retired Air Force colonel, agreed that technology has brought profound changes to the battlefield. But he argued "that does not erase the need for America to have an insurance policy based on the responsibility of our citizens to respond if needed." </P>

<P> U.S. Rep. Solomon Ortiz, a member of House panels on military readiness, installations and facilities, predicted the agency's demise would worsen retention and recruiting efforts by lulling people into a false sense of security. </P>

<P> "This is the wrong message to be sending right now," said Ortiz, D-Corpus Christi. </P>

<P> "It sends the message that we are not concerned about readiness or preparedness," said U.S. Rep. Ciro Rodriguez, a member of the Armed Services Committee. </P>

<P> A White House aide said President Clinton decided in 1994 to retain the agency because it is a low-cost hedge against unforeseen threats. </P>

<P> The aide, speaking on condition of anonymity, also said killing the agency and draft registration could send the wrong signal to potential adversaries

looking for signs of American weakness. </P>

<P> "The president's position hasn't changed," the aide said. </P>

<P> Rodriguez said Republicans have talked of reinstituting the draft to counter the continued hemorrhaging of troops from the services, which also are struggling to meet their recruiting goals. </P>

<P> The Air Force recently predicted it would fall 2,500 airmen short of its enlisted recruiting goal this year for the first time since 1979. The service also is facing a shortfall of 1,401 active-duty pilots. </P>

<P> Rodriguez, a foe of any future draft, also can't stomach the scrapping of the Selective Service System, saying it makes no sense. </P>

<P> Ortiz concurred. </P>

<P> "We've got serious problems, and I don't think this is the time to do it, not to save \$25 million," he said</P>

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<P>New York Times

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Iraq: Bombing Deaths Reported</P>

<P> Western air strikes killed 8 civilians and wounded 25 others in southern Iraq, Iraqi military officials said. British officials confirmed the strikes but said there was not a report yet on what had been hit. American and British warplanes clash regularly with Iraqi air defenses in their patrol of the northern and southern no-flight zones, established after the 1991 gulf war to help protect Kurd and Shiite Muslim dissidents.</P>

<I><P>(Reuters)</P></I>


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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 24</P>

<P>Indian Loan To Iraq Breaks U.N. Embargo</P>

<P> BAGHDAD, Iraq -- India will extend a \$25 million loan to Iraq in a deal that violates U.N. trade sanctions imposed on Iraq for invading Kuwait in 1990, India's oil minister said.</P>

<P> The credit agreement is the first of its kind since the U.N. embargo was imposed, prohibiting unauthorized financial dealings with the country. V.K. Ramamurthy, India's minister of oil and gas, acknowledged the grant would violate U.N. sanctions.</P>


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<P>Chicago Tribune

July 29, 1999</P>

<P>Kosovo War Convinces Russia That Military Needs Updating</P>

<P>By Michael McGuire, Tribune Staff Writer </P>

<P> MOSCOW -- If Russia's generals begin to see an inflow of cash to modernize the nation's impoverished armed forces, some will toss an ironic salute to President Clinton and thank the bombing campaign in Yugoslavia.</P>

<P> "Generals have told me that we must build a monument to Clinton because the campaign over Kosovo drastically changed political attitudes here," said Alexander Zhylin, one of Russia's top military analysts. "Now there is no more opposition to the idea that Russia should restore its military potential."</P>

<P> Once considered a low priority among drastically needed reforms as Russia emerged from 70 years of communism, the military is receiving unaccustomed attention in the Duma and from Prime Minister Sergei Stepashin in the wake of NATO's action in Yugoslavia.</P>

<P> "The events in Yugoslavia showed that we need new, highly precise weapons, new equipment, new electronics," Stepashin said before his departure this week for the United States, where he met with President Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, and congressional and business leaders.</P>

<P> While the armed forces may have an urgent need for the updated equipment, the nation's national treasury is virtually empty. It is unable to scrape together enough cash to pay its soldiers on time, let alone buy or produce the expensive new equipment needed by a modern army.</P>

<P> Military units have not been paid wages in months, forcing some soldiers to beg for coins on city streets and forage for food in the countryside.</P>

<P> Nonetheless, the bombing in Yugoslavia, conducted despite Russia's emphatic protests, appears to have instilled an urgent need to update the nation's air, ground and naval forces and the struggling and rusting industrial plants that supply them.</P>

<P> On a recent visit to the Russian fleet in the Crimea, Stepashin told its officers to plan large-scale training exercises based on the kind of warfare conducted in Yugoslavia.</P>

<P> Defense Ministry sources, citing the Balkan warfare, told the Interfax news agency on Tuesday that the strike component of the Russian air force should grow 10 percent to 20 percent by 2005. To enable modernized bombing tactics, the ministry said, more than 20 MiG-29 jets will be updated this year. The update also will affect Sukhoi-27 and MiG-31 fighters.</P>

<P> A new generation of cruise missiles is planned for deployment by 2005, the ministry said.</P>

<P> Zhylin and other experts said the Yugoslavia campaign raised fears among the military and ordinary Russians that NATO in the future might unleash Kosovo-type action in support of regions seeking secession from Russia.</P>

<P> Zhylin cited Dagestan and Ossetia in the Caucasus as regions that might attract NATO help in moves toward independence.</P>

<P> Traditionally allied with the Serbs, the Kremlin heaped criticism on NATO and the U.S. over the bombing campaign in a tone reminiscent of Cold War tirades. The U.S. Embassy was struck by rocket-propelled grenades, which failed to explode, and by bullets during days of demonstrations by hundreds of Russians. Americans living in the Russian capital reported public assaults.</P>

<P> However, Stepashin sought to rebuild Russia's relationship with Washington on his visit to the United States this week. Both nations promised new talks on arms control and discussed a renewal of intentions toward trade and investment.</P>

<P> Russia's desperate need for cash from Western financial institutions has helped mute its anger at the U.S. and NATO over the Yugoslavia bombing and the Western alliance's expansion into Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic.</P>

<P> Nonetheless, the fight over Kosovo seriously set back efforts toward cooperation by NATO and Russian military leaders, and some analysts feel the relations will be frosty for months to come.</P>

<P> "The politicians realize they need money from the IMF, World Bank and other such organizations, and to do that they need to get relations back on an even keel; I think the military sees things much more in zero-sum terms," Charles Dick of Britain's Conflict Studies Research Center told the Reuters news agency.</P>

<P> The Kosovo crisis also boosted civilian anti-Americanism festering in Moscow and elsewhere, a seeming reversal of the general goodwill Russians possessed after the 1991 fall of the Soviet Union.</P>

<P> Public euphoria followed the surprise dash by 250 Russian paratroopers for Pristina's airport in Kosovo when the bombing ended. The move irked NATO, though Western authorities eventually reached an understanding with the Russians on their peacekeeping role.</P>

<P> "Kosovo for Russia was not a foreign interest but really an internal affair," said Melor Sturua, former political commentator for the daily Izvestia. "It was convenient for (President Boris) Yeltsin to show his muscle, not against NATO but against his domestic enemies. (The June occupation of the Pristina airport) made fools of NATO. That stroked Russian egos."</P>

<P> The move boosted Yeltsin's sinking popularity and provided a burst of pride for a nation frustrated by being ignored by the Western powers on world events.</P>

<P> Zhylin, however, said that an original outburst of glee among the milita

ry over Pristina later turned to a feeling of betrayal.</P>

<P> "(The military) felt Yeltsin should have built upon the incident," he said. "If Russia built up its presence there, the West wouldn't have said a word."
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<P>Washington Times

July 30, 1999

Pg. 15</P>

<P>Experts Want Troops To Stay In Panama After Canal Return</P>

<I><P>Drug traffickers, Chinese business interests seen as threats </P>

</I><P>By Kristina Stefanova, The Washington Times</P>

<P>U.S. troops need to be stationed in Panama after the canal is returned in December because Colombian drug traffickers and communist Chinese business interests in Panama pose a security threat to the United States, said experts at a House hearing yesterday.</P>

<P>"This is absolutely not the time to leave Panama," said Gen. George A. Joulwan, former chief of the U.S. Southern Command, now retired. "Panama has been and still is a critical issue for the United States."</P>

<P>He said Panama was needed for interdicting drugs being flown to the United States out of Colombia.</P>

<P>"Panama is critical to counter-drug efforts," he said.</P>

<P>After nearly 100 years of presence in Panama, the U.S. military must abandon

its military bases and be out of Panama by Dec.31, 1999, according to a 1977 treaty signed by President Carter and Panamanian President Omar Torrijos.</P>

<P>As much as 14 percent of U.S. shipping uses the canal each year and businesses associated with the communist Chinese government in Beijing now operate port facilities at both ends of the canal. In addition, drug surveillance flights that monitored Colombia out of Panama have been curtailed as the military bases have been returned.</P>

<P>With the closure of Howard Air Force Base in May, the administration has been conducting counter-narcotics surveillance flights from airfields in the Netherlands Antilles and also plans similar flights from Ecuador and a Central American country yet to be named.</P>

<P>Rep. Benjamin A. Gilman, New York Republican and chairman of the International Relations Committee said that Panama has become "a very dangerous neighborhood" and the United States should not "turn its back on Panama."</P>

<P>"The framers of the 1977 treaties could not have foreseen neighboring Colombia's drug-fueled agony; nor the sophistication of the drug cartel's corrupting reach," he said.</P>

<P>But Rep. Sam Gejdenson, Connecticut Democrat, said the addition of these new sites for surveillance of drug flights compensates for the loss of Panama bases. He said official analyses show the locations will be able to handle up to 120 percent of the traffic that Panama had been handling.</P>

<P>Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, California Republican, disagreed saying that the United States has a direct interest in staying in Panama.</P>

<P>He said Panama has no army, navy or air force with which to combat "the well-armed narcoterrorist forces" in Colombia.</P>

<P>He also said that Chinese port facilities at either end of the canal posed an inherent threat to U.S. shipping interests.</P>

<P>Ports at the Pacific and Atlantic are "falling at the hands of communist China ... of people who have close ties with the People's Liberation Army," Mr. Rohrabacher said.</P>

<P>But Thomas E. McNamara, former negotiator in Panama during the 1997-1998 talks to keep U.S. troops stationed in Panama, said that the talks had failed because the government of Panama wanted to cut its "umbilical cord" from the United States.</P>

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Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 24

Search For Bodies Continues In Colombia

BOGOTA, Colombia -- Rescue teams battled through dense fog and thick jungle as they hunted for the last three bodies of a crew of seven who died when a U.S. reconnaissance plane slammed into a mountainside in Colombia. Four bodies -- all U.S. soldiers, including a woman -- were recovered from the crash site Wednesday about 7,000 feet up a mountain. But a Colombian air force spokeswoman said there was still no sign of the remains of a fifth American or two Colombian air force majors.

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Chicago Tribune

July 29, 1999

Colombia Crash Enables Peek At Hush-Hush Roles

Recovery Of 5 U.S. Soldiers In Spy Plane Underscores Controversy Over Drug War

</I><P>By Paul de la Garza, Tribune Foreign Correspondent </P>

<P> BOGOTA, Colombia -- The crash of a U.S. spy plane that killed five Americans and two Colombians has thrown an unwelcome light on the growing and increasingly controversial role of American forces in Colombia's anti-drug efforts.</P>

<P> Officials said Wednesday the bodies of five U.S. Army soldiers and two Colombian Air Force majors have been recovered from an isolated hilltop in the Putumayo region, where their De Havilland RC-7 reconnaissance aircraft crashed Friday. The five are the first American casualties in the campaign against narcotics traffickers in Colombia.</P>

<P> For nearly four decades Colombia has been fighting an insurgency by guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, known by its Spanish-language acronym FARC. Recently, U.S. advisers have provided intelligence by using surveillance aircraft such as the downed RC-7.</P>

<P> The guerrillas finance their actions by trafficking in opium and coca. The U.S. has given millions of dollars in foreign aid for anti-narcotics efforts -- some \$300 million this year-- with the stipulation that the money be used for anti-drug efforts and not to fight a political bush war.</P>

<P> Such distinctions mean little in the green-canopied highlands of Putumayo, where FARC fighters deal drugs and weaponry with equal ease.</P>

<P> Gen. Barry McCaffrey, the U.S. drug czar, acknowledged during a visit to Colombia this week that it is difficult to differentiate between counternarcotics and counterinsurgency operations.</P>

<P> "People keep (saying), it's either the FARC or the drugs," McCaffrey said. "I don't think that's the reality. I think we've got these FARC fronts out there that are getting hundreds of millions of dollars out of a series of illegal activities, the most productive of which is the drug trade.</P>

<P> "That's what makes it so dicey here," he said, "and why it's spilling over."</P>

<P> Earlier this week, in response to the plane crash, the rebels issued a communique headed, "U.S. Intervention Claims Its First Victims" and reiterating a warning that "U.S. troops would return home with tragic results, dead or injured," if they "intervened" further.</P>

<P> "The FARC has let it be known to national and international public opinion that all U.S. military personnel are considered military targets," the statement said.</P>

<P> McCaffrey, however, said the crash was accidental: The plane, he said, plunged into a mountain that wasn't on the charts the crew was using.</P>

<P> U.S. officials are tight-lipped about the exact nature of American military involvement in Colombia. So secretive are the air missions that, according to an American official, McCaffrey ruffled feathers at the U.S. Embassy when he revealed at a news conference this week that last year the U.S. flew more than

2,000 anti-drug missions in the region, including Colombia.</P>

<P> Despite the anti-drug campaign, officials concede, the narcotics business is booming. McCaffrey pointed to "an enormous explosion" of cocaine and heroin production in Colombia last year and noted that in the past three years, coca production has doubled and is now of a higher quality.</P>

<P> According to the Pentagon, some 200 American military personnel rotate in and out of Colombia. They conduct surveillance over guerrilla regions, especially those along the border with Ecuador, using advanced equipment.</P>

<P> The RC-7, for example, is a modified De Havilland aircraft fitted with a variety of electronic snooping devices. The plane carries a radar dome and a variety of other sensors and antennas, including receivers capable of picking up portable radio and wireless telephone conversations.</P>

<P> The intercepted communications can be used to pinpoint guerrilla movements in the rugged mountains. Sometimes the intercepts are relayed back to the U.S. for more sophisticated analysis, such as breaking of codes.</P>

<P> There have been persistent reports, still unconfirmed, that these intercepts have been used to target FARC forces.</P>

<P> "We're not going to specify what these missions do specifically," said Lt. Col. Bill Darley, a Pentagon spokesman in Washington.</P>

<P> A U.S. Government General Accounting Office report released last month revealed that in March, the Clinton administration had begun sharing intelligence on guerrilla activities with the Colombian government.</P>

<P> A U.S. official conceded there had been a "slight change" recently in U.S. policy: If surveillance reveals that FARC poses a threat to Colombian troops, then the information can be shared with the Colombian government, the official said.</P>

<P> That information can, of course, be used to target the guerrillas for attack.</P>

<P> "There's no way to avoid it if the guerrillas interject themselves in there," the U.S. official said. "We're fighting against anybody involved in the drug war, whether they're insurgents or a beauty queen."</P>

<P> The presence of Americans has infuriated the guerrillas and their sympathizers.</P>

<P> "I do not think the Americans do any favors to the peace process with the way they are behaving," said Arturo Alape, the biographer of the longtime Colombian rebel chief, Manuel Marulanda. "This is a Colombian problem, not an American problem."</P>

<P> McCaffrey emphasized the U.S. would not play a role "now or in the future in the internal struggle, except with providing training, equipment, intelligence, support, goodwill and alternative economic development."</P>

<P> In an interview with foreign reporters Wednesday, Colombian President Andres Pastrana downplayed the U.S. role. "There will be no foreign intervention in my country while I'm president," he said. "There are a lot of mechanisms in place" to ensure that U.S. aid is used appropriately, he added.</P>

<P> A former U.S. official familiar with the international drug trade expressed skepticism. "This is not a story about drugs," he said. "This is a story about military operations against a guerrilla force."</P>

<P> The growing U.S. presence in Colombia, the official added, is partly the result of Pentagon jockeying for a new mission to justify its budget and staffing requests.</P>

<P> The U.S. Southern Command in Miami, which is responsible for military operations in Latin America, is, he said, "All dressed up (with) nowhere to go."</P>

<P> FARC, which launched its insurrection in 1964, says it seeks land for peasants. Its critics say that despite Marxist-Leninist rhetoric, the group is as dedicated to making money from narcotics trafficking as it is to any ideology.</P>

<P> U.S. and Colombian officials say the rebels pocket up to \$600 million a year by selling protection to the nation's drug barons.</P>

<P> McCaffrey was in Colombia to highlight what he characterized as a growing rebel threat, not only to Colombia and the U.S., but to the entire region.</P>

<P> "This is a very dangerous situation for Colombian democracy," he said. "The spillover effect is having an impact on Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela, Brazil, Peru."</P>

<P> As a result, McCaffrey is urging the White House to push for \$1 billion in emergency anti-drug aid to Bogota, triple what Colombia now receives. Colombia already is the third-largest recipient of American security assistance, behind Israel and Egypt. </P>

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<P>New York Times

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Sudan, Angry At U.S. Attack, Freed Bomb Suspects, Officials Say</P>

<P>By James Risen</P>

<P> WASHINGTON -- Immediately after the bombings of two American embassies in East Africa last Aug. 7, Sudan detained two men suspected of being involved in the plot, but angrily released them two weeks later, after an American cruise missile strike on Sudan, American officials said Thursday. </P>

<P> Sudanese officials have said the United States had been notified that the two suspects were in custody, and American law enforcement officials have confirmed the account. </P>

<P> American officials confirmed Thursday that key White House and State Department officials dealing with counterterrorism and African issues have over the past year been adamantly opposed to reopening relations with Sudan, and that this reticence prompted them last August to discount the Sudanese offer of assistance in the investigation. </P>

<P> In addition, Sudanese officials complain that Washington disregarded their message that possible suspects had been detained. </P>

<P> American officials have been reluctant over the last few months to discuss the incident, but several have now confirmed that the Sudanese did notify the United States that they were holding the men immediately after the embassy bombings. </P>

<P> Sudanese officials said the two men were arrested after they arrived in Khartoum from Nairobi, Kenya, soon after the bombing of the American Embassy there. They were detained after they were discovered to be carrying false Pakistani passports, a senior Sudanese official said. </P>

<P> The United States, saying it had obtained evidence that Osama bin Laden was behind the bombings, responded on Aug. 20, 1998, by attacking a terrorist training camp in Afghanistan where he was believed to be attending a meeting, as well as the al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum that the United States suspected was involved in Bin Laden's efforts to produce the deadly nerve gas VX. </P>

<P> After the cruise missile strike against al-Shifa, angry Sudanese officials released the two men, and sent them to Pakistan, officials said. </P>

<P> Nearly a year later, the decision to launch a strike against a pharmaceutical plant in Sudan remains the most controversial aspect of the Clinton administration's response to the embassy bombings. Some of the administration's initial statements about the nature of the links between the al-Shifa plant and Bi

n Laden's terrorist network proved incomplete or false. </P>

<P> American intelligence officials eventually acknowledged that their strongest link between the plant and VX production was a soil sample taken near the plant that contained evidence of a chemical "precursor" used in producing VX. </P>

<P> But officials admitted that they could not say whether VX was produced at the al-Shifa plant or was merely stored or transported through the facility. </P>

<P> They also conceded that they had outdated information on the ownership of the plant, and at the time of the strike did not know that it had been sold to a Saudi businessman. Some CIA and State Department officials had privately questioned the decision to strike, arguing that the evidence was insufficient to prove a link either to nerve gas or to Bin Laden. </P>

<P> As questions about the evidence mounted, the United States was forced in May to unfreeze assets of al-Shifa's owner, Salih Idris. </P>

<P> The Clinton administration continues to defend its decision to strike al-Shifa, arguing that the evidence of links to Bin Laden and nerve gas were compelling. </P>

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<P>Wall Street Journal

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Those Men In Havana Are Now Chinese</P>

<P>By Jaime Suchlicki, director of the Institute of Cuban and Cuban-American Studies at the University of Miami, and author of "Cuba: From Columbus to Castro" (Brassey's, 1997).</P>

<P> In February, a top-level Chinese military delegation, led by Defense Mi

nister Chi Haotian, visited Cuba. It was the first time a Chinese minister of defense had been to the island. But in terms of recent Cuba-China relations, it was not a rare exchange. In fact, after a prolonged period of tension, the two countries have been warming up to each other in an unprecedented fashion.</P>

<P> In 1993, President Jiang Zemin visited Cuba and Fidel Castro reciprocated by visiting China in 1995. Within the past two years, Cuba and China have exchanged high-level military and civilian delegations, including visits by Raul Castro and Cuba's top generals to China and a trip to Cuba by General Dong Liang Ju, head of the Chinese Military Commission. China has become increasingly vocal in its opposition to the U.S.'s Cuba policy, particularly the embargo, and Cuba condemned last month's accidental NATO attack on the Chinese embassy as "an act of aggression, a genocidal action" by the U.S.</P>

<P> As the U.S. debates the value of the Cuba embargo and as questions continue to arise in Congress about President Clinton's dealing with the Chinese, the China-Cuba nexus is of more than passing interest. The impoverished island obviously can offer little attraction to China in economic terms. The logical conclusion from the military visits and other clues is that China sees a presence in Cuba of some strategic value, just as the Soviet Union did years ago when it first teamed up with Fidel Castro to make Cuba a Soviet military base and intelligence-gathering center. A U.S. administration official, who asked not to be identified, says that "the U.S. is tracking very closely Chinese activities in Cuba. As closely as we can."</P>

<P> Fidel Castro's relations with China have a volatile history. When Maoist China and the Soviet Union parted company in the 1960s, Castro chose to stick with the Soviets, who seemed to offer better support and a better payoff for his efforts to spread revolution throughout Latin America. This soured Cuba's relations with China. At the Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in Havana in 1979, Castro attacked the Chinese and the U.S. as two "archenemies" of the developing world and ridiculed Deng Xiaoping as a "numbskull" and a "puppet."</P>

<P> Despite this baggage, relations improved somewhat when Chinese-Soviet relations warmed under Mr. Gorbachev. The collapse of the Soviet Union and Castro's desperate need for economic and military aid allowed China to step in the political vacuum left by the Soviets.</P>

<P> There can be little doubt about what Cuba wants from China: economic aid in the form of trade and investment from a partner that couldn't be less interested in human rights. That aid has been going to the island since the 1980s. The first approaches were made on the trade front when Cuba's foreign trade minister Ricardo Cabrisas visited China and signed several agreements that increased bilateral commerce from \$220 million in 1983 to \$426 million by 1989.</P>

<P> But the more intriguing question is what does China want from Cuba? Due to Cuba's economic problems, bilateral trade with China has decreased in the 1990s, falling to \$256 million by 1997, the latest year for which data is available. But Chinese investment has picked up steam in the last few years. Some of it, including a bicycle factory, is consumer oriented. But other spending suggests a strategic interest. Western intelligence sources say that China is putting money into Cuban military telecommunications (and possibly biotechnology); as only one example, it is investing in the Terrena Caribe Satellite Tracking Bas

e. At the February 1999 meeting with Castro in Havana, Defense Minister Chi Hao tian emphasized that relations between the Chinese and Cuban armies have seen " fairly rapid development."

The reasons for China's military bonding with Cuba are not immediately obvious. Chinese sales of weapons to Cuba are insignificant, reportedly involving some MiG aircraft parts and other low-value items. Cuba's potential for becoming a major purchaser of weapons or a major trading partner is small. But evidence is mounting that China's main interest in Cuba is not dissimilar to a use that attracted the Soviets to the island: It is an ideal spot for electronic eavesdropping on communications on the American mainland--in other words, a good base for spying. It also is a useful relay point for routing intelligence back home, which is what the Soviets used it for back in the Cold War days.

There's no doubt about Chinese involvement in Cuban communications. In May, a radio station in Cuba began re-broadcasting Chinese information and news from Cuba to Latin America. Radio Marti, a U.S.-government-funded station that beams shortwave radio broadcasts to Cuba, has meanwhile found itself subject to more intense Cuban jamming, according to a reliable source. It is suspected that China is aiding the Cuban effort to drown out Radio Marti.

Of greater interest is Chinese listening. Intelligence sources say that the 1970s Soviet electronic facility in Lourdes, near Havana, is still operational for monitoring U.S. military and commercial communications. These sources also say that China is using and improving Cuban capabilities in this area and moving to develop its own on the island. An internal May 13, 1999 U.S. government memorandum claims that "China may have participated in the construction of a short-wave transmitting site" in Havana. The U.S. administration official I spoke with said the U.S. is aware of the rumors that China seeks to establish a signals collection facility on the island, "but we are not aware of any evidence that such a facility exists." Richard Baum, UCLA professor of political science and China expert, points out that an electronic collection facility in Cuba " would fit with Chinese electronic warfare priorities and objectives."

After the release of the congressional "Cox report" detailing Chinese espionage at a U.S. nuclear laboratory, it is hardly a secret that the Chinese are operating an extensive spy network in the Western hemisphere. So it should be no further surprise that the Chinese might want an electronic espionage base close to American shores. China is not in the same league as the Soviets were in the 1960s or 70s, but the People's Liberation Army hardly regards itself as a friend of the West. If it were, it would not have engaged in such potentially destabilizing practices as shipping advanced weapons to the Syrians and the Iraqis.

Indeed, Chinese foreign policy is patient and farsighted. In Cuba, the Chinese seem to be taking a calculated gamble: that the U.S.'s complex relations with and economic interests in China will prevent the Clinton administration from raising a big fuss over China's activities in Cuba. They may well be right.

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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 29</P>

<P>The Oops Files</P>

<P>By Stephen S. Rosenfeld</P>

<P> In the current wobbly post-Cold War phase of American global engagement, it seems that mistakes tend to be committed more out in the open, or they go public sooner. This presents planning and political problems that our leaders have only begun to sort through.</P>

<P> Take the pair of mistakes being attributed to the CIA: the bombing of a building in Sudan that was thought to be a chemical war facility but may have been just a pharmaceutical factory, and the targeting of a complex in Belgrade that was thought to be a Yugoslav army supply and procurement headquarters but turned out to be unquestionably the Chinese Embassy.</P>

<P> The Sudan bombing last August, besides apparently failing to accomplish its mission of striking at terrorist Osama bin Laden's chemical works, subjected the CIA to terrific embarrassment for its method of choosing targets. Part of the embarrassment is the successful suit that the factory owner, a Saudi, subsequently filed against the United States for his \$30 million loss.</P>

<P> In Belgrade in May, the Chinese decided to make a big political storm out of the American bombing of their embassy. They worked from the allegation -- for which they offer no more than thin circumstantial evidence -- that the United States deliberately targeted the embassy.</P>

<P> Frankly, I find it a tale out of Oliver Stone. But there is no denying that the CIA's apparent Sudan errors invite the conclusion that an agency that could get it wrong once could get it wrong twice. It's a sad fate when you consider that, according to the director of central intelligence, George Tenet, the Yugoslav arms agency was the single target selected by the CIA out of the 900 trucks by NATO and the U.S. military's European Command during the 78-day Kosovo bombardment.</P>

<P> Obviously, the CIA's targeting people need help. It's hard to think of a single government agency that has tripped up in so many ways central to its designated national purpose. Keep in mind, too, that the agency and the larger "intelligence community" that it heads may have encountered some further embarrassments or disasters that are not yet part of the public record. Congressional investigations of the Sudan affair are still going on.</P>

<P> A dismal irony is at work here. In the past 10 years our intelligence agencies have been constantly urged to set aside the old Cold War priorities directed at a Soviet threat and to turn to post-Cold War priorities such as terrorism and ethnic strife. Well, the Sudan bombing was conducted in the service of the struggle against terrorism and the Belgrade bombing to sort out the disintegration of Yugoslavia. Our people had their eye on the ball, but, in these instances anyway, they dropped it.</P>

<P> Have they now picked it up -- drawn the right lessons? Intelligence chief Tenet, taking "ultimate responsibility" for the accidental bombing of the Chinese Embassy, defined the problem as "targeting in urban areas." He identified the "critical lesson," murkily, as providing "an accurate appreciation of our confidence in the location of a target and [of] the evidentiary basis for how that location was determined."</P>

<P> It is not clear to me what "ultimate responsibility" means if it does not mean that the person responsible for an admittedly "major" error, which killed people and had severe political consequences, intends to resign. In fact, what Tenet is taking onto himself is not ultimate responsibility but limited responsibility. Or perhaps procedural responsibility, since his remedies run to technical procedures and not to the questioning of bombing, as he puts it, "in urban areas" -- where other buildings are apt to clutter the landscape, not to speak of people, who, after all, tend to live "in urban areas."</P>

<P> Nor, in his testimony to Congress, did Tenet address the question of bombing in urban areas that happen to be in someone else's country -- bombing in a sovereign state, for instance, a state with which we are not at war. I think a strong case can be made for such violations of sovereignty in order to serve the interests of American citizens. But it is not a self-evident and unanswerable case, and it needs to be made, seriously and respectfully, not so much by an agency chief as by our ultimate political authority, the president.</P>

<P> Here lies the political context of post-Cold War security policy. It must be conducted on the premise of an open society with meaningful accountability and full scrutiny of means as well as ends. A tough test for tough times. </P>
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<P>Newport News Daily Press

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Navy Chief Must Do Right By Family Of 'Deserter'</P>

<P>By Jim Spencer</P>

<P> The Navy can never repay Leonard Smith's wife and kids for the pain and suffering it put them through. But the service, specifically Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jay Johnson, can surely stop torturing them. The Navy declared Smith a deserter in January 1973, a month after he disappeared on the way home from a Christmas party for his ship's crew.</P>

<P> For more than a quarter of a century the Navy relegated Smith, a petty officer first class, to the rank of common criminal. It shunted his case off to the FBI and forgot about it, except when Smith's desperate wife and three children sought any kind of benefits. Then, the Navy dredged up Smith's deserter status and told them no, even when members of Congress tried to intervene.</P>

<P> The Navy's denial of benefits left Smith's family to live on welfare and later, off welfare, in poverty. They went to sleep at night in homes where they could hear rats clawing inside the walls. They taped discarded scraps of pencils together to have something to write with in school.</P>

<P> When Leonard Smith's wife, Mary, returned to her native Newport News with three sons, the family managed to claw its way into the lower middle class, all of them working, sometimes two jobs at a time.</P>

<P> The Navy did precious little to find out what happened to Leonard Smith and nothing at all to keep this family together.</P>

<P> Today, the service's indifference has turned into an outrage. Leonard Smith, you see, was no deserter. He was murdered. In March 1973, New York City police dredged his bloated, naked body from the East River near the Brooklyn shipyard where his ship was being repaired. Police have no record of the Navy or the FBI ever listing Leonard Smith as missing.</P>

<P> Smith's youngest son, Tom, who battled his way out of poverty to put himself through Christopher Newport University and Regent University Law School, had to do the basic investigative work 2-1/2 decades after the fact. Last Christmas, he took over the records from his mom. A few months later, on a lark, Tom Smith sent his dad's fingerprints and dental records to the New York police. The cops used a computer analysis to match the prints with the prints of the John

n Doe they pulled out of the river in 1973.</P>

<P> Redemption for a fallen sailor, right? Not exactly.</P>

<P> In June, Tom Smith says he was told by the Navy that his father's deserter status would be changed. Nothing happened. This month, Smith has written two letters to CNO Johnson begging not only to have his father taken off the deserter's list, but also to have the Navy take steps to pay the benefits to which his family was legally entitled, and to have the Navy exhume his dad's body and transfer it to his paternal grandfather in Illinois and pay for a proper burial.</P>

<P> No such luck. Two weeks ago Smith received a call from someone in the Navy's benefits office, but that guy said he couldn't do anything until the Navy changed Leonard Smith's deserter status.</P>

<P> On Wednesday, a man identifying himself as "Investigator Heath" and saying he worked for Adm. Johnson called.</P>

<P> "He told me he couldn't find any Navy records that listed my father as a deserter," Tom Smith said.</P>

<P> The Navy had no trouble finding these records in the 1970s and 1980s as the petty officer's family went down the tubes. In a June 1976 letter, the Navy's personnel bureau notified Rep. Margaret Hackler of Massachusetts that Petty Officer Leonard Gene Smith had been declared a deserter and his case turned over to the FBI. In a December 1981 letter, the Naval Investigative Service told then-Virginia Congressman Paul Trible that it had helped determine Leonard Smith's deserter status. In a July 1983 letter, the Navy's personnel command informed 1st District Rep. Herb Bateman of Newport News that a Hampton Circuit Court ruling that declared Petty Officer Smith "presumed dead" was not sufficient.</P>

<P> "Petty Officer Smith will remain on the deserter list until a federal court declares him dead," wrote Congressional Liaison W. J. Dickinson.</P>

<P> While all this was going on, the Navy steadfastly refused to release to Mary Smith any of its investigative records concerning her husband so she could try to prove he was deceased.</P>

<P> Now that she and her sons have finally overcome those obstacles, the Navy continues to jerk them around. Tom Smith had already mailed copies of the congressional correspondence to the Chief of Naval Operations, so he was miffed when the admiral's investigator called. But after a lifetime of being neglected by the Navy, he was hardly surprised.</P>

<P> "John Kennedy Jr.'s plane crashes and right away they can send out the Coast Guard and the Navy to find him," Tom Smith said. "My father's been dead 26 years and I'm just a number. I figured changing the deserter status would be a gimme."</P>

<P> It should be. Tom Smith has a notice of death from the New York City Police Department for a "John Doe." He has a computer fingerprint comparison from the New York City Police Department that declares that "John Doe" is Petty Off

icer 1st Class Leonard Gene Smith.</P>

<P> At this point, that ought to be enough for the Navy to take action. A good sailor's reputation has been ruined. His remains lie in a potter's field. His family has suffered unnecessarily. This is already an American tragedy.</P>

<P> Adm. Johnson's lawyers are aware of the Leonard Smith case, said Capt. Jim Kudla, the CNO's spokesman. The Naval Personnel Command is supposed to be working it.</P>

<P> But, Kudla acknowledged, it is a complicated case involving different commands.</P>

<P> "Somebody needs to take this and hand-walk it through the bureaucracy," Kudla said. "Somebody needs to say, 'All stop; let's do it.'"</P>

<P> Let the person saying that be a four-star admiral, and the Smith family's suffering will end sooner than later.</P>

<P> It's time for the person in charge to step in and stop the travesty. If strings must be pulled, right now is the time to pull them and keep tugging until this thing is resolved.</P>

<P> If need be, the Chief of Naval Operations should personally petition the Board for Correction of Naval Records to remove Leonard Gene Smith from the deserter's list. He should do that today, then intervene with the personnel folks to expedite payment of overdue federal benefits with interest tomorrow. Finally, he can find a discretionary fund and withdraw enough money to dig Leonard Smith up and send him home with the dignity the Navy's indifference denied him all these years.</P>

<P> Tom Smith says the law allows the CNO to do this. Decency demands it.</P>

<I><P>Columnist Jim Spencer appears in the Local section Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.</P></I>

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<P>Wall Street Journal Europe

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Lessons From Bosnia</P>

<P>By Carlos Westendorp, High Representative of the international community for the civil implementation of the Dayton Peace Accord in Bosnia and Herzegovina.</P>

<P> This is my last week as the international community's High Representative in Bosnia-Herzegovina, a post I have held for the last two years. As this article goes to press, gangs of workmen are hastily planting flower beds and filling in the potholes of the war-damaged approach roads to Sarajevo's Zetra sports complex, the venue for the 28-nation Stability Pact summit tomorrow.</P>

<P> Zetra is the only place here large enough to hold such a conference, the most significant international gathering to happen in Sarajevo since the 1984 Winter Olympics, which Zetra was in fact built to host. The tragedy to which this city was subjected this decade is grimly represented by the rows of graves on what used to be a football pitch outside the complex. The symbolism of this will surely not be lost on the thousands of delegates already descending on the city. Those delegates will be able to see for themselves what we have achieved here. The Stability Pact is intended to find a regional solution for the Balkans, and in many respects Bosnia can act as a model.</P>

<P> I am leaving Sarajevo full of optimism for the country's future, even though my task here is still far from complete. Bosnia-Herzegovina has changed dramatically since 1997. Freedom of movement is a reality, thanks in part to this office's successful introduction of common car number plates for all areas and ethnicities. Minds are more open. The appeal of radical nationalist parties has declined, to the benefit of idea-driven, non-nationalist parties.</P>

<P> The media is now more credible and independent, and less biased and nationalistic. People care more about social and economic issues than about ethnic strife. Local authorities, which for much of the period often resisted democratization and modernity, have started to cooperate properly with the international community in its efforts to bring the country forward. The Republika Srpska, the Bosnian Serb half of the country, stayed calm throughout NATO's Kosovo campaign. That is the best evidence that the people here are at last casting off their wartime mentality.</P>

<P> Other changes include the crucial issue of refugee return. With international assistance, people are coming back to their pre-war homes in significantly greater numbers than were registered during the same period last year. In one Bosnian Serb area, local policemen have paid regular visits to a small community of Bosnian Muslims who have recently returned. In the past, such visits would have been for one purpose only: to terrorize them. But these policemen were simply checking on their welfare.</P>

<P> When I took over from my predecessor, Carl Bildt, I quickly perceived t

he danger of getting lost in the day-to-day minutiae of peace implementation. This was why I pledged to identify the institutions that underpinned radical nationalism, and to transform them into the kind of institutions that exist in Western-style democracies.</P>

<P> That is not to say that I ignored the minutiae. To have done so would have been irresponsible, since resistance to democratization can be seen (and will continue to be seen) at all levels of government and administration in Bosnia-Herzegovina. In my two years, I have been forced to remove 16 high-ranking officials from their positions, including the president of the Republika Srpska, Nikola Poplasen. As the ultimate interpreter of the Dayton Peace Accord, I also have imposed over 45 decisions and laws on the country, on everything from the design of banknotes to the establishment of the courts.</P>

<P> Here are some more concrete examples of what we have achieved:</P>

<P> *The media. In the Balkans, political control of the media is endemic. One only has to look at recent events in Yugoslavia for an example. Just two months ago, a Belgrade minister of information was seriously informing journalists that there were no Kosovo refugees, only CIA-paid actors trooping around in circles for the cameras. It was this kind of disinformation that helped spark the war in Bosnia. In the autumn of 1997, SFOR troops seized the transmitters of the Bosnian Serb broadcaster SRT. SRT has since been restructured. </P>

<P> Meanwhile, we have created internationally-sponsored alternative media, like Radio Fern and the Open Broadcast Network, whose news programming is now recognized as the best in the country. And last summer, I established an Independent Media Commission which, through its regulatory and disciplinary powers, has enabled the international community to limit the influence of Croatia over the Bosnian Croats in Herzegovina.</P>

<P> *The police. An International Police Task Force, under the auspices of the United Nations, has made substantial progress in the democratization and professionalization of police forces on both sides of the old cease-fire line. A state border police force is under consideration, which will be a major step forward in reinforcing this young state's identity.</P>

<P> *The judiciary. A review I instigated at the beginning of 1998 indicated that the political nomination and removal of judges was a cancer at the heart of Bosnian society, which called out for treatment of the most radical kind. The treatment, the establishment mechanisms to ensure the independent selection of judges, is still ongoing. But the message that there can be no true civil society without the proper rule of law is getting through. Reforms of the legislation governing criminal jurisdiction are under way.</P>

<P> *State identity. In 1997, Bosnia still did not feel like its own country. Today there is a flag, a coat of arms, a national anthem and a single series of banknotes. There is a new state district in Sarajevo. I have imposed a law on citizenship. I have instigated telecoms reforms, establishing a single international telephone system for the country. Meanwhile, in February this year, I confirmed that the armed forces were commanded by the state presidency, not the regional governments. All this has given Bosnians an incipient awareness that their state, as enshrined by the Dayton Peace Accord, really exists. </P>

<P> *The economy. There is still much work to be done to create the conditions necessary to attract foreign investment and create a modern market economy. A privatization commission has been set up. There have been advances in streamlining the public utilities, and some steps toward privatization. But the resources available to the local authorities and to the international community are desperately scarce in comparison to the enormity of the task in hand. </P>

<P> To my successor as High Representative, the distinguished Austrian diplomat Wolfgang Petritsch, I leave a task unfinished. I wish him well in what must be one of the most challenging jobs in existence. Mr. Petritsch's success in carrying reform forward will partly depend on how prepared the international community is to pay for it. Unfortunately, at the Bosnia donors' conference in May, only 30% of the estimated cost of implementing the planned reforms was pledged. I hope that the key issue of funding, not just for the Balkan region but for Bosnia specifically, will also be addressed at this week's conference. Unlike the cracks in Zetra's walls, the deficiencies of the monetary pledges so far cannot be hidden.</P>

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<P>Wall Street Journal

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>What Dayton's Failures Teach The West</P>

<P>By James Lyon, a political analyst with the International Crisis Group.</P>

<P> SARAJEVO, Bosnia--As world leaders meet here today to plan how to spend billions of dollars on a new "Balkan Marshall Plan," they may want to consider the serious problems becoming evident with the Dayton Peace Accord, the 1995 agreement that ended the Bosnian war. That the accord may not be working out holds valuable lessons for the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe that the summiters will discuss.</P>

<P> The Dayton accord called for the creation of a unified state, comprised of two multi-ethnic entities--Republika Srpska and the Muslim-Croat Federation . The reality is different. Today's Bosnia has three mono-ethnic entities and a national government that exists mostly on paper. Indicted war criminals roam freely and still rule in some areas. Nationalist extremists--often encouraged, organized and funded by the ruling political parties and supported by local police--bomb and torch the homes of returning refugees. All this prevents refugees from returning to their pre-war homes. If NATO pulled out tomorrow, another Bosnian war could easily break out within a year .</P>

<P> Making matters worse, Bosnia has become dependent on donor aid, which may account for as much as 30% of gross domestic product. The overall investment climate suffers from a suffocating bureaucracy, excessively high taxes, corruption, and a non-functioning legal system. Politicians seem more interested in distributing foreign aid and skimming off the top than in making the needed structural changes in the economy that will attract private investment. Even McDonald's has been driven off.</P>

<P> To be sure, there have been some successes under the Dayton Accord: a central bank, a common currency, a new flag, common license plates and customs reforms. Programs to restructure the financial system, judiciary, tax policies, investment laws, the electoral system, and to privatize state-owned assets are all under way. So, too, the NATO-led Stabilization Force has managed to keep the peace for three and a half years. The World Bank, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the European Union and other international organizations succeeded beyond all expectations in reconstructing Bosnia's war-damaged infrastructure. Today, Bosnia has new roads, schools, hospitals, bridges, houses, and power lines, and in Sarajevo much of the wartime damage has been repaired. Yet, tangible though these changes may be, many of them are superficial.</P>

<P> One of Dayton's flaws is that it failed to address the underlying causes of the war, which, contrary to popular belief, were not "age-old ethnic hatreds." Rather, the wars of Yugoslavian dissolution stemmed in large part from the inability of Yugoslavia's economic and political structures to provide prosperity and free political expression. This offered fertile ground for nationalist extremists such as Slobodan Milosevic to exploit.</P>

<P> Dayton also asked three warring Bosnian factions to live together in peace and harmony in a unified state, and to forget the war-time atrocities, large-scale economic plunder and organized crime from which the three nationalist ruling parties benefited.</P>

<P> Because the U.S.--fearing American casualties--refused to allow NATO troops to fulfill their mandate in its entirety by, for example, arresting war criminals, the agency responsible for implementing the civilian aspects of Dayton, the Office of the High Representative, began life permanently handicapped. The OHR, along with the UN and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, have been forced to rely on the good will of Bosnia's ethnically based ruling parties to comply with Dayton. This in turn has led to a policy of pleading, cajoling, and begging in order to save Dayton. Bosnian politicians will typically cooperate only when it is in their party's interest to do so.</P>

<P> It should be no wonder, then, that the international community has begun

n reducing donor aid for Bosnia, which may result in a severe economic downturn . Already, pensions have not been paid in months. Unemployment in the federation hovers around 39%, while in Republika Srpska's Yugoslavia-dependent economy it may run as high as 60%. The costs of an antiquated health care and retirement system are enormous. The ratio of employed workers to pensioners in the federation may be as high as one-to-one. Bosnia's governments lack cash to support refugees from their own war, much less the influx caused by the NATO bombing of Kosovo.

Social discontent has already burst into open unrest. Demonstrators from all ethnic groups regularly block major highways throughout Bosnia, clamoring for unpaid wages, pensions and benefits. In the past Bosnian politicians channeled this unrest into nationalism, which led to the war in the first place.

Given all this, Dayton may be set to fail. On present course, Dayton can succeed only if donor aid remains at current levels for the next 20 years. This would require aid of at least \$10 billion over the next 10 years, not to mention the expense of maintaining NATO forces in the field. But if donor aid decreases and the international community continues to pursue its current strategies, Bosnian authorities may gradually cease cooperating in the implementation of Dayton.

A better--and less expensive--course would be for the international community to re-examine its strategies for implementing Dayton and for restructuring Bosnia's economy and politics. One possible solution would be to make further aid dependent on rapid fulfillment of Dayton and other specific reforms. Western policy makers should also give the peacekeepers a green light to move more vigorously in implementing the accords.

But whatever policy they choose to pursue, the leaders considering the Stability Pact here today need to appreciate a few clear lessons. The successor states and regions of the former Yugoslavia inherited its economic and political structures almost intact. Because of this, the Stability Pact will face problems similar to those in Bosnia in Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo and eventually Serbia itself. As the Stability Pact enters these areas, it should find ways to create the necessary structural reforms in the economic and political systems . Only then will these countries be able to make efficient use of donor aid, avoid donor dependency, and create viable, self-sustaining economies and polities .

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<P>National Review

August 9, 1999

Pg. 32</P>

<P>Losing Private Ryan</P>

<I><P>Why the citizen-soldier is MIA.</P>

</I><P>By Andrew J. Bacevich</P>

<P> The war over Kosovo was indeed a peculiar one, as its aftermath proved. It was the first American war fought and won without a single U.S. combat casualty, and it was the first one conducted from start to finish without engaging the passions of the American people. Victory prompted not celebrations but sighs of relief. Rather than put on a parade up Fifth Avenue, marking "V-K Day," the nation--bored, impatient, and slightly embarrassed--chose to concentrate on summer vacation. </P>

<P> The Kosovo war was also our first not to produce a single bona fide hero. The pilots who executed the air campaign remain shrouded in anonymity, as remote from the average American as they themselves were from the targets they obliterated in Serbia. When the air squadrons that carried the brunt of the war rotated back from the combat zone, newspapers were content to report their homecoming via brief, colorless wire-service dispatches, printed on the inside pages. </P>

<P> Nor have the war's chief architects attained glory. So far at least, publishers have suppressed any impulse to cough up a Schwarzkopf- or Powell-style advance for Gen. Wesley Clark's memoirs. On his first postwar trip to Washington, the NATO commander found himself reporting not to a specially convened joint session of Congress but to the Senate Armed Services Committee. Those members who bothered to show up greeted Clark with decided chilliness. As for the victorious commander in chief, far from being rewarded with a "bounce" in the polls, his approval ratings actually dipped. </P>

<P> What gives? Why has this latest demonstration of U.S. military might resulted in apathy rather than approbation? Why has NATO's big win over the dictator Milosevic lacked savor? There is widespread ambivalence about U.S. involvement in the Balkans, yes. But there is something else to consider, too: Public lethargy concerning Kosovo is one more sign that the American civil-military compact--not the relationship between senior civilian officials and the Pentagon brass, but the one shared by the people, their military institutions, and the state--is coming unglued. </P>

<P> In recent years, we have heard complaints wafting from military quarters about either the state (personified by the lubricious commander in chief)

or civil society (perceived as decadent, self-absorbed, and politically correct). In a democracy, however, the people dictate the status, prerogatives, and role of soldiers. Popular attitudes toward the military are therefore of paramount importance. </P>

<P> Kosovo revealed the extent to which these attitudes are today in flux. Americans show signs that they are increasingly aloof from their military. The problem is not one of hostility or alienation, but rather of indifference. And for a nation that is the world's only superpower, the implications are profound. </P>

<P> Evidence of this popular disengagement predates Kosovo, and it is empirical as well as impressionistic. Indeed, the evidence relates to the U.S. military's greatest point of vulnerability: whether it can attract sufficient numbers of able and motivated young people to serve. For nearly 30 years, the military has been an all-volunteer force. For senior military leaders, initially hostile to proposals to end the draft, this reliance on volunteers has long been a point of pride. For politicians, the all-volunteer force has been a godsend, enabling them to field a powerful military while freeing them from any requirement to impose the most burdensome of all taxes. Yet the success of the all-volunteer force is necessarily precarious, dependent on an obliging populace. Nor was this success foreordained. Indeed, it would not have occurred if not for the exceptional leadership of Ronald Reagan. </P>

<P> Reagan's supreme achievement, apart from winning the Cold War, was to preside over the revival of U.S. military power. To be sure, credit should not go to Reagan alone; others played their parts. But Reagan provided the essential ingredient without which other efforts would have availed little: In declaring that Vietnam had been "in truth a noble war," he both absolved Americans who fought there of the unjust charges against them and refuted the claim that to exercise American power is to perpetrate evil. In labeling the Soviet Union an "evil empire," he imparted to the armed forces a renewed sense of purpose and explained to Americans why the prosecution of the Cold War deserved their wholehearted support. In celebrating the valorous G. I.s of an earlier day--"the Boys of Pointe du Hoc," for example--he revived an old-fashioned patriotism the 1960s and '70s had discredited, seemingly forever. In lavishing affection and respect on the troops under his command, he declared them to be the embodiment of that patriotic spirit. </P>

<P> One consequence of Reagan's revitalization was to make it hip to be a soldier. Whereas the all-volunteer force had once been an iffy proposition, it now flourished. Gone were the days when getting the required quantity of recruits meant skimping on quality. Nowhere to be seen were the slugs, druggies, and dropouts who not long before had found their way into uniform. By the middle of the '80s, commanders were bragging that the force was the smartest, best educated, most trainable, and best disciplined in American history. </P>

<P> The contrast between then and now is striking. A decade after Reagan left office, the willingness to serve that he inspired has flagged. Although the "drawdown" of the 1990s has reduced the active military from 2.13 million to 1.36 million--meaning that many fewer recruits are required than before--all of the services are finding that filling their ranks has become, in the favored Pentagon euphemism, "a challenge." Last year, the Navy fell 7,000 recruits short of its total requirement. This year, both the Army and the Air Force will fa

il to meet their recruiting goals, despite loosened standards and the hasty assignment of additional recruiters to the field. Attracting officer candidates is likewise becoming more difficult. Enrollment in ROTC programs--the principal source of new ensigns and second lieutenants--is 8 to 10 percent short of requirements. </P>

<P> Compounding the recruiting problem is the increasing tendency of extensively trained personnel to bail out at the first opportunity. In 1998, Army and Air Force reenlistment rates dropped. In the Air Force and the Navy, aviators and aviation technicians are opting for civilian life at higher than expected rates. The Air Force projects that, by 2003, it will be short 2,000 pilots--no small matter for a nation that relies heavily on air power to accomplish its goals. </P>

<P> The essence of the problem is that fewer and fewer Americans are willing to serve in uniform. Since 1975, in what it calls its Youth Attitude Tracking Survey, the Pentagon has charted the "propensity" of young Americans to enlist in either active-duty or reserve forces. Since 1989, the year that Reagan left office, the figures have fallen off, for some demographic groups drastically. Since the Persian Gulf War, among all 16-to-21-year-old men, the propensity to enlist has declined from 34 percent to 26 percent. For African-American men--the lifeblood of the all-volunteer force--that propensity dropped from 54 percent in 1989 to 30 percent in 1998. During the years of the drawdown, this decline seemed inconsequential because, as secretary of defense William Cohen notes in his annual report for 1999, "a sufficient number of young men were interested in the military to allow the Services to meet reduced recruiting goals." Today, with the drawdown complete and annual recruiting requirements therefore increasing (up 5 percent since 1998 to a total of approximately 200,000), "that is no longer true." </P>

<P> To put it bluntly, the all-volunteer force is running out of volunteers. </P>

<P> In the Defense Department--an institution that talks strategy but lives tactics--an effort is underway to "manage" this problem. Determined always to protect arrangements it has grown comfortable with, the Pentagon reacts instinctively to any threat to those arrangements by calling for more resources. About its looming crisis of recruitment and retention, it sounds a most familiar refrain: It's the economy, stupid. In other words, a booming economy offering lucrative opportunities for civilian employment makes it difficult to compete for the labor of 18- and 19-year-old high-school graduates. Why join the Army when you can make better money on the outside with a lot less hassle? The solution devised by the Pentagon and the Clinton administration is equally straightforward: better pay, improved benefits, and more advertising to market the "product"; in short, throw money at the problem. </P>

<P> So the latest defense budget includes a military pay hike that the administration describes as the biggest in a generation. Plans call for improving retirement benefits by restoring an earlier, more generous system. And the services recently kicked off a \$268 million television-advertising campaign. Army ads update the old "Be All You Can Be" slogan by shifting the emphasis to, as a Pentagon press release puts it, "high-tech training, money for college, and enlistment bonuses." The Navy, meanwhile, has hired Spike Lee to produce a series of TV spots. </P>

<P> If this doesn't work, the Defense Department has a backup plan, tacitly adopted: If men won't volunteer, substitute women. Pentagon surveys indicate that the propensity of women to serve, although less than that of men, has held steady since the end of the Cold War. Women remain a relatively untapped market. They now constitute 14.1 percent of the active force, although as Secretary Cohen remarks, with evident satisfaction, "the proportion of women in the Services continues to increase." Indeed, in 1998, 18 percent of first-time enlistees on active duty and in the reserves were women. Still, as one Pentagon report observes, "women continue to be underrepresented in the military, compared to their proportion in civilian society." To true believers in "diversity," that gap suggests a problem; to recruiters, it represents a bonanza. </P>

<P> Women, Cohen notes, "are more likely to mention pay as a reason for joining, and less likely to mention duty to country." Furthermore, women are more likely to cite "familial obligations" as an obstacle to military service. Yet such concerns are by no means limited to women. One unforeseen consequence of eliminating the draft has been to create a military that is married with children. Over one-half of all enlisted members today are married (not infrequently to one another). Long gone are the days of high-testosterone youngsters living out of footlockers in crowded, spartan barracks. Today's soldier typically has a spouse and kids and aspires to a middle-class lifestyle. These considerations reinforce the Pentagon's inclination to see generous compensation and a family-friendly image as keys to preserving the all-volunteer force. </P>

<P> If we explain recruiting and retention shortfalls in economic terms, we overlook the fact that the decline in willingness to serve predates the current boom. But there is no reason that the United States cannot, if it so chooses, purchase an extension on the life of the all-volunteer force. Americans can--to put it plainly--pay whatever it takes. </P>

<P> Should they decide to do so, however, they should not confuse the probable result with the all-volunteer force that existed a decade ago. Reflecting the zeitgeist of the Reagan era, the force in that earlier incarnation was, if only momentarily, an expression of national revival, embodying the collective will and commitment of the people. If popular identification with "the troops" was not fully evident while Reagan himself was in office, it became unmistakably clear during the Gulf War. </P>

<P> Reflecting the spirit of the Clinton era--awash in cynicism, self-indulgence, and venality--a new all-volunteer force would signify an abdication of collective responsibility. Military service--bombing Belgrade, invading Haiti, keeping a watchful eye on Saddam Hussein--would become what "they" do while "we" simply foot the bill. </P>

<P> If Americans attempt to outsource post-Cold War national security the way corporations outsource after-hours office cleanup, they will do so at their peril. For the all-volunteer force that they will buy--increasingly female, encumbered with children, motivated by material considerations, and either ignored or taken for granted by the rest of society--will be ill suited to U.S. security requirements and positively poisonous for American democracy. The crisis confronting the all-volunteer force demands not quick fixes but a closer examination of the changing climate of civil-military relations threatening its survival. </P>

<P> A decade after Reagan, it is the legacy of Bill Clinton that matters. Clinton will bequeath to his successor a nation that has shouldered quasi-imperial burdens. As evidenced most recently by Kosovo, the responsibilities of the "indispensable nation" entail the frequent and protracted exercise of military power. The United States employs that power not to defend American shores or even to win wars, but to make and keep the peace, enforce norms of behavior, and advance the process of globalization that will, we are assured, make the world more stable, more peaceful, and more prosperous. </P>

<P> Paradoxically, the great global power confident of its ability to rearrange the international order has all but given up on the challenge to define its own values. This too forms part of the Clinton legacy. Apart from a ritualistic commitment to diversity, Americans find themselves increasingly without a common identity. As one result, the obligations of citizenship in the world's foremost democracy have shrunk to the vanishing point. That the state might actually command its citizens to perform military service seems preposterous. </P>

<P> To the Founders of this republic, the connection between freedom and the obligation of citizens to participate in the national defense was self-evident and crucial. The very "basis of our system," wrote George Washington in 1783, is that "every Citizen who enjoys the protection of a free Government, owes not only a portion of his property, but even of his personal services to the defence of it." Three years later, Henry Knox warned that "to exonerate the members of the community from all personal service, is to render them incapable of the exercise and unworthy of the characters of freemen." Of course, neither Washington nor Knox contemplated the need to dispatch troops to the Balkans. </P>

<P> One could argue that, as a de facto imperial power, the United States today needs an imperial army. Such a force would be self-consciously professional, inured to hardship, nurturing of ancient warrior myths, and devoted to cultivating values at odds with those prevailing in the rest of society. The ethos of such a force would be irreducibly masculine and would not incline toward gentleness. Whether such a military would "look like America" would matter little, so long as it made short work of the Milosevics of the world, thereby allowing the rest of us to go happily about our business and to enjoy the fruits of international preeminence. </P>

<P> One could also argue that the republican tradition of the citizen-soldier should be revived. A military policy that mobilizes the strength of the people, united and armed, to defend their homeland just might stem the corruption that Washington, Knox, and others viewed as the foremost threat to freedom. But such a people's army would do less well in demonstrating America's global indispensability or in enforcing the rules of globalization. </P>

<P> The decision to have either an imperial army or a republican one will determine in significant measure what sort of nation we will be in the coming decades. The real problem with propping up an increasingly wobbly all-volunteer force is that efforts to do so conceal the true choices that America must sooner or later confront. The great danger is that, thanks to their growing indifference to military matters, Americans will one day wake up to realize that they have made their decision inadvertently--or that others have made it for them.

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<I><P>Mr. Bacevich is professor of international relations at Boston University
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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 28</P>

<P>Aircraft Overkill</P>

<P> The July 22 op-ed article by Air Force historian Richard Hal
lion, "Why We Need the F-22," protests too much. I flew off the USS Essex durin
g World War II, and as every ex-fighter pilot who saw combat knows, "air superi
ority" and not "air supremacy," is the practical goal. Given reasonably matchin
g aircraft capabilities, "air superiority" is the combination of superior perso
nnel, pilot training and combat preparation, and top-level electronic capabilit
ies backed up with outstanding supply and maintenance readiness. It is a nation
al capability, not just a technical one.</P>

<P> Mr. Hallion's comparison of low air losses in Korea with the much highe
r ones in Vietnam is extremely misleading. The heavy losses in Vietnam were not
due to Hanoi's superior aircraft but to the effectiveness of ground-to-air mis
siles. U.S. fighters were largely committed to ground-support bombing against v
arious installations and military forces. This type of relatively slow and stra
ight course flying (essential for accurate bombing or rocket delivery) makes pl
anes vulnerable to antiaircraft fire as well as ground-to-air missiles.</P>

<P> This was true in World War II (long before the effectiveness of today's
electronically guided missiles) -- when the air war in the Pacific was largely
carrier-based planes supporting the fierce island-to-island Marine Corps and A
rmy landings that had to dig out entrenched Japanese forces. Carrier fighter pl
ane losses during that war were predominantly due to such ground-support action

, not Japanese fighter planes.</P>

<P> Attempting to maintain "air supremacy" is a far too expensive option, with no limits to the constantly increasing design and manufacturing costs that decision then demands. We lack evidence yet that any other nation is producing -- or can produce -- fighter planes so advanced that our latest fighters (upgraded properly) would be truly vulnerable. That time may come, but at \$222 million apiece, it will not be soon.</P>

<P>Edward W. Overton Jr., Annapolis</P>

<P>Editor's Note: The op-ed to appeared in the <I>Current News Early Bird</I>, July 22, 1999.</P>

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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 28</P>

<P>The F-22 Pause</P>

<P> IN THE 1990s, the Pentagon solved its budget problems in part by taking what some now call a procurement holiday. Because it was reducing force sizes, it had excess equipment -- planes, tanks, ships, etc. -- and felt able to cut back on buying new ones. One result is that "stocks of many kinds of military equipment" have been allowed to reach "a higher average age than . . . in the past," the Congressional Budget Office recently reported; more equipment than usual is closer to the likely end of its useful life.</P>

<P> To reverse the trend, as sooner or later it must, the Pentagon will have to increase procurement spending by billions more than current long-range budget estimates allow, CBO has warned. To go beyond simple replacement and buy more sophisticated equipment will require even greater sums. The underfunding is a problem that, up to now, the politicians have tended to blink. Who wouldn't ra

ther talk about tax cuts or aid to the elderly or other domestic needs than possible unmet military needs in time of relative peace? But the mismatches in the military budget aren't going to go away. Last month's unexpected vote by the House in favor of a "pause" in procurement of the costly F-22 fighter plane could be a healthy sign that a serious subject is about to get its due.</P>

<P> In no part of the military budget is the gap between projected need and likely resources greater than with regard to tactical aircraft -- fighter planes. The military has three new fighters on the drawing board. Its current plan is to buy a total of 3,700 over the next 27 years to replace the six kinds now in use. CBO estimates the cost at \$340 billion in today's dollars. That would represent a huge increase in current rates of spending (and is not the only area in which procurement costs could be expected to rise). The defense budget would have to go up much more than currently envisioned, or other categories of defense spending would have to come down (unlikely) -- or a decision could be made to make do with less, or less costly, tactical air capability. If the House vote forces a serious public weighing of these alternatives, it will have done a great service.</P>

<P> The F-22 is envisioned as a top-of-the-line fighter that would guarantee U.S. forces continued control of the air, and all of the overwhelming advantages that such control implies and the country has come to expect, in future conflicts. The problem is that the plane has proven extremely costly. It has left the original estimates as far behind as its backers say it would leave future adversaries. At the current estimate of \$200 million a copy, more or less, it would be more than twice as expensive as the highly effective F-15 it would replace. Among the questions to be answered is whether, in the end, it will really be that much better than the F-15, or the larger number of upgraded F-15s that likely could be had for the same price. Not all the systems on which the effectiveness of the F-22 would depend have yet been tested. Can it be made to work?</P>

<P> Even if the answer is yes, critics raise the further question of whether it is worth it. Given other demands on the dollar, how much sense does it make to spend heavily to provide the Air Force with that great an increase in capability when no other air force in the world is close? Defenders respond, in part, by noting that other air forces can be expected to improve, and that more than \$20 billion has already been spent on development of the F-22. It can't be recovered. The real debate is about the incremental amount that either will or won't be spent, which the Pentagon says would be less than \$100 million a plane but CBO puts at \$125 million. Those reluctant to choose between the cost of buying the plane and the risk of doing without it suggest, as a possible compromise, buying fewer than the 339 the Air Force contemplates (itself a reduction from the 750 envisioned originally). Some would also put part of the squeeze on the other new fighters the services want to buy.</P>

<P> In the end, these are political decisions -- the balancing of likely costs and risks. The affected members can be expected to make them on the basis of where the jobs are as well -- whose states or districts are likely to win or lose. That's part of the process. The important thing is to have a more serious public debate than has thus far occurred. Our sense is that CBO is right in warning as it has for years that current budgets aren't enough to cover all the defense costs they are supposed to. If the budgets don't go up, some of the things they are supposed to buy will have to be forgone. The tactical air debate is

part of a broader discussion, and as good a place as any to start. </P>


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<P>Washington Times

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>No Way To Treat A Soldier</P>

<P> We have learned not to expect much by way of gratitude or graciousness from the Clinton White House. We have seen old friends and associates, public servants and volunteers alike treated with summary coldness by the Clintons when they were no longer needed. This White House is not a classy operation.</P>

<P> Still, ever so often, the shabbiness with which the expendable are treated can be breathtaking. Case in point this week is the dismissal of NATO Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Wesley Clark. Gen. Clark's three-year tour of duty was to have ended in July 2000 -- and could at that time have been extended. Indeed, given that NATO's political leaders all around declared their pride in NATO's air-war victory over Serbia, one might well have expected Gen. Clark to receive commendations and medals. Instead, the general got the pink slip. The general was informed this week, just days before the Balkan reconstruction summit in Sarajevo in which he should be a key player, that he's out as of April. Clearly the sentiment here in Washington is "Thanks for nothing."</P>

<P> It is not just that the Gen. Clark was dismissed prematurely, but also the way it was handled. When Gen. Clark received the call on Tuesday, in the late afternoon, Washington time, he was on business in Latvia. That would be about 10 p.m. Latvian time. Within the hour, reporters started calling for comment, which is evidently how long it took for the Pentagon to leak the story.</P>

<P> The general's dismissal was described in unison by the White House, the Pentagon and NATO headquarters in Brussels as entirely "routine," just a normal rotation. It is nothing of the kind. Gen. Clark was charged with the unpromi

sing task of conducting an ill-conceived and illogical campaign in Kosovo, and he performed like a good soldier. There was friction, though, with Defense Secretary William Cohen. who received the general's call on Tuesday with frosty reserve. Steadfastly by Mr. Cohen's side have been the members of the highly politicized Joint Chiefs of Staff, who under Gen. Hugh Shelton ran interference for obviously political reasons in the way Gen. Clark wanted to conduct the war. Surely it is no coincidence that his successor will be Air Force Gen. Joseph Ralston, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs. No doubt, he will be more to the liking of Mr. Cohen and friends. Gen. Clark was, well, so bellicose.</P>

<P> The issues over which the military leadership clashed during the Kosovo war are central to the failures now being reported in damage assessments. It was the leadership here in Washington that held back the deployment of the hapless and unused Apache helicopters, which Gen. Clark badly needed. Likewise, the NATO supreme commander strongly believed that ground troops were needed to flush the Serbian forces out. Mr. Cohen was adamantly opposed. What we have since learned confirms that the air campaign at 15,000 feet did very little damage to Serbian forces and equipment. Instead, it was the civilian population that took the punishment, the horror of the mass graves in Kosovo far exceeding international expectations.</P>

<P> The decision to dismiss the general has unnerved NATO allies, among whom Gen. Clark is widely respected. It has also raised questions about the American commitment to keeping troops in Europe, given that Gen. Ralston has never held command in the area. Further, the appointment of an Air Force general appears to confirm that in the future American wars will be long-distance air campaigns. All of which does not appear to bode well for the future of NATO. </P>

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<P>Christian Science Monitor

July 30, 1999

Pg. 10</P>

<P>Clinton And General Clark</P>

<P> What kind of message is President Clinton sending to America's fighting forces when he cuts short the term of the general who won the Kosovo war?</P>

<P> The official excuse given for relieving NATO commander Gen. Wesley Clark two months shy of his term is to make room for another general who might otherwise have retired.</P>

<P> Alas, that narrow personnel judgment still leaves a bad odor for those who admire the way General Clark conducted the 11-week war with patience, precision, and punch.</P>

<P> Did he make mistakes? Was he too pushy with his political superiors? If so, that still doesn't justify leaving the impression within the military that even a war-winning general can be abruptly and coldly removed.</P>

<P> Let's hope the damage can be repaired soon by giving Clark high honors for keeping Europe safe from a despot - and for doing so with no NATO battle casualties.</P>

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<P>The Economist

July 31 August 6, 1999</P>

<P>Rockets Overhead </P>

<I><P>This week America and its allies told North Korea not to test a new long-range missile. However North Korea reacts, the missile threat

at is growing worldwide

Within the next few weeks, a handful of metal tubes soaring into space at several miles per second could force some recalculations by military planners down on earth. At least two countries which the western world views as pariahs are preparing to prove their ability to inflict deadly missile strikes not just on neighbours but on distant targets as well.

North Korea is getting ready to test a ballistic missile that could hit Alaska. If the warhead were small enough, it might reach Hawaii or even California. Iran is also assembling a new multi-stage missile which could reach most of Europe. It already claims to have deployed "in considerable numbers" a missile which can hit Israel and bits of Turkey. This week America, South Korea and Japan warned North Korea of "serious consequences" if it goes ahead with its missile test though a South Korean official said this meant economic sanctions, not military action. Meanwhile scientists, notably in America and Israel, are trying to refine the art of stopping missiles in mid-flight.

Of course, the fact that a trouble-making regime has the capacity to carry out missile attacks does not mean it will do so. A direct attack on the United States, or a country America is obliged to defend, could be an act of self-destruction for a smallish state. Anyway, hastily assembled rockets are probably not viewed by their masters as military weapons in the strict sense; they are too inaccurate. More likely, they are seen by their owners as tools of intimidation, meant to concentrate minds in the neighbourhood and impress their own people.

But even if ballistic missiles are not intended for immediate use, the western world cannot ignore them. Whether or not they threaten Los Angeles, the rockets of rogue regimes do pose an immediate danger to many American allies in the Middle East, Asia and elsewhere, while rocket-wielding countries are often friendly with Russia or China. Just as international networks of missile proliferation have emerged, despite efforts to curb them, so too could international networks of anti-missile protection.

In the Mediterranean, the Gulf and the Pacific, the privilege of being included in an American-led radar network and anti-rocket shield could soon replace air bases and naval visits as the most tangible token of a country's military status. But the possible creation of new defensive networks has already prompted loud protests in Russia and China. In both countries, it has been suggested that American assertiveness could destroy the entire fabric of non-proliferation and arms-control agreements including the Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty, under which America and Russia have pledged to remain vulnerable to each other's missiles (see article).

There are worrying signs, indeed, that diplomacy has already run out of steam. Accords like the Missile Technology Control Regime which limits the capa-

city and range of projectiles that its members can export have clearly failed to keep pace with the appetite of small countries for big rockets. "The spread of missile technology may have reached a break-out point," says Robin Ranger, a Washington-based missile consultant. Perhaps 35 or 40 countries now have some ballistic capacity. </P>

<P> North Korea is probably the world's most cynical proliferator, willing to sell secrets and components to anyone who pays. Both Pakistan's Ghauri missile, designed to deliver its newly developed nuclear warheads, and Iran's Shahab-3 rocket, tested last year, are copies of a North Korean prototype. Western missile experts expect another extravaganza from Iran shortly, possibly in the form of a Shahab-4 missile with a range of at least 2,000km (1,250 miles), or 50% farther than its predecessor. Kenneth Timmerman, a Middle East analyst, told Congress last month that Iran was working hard on a separate missile with a 4,000km range. Iran seems also to have tested a sea-based missile. </P>

<P> Under UN sanctions, Iraq is supposed to have destroyed its arsenal of Soviet-built Scud missiles, some of which were unleashed in the Gulf war; it is now barred from having rockets with a range of more than 150km. But there are fears that it still has several dozen Scuds, and that it could make longer-range devices if sanctions were lifted. </P>

<P>An Asian shield? </P>

<P> In the immediate future, though, it is North Korea's arsenal that poses the greatest threat of starting a crisis. Since North Korea lobbed a rocket over Japan last year, Japan and the United States have been considering how to construct a joint anti-missile shield, presumably based on the Aegis radar system which both their navies use. South Korea wants to extend the scope of the missiles that it deploys against its northern foe. Taiwan, facing threats from China, wants to buy any anti-missile defences America can offer. </P>

<P> A missile-tracking system that was good enough for Japan would also cover a much wider area. The Chinese anticipate with dismay the creation of an American-dominated shield, including radar ships, interceptors and possibly airborne lasers, covering much of the Pacific. They are particularly enraged by the idea of interceptors being sold to Taiwan and undermining their ability to keep their "lost province" in check. </P>

<P> If North Korea is the keenest missile-technology exporter, Iran is one of the most enthusiastic buyers, having shopped relentlessly for both technology and components in Russia, China and Pakistan. As American diplomats have discovered, even countries that are broadly pro-American such as Saudi Arabia and Pakistan can use subterfuge to stock their ballistic arsenals. The Saudis, for example, have quietly obtained long-range missiles from China. </P>

<P> Although the western world reckons it has some idea of what sort of roc

ketry other countries possess, it is much less sure whether they can equip those rockets with non-conventional warheads: nuclear, chemical or biological. North Korea promised in 1994 to stop trying to build nuclear weapons, though it hints this pledge may be reversed if America overreacts to its missile test. Defectors from the Stalinist regime say it already has a few nuclear warheads. In Israel, officials say they hope they have a couple of years to spare before Iran learns to tip rockets with chemical or even nuclear warheads and deliver them accurately. In Iraq, UN inspectors say they have found indications that Saddam Hussein had tipped rockets with deadly VX gas. This charge has divided the Security Council, with Russia alleging that the evidence is doctored. </P>

<P> In the United States, every piece of bad news from the proliferation frontlast years nuclear tests by India and Pakistan, and the steadily growing range of Iranian and North Korean rocketshas tended to harden opinion in favour of spending money on ballistic-missile defences. Since the Reagan era's Star Wars projectwhich was intended to break the "balance of terror" by covering America with an anti-missile shieldthe issue has been intensely divisive. </P>

<P> Many Democrats say missile defences are at best a gift to the arms industry, at worst a provocation to Russia. Republicans describe them as vital protection for American soldiers abroad and "American families" at home. The Clinton administration has tried to balance sensitivity to Russia's concerns with mounting pressure to do something about a missile threat whose rapid expansion has tended to vindicate the hawks. Last week, the president yielded to congressional pressure and signed a bill mandating him to start building an anti-missile shield over America as soon as it is technically possible. To the dismay of Republicans, he will not take a final decision until June next year about the feasibility of such a project. But Russia is furious already, threatening to "perfect its strategic nuclear forces" in response. </P>

<P> At least seven separate systems designed to neutralise incoming missiles are being developed by the Pentagon. They will cost more than \$3 billion next year, and the bill will rise sharply. Each project has its own lobby, and its own role in the perpetual rivalry between America's army, navy and air force. Each effort, supposedly, is intended to meet a slightly different threat. </P>

<P> So how many sorts of anti-missile defence are there? Even that is a bit terribly contested question. Everybody agrees that there are two extremes. First, there is "point defence" which protects specific placesa military base, sayfrom incoming missiles by knocking them out at a late stage in their descent. Into this category falls the PAC-3 (the forthcoming version of the Patriot missile, whose early model was tested during the 1991 Gulf war), and a naval system that might be on American ships by 2003. At the other extreme, in terms of ambition, lies the dream of a shield over the entire United States. The Star Wars plan, designed to build an impermeable umbrella over all 50 states, was the most ambitious version. Today, when people speak of a "national missile defence" for America, they usually mean a more modest shield, able to ward off a few missilesnot a massed attack by Russia. </P>

<P> Somewhere between these extremes lie two ambitious Pentagon efforts, whose exact status is hotly debated. These intermediate systems are "theatre" defences, designed to protect an overseas garrison, rather than America itself. They are, however, far more sophisticated than PAC-3. They are intended to deal with medium-range missiles (like North Korea's latest monsters or their Iranian copies) by striking them in space. (The longer a missile's range, the greater its speed, and the more desirable it is to intercept it at an early stage.) Russia and China suspect the development of "advanced" theatre defences is just a cover for the creation of a shield to protect American territory, in defiance of the ABM treaty. Politicians on America's political right say they wish that were true; in fact, they say, the Pentagon "dumbs down" its intermediate systems for fear of offending Russia. </P>

<P> One of these intermediate systems, known as THAAD (Theatre High-Altitude Area Defence), is a pet project of the American army; the other, known as Navy Theatre Wide, could give a new boost to sea power as a bastion of American strength. After six embarrassing failures, THAAD's engineers led by Lockheed Martin, a big military aerospace contractor, achieved a successful intercept in June; another attempt was due this week. Its sea-based rival is at an earlier stage of development, with the first intercept planned in about a year. </P>

<P> The Pentagon has said that by December 2000 it will decide which of the two intermediate systems to develop first. But on current plans the "winning" system will not be in place until 2007, a date too distant to please the country's defence planners. Amid a fog of jargon, real anxiety can be discerned in some Pentagon statements. "We have found ourselves in a very tight spot" because "the medium-range ballistic-missile threat is emerging very rapidly," General Lester Lyles, former head of missile defence, volunteered earlier this year. </P>

<P> Compared with the Pentagon's freely admitted worries, Israel's defence establishment tells a more upbeat story. The Arrow Weapon System, produced by Israel Aircraft Industries with American financial help, has a record of successful tests (five out of six). A further demonstration later this year, if it happens, might be a sign that deployments have begun. Compared with THAAD, its interceptors are larger, and therefore harder to transport by air, but that hardly matters in a tiny country. There are several other differences: Arrow aims for interception as the missile is plunging through the upper atmosphere, not in space, but still high enough, Israeli officials insist, to ensure that any poisonous debris is burned up. </P>

<P> While THAAD is a "hit-to-kill" vehicle, designed to vaporise rockets with a head-on blow, Arrow's "fragmentation warhead" works by exploding somewhere in the vicinity. THAAD's designers say its footprint, the area it can protect, is three to five times larger than that of Arrow; but Israel's system is easily broad enough to guard its own territory and quite a bit beyond. Hence the suggestion by Moshe Arens, until recently defence minister, that an anti-missile shield should be extended to friendly countries nearby: Jordan or the Palestinian Authority (neither of which has expressed any interest) or Turkey

y. So far, the American government has ruled out exports to third countries. </P>

<P> A shield over Turkey would require more than the three batteries of Arrow interceptors that Israel now plans; but it would be a logical follow-on from the two countries deepening strategic partnership. Whether or not this idea materialises, a regional anti-missile network of sorts is likely to emerge, as Arrow's sensors will probably be made capable of swapping data with nearby American ships, bases and spacecraft. </P>

<P> Although Israeli officials insist that Arrow can cope with "all the threats we know about" including any rocket that Iran is likely to fire, they are not complacent. Apart from the fact that no shield is foolproof, Israel can never afford enough interceptors to deal with the 300 or so Scud-type missiles that Syria could unleash. Israeli officials hope their next joint project with America will improve their ability to knock out missile-launchers. "The goal would be to reduce the number of missiles that have to be intercepted to a few dozen," says General Yitzhak Ben-Israel, a senior strategist. </P>

<P> Both in Israel and elsewhere, an articulate school of doubters believes that anti-missile systems are an irresponsible waste of money that can provide only a false sense of security. Hitting a bullet with a bullet will always be devilishly hard, whereas creating missiles that confuse interceptors through "counter-measures" will be easy, say the sceptics. For example, Russia has boasted loudly that its latest long-range rocket, the Topol-M, can slip through any anti-missile shield that America might erect. Given that even one nuclear- or chemical-tipped missile could be catastrophic, sceptics say it would be better to rely on the old techniques of diplomacy and deterrence. </P>

<P> These arguments are taken seriously by Israeli officials. But though they acknowledge the risk of counter-measures, their calculation is that none of Israel's likely foes is technologically advanced enough to beat them in a contest between lance and shield. In any event, they stress, Arrow is seen not as a panacea, but as part of a wide array of strategies, including deterrence, civil and counter-strikes. By broadening the range of options, a capacity to intercept missiles should reduce the chances that Israel will have no choice but escalation. </P>

<P> For NATO, responsible for a much larger swathe of territory, the response to the missile threat is not so simple. If new anti-missile pacts emerge in the Middle East and the Pacific, with American or American-financed technology at their core, could the Atlantic alliance supposedly America's most important be left behind? </P>

<P> West European defence planners have been slower to react to the missile challenge than their American and Israeli counterparts, and more sceptical about interception. Germany, the Netherlands and Greece have ordered PAC-3 interceptors. Britain, France and Italy, having recently decided, after years of dithe

ring, not to build a frigate together, still hope to produce a joint sea-based air-defence system which would have some capacity against missiles. But Western Europe is at present developing nothing that could be used to stop medium-range rockets. </P>

<P> Although NATO has paid lip-service to the idea of working together to head off the missile threat, there is a risk that new rockets on the periphery of Europe could have a disintegrative effect on the alliance. Italy, for example, will be threatened by Libyan missiles much sooner than Britain or Norway. Such hard geographical facts could lead to a "renationalisation" of defence decisions. If London were threatened, a British government would have little difficulty in persuading its taxpayers to spend heavily on a missile shield. But would they feel the same urgency about a threat to Palermo or Seville?</P>

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<P>New York Times

July 30, 1999</P>

<P>Rebuilding The Balkans</P>

<P> President Clinton's meeting with more than 30 other national leaders in Sarajevo today offers a chance to get the postwar reconstruction of Southeastern Europe off to a sound start. Billions of dollars have already been pledged to help rebuild Kosovo and several neighboring countries. But a lot of this could be wasted unless Washington, the European Union and the United Nations show they have learned from their only partly successful efforts in Bosnia. This time, more must be done to build new locally based economic and political institutions so that international relief can give way to long-term recovery.
</P>

<P> The Sarajevo meeting launches the Balkan Stability Pact, an international relief and recovery plan intended to help the Balkan region overcome its his

tory of conflict and ethnic strife and speed its integration into democratic Europe. The main beneficiaries will be Kosovo, Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro, which like Kosovo is formally part of Yugoslavia. Help will also be available for Romania and Bulgaria. </P>

<P> So long as Slobodan Milosevic remains in power, most international reconstruction aid will rightly bypass Serbia. The point is not to punish the Serbs but to hasten Mr. Milosevic's downfall. Once he is gone, building a more democratic and prosperous Serbia will help cement regional stability. </P>

<P> Bosnia shows that it is best to avoid building big, overlapping international bureaucracies that attract corruption and crowd out local political and economic initiatives. Western intervention brought desperately needed peace to Bosnia. But unemployment remains devastatingly high, foreign investment minuscule and politics dominated by ethnic nationalist parties. </P>

<P> In Kosovo, international administrators need to make sure moderates and independents get a fair chance to compete politically with the activists of the Kosovo Liberation Army. The K.L.A. has begun forcibly taking over political institutions and businesses while the U.N. administration is still getting organized. Once U.N. officials take charge, they should set a reasonable target date for local elections to begin the process of establishing self-government. A degree of economic self-sufficiency can be attained relatively quickly by assisting local farmers in getting back on their feet. They need modern equipment and lower trade barriers for their exports. </P>

<P> President Clinton helped to free Kosovo from brutal Serbian rule and enable its refugees to return home. Now he must help consolidate a wider Balkan peace.</P>

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<P>Federal News Service

July 28, 1999

<P>Press Conference With Secretary Of Defense William Cohen And Japanese Minister Of State For Defense Housei Norota

<I><P>Tokyo, Japan

</I><P> SECRETARY COHEN: Good afternoon. Minister Norota and I have just completed a very good meeting, and I would like to thank him for hosting this visit. And I would like to thank the government and the people of Japan for their support to U.S. Forces stationed here to defend American and Japanese interests in Asia.

<P> I saw some of that support today at Camp Zama, where I visited the U.S. troops that were stationed there. When I leave here I will meet with Prime Minister Obuchi and Chief Cabinet Secretary Nonaka to continue discussions of a broad list of mutual interests ranging from Korea to Kosovo. The reason for this strong relationship between the United States and Japan is easy to summarize.

We share commitments to the same values, to security and to stability. Our common commitment to democracy and free markets has helped us work together for

peace and prosperity in Asia and throughout the world. And one sign of that is Japan's generous contribution to meet the humanitarian and reconstruction needs in Kosovo.

<P> The approximately 100,000 U.S. troops that are forward deployed in the Asia-Pacific region help protect the security of Japan and the stability of the entire region. That stability is the foundation for economic growth and the spread of democracy in Asia.

<P> We share the view that another missile test by North Korea would create an element of instability and uncertainty in the region. The United States, Japan and South Korea, all want cooperation -- not confrontation -- with North Korea. We are prepared to work with North Korea to open economic and political opportunities, and North Korea should seize this chance to build a new and positive relationship. A refusal to show restraint, however, would have serious negative implications on our relationship, stalling or indeed stopping potential cooperation that could benefit North Korea and all of Asia. The governments of Japan, South Korea and the United States have been closely consulting on the coordinated political and economic steps we would intend to take if North Korea does not exercise restraint.

<P> At our meeting, Minister Norota and I discussed a range of other topics: our continuing work to implement the recently passed Defense Guidelines, the progress towards implementing SACO, including finding a replacement for the Futenma airfield, and the importance of a strong host nation support for our security forces here.

<P> Let me just offer a few brief comments on areas of particular interest to the press -- theater missile defense and satellite surveillance activities.

<P> The United States and Japan expect to sign a Memorandum of Understanding soon that will establish a framework for our collaboration on TMD research. It will also cover subsequent development and production, if this is the path that Japan selects. It is important to note that Theater Missile Defense is purely a defensive system, both for the United States and Japan, and our work on this project should not be a threat to anyone. On satellites, I made it clear that the United States supports Japan's indigenous program, and we are willing to cooperate on that program. Our technical experts will continue the discussions underway of this particular matter. And we are also going to continue to share our intelligence and information with Japan just as we do now.

<P> The security relationship between the United States and Japan is as strong as it has ever been, and this relationship continues to be an important force for stability in Asia. And with that let me take your questions.

<P> Q: Michael Lev from the Chicago Tribune. Your statement here sounded more, a little more forceful to me in that there is a carrot and stick approach regarding North Korea. Can you be a little more specific about what's at stake here? What is the U.S. and its allies prepared to offer North Korea if it backs down? And alternatively, what's at stake if they proceed?

<P> SEC. COHEN: As I've indicated, and I believe Secretary of State Albright has indicated during discussions in Singapore, that we see this as an opport

unity for North Korea to embrace some economic and diplomatic initiatives that would lead to a lessening of tensions and an integration of North Korea into the international community. There are a number of opportunities that I can't spell out here but have been at least made clear through the work being done by Dr. Perry and others, Dr. Kartman, who is following up on those discussions that would be of benefit to North Korea and indeed to much of Asia. A rejection of that path of integration into the international community would have the opposite result, and that is, it could lead to greater instability and tensions in the region, which would not be of benefit to anyone. And so we're hoping that North Korea will choose the path of cooperation rather than confrontation. Much will depend upon North Korean response to Dr. Perry's initiatives and those being followed up by Dr. Kartman.

<P> Q: I am Hiroki Sugita from Kyodo News. Mister Secretary, did you agree with your Japanese counterpart on some kind of timeframe to relocate Futenma Air Base?

<P> SEC. COHEN: We had discussions, and will have further discussions this afternoon, with respect to a host of issues. Again talking about implementing the SACO agreement as such and the elements within that, including the relocation of Futenma. President Clinton has indicated that he hoped that outstanding issues could be resolved by the Summit next year. So I can only reiterate that progress, substantial progress can be made.

<P> This is a cooperative undertaking, and the relocation of Futenma really is in the interests of the people in Okinawa. We're trying very much to reduce the size of our footprint. As such, we think that it would be beneficial to the people in Okinawa. As long as we can find a way to meet our security requirements and readiness training issues, we would like to see that take place as soon as it can. But there is no definitive time limitation. We think that good progress has been made and can be made in the coming months and hopefully can be resolved by next year by the Summit, by the time of the Summit, but there's no fixed date.

<P> Q: Marina Kamimura of CNN. First of all, if you could elaborate any thoughts on, there have been suggestions that Japan possibly could be compelled to suspend its contributions to KEDO in the event of another missile launch. Your thoughts on that. And secondly, your reasoning behind the replacement of General Clark, in terms of NATO, with General Ralston. Your thoughts on that and whether that had anything to do with differences over Kosovo?

<P> SEC. COHEN: And the first question?

<P> Q: The first question being - your reaction to suggestions that Japan could be compelled to suspend contributions to KEDO in the event of another missile launch.

<P> SEC. COHEN: I'm not sure the question is posed that Japan could be compelled to discontinue funding of KEDO. This is a decision, of course, the Japanese Government would make on its own. We think that the agreed framework is in the interests of all concerned, that North Korea would not develop or seek to develop further any endeavor in the field of nuclear weaponry. But that is a matter that will, of course, have to be decided by the Japanese government and the Japanese people.

<P> We think the agreed framework is nonetheless important to adhere to, but it will create certain political pressures. That's been made clear by Japan's Foreign Minister, and it will be up to Japan to make that decision. So it's not an issue of compelling Japan, or Japan being compelled to discontinue. It's a decision that the Japanese government will have to make, taking all the factors into account. There are a number of activities, of course, or actions that Japan, the United States and South Korea could take in the field of economic and diplomatic initiatives, but that remains to be determined.

<P> With respect to General Clark, there are a number of commanders and chiefs that will have to be replaced next year. I went through the entire list with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs looking at ways in which we could in fact structure those replacements and to do so in a way that would maintain the best interests of the United States in how we structure them.

<P> And I made a determination that General Ralston, whose term as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will expire next February, would be the appropriate person to fill the SACEUR's position next year. I looked at the same qualities that General Clark has. He's done an outstanding job in serving this capacity as Commander of the European Forces and Supreme Allied Commander, and I see the same qualities in General Ralston, namely, his diplomatic skills, his war capabilities, war record as such, and the capability of serving in that capacity.

<P> So the same characteristics I found in General Clark in recommending him for that position I find also in General Ralston. So it's a matter of maintaining the continuity of that. Because of the time pressures of next year, there was a slight difference in terms of overlap, where General Ralston's term would expire in February, we would have an additional 60 days in which he could be kept on in an official capacity and that dictated the timing of it. But I'm very high in terms of General Wes Clark and the job that he has done. And I believe that General Ralston, if confirmed for that position, would also bring the same talents to the position.

<P> Q: Cameron Barr from the Christian Science Monitor. On North Korea, are the North Koreans fully aware of exactly what they stand to gain if they do back down from their launch or could the offer be sweetened sometime soon? And secondly, since the last launch a lot of interesting things have happened in Japanese security circles. I'm thinking about the decision to pursue reconnaissance satellites, the decision to shoot at the North Korean supposed spy boats, and more recently, the decision to pursue in-flight refueling capability. How do you see Japan's security thinking, its defense posture evolving these days?

<P> SEC. COHEN: I am satisfied that the North Koreans have been made aware of the potential benefits of having a more cooperative relationship with the United States, Japan and South Korea. That has been the purpose of Dr. Perry's visits to Pyongyang and the discussions that have been carried on by Dr. Kartman, Ambassador Kartman. And so I think they are fully aware of the potentiality involved in such a posture on their part of one of cooperation. With respect to what has taken place since that satellite, or the launch of the missile last year, which the North Koreans claim to be a satellite launch, there have been a number of changes that have taken place. It has certainly spurred the interest

sts, and intensified the interests on the part of Japan to cooperate in the research and development of a Theater Missile Defense System. I would say that our relationship with Japan has certainly progressed, is stronger than ever. And I believe that everyone in the region is concerned about what kind of activity the North Koreans might pursue which could undermine the stability that currently exists. So, I think that a number of changes have been made and Japan has strengthened its own defensive capabilities. It has done so in conjunction with working very cooperatively with the United States.

<P> Q: Anthony Rowley of the Business Times. You spoke of the coordinated political and economic steps which the United States and Japan might take in the event of North Korea not backing down on the missile launch. We are still speaking then of political and economic steps only. And secondly, on the Theater Missile Defense System, when Japan introduced its Defense White Paper earlier this week, it insisted on calling it a BMD System, rather than a TMD System. What differentiation do you see between those two terms?

<P> SEC. COHEN: Yes, we have been talking principally about economic and diplomatic responses that would need to be coordinated between the South Korean government, Japan and the United States. As far as the distinction between Ballistic Missile Defense and Theater Missile Defense I think that it is a distinction without a difference in this particular case, because the type of system that the Japanese government is looking at is essentially a theater missile defense which would defend Japan itself. When we talk about ballistic missile defense in the United States, we talk about a national missile defense system, which is quite different. But the theater missile defense system for Japan, in essence, would protect all of Japanese territory; and in the theater itself, beyond Japan itself, it would provide that kind of protection for forces here, throughout the region, nearby region. And I'm talking about Japan now, in its general region.

<P> Q: Michael Zielenziger of Knight-Ridder Newspapers. Two related questions, I suppose. Were the North Koreans to launch a new missile, clearly the Japanese people would feel very threatened by that. Would the Japanese people be justified, in essence, asking the Americans, as their security partners, to launch some kind of retaliatory strike against North Korea? Would that be justified on their part, first of all? And, second of all, we've had the impression here in Tokyo that independent Japanese satellite capability was not something we, the Americans, were particularly excited about. Is there some reversal in what you've said today?

<P> SEC. COHEN: With respect to your first question, whether or not there should be quote, any form of retaliation, the United States is not in the business of trying to retaliate, to escalate tensions in the region. What we are trying to do is to resolve these tensions diplomatically, in a non-confrontational style. Hopefully, the North Koreans will see the benefit of this. As far as the United States response, again, I point out it's important for the United States to coordinate its responses with the Japanese Government, and the South Korean Government, and to have a coordinated economic and diplomatic reaction to that. But I wouldn't want to speculate in terms of what action might take place beyond that. I think it's clear that we would focus principally on diplomatic and on economic reactions. And also, strengthening the Theater Missile Defenses. Again, the Theater Missile Defense, to come back to the question raised before, is primarily for the defense of Japan and its people, as well as the U.

S. forces stationed here.

<P> On the second question, you talked about whether there has been a change in policy. Our policy has been the same. We indicated from the beginning that this was a decision for the Japanese Government to make. As to whether they wish to perform, to undertake an indigenous satellite production capability that was up to the Japanese Government. We were prepared and willing to support whatever that decision entailed. And to the extent that it's going to be an indigenous production that they seek, we will cooperate to the best of our ability.

<P> Q: Richard Roessler of Stars & Stripes. Could you tell me what your view is of Tokyo Governor Ishihara's request to have a joint use air base at Yokota?

<P> SEC. COHEN: I'm not specifically aware of his request, or the specifics of it. Any requests dealing with U.S. bases here in Tokyo, will be the subject of government to government relations and so it would have to be handled at a government to government basis.

<P> MODERATOR: Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary.

<P> SECRETARY COHEN: Thank you.

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<P>Inside The Air Force

July 30, 1999

Pg. 1

<P>Pentagon Group Considering Precision Strike Improvements For JSTARS

<I><P>EA-6B in need of SEAD upgrades, documents say

Senior Pentagon officials are considering whether to spend an additional \$99 million over the next five fiscal years on communications systems that will improve the military's precision strike capabilities, according to Pentagon budget documents.

If the funding boost is approved, the Air Force's Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System would become much more efficient at pre-strike planning and battle damage assessment. The Navy's EA-6B, meanwhile, would emerge as an "integral" part of the electronic warfare net that supports suppression of enemy air defense (SEAD) missions, the documents indicate.

Current spending plans for the two aircraft make the precision strike requirements mandated by the Joint Requirements Oversight Council "unexecutable," claim the documents, obtained by sister publication Inside the Pentagon.

Accordingly, DOD's senior-level Program Review Group is now examining a proposal to allot \$36 million between FY-02 and FY-05 to begin integrating a Global Broadcast Service-receive capability on 14 JSTARS aircraft. Another \$63 million over the FY-01/05 period would go for the procurement and integration of Tactical Information Broadcast System/Integrated Broadcast Service (TIBS/IBS) transmit capability on 123 aircraft in the EA-6B fleet.

GBS will permit personnel on land, sea or in the air to tune into a constant stream of information provided by a central broadcast facility. The information could range from weather reports to imagery to targeting information.

According to the budget documents, it now takes between 72 and 96 hours to plan for a strike on an enemy target "in the pre-hostilities phase." A good portion of the time is used up transferring imagery from the processing center, through joint task force "targeteers," and finally to aircrews.

"The GBS receive capability will allow JSTARS to receive, enroute to and at the collection area, very high quality, annotated imagery from national processing centers for identification and correlation of targets tracked with JSTARS [moving target indicator] system," the documents read. "This allows JSTARS to perform its decentralized interdiction execution responsibility and real-time BDA. Without this capability, JSTARS will have to treat each target track as a new target with no correlation to any known or previously identified target."

As for the Navy's Prowler, the documents state the TIBS/IBS capability will allow the EA-6B to transmit, "without delay," data on detected radars to other signals intelligence collectors, like the Navy's EP-3 Aries. Additionally, with the improvements the EA-6B will be able to: provide near real-time information for cross-cuing of other sensors; contribute to the determination of electronic intelligence targets; and, use that ELINT target data to deliver High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missiles more accurately.

The "issue papers" describing the upgrades were prepared for the PRG and have been distributed to the services for comment. The PRG, which is chaired by the under secretary of defense for acquisition and technology, is in the process of preparing the department's first program decision memorandum. The PDM spells out major changes to service and Pentagon spending plans. On a parallel track, the Air Force is going through an investment budget review to determine i

f its major modernization programs are on cost and schedule (see related story)

<P> The PRG's deliberations come just weeks after the conclusion of Operati on Allied Force, during which Air Force platforms were overwhelming successful in hitting a variety of Serb targets in and around Yugoslavia. However, as the budget documents indicate, much work remains before key Air Force and Navy air craft meet joint strike planning, targeting, and battle damage assessment requir ements approved by the JROC.

<P> Specifically, several years ago the JROC directed the Joint Staff to d evelop a joint command and control architecture for precision strike over the F Y-00/05 time frame. Later, in 1997, DOD's Sensor-to-Shooter III study recommend ed the installation of a communications capability in electronic warfare aircra ft to provide for communications interoperability for join suppression of enemy air defense (SEAD) operations.

<P> Following Navy and Air Force acceptance of these recommendations, the JROC approved a program to upgrade Navy ES-3A and EA-6B aircraft with TIBS/IBS. The Navy elected to retire the ES-3A Shadow this year, however. A \$9.5 million effort to upgrade JSTARS with GBS was cleared as well, but this initiative did not take into account the cost of integrating the GBS terminals into the JSTAR S airframe.

<P> According to the documents, the Navy and Air Force expect to spend mor e than \$1.8 billion between FY-01 and FY-05 on a variety of JSTARS and EA-6B mo difications. But there was no funding set aside for the TIBS/IBS and GBS upgrad es.

<P> The JROC also recently voiced support for a variety of other JSTARS and EA-6B improvements, directing that more than a \$100 million of the Allied Forc e supplemental package go toward improving the air frames (Inside the Air Force , July 23, p18). The House Appropriations Committee also endorsed further upgra des to these and related platforms.

<I><P>-- Richard Lardner </I>

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<P>Washington Times

July 30, 1999

Pg. 1

<P>White House Says Information System Not Aimed At U.S.

<P>By Ben Barber, The Washington Times

<P> White House spokesman David Leavy on Thursday adamantly denied a new International Public Information (IPI) system would be directed at American audiences.

<P> IPI is a secret Clinton administration program to control public information disseminated by the departments of State and Defense and intelligence agencies.

<P> It is meant to "influence foreign audiences in a way favorable to the achievement of U.S. foreign-policy objectives," according to a draft IPI charter obtained by The Washington Times.

<P> But critics claim that IPI will be used for domestic propaganda.

<P> "That is totally inaccurate," Mr. Leavy said. "The IPI initiative is designed to better organize the government and the instruments we have to support our public diplomacy, military activities and economic engagement overseas. There is no impact on the domestic press."

<P> Mr. Leavy said that U.S. information officials at home and abroad serve different functions.

<P> "There are officers who work with the media in the United States and officers who support the U.S. policy overseas. They are totally separate. They are totally different functions," Mr. Leavy said.

<P> But a former deputy chief of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) under three presidents said he fears the IPI plan would mean U.S. propaganda aimed at foreigners would be used to influence American elections.

<P> Gene Kopp, who served under Presidents Nixon, Ford and Bush, said the elections of President Kennedy and President Carter were directly influenced by leaks of USIA foreign public-opinion polls showing a decline in U.S. prestige abroad.

<P> "I am concerned this could happen again under the IPI plan," said Mr. Kopp, currently a Washington lawyer. "The administration is transferring all assets, except broadcasting, to State, where they will not be separated in any way. It will be very difficult to separate what is disseminated in the United States and overseas."

<P> He said that the opportunity for abusing the system will be great.

<P> "The temptation to spin this stuff in a partisan way will be very strong -- probably irresistible," he said. "The other ominous feature is that this includes the intelligence agencies. They are in the business of misinformation. God only knows where that goes."

<P> New allegations emerged Thursday that the Clinton administration has been trying to control how American news organizations cover foreign affairs, at least since the Bosnia peacekeeping mission in 1996.

<P> According to a former government official, who insisted on anonymity, the White House created a Strategic Planning Directorate, which used the State Department and USIA to pressure American reporters into favorable coverage of the U.S. troop deployment in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

<P> It came into being just prior to the 1996 presidential election.

<P> "I heard them talk about it in conference telephone calls --how they had to control the media out there, the bureau chiefs, because if the Republicans picked this up [the Clinton administration] would be exposed as having no foreign policy," said the former government official.

<P> Shortly after President Clinton won re-election in 1996, the administration announced that U.S. troops would not be home by Christmas, as promised. Today, nearly three years later, some 7,000 U.S. troops remain in Bosnia.

<P> "The U.S. public wanted to know how long American troops had to be there," said the ex-official. "The Clinton people said 'only one year,' and [that] they would be home in December, after the election. But everyone knew the only way to keep the warring sides apart was robust international and American presence."

<P> This former official said this was widely discussed.

<P> "In the conference calls, they openly discussed how they had to prevent American journalists from discussing this," he said.

<P> The source said that USIA officials and National Security Adviser Samuel R. Berger tried to convince American editors not to publish accounts by their reporters who wrote that Bosnia was unsafe for Americans, that Muslim extremists were a threat, and that the warring sides would never be pacified.

<P> Ivo Daalder, who was a staffer on the National Security Council at the time, said discussions had no ulterior motives.

<P> Mr. Daalder, who is now at the Brookings Institution, said the talks among the USIA, National Security Council and other agencies "had the sole purpose of making sure they share information among them, and when the U.S. government speaks to the outside world, it does so in a coordinated manner."

<P> Mr. Daalder said "there was no deliberate campaign designed to put out false information prior to the 1996 presidential election."

<P> He said that USIA did increase staffing and efforts to convince American

reporters in Bosnia of the administration's perspective in September, prior to the Bosnian elections.


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<P>New York Times

July 30, 1999

<P>Government Y2K Expert Predicts Failures

<P>By The Associated Press

<P> WASHINGTON -- Computer failures related to the Year 2000 technology problem could extend well beyond New Year's Day, President Clinton's top Y2K expert said Thursday.

<P> Although John Koskinen predicted a national "sigh of relief" in the early hours of Jan. 1, he also anticipates scattered electronic failures over the first days, weeks and even months of the new year.

<P> Koskinen, chairman of the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion, said in an interview with The Associated Press that some failures may not become obvious until the end of January, the first time after the date rollover that consumers review their monthly bank statements, credit-card bills and other financial paperwork.

<P> "It won't evaporate until after that," Koskinen said. "Clearly, this is more than a January 1 problem." But he also slightly hedged his predictions: "None of us are really going to know until after Jan. 1."

<P> Unless repaired, some computers originally programmed to recognize only the last two digits of a year will not work properly beginning in 2000, when those machines will assume it is 1900.

<P> Some computer systems may shut down quickly with obvious failures, and others may gradually experience subtle problems or degraded performance that ma

y take weeks to notice.

<P> "The more difficult problem will be where the system looks like it's doing it correctly but it's doing it all wrong," Koskinen said.

<P> Some failures won't be recognized until the work week starts Jan. 3, as employees return to their offices and turn on their computers for the first time.

<P> Repaired computers also will need to recognize 2000 as a leap year, even though most years ending in "00" don't need to adjust for Feb. 29, he said.

<P> A new \$40 million Information Coordination Center being organized down the street from the White House will operate until March, sharing information about failures with states, federal agencies, corporations and foreign governments.

<P> Koskinen urged people to prepare for possible trouble as they might for a winter storm or a hurricane: Buy flashlights and batteries, keep enough cash, food and water for several days and make copies of financial and medical records.

<P> But he also cautioned against stockpiling supplies, which could lead to local shortages, or draining bank accounts, which could strain the nation's financial system.

<P> "If we get a couple hundred million Americans doing anything differently, we're going to create economic problems," he said.

<P> An AP poll this month found most Americans don't expect major problems, but nearly one-third plan to stock up on food, water and other supplies. About one-quarter of Americans planned to withdraw cash in case of trouble.

<P> Koskinen predicted the most widespread problems will occur in developing nations that were slow to begin repair work. He named certain regions that recently suffered financial problems, including Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe and Russia. But he acknowledged that parts of Africa, Central America, South America and the Caribbean also were likely to suffer.

<P> "Clearly, some of the developing countries of the world are going to have some difficulties," he said, adding that only 25 to 30 of the world's nations were well prepared. "Many more countries are going to have problems than not."

<P> The State Department will begin issuing travel advisories in September for U.S. citizens about which countries to avoid.

<P> Koskinen also disclosed that the U.S. government will consider evacuating American citizens from countries with widespread failures. He said each U.S. ambassador will make that decision.

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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 27

<P>Year 2000 Watch Is Planned

<I><P>White House to Coordinate Round-the-Clock Monitoring

</I><P>By Stephen Barr, Washington Post Staff Writer

<P> The Y2K watch in the federal government will start on New Year's Eve, at 7 a.m. EST, when New Zealand moves from 1999 to 2000.

<P> On that holiday Friday, a special White House coordination center will start round-the-clock operations to gather massive amounts of information about the Year 2000 computer problem here and abroad.

<P> The center will not act as a command bunker but will send assessments to top-level government officials responsible for responding to Y2K problems in their areas of responsibility, officials said. Also, the center will alert the "help desks" run by major industries and the public about any worrisome electronic disruptions.

<P> In cooperation with other federal technology centers, officials also will watch for what they called "malicious activity around Y2K," ranging from outside cyber attacks on systems to internal malfunctions created through "trap doors" secretly installed by Y2K programmers who had repaired software that might have interpreted "00" in date fields as 1900, not 2000.

<P> "Y2K-related difficulties, however minor, may be happening more or less simultaneously and in multiple locations," said John A. Koskinen, the president's top Y2K troubleshooter. "Much like the computer problem itself, gathering information about systems operations during the date rollover presents the federal government, and the nation, with yet another unprecedented challenge."

<P> Koskinen and other administration officials testified yesterday at a hearing held by the Senate Special Committee on the Year 2000 Technology Problem, chaired by Sens. Robert F. Bennett (R-Utah) and Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.). Neither senator objected to the creation of the White House Y2K center, expected to cost at least \$40 million, but they urged the officials to use the one-time event to help others learn how to combat future high-tech threats to public and private computer systems.

<P> Koskinen said the Y2K center, called the Information Coordination Center, will initially operate with a core staff of about 40 employees. In the last week of December, as the center gears up for 24-hour monitoring, it will draw on the expertise of about 200 staffers, on loan from several federal agencies, to analyze the data pouring in over the New Year's holiday and the following two weeks.

<P> Koskinen said the center will collect information over the holiday period in five major areas:

<P> * Federal agencies. The agencies will report on the status of 40 safety and health programs considered vital to many Americans. States, meanwhile, have asked for status updates on federal computer systems involving aviation, satellites, the weather and criminal record checks, as well as the U.S. Postal Service and navigable waterways.

<P> * States and localities. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will relay reports from the states, including data on power, telecommunications and health care.

<P> * Private sector. Industry groups will send reports to their appropriate federal emergency operations center, which will analyze, summarize and forward them to the White House center. The electric power industry, for example, will provide data to the Energy Department.

<P> * International. The departments of Defense, State and Transportation will provide information collected from U.S. embassies and other posts overseas.

<P> * Cyber incidents. The National Infrastructure Protection Center at the FBI, the Critical Infrastructure Assurance Office--an interagency group housed at the Commerce Department--and other agencies will be on alert for attacks aimed at compromising systems.

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<P>Washington Times

July 30, 1999</P>

<U><P>Inside the Ring</P>

</U><P>Gore's Ear</P>

<P>By Bill Gertz and Rowan Scarborough </P>

<P> Charles Moskos, the nation's leading military sociologist, has become an informal adviser to the presidential campaign of Vice President Al Gore.</P>

<P> ``I do advise Gore, but am certainly not inner core," Mr. Moskos tells us from his professorship at Northwestern University.</P>

<P> Mr. Moskos is an expert on sex in the military - that is the policies that regulate how men and women interact in an increasingly coed armed forces. He has served on two major commissions on the issue and is considered the father of ``don't ask, don't tell," the 1994 Defense Department policy under which homosexuals may serve as long as they keep their proclivities private.</P>

<P> But for Mr. Gore, Mr. Moskos is sending memos on different topics, such as national service and preventing corruption in government institutions.</P>

<P> The oft-quoted professor and author was the brains behind a forum Mr. Gore staged at the State Department this year on ethics among justice and security officials.</P>

<P> ``I am especially grateful for your initial memorandum that served as the inspiration for the `Global Forum,'" Mr. Gore wrote to Mr. Moskos on May 27. ``I look forward to our continued work in this most important endeavor.' '</P>

<P> Mr. Moskos says he has no plans to join a Gore administration. But he is doing research to prove his theory that the vice president would be the first ``true" enlisted man elected president. Mr. Gore served as an Army journalist during the Vietnam War.</P>

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<P>Defense Information And Electronics Report

July 30, 1999

Pg. 1

<P>GAO: Army's Plans For First Digitized Division Rife With Unc
ertainty

<I><P>Auditors center on FBCB2 testing in report

</I><P> The General Accounting Office believes the Army's plans
for fielding its first digitized division in 2000 are fraught with uncertainty
, with the operational effectiveness and suitability of a key piece of digitiza
tion equipment the No. 1 concern, according to a new report.

<P> GAO's concerns in some ways echo those expressed by Philip Coyle, the d
irector of operational test and evaluation for the Defense Department. Both are
worried about Army testing plans for the Force XXI Battle Command, Brigade and
Below system, which GAO calls the "critical component of the digitization init
iative."

<P> "Because the Army has recently restructured the system's test and evalu
ation program," the July 27 report states, "a determination of the operational
effectiveness and suitability of the FBCB2 system has been postponed until at l
east fiscal year 2002." Also, it adds, other systems key to the digitized divis
ion may not be fully tested by December 2000, when the First Digitized Division
-- the 4th Infantry Division, Ft. Hood, TX -- is scheduled to be up and runnin
g.

<P> GAO also worries that the capability of automated sharing of Army Tact
ical Command and Control System data within tactical operations centers won't b
e demonstrated in time. "Insight into the resolution of this issue is not likel
y to occur before April 2001 when a digitized brigade participates in an exerci
se at the National Training Center, Ft. Irwin, California," the report states.

<P> A final concern is the whether digitization in general can be proven to
work as expected. By the time of the FDD's stand-up, GAO states, "it will be u
ncertain whether digitization, with the expected interoperability of related in

formation systems, has achieved the expected increases in lethality, survivability and tempo of operations.

<P> "This uncertainty is not likely to be resolved any earlier than fiscal year 2002 -- after the FBCB2 initial operational test and evaluation," the report states.

<P> The Army recently overhauled its FBCB2 schedule largely to win the favor of Coyle, who had threatened to hold the program up over concerns with testing plans. Coyle believed the service would not conduct enough testing to properly gauge the system's contribution to improved force effectiveness.

<P> GAO notes that FBCB2 operational test and evaluation, set for November 2001, almost a year after the FDD is established, is "the most critical operational event scheduled" for the digitization initiative. Previously scheduled for October 1999, the test was also expected to involve an evaluation of other critical digitization systems like the Near-Term Digital Radio and new versions of the Enhanced Position Location Reporting System and Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System.

<P> While there "may be opportunities to evaluate the performance of these other systems" during an FBCB2 force development test and evaluation in April 2000, as well as FBCB2 limited user tests and the capstone exercises planned for 2001, "we believe these systems will not be exposed to the full rigor of operational testing until the FBCB2 initial operational test and evaluation itself," GAO auditors state. "We believe the acquisition strategy of fielding FBCB2 before completing operational testing exposes the overall digitization initiative to greater risk.

<P> "If the risk materializes into performance problems," GAO warns, "costly fixes to FBCB2 may be required." Also, performance problems could result in "continued uncertainties" about digitization's overall contribution to an improved Army fighting unit.

<P> This, the report continues, is key: While the Army is driven by the expectation that digitization will vastly improve lethality, survivability and operational tempo, its attempts to validate this goal have been "inconclusive."

<P> "The Army considers increasing the functionality of its units as expeditiously as possible a top priority," the report states. "However, as illustrated by its FBCB2 acquisition strategy, this high priority has translated into significant quantities of equipment being acquired and fielded before conclusive testing has been completed."

<P> DOD did not agree or disagree with GAO's recommendations in its official response to a draft of the report. However, Arthur Money, the acting assistant secretary of defense for command, control, communications and intelligence, did make two points: that overarching integrated product teams chaired by high-level DOD officials were addressing the issues in the report; and that Army tests and exercises "will provide intermediate confirmation of interoperability and performance, and that the FBCB2 initial operational test and evaluation is the culmination of the test and exercise process that includes the high-priority systems addressed in our report," GAO states.

<P> GAO auditors counter that while many critical issues are indeed being addressed and will be debated at a defense acquisition executive review in August, "we remain concerned about the number of FBCB2 units that will be acquired before a determination is made in fiscal year 2002 of the system's operational effectiveness and suitability." GAO also remains concerned over the quantities of other systems to be purchased before they are tested, believing that "there is a high risk of fielding unproven systems beyond the first digitized division."

<P> GAO recommends that the defense secretary direct the Army to establish schedules and procurement quantities that minimize the risks of fielding FBCB2 before full testing is completed, and develop a plan defining "when and how" the First Digitized Division will validate that digitization "has enabled the high-priority systems to interoperate effectively" and improve Army fighting units.

<I><P>-- Daniel G. Dupont </I>

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<P>Aerospace Daily

July 30, 1999

<P>Comanche Gets \$52 Million Boost In FY 2001 Budget Proposal

<P> Pentagon budget officials have approved a \$52 million plus-up for the U.S. Army RAH-66 Comanche program in the budget proposal for fiscal year 2001, according to Brig. Gen. Joseph Bergantz, the service's program manager.

<P> Bergantz told The DAILY that the additional money, in conjunction with a possible \$56 million increase pending in the FY 2000 budget, will accelerate development of the Mission Equipment Package (MEP) and allow Air Vehicle 2 to fly a full flight schedule beginning this October.

<P> The plus-ups cover the 2000 to 2001 period, the time that top Pentagon

officials have worried that the program would be at high risk because of inadequate funding.

<P> Bergantz briefed Dr. George R. Schneider, director of strategic and tactical systems for Defense Research and Engineering, July 22 on the budget increases and Schneider apparently was pleased with the plan. He had reviewed the program in December and requested the follow-up meeting to ease concerns about financial viability.

<P> Air Vehicle 2 will fly about 10 to 12 hours a month beginning this fall, if the funding increases hold, Bergantz said. The helicopter logged a few hours earlier this summer but the program has been hampered by lack of funding since then. Air Vehicle 1 has chalked up more than 145 flight hours.

<P> The additional flight time for Comanche-2 will speed up the MEP design, since the helicopter is the designated test vehicle for the smart suite. Air Vehicle 1 is tasked with expanding the flight envelope.

<P> The program is on track to make a Milestone II decision in March 2000, when it will enter the engineering and manufacturing development stage. The first eight units of the helicopter, which are expected to cost about \$15 million each, are slated for delivery in 2006, Bergantz said. The Comanche, being developed by Boeing and Sikorsky, is slated to take replace the Bell OH-58 Kiowa Warrior light helicopter on the digitized battlefield of 2010.

<P> "There is not a whole lot of flexibility built into the schedule," admitted Bergantz. "It is pretty much the way it is. A significant funding cut in one year or in the total plan - when that happened in the past we had to stretch the schedule."

<P> But the program is enjoying unprecedented political favor, said deputy program manager Darrell Harrison. "We are actually pretty optimistic about the program from here on out. Since the first contract award in 1991, the Comanche program has not experienced such strong support" in the Army, Pentagon and congressional budget process.

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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. B3

<P>Buried Chemical Agent Ignites In Ambassador's Yard

<P>By Sewell Chan and Allan Lengel, Washington Post Staff Writers

<P> A fire broke out yesterday in the back yard of the South Korean ambassador's home in Northwest Washington when a World War I-era chemical agent buried there reacted with air. About 10 workers at American University and some nearby homes were evacuated.

<P> No injuries were reported.

<P> The fire occurred in a 20-by-30-foot steel vapor-containment structure, where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting part of a \$4 million operation to excavate chemical agents long buried in the Glenbrook Road yard.

<P> Three U.S. Army ordnance specialists, wearing protective gear, were in the structure when the fire began at 12:38 p.m., said Maj. Brian Plaisted, site manager for the Army Corps of Engineers. Two were digging in a 10-foot-deep pit when "they moved some soil and saw the smoke coming out of the ground," Plaisted said.

<P> Engineers aren't sure whether the digging broke the chemical agent's container or it had rusted, mingling the agent with air when the diggers turned over the soil, Plaisted said.

<P> Either way, Plaisted said, crystals of the agent, a chemical compound called white phosphorus, made contact with the air. "It started smoking initially, and then after a couple of minutes it started flaming," he said.

<P> D.C. fire and police units decided to let the fire burn out because it was in the vapor-containment structure, Plaisted said. The fire subsided in about two hours.

<P> "It's not serious at all; there's a long distance between the house and the site," said the wife of Ambassador Hong-koo Lee. "The family's fine." Four other homes on Glenbrook Road were evacuated, said D.C. police Capt. Anthony Poteat.

<P> Karen Egbert, who lives near the embassy residence, was home with her two daughters and a friend of theirs when police asked them to evacuate.

<P> "We all went to Starbucks and we all feasted on Frappuccino," Egbert said. "How's that for a real middle-class reaction to a chemical alert?"

<P> Soldiers have used white phosphorus to create a wall of flame and

smoke to provide cover, Plaisted said. The chemical agent is still used by armies.

The Army excavation, called Operation Safe Removal, began after an investigation concluded last year that the embassy residence's back yard contains two pits--including the one where the fire broke out yesterday--where soldiers at what was then the American University Experiment Station buried canisters of chemical agents.

Staff writer Peter Pae contributed to this report.

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<P>San Diego Union-Tribune

July 29, 1999

<P>Marine Choppers Draw More Flak

<I><P>New copter routes proposed

<P>North County group wants noisy Marine craft to fly farther east

</I><P>By James W. Crawley, Staff Writer

<P> Drawing a line on a map isn't so easy when it marks a new route that Marine Corps helicopters might take.

<P> Some San Diego-area officials and residents want the flight paths of Miramar Marine Corps Air Station-based choppers moved from the Interstate 15 corridor to a more easterly route, away from San Diego, Poway and Escondido.

<P> But as North County residents have complained about the noise of the Marines' CH-53 and CH-46 helicopters, East County mayors and residents have voiced opposition to any aerial invasion.

<P> And the Marines are saying it's too early to be printing new maps. They'l

I need some time to study all the safety, noise and cost factors.

<P> That doesn't mean there are no proposals on the drawing boards.

<P> Several are being considered by the Marines, including one traced by the Move Against Relocating Choppers Here coalition, and a half dozen possible routes penned by the military.

<P> MARCH, which settled a lawsuit with the Marines in February over helicopter routes, hired two former Federal Aviation Administration officials to determine if an eastern route is feasible, said Jerry Hargarten, the group's chairman and a Poway resident.

<P> The helicopters, which were moved here after the closure of Marine bases in Orange County, fly north from Miramar to Camp Pendleton or to the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center.

<P> Any change to the current flight path would be up to the Marine Corps, Hargarten added.

<P> The MARCH proposal, unveiled recently at a public meeting in Rancho Bernardo, would send the choppers east from Miramar over northern Santee, then northerly over the San Vicente Reservoir. The route aims roughly north between Poway and Ramona, then passes near Lake Wohlford.

<P> Before rejoining the current I-15 route near state Route 76, the MARCH path flies over Hidden Meadows, a residential area north of Escondido.

<P> The group's proposal would add 15 miles -- 7 1/2 minutes of flying time -- to the I-15 flight path, estimated Martin Sweeney, one of the plan's authors.

<P> Besides flying over the northern end of Santee, the corridor would pass over or near the unincorporated communities of Eucalyptus Hills, Shady Dell and the San Pasqual Valley. It also passes over Daley Ranch, a public recreation area north of Escondido.

<P> An impromptu analysis of the route suggests the more easterly path would affect far fewer people and homes than along the heavily populated I-15 corridor. A more complete analysis by the San Diego Association of Governments may be completed this week.

<P> "There's plenty of latitude to fly without running into mountains or flying over populated areas," Hargarten said.

<P> But there are some concerns from people at the Ramona Airport and the Wild Animal Park.

<P> Although he hadn't heard of the MARCH proposal, Ramona Airport manager Rick Jenkins said he would be concerned about helicopters flying near the airport, which has no tower. Last year the airport recorded more than 125,000 takeoffs and landings.

<P> "It sounds like potentially we could have more aircraft in the area," he

said.

<P> He is concerned that the helicopters may fly close to the airport's arrival and departure flight paths.

<P> But Sweeney said the helicopters could safely fly above planes coming and going at Ramona. No altitude suggestions were made in the MARCH proposal.

<P> The thump-thump of helicopters might affect animals at the Wild Animal Park, which is just west of the MARCH-proposed flight corridor, said Ted Molter, a park spokesman.

<P> "We'd be concerned that animals might be injured reacting to the noise," Molter said. Also, he added, the San Diego Zoological Society's world-famous endangered species breeding program is in the San Pasqual Valley.

<P> The park could be given a wide berth, Hargarten suggested.

<P> While MARCH has completed its proposal, the Marines have sketched out several possible routes but no comprehensive study has begun.

<P> The Marines aren't talking much about their proposals, nor is MARCH's Hargarten.

<P> Marine officials refused to give copies of their preliminary proposals to The San Diego Union-Tribune. The newspaper has filed a federal Freedom of Information Act request for the maps.

<P> MARCH's Hargarten also refused to let a reporter examine his copies of the Marine maps, saying the February settlement with the government prohibits him from talking to the media without prior approval of local Marine officials. The settlement of the 2-year-old lawsuit requires the Marines to study noise and air pollution and change flight paths and reduce pollution emissions if necessary.

<P> In a one-page statement, the Marines Corps acknowledged that MARCH had received maps showing "preliminary potential routes."

<P> In the written statement, a spokesman said the process is complicated and must take into consideration environmental laws, FAA rules, safety and cost. No time line for the study has been drawn.

<P> But the top Marine aviator here has drawn one line, not on the map but in the proverbial sand.

<P> Safety, not noise abatement, will be the primary consideration of the Marines as they study possible new flight paths for helicopters flying from Miramar, said Maj. Gen. Michael DeLong.

<P> While reducing noise is "a foremost consideration," said DeLong, who commands the 3rd Marine Air Wing at Miramar, flight safety "will be the most important factor when considering the implementation of any new routes or the modification of existing routes."

<P> And, officials note, the Marine Corps will get the final say on whether a new route is drawn.

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<P>Norfolk Virginian-Pilot

July 30, 1999

<P>Navy Ordered To Pay \$693,000 To Injured Civilian

<P>By Marc Davis, The Virginian-Pilot

<P> NORFOLK -- A federal judge has ordered the Navy to pay nearly \$700,000 to a civilian who was injured in a 1996 accident with a Navy bus in Newport News.

<P> The victim, John P. Lego, 29, of Hampton, was rear-ended by a Navy bus while he was stopped at a red light at Jefferson Avenue and 79th Street on Feb. 15, 1996.

<P> Lego, a construction engineer and tournament bass fisherman, suffered a variety of injuries, including mild traumatic brain injury. He now suffers frequent panic attacks and other physical ailments, and has been forced to give up competitive fishing.

<P> "He's still got a lot of physical pain," said his attorney, Stephen M. Smith of Hampton.

<P> Lego filed a \$2 million claim with the Navy in 1997, which was denied. He then sued the Navy last year in federal court. A two-week trial was held in Norfolk in February and March.

<P> Judge Rebecca Beach Smith ruled Wednesday.

<P> In a 29-page opinion, the judge found Navy bus driver Duncan E. Dial was responsible for the accident and was negligent. She also found that the accident

t caused all of Lego's physical and psychological ailments, with two minor exceptions.

<P> The judge awarded Lego \$693,383. That includes \$500,000 for pain and suffering, \$33,961 for current medical expenses and \$159,422 for future medical expenses.

<P> The U.S. Attorney's office said Thursday it did not know if it will appeal.


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<P>Norfolk Virginian-Pilot

July 29, 1999

<P>Commander: Navy Chapel Events Poorly Timed, Not Anti-Catholic

<P>By John-Henry Doucette, The Virginian-Pilot

<P> CHESAPEAKE -- The Stations of the Cross, a series of images depicting Christ's crucifixion, used by Catholics in worship, have been removed from the walls of the base chapel at Naval Security Group Activity Northwest -- an incident some churchgoers say is another example of unfair treatment by a Protestant commanding officer.

<P> After all, they have argued, weren't civilians banned from attending services there a month ago, though many have spent Sunday mornings there for perhaps 20 years? And wasn't a chapter of the Knights of Columbus, a service organization for Catholic men, ordered away for being unlawfully discriminatory, though it had been formed there in 1997 with the blessing of the previous commanding officer?

<P> The current commanding officer, Capt. R.W. Jerome, issued the orders that have caused a maelstrom of discontent among at least 100 churchgoers no longer allowed to worship at the Northwest Chapel. His orders will stand, Jerome said

this week at the base, which is located between Ballahack Road and the state's southern border with North Carolina.

<P> Jerome maintains that his orders merely correct a problem that developed under his predecessors -- a blurring of the lines between what government services are intended for the troops and those for civilians.

<P> "It boils down to legal use of appropriated taxpayer dollars," Jerome said Monday. "It's illegal for anybody in the U.S. government to use tax dollars for a purpose other than what they're appropriated for. . . . By offering services to non-eligible personnel, we were essentially violating federal law."

<P> The removal of the Stations of the Cross, which drew another round of complaints last week, has been in the works for years, he added. Jerome said they are not barred from use in the chapel; they have merely been placed into storage and may be still be used during Catholic services.

<P> "We were told (they were taken down) to make the chapel more ecumenical," said Edward T. Callahan, the grand knight of the council formerly based at Northwest and a retired Navy lieutenant commander. "People were disappointed. Again, the Stations are part of the church. It's part of the devotion, especially for the children during Lent."

<P> Jerome said he faced a tough situation when he assumed command of the base last year: The chapel, easily accessible to all since it is outside the security-conscious installation's gates, had been adopted as a parish church by civilians, some with little connection to the military.

<P> A command with perhaps 120 eligible Catholic churchgoers was serving perhaps 340. There were times that morning services were so crowded, active duty personnel could not get a seat. So after months of review, Jerome ordered in June that only active-duty service members, retirees and immediate family members may attend services.

<P> That and several other changes to chapel operations led to complaints that, as one congregation member put it, the situation was evolving into "our own Northern Ireland," with Jerome painted by critics as an oppressive Protestant official limiting the rights of Catholics.

<P> "Religion is an emotional issue, and it impacts the deepest emotional feelings a person can have," said Jerome, who was not surprised by the response, "and here's a Protestant who comes in and does these things."

<P> That most of the changes were passed down by letter and Jerome's executive officer, Cmdr. Rick DeLorey, and not by Jerome himself, were referred to in a flood of complaints faxed, e-mailed and phoned to reporters and government officials. Though DeLorey is Catholic and his daughter attends catechism classes at the chapel, some of the complaints painted the base's second-in-command as "a hatchet man."

<P> These characterizations are inaccurate, both officers said during an interview Monday. Their actions have been supported by senior officers and senior members of the Navy chaplain corps, including a Catholic chaplain who was until recently the senior official for local commands. That the chapel operations were

e changed, the Knights chapter banished and the Stations of the Cross taken down within the same month may have sent the wrong signal.

<P> ``There was a very unfortunate convergence of events," DeLorey noted. ``I would agree to that."

<P> Members of the Knights of Columbus chapter said they are reviewing a possible legal challenge to the reasoning behind the command's decision. The Knights do not consider themselves a discriminatory organization, as a Department of Defense instruction cited by Jerome specifies. Their membership is limited to Catholic men, but the organization was founded to protect Catholics from discrimination.

<P> But because of their membership requirements, Jerome said, permission to allow the group to exist on the base should never have been given.

<P> As for the Stations of the Cross, Jerome said a military chapel is nondiscriminational and it is inappropriate to post faith-specific ritual objects permanently.

<P> When told that Jerome had not intended to prevent Catholics from using them during services, only from keeping them up at all times, Callahan added: ``O.K. That's good."

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<P>Baltimore Sun

July 29, 1999

<P>Academy Taking A Larger Cut From Cost Of 'Navy' Souvenirs

<I><P>Annapolis merchants are not all happy about paying royalty

</I><P>By Neal Thompson, Sun Staff

<P> At the height of the summer season in downtown Annapolis, tourists along Main Street are scarfing up T-shirts, coffee mugs and key chains emblazoned with "Navy," "Naval Academy" or pictures of the school mascot, Bill the Goat.

<P> Unknown to most shoppers, each of these purchases funnels a handful of pennies into the academy's coffers, where it pays for sports and other extras at the school not covered by its main benefactor, the Pentagon.

<P> Academy paraphernalia has long been a staple of downtown Annapolis shops. But for the past decade, the academy has been seeking a larger cut of the profits made in its name.

<P> Last year, 7.5 cents of each dollar spent on Navy umbrellas, scarves and baby bibs went back to the academy. This summer, the academy bumped its take up to 8 cents.

<P> Some downtown shop owners, who for decades borrowed the academy's name and logos without sharing any profits, are bitter.

<P> They say paying royalties became doubly painful after the academy opened its Visitor's Center Gift Shop in 1995, where it sells Navy and Marine Corps clothing and other items and competes directly with them.

<P> "We feel somewhat betrayed," said Phil Walsh, owner of Fit to a Tee, a T-shirt shop that has been on Main Street since 1987. The combination "has taken away a huge percentage of our business."

<P> A growing number of colleges and universities are cashing in on school names and teams. Some have gone a step further and allowed advertisements on the floors of basketball arenas, the scoreboards of football stadiums and the backs of stadium chairs.

<P> Name marketing has grown into a lucrative fund-raising tactic, even as some college athletic departments acknowledge that it represents a growing commercialization of collegiate sports.

<P> Naval Academy officials say they are walking a "sophisticated line" between making extra money and becoming too commercialized. But they say they are merely keeping up with the rest of the world of college sports.

<P> "It's very common to do this," said Jack Lengyl, the academy's athletic director and head of the Naval Academy Athletic Association (NAAA), which runs the school's licensing program. "Athletic departments have to be more entrepreneurial."

<P> Large schools with well-known football programs, such as Ohio State and the University of Southern California, were trendsetters in the early 1980s when they registered their logos with the Patent and Trademark Office, part of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

<P> Hundreds of other schools have followed suit.

<P> The U.S. Military Academy at West Point does it. The University of Maryland and Coppin State do it. Royalties range from 6 cents to 10 cents on the do

llar.

<P> The Naval Academy registered Bill the Goat as a trademark in 1987, and since then any retailer who sold an item with Bill's likeness has owed a few pennies to the academy.

<P> In 1993, the academy registered other trademarks, "Naval Academy" and "USNA." In 1996, the school bolstered its trademark and licensing program again by registering the names of many of its varsity sports programs, such as "Navy Lacrosse" and "Navy Soccer."

<P> Retailers using any of those trademarks on items they sell must now obtain a license and pay a licensing fee, or royalty.

<P> The academy has hired a director of marketing and promotions to oversee the licensing program and other efforts to seek corporate and private donations. "I wish there were more merchants on Main Street selling merchandise. They're a great tool for us," said Eric Ruden, the marketing director.

<P> But some merchants harbor bad feelings for their military neighbor.

<P> "We stopped carrying Navy products. I said, forget it. I'd rather not carry anything at all," said Eric Uberman, owner of Skipjacks, a longtime retailer near Annapolis' waterfront. "I think they overstepped their bounds."

<P> Uberman also thinks royalties are a form of double taxation, since the school is federally funded and, therefore, supported by tax dollars.

<P> According to the NAAA tax records, fees from "licensing and merchandising" brought in an extra \$90,574 in 1994 and \$171,881 the following year. Since then, those fees have averaged in the low \$100,000 range, according to tax records and school officials.

<P> "It's not major cash flow, but it's significant enough. It's dollars that go directly back to support sports programs," Lengyl said. "It's not a lot of money, but it's money we never had before. It's a respectable dollar that fills a little hole."

<P> Occasionally, lawyers have had to remind retailers to send a quarterly check to the academy. Once, the academy had to get a court order to force a West Virginia-based company to stop printing Naval Academy T-shirts without the academy's permission.

<P> Other colleges have gone to court to protect their logos. A Georgia brewer tried selling beer in cans displaying a drunk-looking bulldog, the University of Georgia mascot. The school sued, and the courts forced the brewer to stop selling the beer.

<P> Aside from money, academy officials say registering trademarks gives the school control over its image. They may deny proposals from companies wishing to use Naval Academy logos on toilet seats or prophylactics, for example.

<P> "Being a federal agency, we're very, very sensitive to our image. We're here to keep other people away from prostituting the name," Lengyl said. "Most

people understand that. But every once in a while, there will be a store or retailer who will test you."

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<P>San Diego Union-Tribune

July 29, 1999

<P>Marines, Reserves Bring War Ashore

<I><P>Exercise simulates amphibious landing

</I><P>By Dwight Daniels, Staff Writer

<P> CAMP PENDLETON -- No, it wasn't Iwo Jima.

<P> There weren't any real bullets or shells whistling through the air yesterday as about 3,000 Marines hit the beaches. But the training the warriors received helped prepare them for the possibility of facing the real thing, their leaders said.

<P> Most of the troops who stormed ashore yesterday were Marines who don't get to do this kind of thing on a regular basis. They were reservists on their annual two-week training stints.

<P> Victor Quihuiz, 23, acknowledged that he is more comfortable in his role as a computer and electronics store employee than he is assaulting beaches.

<P> His squad mate Stephen Sparacino, 22, is a bail agent more familiar with rounding up folks who have skipped court dates after getting out of jail.

<P> But both men, lance corporals from the Concord area, said their landing yesterday was just as advertised.

<P> "This stuff is why we joined up," Quihuiz said.

<P> "It's realistic," Sparacino added. "We're so well-trained we know exactly what to expect, precisely what we'll encounter."

<P> That's the whole idea, said Maj. Gen. David Mize of New Orleans, also a reservist.

<P> Mize said the concept for yesterday's amphibious landing operation, and all reserve training, is to make reservists and active-duty Marines interchangeable and "ready to fight whenever and wherever they're needed."

<P> "That doesn't come easy, or without a tremendous amount of teamwork," Mize told a crowd of about 100 onlookers as he praised the synchronized efforts of air, ground and seafaring forces involved in the event.

<P> The assault began at 11 a.m. as helicopter gunships and F/A-18 jets flew simulated strafing and bombing runs designed to soften up entrenched defenders.

<P> Soon, air-cushion landing craft launched from nearby ships crashed through the surf and onto the beach, spilling out the vehicles and troops aboard. Marines call the craft LCACs, pronounced "el-kacks," after the acronym of their official designation: Landing Craft, Air Cushion.

<P> They were followed by conventional landing craft carrying more troops.

<P> The annual exercise, commanded by Col. William Garrett of the 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division in Kansas City, is known as Summer Thunder.

<P> The Marines participating in the exercise boarded Navy ships in Coronado for the short journey to Camp Pendleton. About 750 sailors participated.

<P> Darryl Robbins, 33, a Navy petty officer second class, normally would have been part of the exercise, but he has been on leave to get married.

<P> Nonetheless, Robbins, a load master on a landing craft, brought his 26-year-old bride, Leann, to observe the amphibious operation.

<P> He took her on a tour of the 81-foot-long, air-cushion craft he serves on, part of the Navy's Assault Craft Unit 5, based at Camp Pendleton.

<P> "We get (the troops) ashore and they don't even get their feet wet," he told his wife. "It's different from World War II, when they landed offshore, got wet and tired and sick before they even hit the beach. It really makes a difference."

<P> Leann Robbins liked what she saw.

<P> "Now I understand why he's so excited about what he does," she said. "If I was in the military, I'd want to do something like this, too."

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<P>Chicago Tribune

July 29, 1999

<P>National Guard Lowers The Flag At O'Hare Base

<P>By Lisa Black, Tribune Staff Writer

<P> In a ceremony tinged with patriotism and some bitterness, the Illinois National Guard marked the closing Wednesday of the 59-year-old Air Reserve Station at O'Hare International Airport.

<P> The 126th Air Refueling Wing and attached units that had occupied the base on the airport's northeast corner will complete their move to Scott Air Base near Belleville by week's end.

<P> Chicago is paying the Air Force an estimated \$130 million for the base's 359 acres, a new facility and relocation costs. The city plans to use the land for office, hotel and industrial park development.

<P> "It's a sad day for me," said Brig. Gen. Harold E. Keistler, commander of the 126th wing.

<P> The refueling unit's origins in Chicago can be traced to a small aviation unit of World War I veterans that formed in 1927, moving to Midway Airport and then to O'Hare to accommodate growth. Current members of the 126th unit have served in the Balkans, most recently in Kosovo, as well as in the Persian Gulf war.

<P> The unit performs midair refueling, flying the KC-135 Stratotanker, a version of the Boeing 707.

<P> Mary Rose Loney, commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation, described the change as a "win-win" situation that will ensure the refueling wing a home while generating jobs and tax revenue for the city.

<P> The O'Hare military installation was recommended for closure in 1995, along with other bases nationwide.

<P> United Airlines will lease some of the land from the city to build a \$70 million headquarters. No other commercial prospects are firm yet, Loney said.

<P> "We're just getting ready to launch a major marketing effort next month," she said.

<P> The city will lease the land from the military immediately, and is expected to take full possession of it by year's end, officials said. The Illinois Air National Guard first will excavate about 22,000 cubic yards of contaminated dirt on two sites to comply with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency requirements, said Lt. Col. Daniel Fleming, who leads the Air Force base transition team.

<P> Already, about 300 full-time guards have moved near Scott Air Base. An additional 800 to 900 part-time reserve members must decide if they are willing to move or drive to the Scott base once a month to meet their commitment.

<P> Many are opting instead to retire early, transfer into another unit or quit because of the 300-mile commute, said Capt. Thomas Stevens, unit spokesman.

<P> Those who solemnly watched the closing ceremony included Marvin E. Allesee, 97, a retired Army colonel who joined the National Guard in 1918.

<P> "I feel the loss," said Allesee of Arlington Heights. "It's in the course of history and events. My personal feeling is I regret the conditions that brought this on."

<P> This story is a composite of versions published in the various zones.

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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Justice Department Steps Up Security

Threats Feared on Anniversary of Embassy Bombings in Africa

By Reuters

The Justice Department tightened security yesterday in preparation for the first anniversary of the bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa, which killed more than 200 people.

The Justice Department's action came less than a week after the FBI indefinitely stopped public tours at its headquarters building for security reasons, after receiving "unconfirmed threats" linked to Islamic militant Osama bin Laden.

Bin Laden has been indicted in the United States for allegedly masterminding the Aug. 7, 1998, bombing of the U.S. embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Last month, he was added to the FBI's "10 Most Wanted Fugitives" list.

The Justice Department said it ordered the stepped-up security in all of its buildings even though the FBI has not provided "any specific threat information at this time."

D. Jerry Rubino, a Justice Department security officer, said in a three-page security alert that U.S. government counterterrorism experts considered "anniversary dates a key indicator of possible terrorist activity."

The FBI said its tours, offered to the public since 1937, would be halted to allow completion of its "security enhancements," which began because of unconfirmed threats to its headquarters. FBI officials have declined to give any details of the threats.

The security alert, sent to all Justice Department employees, calls for general security measures to be put into effect immediately. Among the steps, all employees must display their identification badges in Justice Department buildings, all visitors will be screened by metal detectors and commercial vehicles must be searched before entering the buildings. Most of the measures already are in place at Justice Department headquarters.

Similar warnings were issued on the anniversaries of the Oklahoma federal building bombing on April 19, 1995, and the FBI raid on the Branch Davidian cult's compound near Waco, Tex., on April 19, 1993, which killed about 80 people.

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<P>Washington Post

July 30, 1999

Pg. 26

<P>U.N. Bids To Curb Trade That Fuels Angola's War

<I><P>Intelligence Agencies Are Asked for Data on Rebels' Diamond, Arms Smuggling

</I><P>By Colum Lynch, Special to The Washington Post

<P> UNITED NATIONS, July 29The head of a U.N. committee monitoring an arms embargo on Angola appealed today to the world's top intelligence agencies to help crack down on the illicit Angolan arms and diamond trade.

<P> Robert Fowler, Canada's ambassador to the United Nations, said the Angolan diamond industry has helped fuel decades of civil war in the former Portuguese colony, supplying the rebel force known as UNITA with money to purchase arms in violation of a six-year-old embargo. He named two panels of international experts to track sanctions violations.

<P> "I don't think the tap can be turned off," said Fowler, who chairs a Security Council committee set up to monitor the sanctions on Angola. "But let's force them into the gray markets and the black markets. Let's force them to use more unscrupulous middlemen, so that the amount of money they get to buy tanks is less."

<P> Fowler's appeal is unusual because it openly invites foreign intelligence agencies and the International Criminal Police Organization, or Interpol, to help the Security Council enforce U.N. sanctions. The United Nations is usually reluctant to be associated with foreign intelligence agencies, particularly in light of the revelations this year that the United States and other countries used U.N. weapons inspection teams as cover for spying on Iraq.

<P> The United States, which armed and trained UNITA's forces during the Cold War, has agreed to share intelligence with the United Nations to help identify sanctions violators and senior UNITA officials subject to the U.N. embargo, officials said. Washington is also considering providing financial support

to the panel.

<P> "The United States . . . stands ready to work together with any state committed to the common goal of improved implementation of the U.N. sanctions against UNITA," said Peter Burleigh, the acting U.S. representative to the United Nations.

<P> Fighting between UNITA--the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola--and Angola's ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola has raged since before the country's independence in 1975. The United States and South Africa backed UNITA and its leader, Jonas Savimbi, in its fight against the then-Marxist ruling party and its Cuban and Soviet allies until a 1991 peace accord that set up elections the following year.

<P> But Savimbi refused to accept defeat in the September 1992 vote, the nation returned to war and the Security Council imposed sanctions on UNITA in 1993. A peace deal in 1994 collapsed last year, and Angola returned to full-scale war.

<P> A U.N. report estimates that the rebel leader has earned \$3 billion to \$4 billion from the diamond trade. Fowler said there were indications that Savimbi had also profited handsomely from investments.

<P> The investigative panels will track financial records of arms and diamond merchants suspected of trading with UNITA and pressure governments to stop aiding the illicit trade. The Security Council is scheduled to vote next week to confirm the panel's members.


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<P>Washington Times

July 30, 1999

<U><P>Embassy Row

</U><P>Balkans Delegation Set

<P>By James Morrison, The Washington Times

<P> William Taft, a former U.S. ambassador to NATO, will join a private U.S. delegation on a six-day fact-finding mission to the Balkans next week.

<P> Mr. Taft is due to leave Monday with the delegation organized by the New Atlantic Initiative and the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

<P> They will visit officials in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Romania. The delegation includes Helle Bering, editorial page editor of The Washington Times.

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<P>The Economist

July 31 August 6, 1999

<P>Rebuilding The Balkans

<I><P>No killing to be made

</I><P> FRANKFURT -- This week the European Union and the World Bank hosted the first of several donors conferences to raise \$25 billion for Kosovo and the countries nearby. Western companies hope to see much of this money flow their way through contracts that will cover everything from clearing mines and building bridges to supplying tractors and fixing power plants. Talk of a mini-Marshall Plan has even stirred stockmarket investors: the share prices of Greek construction firms soared between March and June on reports that they we

re well-placed to win orders.

<P> Post-conflict contracts are a touchy subject in boardrooms. European companies felt aggrieved that many of the best contracts after the 1991 Gulf War went to American firms, such as Bechtel and Brown & Root. German industry gumbled when it won few big orders in Bosnia, even though Germany had provided much of the aid.

<P> This time everyone is determined to get a slice of the cake. Most of the big European and American engineering groups have created special Kosovo departments, and dispatched executives to the province. Britain's big engineering firms have banded together into a Balkan "task-force", backed by the government, in the hope, presumably, that economies of scale might apply to lobbying. "We don't want to get the crumbs, like we did in Kuwait," says Nigel Thompson, the task-force's chairman.

<P> The Italians, also frustrated in Kuwait and Bosnia, are better organised this time. The country's government and industry federation have each set up an organisation to help match firms with projects. Both are headed by Franco Bernabè, former chairman of Telecom Italia (which owns a large stake in Serbia's national telephone company). "Lobbying will have a role," says Ugo Mazzuca of the industry federation, "but it will be clean lobbying."

<P> The trouble is, there may be scant work to go round. For a start, Kosovo seems to be much less damaged than was first thought. Roads, bridges and power supplies are mostly intact; only ten bridges were damaged although half the population is still not getting the water it needs. The province may not need any new power plants, merely refits for old ones. Much of the rebuilding needed of the 80,000 badly damaged or destroyed houses, for instance, can be done by households with building materials that have been bought from local suppliers. James Lyon of the International Crisis Group, a consultancy, points out that donors are likely to insist, as they did in Bosnia, that work be carried out by former Yugoslav companies wherever possible, in order to encourage local employment and growth.

<P> They are largely up to the task. Macedonia's construction industry, which has long been active in Kosovo and Serbia, is likely to be the main beneficiary: the Usje cement plant is already receiving big orders. Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia also have large firms capable of building bridges and repairing power lines. When no former Yugoslav company can do the work, it will probably go to companies in nearby countries, such as Bulgaria, Turkey or Hungary, whose government has opened a euro100m (\$106m) credit line to help domestic firms win contracts.

<P> The money that is spent is likely to be released slowly. The EU, which is to handle most of it, is notoriously slow at disbursing funds. In Bosnia, less than a third of the aid committed by donors has been spent. A new reconstruction agency for Kosovo, one of whose jobs will be streamlining contract tenders

, is to start work in October; but businesses are not convinced that things will run any more smoothly this time. There is also concern about lack of coordination. "We have tried and tried to find out who is running the show, but nobody seems to know," says Jacob Lux, of Philipp Holzmann, a German construction group.

<P> Not that the corporate scouts are ready to pack up quite yet. In the absence of big-ticket projects, Kosovars need to be trained to run utilities, most of which were Serb-managed before the conflict; and plenty of looted equipment, from dialysis machines to fire engines, needs replacing. Also, many companies see Kosovo as a springboard into Serbia, where damage to infrastructure was far greater euro50 billion-worth by one estimate. If Serbia were eligible for aid, there would be big money to be made. Until then, however, the pickings look slim.

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<P>New York Times

July 30, 1999

<P>A Pillar of Opposition Who Keeps Belgrade Guessing

<P>By Steven Erlanger

<P> BELGRADE, Yugoslavia -- Dragoslav Avramovic is sorely tempted to heed the call, but he's nearly 80 and has serious kidney troubles, and he's not really sure the moment is ripe.

<P> Avramovic, a frail, unlikely looking technocrat, is the most popular opposition figure in Yugoslavia, revered for beating back hyperinflation in 1994. And the Clinton Administration and the foundering Alliance for Change here are pushing him to become the Prime Minister of Serbia, the overwhelming power base in Yugoslavia, and there take a leading role in the effort to oust Slobodan M