

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	From Owner-wp-forum@West-Point.org to David Des Roches Re: WP-forum: 'Love Child' & Politics (3 pages)	01/11/1999	Personal Misfile
002. email	From Owner-wp-forum@West-Point.org to David Des Roches Re: WP-forum: 'Love Child' & Politics (3 pages)	01/11/1999	Personal Misfile

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Tape Restoration Project [Email]
Default ([Panama Canal])
OA/Box Number: 1100000

FOLDER TITLE:

[07/20/1998 - 05/21/1999]

2019-0153-F

in648

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: news-errors (news-errors+1.0.0.crowley_m#a1.eop.gov@mx.lodo.infobeat.com@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:20-JUL-1998 03:55:00.00

SUBJECT: News - Morning Coffee Edition @ 07/20/98

TO: Michael F. Crowley (Michael F. Crowley@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Morning Coffee Edition for Monday, July 20, 1998

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*** China rescues 132,000 stranded near huge dam

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*** War crimes court created, U.S. vows to stay vigilant

*** Swiss government to meet business over Holocaust row

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*** Kosovo conflict escalates; town, border under fire

*** No agreement reached in Northern Ireland march talks

*** Abubakar's Nigeria democracy plan expected Monday

*** Japan PM race gets rare dose of democracy

*** India, Pakistan play nuclear poker with U.S.

The Americas

*** Colombian anti-drug helicopter crashes, 7 dead

- *** Mahuad declared winner of Ecuador's presidential race
- *** Miami newspaper says Castro has brain disease
- *** Raul Salinas willing to testify about Swiss money
- *** Honduran bus catches fire, at least 17 dead
- *** U.S., Panama seen abandoning canal anti-drug center

Europe and Russia

- *** Austrian villagers gather to remember 11 dead miners
- *** Yeltsin tackles budget gap before IMF meets
- *** Spanish Basques march against closure of newspaper
- *** Romania PM demands answers in deepening crisis
- *** Hungary inaugurates first synagogue since Holocaust
- *** Chechen president raises troops to fight bands

Africa

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- *** 11 Democratic Congo political prisoners freed
- *** Algeria says Moslem rebels massacred 11 people
- *** Africa reform, corruption under Rubin trip spotlight
- *** Eritrea challenges Ethiopia on arbitration
- *** Burundi warring sides to start peace talks, truce

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 - *** Taleban order aid agencies to leave Kabul
 - *** Indian colonel said killed by Pakistanis in Kashmir
 - *** Yemen-Saudi spat pits Arabia's David vs. Goliath
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- *** Oracle CEO to testify in U.S. hearings next week
- *** Former employee says Acer bowed to Microsoft
- *** House panel backs new digital copyright law
- *** Ad campaign set to challenge U.S. encryption rules
- *** WTO infotech pact talks suspended after no deal

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- *** Update: Vietnam-era napalm arrives at Texas recycling plant
- *** Fog collector hopes to clear air on usefulness of mist
- *** Tropical Storm Celia threatens Mexico's Pacific coast

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- *** 'Wedding of year' unites Kazakhs, Kyrgyz

U.S. Front Page Stories

*** Texans take cover as relentless heat wave lingers

Texans took cover in cool shade wherever they could find it Sunday as temperatures again soared, and experts said the heat wave that has killed more than 100 people across the South would continue this week. In Dallas, where at least 20 people have been killed by the heat, thermometers rose above 100 degrees Fahrenheit for the 14th straight day, and private charities continued a push to distribute thousands of free electric fans to families that cannot afford their own. Meteorologists had no words of comfort, saying the heat wave would not loosen its grip any time soon. Texas has been the hardest-hit of the Southern states, with almost 80 deaths reported.

See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555149096-fcd>

*** Dallas tries to protect sick and poor from heat, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555121169-e8b>

*** Secret Service may be hiding something - Lott

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) said Sunday the Secret Service agents who guard President Clinton appeared to be hiding something from the investigator probing the Monica Lewinsky scandal.

Interviewed on Fox News Sunday, Lott said Clinton ought to come forward and testify to the grand jury investigating allegations that he had a sexual relationship with former White House intern Lewinsky and later lied about it and tried to cover it up. "I think the president's going to be in a very difficult position if he refuses to testify," said Lott. He said secret service agents "appear to be hiding something. What is it? If there's no problem, just come forward, tell the truth, and that will be it. We'll move on." See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555146306-791>

*** Clinton guards testify in Lewinsky investigation, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555122286-9db>

*** Media fight Clinton stand on Jones case documents

Lawyers for news organizations seeking sealed depositions in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case said Friday opposition by President Clinton's attorneys to their release was troubling. The judge who dismissed the suit in April has indicated a potential willingness to open the pretrial depositions. But Clinton's lawyers have urged that they remain sealed, citing a potential for "profit and political gain." Judge Susan Webber Wright has not said when she will rule on the matter. The lawyers also rejected arguments by the president's lawyers in an earlier filing that the privacy of individuals questioned by Jones' lawyers would be jeopardized. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555123380-582>

*** Scandal raging, Clinton looks for down-home comfort, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555122066-d77>

*** Tobacco firms provide jets to Republicans - report

Tobacco companies let Republican lawmakers and their committees use company jets for dozens of flights last year, the Washington Post reported Monday, citing a report by congressional Democrats. The tobacco industry provided far more subsidized travel to Republicans than any other industry, according to the report prepared by Democrats on the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee. The planes took Republicans lawmakers to destinations from New York City to San Diego, sometimes in the company of tobacco executives, and much of the travel occurred as tobacco firms were seeking legislation to protect them from mounting lawsuits, the report found. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555152454-bda>

*** Update: FBI tracks leads in hunt for bombing fugitive

Federal agents scouring the western North Carolina mountains for bombing suspect Eric Robert Rudolph said Saturday they had received "significant information" that could help in their search for the fugitive. The FBI has concentrated its around-the-clock search on 30 square miles of densely forested mountains east of Andrews, N.C., where Rudolph is believed to be hiding. Rudolph is wanted for the Jan. 29 bombing of a Birmingham, Ala., abortion clinic that killed an off-duty policeman and injured a nurse. He also is a suspect in three Atlanta-area bombings, including the fatal 1996 Olympic Park blast. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555135669-fbb>

*** Abortion clinic bomb victim seeks to preserve law, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555119905-ec4>

*** Pentagon may lighten adultery penalties - report

Pentagon officials are proposing policy changes that could reduce the armed forces' maximum punishment for adultery, the New York Times said Sunday. A committee appointed by Defense Secretary William Cohen has drafted changes to the "Manual for Courts-Martial" that would downgrade the crime, the Times said. According to unidentified officials, the proposal would result in fewer prosecutions and impose a less severe form of military discharge on enlisted personnel found guilty of adultery. The Times said that after Judith Miller, the Pentagon's general counsel, outlined the proposals to representatives of the four armed services, the Marine Corps strenuously objected to the changes. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555138922-fd4>

Crime and Catastrophe

*** Two Wyo. teens kill schoolmate, commit suicide

A small town was in shock Friday after two teens apparently killed themselves a day after they stabbed and threw a 17-year-old boy off a cliff. Matthew Kendall, 17, was found last Monday at the base of a

100-foot cliff near the Green River. Earlier in the day an anonymous tip was called into the police, telling them where to look for the dead boy's truck. Kendall's body was recovered at the base of the cliff and a few hours later police found Cody Bradley, 18, and David Taylor, 16, dead of self-inflicted gun shot wounds, Sheriff Gary Bailiff said. Investigators discovered that Kendall was romantically involved with a girl who had previously dated Bradley. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555122641-faa>

***** Boy, 12, charged with killing Ohio 5-year-old**

A 12-year-old Ohio boy is awaiting arraignment after being charged with the murder last month of a 5-year-old girl, whose mother had paid him \$5 to help find the then missing girl. The boy, whose name was being withheld because of his age, was charged Thursday in the murder of Devan Duniver after a closed door hearing before Judge Linda Kate, said police in New Philadelphia, Ohio, where the murder was committed. The county prosecutors office said Friday he would be arraigned, possibly next week. Duniver's body was found June 28 in underbrush 100 yards from her home, stabbed repeatedly in the neck with a knife. She had gone missing during a torrential rainstorm the day before. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555119295-e69>

***** Navajo man sought in quadruple killing**

Police in New Mexico said Friday they had launched a major manhunt

for a Navajo Indian suspected of shooting four of his relatives to death in an apparent revenge attack. FBI agents and state and tribal police have joined the search for 25-year-old Stanley Secatero, who is alleged to have carried out the killings Thursday after his brother was jailed as a result of evidence provided by another member of the family. Police were called to the Canoncito Chapter of the Navajo Nation to investigate reports that a man was firing a high-powered rifle into homes. They believe Secatero went on a killing spree after his brother, Wesley, was jailed on suspicion of aggravated assault because of a relative's evidence. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555121830-753>

***** Police arrest teens in night club shooting**

Police have arrested four teenagers on murder charges stemming from a shooting at a Vietnamese night club in Tacoma in which five people were killed, officials said Sunday. The men, aged 16 to 19, were arrested Saturday in simultaneous raids carried out by more than 100 officers from local and federal agencies. Police declined to identify the suspects or to comment on a motive in the shooting, in which another five people were wounded. The suspects, being held in the county jail and at a juvenile facility, will be arraigned Monday or Tuesday. Police have been hunting for suspects since three armed men burst into the Trang Dai restaurant and karaoke bar July 5 and opened fire with at least three weapons. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555146771-fc8>

*** Search halted for man missing in rig accident

The sea search has been called off for a man missing since Friday when a drilling rig collapsed, killing two other workers and injuring 13 more, the Coast Guard said Saturday. Part of the Nabors Industries Inc. rig collapsed about 10 miles off the Louisiana coast as it was being assembled on an Ocean Energy platform, a Coast Guard spokesman said. Local authorities said most of the injured were treated and released from area hospitals. The cause of the deaths and injuries is under investigation by the Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, while the U.S. Department of Interior's Minerals Management Service will investigate the cause of the accident. (Reuters)

*** 20 N.Y. police accused in sex scandal

A group of police officers has been accused of protecting a brothel in Manhattan's famous Times Square area for as long as 15 years in exchange for sex, officials said Friday. New York City Police Commissioner Howard Safir said four supervisors of the Midtown South Precinct had been transferred and 20 officers moved to desk jobs after an 18-month investigation. Investigators believe a small number of the 400 police officers in the precinct had sex with prostitutes during day shifts at an apartment brothel known to the officers as "The Coop" in return for not enforcing the law. The officers allegedly disappeared from their jobs for hours at a time and others may have known about the activities but failed to report them, officials said. See

The U.S. Political Scene

*** Senate votes to brand Milosevic war criminal

The Senate voted Friday to brand Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic a war criminal and urged the White House to work with U.S. allies in gathering evidence against him for trial in The Hague. By unanimous vote, the Senate passed a non-binding resolution calling for public indictment of Milosevic for war crimes against humanity and genocide. The measure had 23 Republican and Democratic sponsors. "Milosevic belongs in prison not in power," Sen. Alfonse D'Amato said in calling for him to be indicted and tried "as the war criminal we all know he is." The resolution charges that Milosevic "whipped up and exploited extreme nationalism among Serbs" and that his rise to power in 1987 marked the beginning of conflict in the former Yugoslavia. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555121711-ef1>

*** Clinton gives sentimental defense of his record

Arkansas' former governor, President Clinton, spoke with supporters back home Saturday and told them the country is a "better, stronger, united place" than it was when he first arrived at the White House.

Addressing several hundred Arkansas Democratic activists, and using some of the language and expressions of the region, Clinton delivered an almost sentimental defense of his record since his first term began in 1993. "You've been awful good to me and you made me feel awfully good," Clinton said. He chided his Republican critics, saying that since he took office the size of the federal bureaucracy has dwindled even though his opponents have built their reputations on fighting big government. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555133859-966>

*** Speaker Gingrich sees Congress approving IMF cash

House Speaker Newt Gingrich made clear Friday Congress would support a package replenishing the International Monetary Fund's depleted reserves, but said negotiations over IMF reforms could take months.

The statement reflected a shift by House Republicans, under enormous pressure from powerful business lobbies, toward supporting IMF funding after months of foot-dragging. But Gingrich said a final agreement with the White House was unlikely to be reached before the very end of this congressional session. Congress has targeted Oct. 9 to adjourn its session ahead of the midterm elections in November.

Gingrich also stopped short of endorsing the full \$18 billion funding package sought by the White House. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555120437-67c>

*** Glickman says food aid plan may be expanded

President Clinton's plan to shore up domestic wheat prices and offer overseas food aid may be extended to other commodities in an effort to boost the cash-strapped farm economy, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said Saturday. Glickman said the plan "should provide some long-term bullishness" for farmers who have been battered by price-depressing surpluses of their products and by adverse weather in large swathes of the farm belt. Clinton's announcement that the government would buy some \$250 million worth of wheat to ship to needy countries should be "the first tranche" of the effort, Glickman said. "If other commodities begin to show similar surpluses, the program will be used for those surpluses as well," he said. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555132216-238>

*** Farmers breathe new life into fast track trade bill, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555121429-d91>

*** Clinton to unveil plan to buy surplus U.S. wheat, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555126108-e9b>

*** Democrats, Republicans take contrasting election tacks

Republicans and Democrats have adopted contrasting strategies for the November mid-term elections, with Republicans focusing on motivating their own supporters and Democrats searching for a big national issue. 36 governorships, 34 senate seats and all 435 seats in the House of Representatives are up for grabs in the Nov. 3 election. The main focus will be on the House where Democrats need a net gain of only 11 seats to regain control. With public opinion polls showing a relatively contented electorate and with no obvious national issues

defining the campaign, experts are predicting that turnout may sink to a historic low, perhaps as low as 30% of the electorate. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555144332-a64>

*** Ga. to choose governor nominees

Fewer than a third of Georgia's voters are expected to go to the polls in primary elections Tuesday where they will choose candidates to replace two-term Gov. Zell Miller and select party nominees in two Congressional races. Recent polls suggest that Republican Guy Millner, founder of the Norrell Corp. temporary agency, will win with enough votes to avoid a runoff against former Georgia Attorney General Mike Bowers, who repeatedly won re-election as a Democrat before switching parties in 1994. Bowers, who was the state's attorney general for 16 years, was heavily favored to win the Republican nomination in May 1997. A few weeks later he disclosed he had an extramarital affair. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145880-632>

The Courts

*** Texas murder gun not tested for prints - witness

Police investigating the brutal 1995 murder of 16-year-old girl never tested the murder weapon for fingerprints, a policeman testified

Friday in the trial of a former Air Force cadet accused of killing her. David Graham, 21, is accused of killing Adrienne Jones, with whom he allegedly had a one-night sexual liaison, to appease the jealous rage of his then girlfriend, Diane Zamora. Both were high school seniors near Fort Worth when Jones was shot twice in the head Dec. 4, 1995. Zamora, who was a freshman at the U.S. Naval Academy when she was arrested for the murder, is serving a life sentence for her role. If convicted, Graham also faces life in prison. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555122400-151>

*** Defendant vanishes in Miami lawyers' drug trial

A former U.S. prosecutor facing charges he was involved in the Colombian drug trade vanished Friday from the federal court house where a jury has been deliberating in his re-trial. A spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's office said William Moran, a defense attorney and former federal prosecutor, learned the jury had reached a partial verdict in the case, walked into an elevator, left the building and did not return. Judge William Hoeveler issued a warrant for Moran's arrest, and sent federal marshals to look for him. Hoeveler also ordered the partial verdict against Moran and Michael Abbell, former director of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of International Affairs, be sealed. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555121281-6d3>

*** Mich. girl, pregnant by brother, seeks abortion

A 12-year-old girl who is nearly seven months pregnant by her 17-year-old brother was made a ward of the court Friday pending a decision on whether her parents can take her to Kansas for a late-term abortion. Prosecutors asked a judge to prohibit the abortion because they believe it is a health risk to the girl and would violate laws in both Michigan and Kansas. Judge Pamela Gilbert O'Sullivan ordered Friday that the girl be moved out of her parents' Sterling Heights, Mich., apartment, where she shared a bedroom with her brother. The girl, in her 27th week of pregnancy, will stay with an aunt and her parents will be able to visit her. Michigan bans abortions past the 24th week of pregnancy since 1974, unless a woman's life is in danger. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555121302-d3d>

*** California dealer sues over 'racist' handgun tax

The largest gun dealer in northern California filed suit Friday claiming that a new city tax on sales of concealing handguns was "racist" discrimination against young black men. Traders Sports demanded that San Leandro roll back the 3% tax voters approved by a 53-to-47 percent margin in June. The suit filed at Alameda County Superior Court alleges the tax measure demonstrated "the city's racial hostility toward African-American men." San Leandro, across the bay from San Francisco, is only about 5% black but lies immediately next to Oakland, which has a large black community and a relatively high crime rate. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555122173-b48>

*** Miami lawmaker pleads not guilty to Medicare fraud

A Florida state senator pleaded not guilty Friday to charges of money laundering, paying kickbacks to doctors, and witness tampering in one of the nation's largest Medicare fraud investigations. Republican state Sen. Alberto Gutman of Miami, had been indicted on 32 counts June 12. The indictment said Gutman and his wife, Marcie, were part of a group that faked claims for home medical treatment that was never provided, or was provided to people who were not eligible for Medicare, officials said. Gutman, 39, the chairman of Florida's Miami-Dade County legislative delegation, has already qualified to run for re-election this fall. As of June 30, he had raised \$199,000 for his re-election bid. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555121083-b45>

*** Okla. bomber McVeigh cannot add to his appeal

A federal appeals court said Friday it was too late for convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh to claim in his appeal that a recent controversial ruling on making deals with witnesses should apply in his case. McVeigh asked the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals Wednesday to consider as part of his appeal the recent ruling that barred prosecutors from offering leniency to witnesses in exchange for testimony. The controversial ruling, by the same court, meant that key testimony against McVeigh by former friend Michael Fortier was obtained illegally, McVeigh attorney Robert Nigh contended in a

filing with the court. The three-judge panel assigned to McVeigh's appeal denied his request in an eight-sentence order. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555122408-9a4>

World Front Page Stories

*** PNG tidal waves kill 1,000, thousands missing

More than 1,000 people were killed by three huge tidal waves that destroyed villages in Papua New Guinea's remote northwest, and the island's premier said thousands were missing. Australian Defense Force officers involved in rescue operations said there were more than 1,000 people confirmed dead, and a Catholic priest said the figure could reach 3,000. "They have buried 700 and thousands are missing. It (the death toll) could be as high as 3,000," said Catholic priest Augustine Kulmana. Many of the dead were children too small to run away and too weak to climb coconut trees to safety before the waves engulfed them, Kulmana said. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555152735-164>

*** PNG's Skate says tidal wave displaced thousands, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555152359-ac4>

*** Tidal waves often undetectable until last minute, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142073-8a6>

*** Nowhere to run, yet some survive PNG tidal waves, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555140940-f11>

*** China rescues 132,000 stranded near huge dam

China has evacuated 132,000 people stranded by swollen waters near the Three Gorges dam on the Yangtze River and warned local authorities to prepare for heavy flooding, officials said Sunday. Devastating floods across much of China this summer have killed 1,000 people and caused a scare over the \$29 billion dam project as officials braced for a massive crest of water rushing down the Yangtze. The river's torrential flow forced the 11-day closure of a lock at the dam, leaving thousands stranded at the small port of Maoping in central China's Hubei province. "Most of the stranded people have been evacuated at this point," said an official in the city of Yichang. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142974-39f>

*** Active Indonesian volcano forces 6,000 to flee

Authorities fearing an eruption evacuated more than 6,000 people over the weekend from the slopes of Indonesia's most active volcano, Mount Merapi, the Kompas daily reported Monday. The evacuation of the residents of eight villages, the first during Merapi's recent bout of activity, was ordered by local disaster coordination authorities despite the volcano still being rated one level below the maximum alert status, Kompas said. Village authorities said they arranged the evacuation of people to nearby village meeting halls after hearing automatic sirens that are designed to raise the alarm when the

volcano's activity reaches a certain point. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555153070-ea8>

*** Mandela marks 80 and marries for 3rd time

South African President Nelson Mandela, marking his 80th birthday, married Graca Machel, the elegant 52-year-old Mozambican widow he has loved and lived with for the past two years. Ending months of speculation, Mandela surprised even his closest associates with a carefully planned ceremony Saturday at the Johannesburg suburban mansion he and Machel bought together last year. "I have a very short statement to make and a very happy one. President Nelson Mandela and Graca Machel got married this afternoon," said Mandela's deputy, political heir and official witness, Thabo Mbeki. Mandela has declined to contest next year's second all-race general election, preparing the way for Mbeki to take over as the country's second elected leader. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555133561-6cc>

*** South African media applaud Mandela marriage, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555141744-a67>

*** Scores dance, sing as Mandela, Machel tie knot, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555133552-27c>

*** Chronology of Nelson Mandela's family life, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555132620-90c>

*** Fiercely independent Machel marries Mandela, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555132161-477>

*** War crimes court created, U.S. vows to stay vigilant

The dream of creating a world court to try war crimes became reality Saturday but the U.S. said it could not join and would have to remain vigilant about its commitments on the world stage. In a cliffhanger finale to an intense five-week UN conference, chief U.S. delegate David Scheffer made a last-ditch attempt to rewrite the statute to assuage fears that American troops could be tried in a "kangaroo court." The bid backfired when delegates threw out U.S. amendments by an overwhelming 113-17 majority, dealing the world's sole superpower a stinging slap in the face. Washington was isolated among the majority of its democratic allies around the world in opposing the court. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555124132-ae0>

*** Annan calls war crimes court 'gift of hope,' see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555132873-693>

*** UN court drama pits power against rights, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142178-e93>

*** Swiss government to meet business over Holocaust row

Switzerland's foreign minister plans to meet business leaders, bankers and the central bank to discuss escalating boycott threats in the U.S. stemming from the row over Holocaust victims' missing wealth. Marie-Marceline Kurmann, spokeswoman for the Swiss Holocaust Task Force, said Sunday that Foreign Minister Flavio Cotti, who also holds Switzerland's rotating presidency this year, had asked the Task

Force to organize a meeting for early September. But she said this did not indicate the government was softening its opposition to involvement in class action lawsuits filed in the U.S. against Switzerland's biggest commercial banks over Holocaust-era claims. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555143950-0a6>

*** Swiss banks to miss U.S. Senate hearing on gold, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555120865-cdf>

The World Political Scene

*** Israel, Palestinians to hold series of talks

Israel and the Palestinians held direct high-level negotiations for the first time in months Sunday and agreed it would be the first of a series of meetings aimed at ending a 16-month-old deadlock. Senior Palestinian official Mahmoud Abbas said that during his three hour meeting with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai at a Tel Aviv hotel the sides had only "exchanged views" but agreed to meet again soon. The U.S., mediating between the sides for months, believes that peace talks have reached their "end-game" and had urged both sides to resume direct talks to try to seal a deal. An attempted car bombing in the heart of Jerusalem hours ahead of the meeting underscored heightened tensions surrounding the deadlocked political process. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555149024-467>

*** Israel says settlement building not a war crime, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145440-c1e>

*** Kosovo conflict escalates; town, border under fire

The conflict in Kosovo escalated Sunday as Serbian police and Yugoslav army troops battled ethnic Albanian separatists Sunday for control of the town of Orahovac. Serbian sources said they had begun a counter-offensive to prevent guerrillas of the separatist Kosovo Liberation Army from capturing their first major town, and they denied rumors that it had fallen to the KLA insurgents. Neighboring Albania meanwhile denounced Serbia for what it said was a gross violation of sovereignty, alleging that Serb forces fired shells into Albania during an operation to ambush a large infiltration by ethnic Albanian guerrillas. Major powers trying to broker peace talks fear the conflict could widen, engulfing Albanian and Macedonia in war. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555135792-695>

*** Serbs say driving KLA from town, mount ambush, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555143147-4c4>

*** Yugoslav army, police battle Kosovo guerrillas, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145633-d13>

*** Diplomat visits British aid worker in Kosovo jail, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145938-6c0>

*** No agreement reached in Northern Ireland march talks

Talks on ending a two-week dispute over a banned Protestant march down a Catholic road ended Sunday without any agreement - but some

progress was made. Representatives of the Protestant Orangemen and Catholics from the Garvaghy Road in Portadown talked for almost 15 hours via third party negotiators. Hundreds of Orangemen, named after an order celebrating King William of Orange's victories 300 years ago over Catholics, have been camped out in Drumcree, insisting on the right to hold their traditional parade through the Catholic Garvaghy Road in Portadown. The tense stand-off sparked rioting throughout the province, threatening the Northern Ireland peace process. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555143626-177>

*** Abubakar's Nigeria democracy plan expected Monday

Nigerian military ruler Gen. Abdulsalam Abubakar, making a national broadcast Monday, is expected to unveil a new plan to restore democracy after years of political crisis. Planned for earlier in the month, the broadcast was deferred after the July 7 death in detention of presidential claimant Moshood Abiola and resulting ethnic riots in his southwest stronghold. Apart from replacing the discredited plans of former dictator Sani Abacha, who died suddenly June 8, Abubakar will have to satisfy conflicting demands of diverse interest groups in the multi-ethnic oil-producing country of 104 million people. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555149989-885>

*** Exiled author blames military in Abiola death, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555139283-e6c>

*** Prayers pass peacefully for Nigeria's Abiola, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555131629-842>

*** France comes late to Nigeria diplomatic scramble, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555144863-288>

*** Japan PM race gets rare dose of democracy

The backroom king-makers bickering over who will become Japan's next prime minister are being faced with an unexpected political force - democracy. For the first time in about 20 years, there is an actual race to decide Japan's next premier and actual issues being debated among members of Japan's long-dominant Liberal Democratic Party. Japanese television viewers saw a strange sight Sunday when the three candidates for prime minister - Seiroku Kajiyama, Junichiro Koizumi and Keizo Obuchi - sat down together and gave their views for lifting Japan's moribund economy. All three are vying for the leadership post Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said he would vacate after the LDP suffered a major setback July 12 Upper House elections. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555140804-b6c>

*** Japan PM hopefuls take to TV, vow economic action, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555140950-297>

*** Main points of Japan PM candidates, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555141712-b2b>

*** Outline of voting for Japan prime minister, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555139934-d9c>

*** India, Pakistan play nuclear poker with U.S.

Of all the canny cards played last week by India, Pakistan and the U.S. in their quiet diplomacy on international nuclear arms control

pacts, perhaps the most significant was slipped out quietly. Analysts say Pakistan's low-key announcement that it had given up its long-held opposition to signing the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty until arch-rival India does could be a first step in breaking the deadlock. The change of tack has stoked speculation that when U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott visits Islamabad next week, Pakistan could agree to join the treaty. Islamabad, struggling to avoid the perils of a debt crisis as U.S.-backed economic sanctions kick in, is more vulnerable than India to pressure from Western nations that fear a nuclear arms race on the subcontinent. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555138042-236>
*** Pakistan awaits 'contingency plan' for sanctions, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555143434-808>

The Americas

*** Colombian anti-drug helicopter crashes, 7 dead

A U.S.-built Huey UH-1H helicopter crashed in stormy weather in northwest Colombia, killing seven anti-drug agents, including two top officers, police said Sunday. The men died in the crash Saturday after aborting a mission to dismantle a clandestine drug laboratory in the war-torn, banana-growing Uraba region. Police said Maj. Horacio Galeano, head of the central division of the Colombian anti-narcotics police, and Maj. Gentil Guacaneme, the No. 2 commander

of the Uraba region, died in the crash. The Vietnam-era helicopter went down in torrential rains and poor visibility near the town of Carepa, police said. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145455-eef>

*** Colombia rebels still dream of socialism, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145504-ce9>

*** Amnesty says Colombia rights abuses hit new high, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555133619-e39>

*** Mahuad declared winner of Ecuador's presidential race

Ecuador's Supreme Electoral Tribunal declared Quito Mayor Jamil Mahuad the winner of last week's presidential race Sunday. The Tribunal said Mahuad, a member of the centrist Popular Democrat Party, had 2,242,836 ballots while banana magnate Alvaro Noboa, the candidate for the Roldosista Party, took 2,140,628 ballots. Eleven of Ecuador's 21 provinces went to Mahuad. According to the Tribunal, there were 49,766 blank ballots, 526,828 inadmissible votes and 2,112,438 people who did not vote. Noboa, who has yet to admit defeat, said he would not recognize the official result until his call for a recount was met. He said he would continue to protest peacefully in the streets. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555152915-a56>

*** Miami newspaper says Castro has brain disease

The Miami Herald reported Sunday that Cuban President Fidel Castro

was treated in October for hypertensive encephalopathy, a potentially fatal illness affecting the brain. The report, datelined San Jose, Costa Rica, cited as its source Dr. Elizabeth Trujillo Izquierdo, described as a Cuban surgeon who said she was formerly part of the medical team at Havana's CIMEQ hospital. However, the dates cited by the Miami Herald for Castro's illness - the newspaper quoted Trujillo as saying he was hospitalized from Oct. 22-28 and again for two days from Oct. 30 - coincided with at least one lengthy engagement of Castro's. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145564-ae9>

*** Raul Salinas willing to testify about Swiss money

Raul Salinas, brother of former Mexican President Carlos Salinas, is willing to provide testimony to Swiss authorities investigating \$132 million he placed in Swiss bank accounts, his lawyer said Saturday. The attorney general of Switzerland, Carla del Ponte, is considering whether to bring money laundering charges against Raul Salinas based on suspicions the money came from drug traffickers, Swiss officials have said. Raul's brother Carlos Salinas was president of Mexico from 1988 to 1994 but fled Mexico shortly after Raul's 1995 arrest on murder and corruption charges. Carlos Salinas lives in self-imposed exile in Ireland while Raul Salinas remains in a maximum security prison on charges that he plotted a political murder. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555132629-f02>

*** Honduran bus catches fire, at least 17 dead

At least 17 people died and 18 were injured Sunday when a Honduran bus burst into flames, Honduran radio stations reported. "The bus burst into flames near the city of Catulaca," an America Radio reporter said, referring to an area about 135 miles east of the capital of Tegucigalpa. "It appears there was some fuel inside as the bus was taking passengers to their communities," America Radio said. "The death toll could rise because there are a lot of serious injuries." A highway police officer said the victims had burned to death. HRN radio said that nine of the dead were children and that the fire was sparked by a short circuit. It said about 40 people were aboard. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555153179-bf5>

*** U.S., Panama seen abandoning canal anti-drug center

The U.S. and Panama most likely will abandon plans for an international anti-drug center in the Panama Canal Zone, ending more than 90 years of a U.S. military presence here, political analysts said Sunday. Their observations came a day after U.S. and Panamanian officials said they were locked in a stalemate on the deal, which would extend a role for U.S. troops beyond Dec. 31, 1999, when Panama assumes full control of the famous waterway. Under the original proposal for the center, the U.S. would keep at least 2,000 U.S. troops stationed at Howard Air Force Base, gathering anti-narcotics information into the next century. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555149244-502>

Europe and Russia

*** Austrian villagers gather to remember 11 dead miners

The village of Lassing held an emotional service Sunday for 11 men killed in Austria's worst postwar mining disaster. Around 300 people packed into the small Roman Catholic church in the idyllic Alpine village, within sight of the huge crater left when a shaft at the magnesium silicate mine caved in Friday, sending tons of mud and water crashing down on 10 men who had gone down to rescue a colleague. As a thunderstorm raged outside, parish priest Father Paul Scheichenberger read out the names of the dead men, one of whom was a father of five. Rescue workers were trying to prevent further collapses at the mine by pumping out water and channeling away a stream. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555147206-ab8>

*** Cave-in a double blow to Austrian village, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145193-ee2>

*** Yeltsin tackles budget gap before IMF meets

President Boris Yeltsin stepped in over the weekend to repair some of the damage done by parliament to an anti-crisis plan sought by the IMF. The International Monetary Fund will decide in Washington Monday

whether to give Russia \$5.6 billion. Alexander Livshits, deputy head of Yeltsin's administration, said Sunday Yeltsin had vetoed two laws passed by parliament to lower taxes and had also introduced new land taxes by decree. In doing so he risks a new confrontation with the Communist-dominated lower house of parliament, which often accuses him of overstepping his vast constitutional powers and kowtowing to the West at the expense of his struggling people. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145594-072>

*** Spanish Basques march against closure of newspaper

Thousands of people walked silently through the Spanish city of San Sebastian Saturday protesting the closure of Basque newspaper Egin for alleged links to the separatist guerrilla group ETA. In a peaceful procession organized by ETA's political wing Herri Batasuna, demonstrators carried banners which read "Against fascism" and "For freedom of speech." HB spokesman Arnaldo Otegi said the protest was aimed at "demanding respect for the will of the Basque people. We want to remind everyone that our day will come and the Basque country will be free." Egin and its sister radio station were closed and 11 people arrested Wednesday for alleged links with ETA rebels. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555133301-381>

*** Romania PM demands answers in deepening crisis

Romania's prime minister says he will demand explanations this week for delays in market reforms which have pitched the country to the

bottom of a list of ex-communist aspirants for European Union membership. Radu Vasile's frustration was prompted by a Finance Ministry report that privatization receipts were far less than anticipated, a shortfall to be considered when the budget is revised next month. It also followed a week in which the shortcomings of Romania's reforms were given a degree of international exposure, with President Emil Constantinescu having to account for them during a trip to the U.S. Vasile said little progress has been made to privatize and restructure industry. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555141327-9ab>

*** Hungary inaugurates first synagogue since Holocaust

Hungary inaugurated its first synagogue built since the Holocaust Sunday to help Eastern Europe's Jewish youth revive their heritage amid calls by Jewish leaders for local authorities to fight anti-Semitism. Some 400 teenagers from across Central and Eastern Europe prayed and sang religious songs as Hungary's Chief Rabbi Jozsef Schweitzer led a procession carrying the Torah, or Jewish holy scrolls, into the new synagogue. The red-brick synagogue, part of an educational center hosting a library, study and computer rooms, was built on the premises of the Lauder-Joint International Jewish Summer Camp near the town of Szarvas in southern Hungary. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145054-75d>

*** Chechen president raises troops to fight bands

Chechen President Aslan Maskhadov is mobilizing up to 5,000 extra troops to help fight groups of armed bands in his breakaway republic, his spokesman said Sunday. Maskhadov, whose republic has remained in turmoil even after a two-year conflict with Russian troops ended in Aug. 1996, extended a curfew Saturday imposed June 24 for another 10 days, saying it was to fight crime, in particular oil theft. The moves follow a clash between Maskhadov's security forces and Islamic extremists in the town of Gudermes last week in which officials said nine people died and 15 were wounded. The clash coincided with a jailbreak in the Chechen capital Grozny. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555143640-80a>

Africa

*** Violence threatens S. Africa election run-up

South Africa's troubled KwaZulu-Natal province is teetering on the edge of a bloody buildup to the 1999 general elections. The body count in the province rose to 34 over the weekend with the shooting of five people Friday in the hilly town of Richmond despite a heavy military and police presence. The Natal Monitor, another group based at the University of Natal, said in a report the new killings had exploded a myth that peace had returned to a region that has been plagued with violence since the mid-1980s. More than 15,000 people were killed in the internecine violence between the now ruling

African National Congress and its fierce arch-foe, the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party as they battled for control of the province.

See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142975-07e>

*** 5 more dead in African political wars, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555128508-7d2>

*** 11 Democratic Congo political prisoners freed

Eleven close aides of veteran Democratic Republic of the Congo opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi have been freed from detention, released detainees and members of his party said Sunday. But they added that more than 40 supporters, arrested outside the Kinshasa residence of the Union for Democracy and Social Progress leader in a fresh government crackdown on the political activity last week, remained in jail. One close advisor, Laurent Mbayo, among an initial 12 detained July 10 and accused of breaking a ban on political activity, also remained in detention, they said. Tshisekedi's closest aides were arrested at a meeting in his residence only days after he returned to Kinshasa from nearly five months enforced isolation. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145604-260>

*** 'Currency saboteurs' may face death in Dem. Congo, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555144084-154>

*** Algeria says Moslem rebels massacred 11 people

Moslem rebels cut the throats of 11 people overnight in an area south of Algiers, government forces said Sunday. The massacre at Rebaia

village in Medea province came just four days after at least 13 villagers died in a similar massacre. And at least 15 soldiers were killed in a guerrilla attack on a military barracks Friday. The security forces blamed the Rebaia village attack on "terrorists,"- the official term the authorities use to describe Moslem rebels locked in a six-year-old conflict with the government. The security forces said troops have launched an intensive manhunt to track down the assailants. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142576-113>

*** Africa reform, corruption under Rubin trip spotlight

Praise for the reformers, but stern words for those who have not yet got the message dominated a visit last week by senior U.S. officials to Africa as the continent struggles to keep the momentum for economic growth. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, on a five-nation tour of Africa, urged ministers to create a solid framework for foreign investment, opening markets, building a competitive banking system and keeping inflation low. But he also stressed the costs of corruption in a region where officials are often all too keen to take their cut. Investors were looking for an educated work force and flexible labor rules and laws needed to be clear and easily enforced, he said. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555148139-1ba>

*** Jesse Jackson in Liberia for national conference, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555143480-5f5>

*** Eritrea challenges Ethiopia on arbitration

Eritrean President Isayas Afewerki has challenged Ethiopia to accept arbitration as a means of settling a violent border dispute in which hundreds of people have died. An agreed demarcation of the contested border area could provide a way of finally resolving the conflict, Afewerki said Saturday. Afewerki said, "It's a border dispute.

Demarcating the border line on the ground would bring a lasting solution to the problem. If there is any dispute or controversy as far as the colonial boundaries are concerned, arbitration is a very simple solution to the problem." Since June 11 the frontier between the two Horn of Africa neighbors has been quiet with no reports of significant fighting. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555140806-c21>

*** Burundi warring sides to start peace talks, truce

Burundi's warring parties return to the peace table Monday hoping for a boost if a promised ceasefire gets off the ground. They will be trying to end a bitter ethnic conflict in which at least 150,000 people have died since Oct. 1993 in a series of massacres and fighting between the Tutsi-dominated army and rebels who claim to represent the country's Hutu majority. Around 60 delegates from Burundi's mainstream political parties arrived by plane in the north Tanzanian town of Arusha Sunday for the talks hosted by Tanzania's former President Julius Nyerere. During a first round of negotiations in June the Burundian government signed an agreement with three rebel

groups and 12 political parties to return to the negotiating table

and implement a ceasefire. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555149987-6ba>

India and the Middle East

*** Iraq says sanctions patience wearing thin

Iraq's patience under UN trade sanctions is wearing thin,

Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan said Sunday. "The leadership and

the people of Iraq are not ready to wait years more without practical

steps to lift the unjust embargo," he told a meeting of the ruling

Baath Party. "The Iraqi leadership will adopt an active plan for

dealing with Special Commission and the Security Council." Sanctions

imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait can not be lifted until

it meets the ceasefire terms which ended the 1991 Gulf War. Iraq

still has to comply with demands from the UN Special Commission which

is in charge of destroying its ballistic, chemical and biological

arms programs. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555146056-409>

*** Iraq opens satellite TV to tell world of embargo, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555128250-ab8>

*** Taleban order aid agencies to leave Kabul

The Taleban ordered private foreign aid agencies Sunday to close down for defying an order to move to a derelict college building with no water or power. "The aid workers should close down their offices and pack up if they are not interested to relocate their operation to the Polytechnic (college)," said Qari Deen Mohammad, Taleban's planning minister. Aid sources said the majority of the 100-strong foreign aid community had already left and that there were only a few token staff left. The call for a change of heart didn't bear fruit and the Taleban answer was clear - either we move to Polytechnic or pull out," said the aid worker. The planning minister said the authorities had rejected appeals by the aid agencies to rethink the order and said they should pack up their belongings and leave. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555144999-d5a>

*** Indian colonel said killed by Pakistanis in Kashmir

Pakistani troops fired artillery shells across the disputed Kashmir border killing an Indian army colonel and wounding four civilians, an Indian defense spokesman said Sunday. "Col. P.B. Gole died of splinter injuries he received when Pakistani troops resorted to artillery shelling across the border at Kanzalwan area of Gurez sector Saturday," Maj. P.Purushottam, an Indian defense spokesman said. Shooting between Indian and Pakistani troops frequently breaks out across the 435 mile ceasefire line that divides Kashmir. India controls two-thirds of the Himalayan region and Pakistan controls the rest. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142218-b8e>

*** Indian state govt prohibits play on Mahatma Gandhi, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555141754-234>

*** India minister says Kashmir insurgency in control, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555131601-fdd>

*** Yemen-Saudi spat pits Arabia's David vs. Goliath

A David and Goliath border dispute that has flared into renewed tension between Yemen and Saudi Arabia is rooted in rivalry that harks back to the days when Arabia was a lawless land of feuding tribes. Yemen, one of the most impoverished countries in the Middle East, said at the weekend its borders with its giant neighbor to the north - the Arab world's richest oil power - were calm. Two days earlier it accused Saudi Arabia of "perpetual aggressive acts" and seizing its land, a charge denied swiftly and unusually on the Moslem holy day Friday by the kingdom which called for continued talks rather than public recrimination. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142144-e8a>

*** European Union upbeat on future ties with Iran

Senior European Union diplomats wrapped up two days of formal talks in Iran Sunday, in what the head of the visiting delegation called the start of a gradual improvement in ties with the Islamic republic. Albert Rohan, delegation leader and Austria's deputy foreign minister, said the talks marked a return to substantive dialogue with Iran after a long absence. "Yesterday was the first step in a long

process in which we should gradually improve relations further,"

Rohan told reporters after a 30-minute meeting with Iranian Foreign

Minister Kamal Kharrazi. But Iranian state radio said the future of

Iranian-EU relations was far from certain. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142917-19e>

*** Syria signs double taxation pact with France, official

Syria and France have signed a double taxation agreement to encourage

investment between the two countries, a senior Syrian official said

Sunday. The official said the agreement, signed during Syrian

President Hafez al-Assad's July 16-17 groundbreaking visit to France,

would encourage French businessmen and investors to do business in

Syria. Investment law number 10 already gave investors in Syria up to

seven years of tax-free operations, the official added. The agreement

was signed by French Minister of Economy, Finance and Industry

Dominique Strauss-Kahn and Syrian Finance Minister Khaled Mahayni,

who along with a business delegation accompanied Assad on his Paris

visit. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555144657-008>

The Far East

*** Coalition looms as Cambodia vote nears

As campaigning for Cambodia's long-awaited election enters its last week, analysts say the vote is almost certain to result in a coalition government - only a year after the last one collapsed in violence. There are three main candidates vying to become prime minister in next Sunday's general election and political deadlock was on the cards, analysts said Sunday. Strongman Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party, the FUNCINPEC party of the rival co-premier he ousted last year, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and the party of former finance minister Sam Rainsy which bears his name are expected to split the vote. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555140307-836>

*** Promises, parades as Cambodia campaign nears end, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555140967-89b>

*** Sam Rainsy hits at violence ahead Cambodia poll, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555152324-4aa>

*** NZ flood concerns ease but mid-week rain a threat

Central New Zealand, battling its worst floods in 100 years, breathed a sigh of relief Monday as waters receded. But the prospect of mid-week rain sustained fears of further damage in the North Island. The Waikato region's civil defense controller Warwick Bennett estimated flood damage in his district at \$2.6 million since heavy rains over a week ago caused rivers to burst their banks. The flooding has drenched farmland around the Waikato river, swamping dozens of homes and forcing farmers in the agricultural region to use jet-skis and kayaks to herd almost submerged cattle. Three days have

now passed without rain in the area. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555153320-583>

*** Estrada defends proposed deal over Marcos money

New Philippine President Joseph Estrada defended a proposed deal Sunday with late dictator Ferdinand Marcos's family over alleged ill-gained Marcos assets, saying the money would be used to help the country's poor. "Using the money to save the poor from gutter existence is a lesser evil than letting the money that could ease their suffering lie idle," Estrada, a supporter of Marcos, said. The country's top churchman, Cardinal Jaime Sin, slammed any settlement with the Marcoses and their associates Saturday. "I am worried about the ease that accompanies our dealing with the former plunderers of our nation. Money is not the end of everything," Sin said. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555141186-c85>

*** Yangon quiet as Suu Kyi pays Martyrs' Day respects

Myanmar's capital Yangon was quiet and security relaxed as opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi paid respects at her father's tomb in Yangon Sunday as the country commemorated its annual Martyrs' Day. The ruling government had recently warned opposition groups against fueling rumors there would be unrest in the city either this Sunday or Aug. 8, the 10th anniversary of the 1988 student protests which were crushed by the military. Suu Kyi arrived at the Martyrs'

Mausoleum near the foot of the central Shwedegon Pagoda Hill this morning in a black government-arranged sedan. For the fourth consecutive Martyrs' Day ceremony Suu Kyi was accompanied by Col. Than Tun, a senior government intelligence officer who has acted as her liaison since her release from house arrest July 10, 1995. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555140667-55a>

*** HK's main air cargo handler resumes at half speed

Hong Kong's main air cargo operator, HACTL, lifted its embargo on most imports and exports Sunday and resumed operations at half speed after 13 days of chaos at the city's new US\$20 billion airport.

Handling some 80% of the air cargo through this Asian regional hub, HACTL halted almost all loads July 10 due to an array of problems at its new US\$1 billion facility when the airport opened this month. "We lifted our embargo at midnight last night and I believe our recovery plan is going ahead on schedule," Anthony Charter, managing director of Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Ltd, said Sunday. Airlines said they were taking HACTL at its word and, ready or not, loading up cargo flights which have flown in empty since July 10. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142713-ffd>

*** UN special envoy Marker visits East Timor

UN special envoy Jamsheed Marker met East Timorese representatives Sunday at an Indonesian military airbase outside the territory's second city of Baucau in a surprise move to avoid disturbances. He

met a total of about 30 people, including representatives of groups for and against Indonesian rule of East Timor, members of the military and students. Anti-Indonesian students in East Timor had said they would demonstrate during a visit by Marker, but students at the Baucau airbase said they had been caught by surprise by his flight there. Also at the airbase were East Timor's spiritual leader and Nobel Peace laureate, Bishop Carlos Belo, and the bishop of Baucau, Basilio dos Nascimento. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555142906-838>

*** Embattled Chinese find safe haven in East Timor, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555141348-3a1>

Science and Medicine

*** N.J. firm may make morning-after pill

A small New Jersey firm may become the first drug manufacturer in the U.S. to market a "morning-after" birth control pill similar to those sold in Europe. Roderick Mackenzie, chief executive of Gynetics Inc. of Belle Mead, N.J., told the Newark Star-Ledger said he was optimistic of federal approval for the pill, which would prevent pregnancy up to 72 hours after intercourse. Conservative groups believing the pill would be an abortion mechanism like the French pill RU-486, are already rallying to oppose it, the paper said. It contains different ingredients than RU-486 and would work by

inhibiting or disrupting ovulation, interfering with fertilization or with transporting the embryo to the uterus or with implanting the embryo in the uterus. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145293-f8d>

*** Head trauma doubles odds of Alzheimer's - study

People who suffer head trauma are twice as likely to be diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in later life, according to a new study.

Speaking at the Sixth Annual International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease Sunday, Dr. Richard Havlik of the U.S. National Institute on Aging Epidemiology said the study tracked 2,400 U.S. Navy veterans who suffered loss of consciousness or amnesia as a result of head blows between 1944 and 1945. Havlik said that it was not clear why the trauma resulted in increased incidences of the debilitating disease. But, he said, it could be the result of the death of neurons in the brain, damage to blood brain behavior leading to a chronic inflammatory process over a period of years, or cause the production of diffuse plaques in the cerebral cortex. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145541-885>

*** Thalidomide maker hopes safer drugs will follow

The maker of thalidomide, which has just won Food and Drug Administration approval despite being haunted by a history of terrible birth defects, says he hopes safer and more effective drugs will follow soon. The FDA approved thalidomide for use against

leprosy Thursday, with the tacit acceptance that the drug would in fact be used more often in experimental therapy for a range of disease from cancer to AIDS to rheumatoid arthritis. The approval makes it easier to control the drug, said Sol Barer, president and CEO of New Jersey-based Celgene Corp, which makes thalidomide under the name Thalomid. The approval makes it easier to control the drug, he said. "This drug has been in the underground." See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555118434-3a0>

*** U.S. mental health research funding questioned

Drug companies and political pressure have skewed the way mental health research is being funded, researchers complained Friday. Both the head of the National Institute of Mental Health and a prominent critic of drug companies and government agencies agreed that commercial and political interests have meant that vital research has sometimes not been funded. "NIMH has not been doing the clinical trials, has really abandoned the field to the pharmaceutical industry," Dr. E. Fuller Torrey, a respected psychiatrist and critic of the industry, said. Speaking to a convention of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Torrey accused drugmakers of bullying researchers, and scientists of compromising their ethics. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555119704-46b>

*** States drop Office claim from Microsoft lawsuit

Attorneys general for 20 states filed an updated complaint in their landmark antitrust suit against Microsoft Corp. Friday, dropping charges related to the Office computer software package. The state officials said they would continue to investigate the Office allegations but dropped them from the current case against the world's leading software company because of "time and witness limitations set by the court for the Sept. 8 trial." Instead the states will focus on charges that Microsoft has abused a monopoly position in computer operating systems to gain similar power in the Internet browser market and eliminate the threat posed by rival Netscape Communications Corp. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555122068-8da>

*** Oracle CEO to testify in U.S. hearings next week

One of Microsoft Corp.'s fiercest critics, Oracle Corp. chief executive Larry Ellison, testifies in a new round of Senate Judiciary Committee hearings investigating competition in the software business next week. A spokeswoman for Oracle, based in Redwood Shores, Calif., confirmed a report on a technology news site on the Internet, Ziff Davis's ZDNN, that Ellison will testify Thursday before the competition and high technology hearings. The report also said Sybase Inc. chief executive Mitchell Kertzman is also testifying before the judiciary committee, which held a series of highly publicized

hearings with Microsoft Corp. CEO Bill Gates and others in March. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555123950-90f>

*** Former employee says Acer bowed to Microsoft

Pressure tactics by Microsoft Corp. often led computer maker Acer America Corp. to use the software giant's products instead of its competitors', according to a former Acer product manager. Ricardo Correa said in interviews with Reuters that in making three separate software decisions, Acer opted to put Microsoft applications on its consumer line of computers to satisfy Microsoft. Acer and Microsoft denied Correa's claims and said the charges come from a disgruntled employee. However, the allegations emerge at a sensitive time as the U.S. government presses ahead with a major antitrust case against Microsoft. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555144495-9f3>

*** House panel backs new digital copyright law

The House Commerce Committee approved legislation Friday to update U.S. copyright laws for the digital age, but not before amending the bill to protect the interests of libraries and universities. The legislation, previously approved by the Senate and the House Judiciary Committee, implements provisions of two international treaties passed by the World Intellectual Property Organization in 1996. By a 41-0 vote, the Commerce Committee sent the legislation to the House floor. Before the House can vote, however, lawmakers must

reconcile the bill with the earlier version approved by the Judiciary Committee. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555119351-b7d>

*** Ad campaign set to challenge U.S. encryption rules

A private-sector coalition opposed to strict U.S. export controls on data-scrambling technology will unveil an advertising campaign this week to press for change, coalition members said Friday. The campaign, which will feature commercials on cable networks and advertisements in print and on the Internet, comes as Republican congressional leaders have shown an increasing desire to relax the export controls through legislation. The controls sharply limit the ability of U.S. companies to sell products to foreign customers that include encryption, a mathematical scrambling process used to secure information or communications. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555120571-2eb>

*** WTO infotech pact talks suspended after no deal

Negotiators in Geneva suspended World Trade Organization talks Friday to remove tariffs on a list of information technology products worth \$50 billion in annual trade after they failed to strike a deal, officials said. WTO spokesman Luis Ople said the talks ended with no consensus accord. "The meeting is finished. They have decided to suspend the negotiations," he said. He said the chairman of the talks, Martin Harvey of New Zealand, would hold consultations with

countries in September to see if there is a basis to continue the talks. For part 2 see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555117049-fec>

The Environment

*** Monkey-blasting experiment draws protests

Dressed in monkey costumes and covering their ears, activists protested Friday to demand a halt to a California university's plan to blast monkeys with potentially deafening levels of sound. Protesters outside the University of California Board of Regents meeting demonstrated against the research project, which primate researcher Jane Goodall has condemned as "cruel, outdated and financially wasteful." "Monkeys can't talk," said Russell Tenofsky, a spokesperson for the advocacy group In Defense of Animals. "There's no way that these animals can vocalize the pain that they're going through. They can't say, 'Oh, I have an excruciating headache, please give me some aspirin.'" See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555120747-164>

*** Update: Vietnam-era napalm arrives at Texas recycling plant

The first of hundreds of shipments of napalm, an unwelcome memento of the Vietnam War, arrived at a Texas recycling plant Friday after a

four-day journey from a Navy weapons depot in California. Four white containers carrying 22,000 gallons of the flammable jelly arrived by train at a Houston rail yard Thursday night and were taken by truck to the plant at Deer Park, east of Houston, Friday morning. Public reaction in Houston has been muted compared with the safety scare, which erupted earlier this year when an Indiana-based company agreed to dispose of the napalm. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555119712-2d6>

*** Fog collector hopes to clear air on usefulness of mist

Robert Schemenauer, a fog collector, basked in another soggy summer afternoon on Canada's wet Pacific coast. "Those, yes. Those would be ideal," Schemenauer said, pointing to the low-lying clouds floating through nearby mountains. Ideal for Schemenauer's equipment, which he hopes to use to turn fog clouds into an inexpensive water supply for thirsty communities in the developing world. Fog collection experts gather Monday in Vancouver with economic development officials in what is billed as the first international conference on fog. With Schemenauer's fog collecting equipment, mist forms droplets on large thin sheets of polyethylene mesh and the water is channeled into pipes and collection reservoirs. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555144336-075>

*** Tropical Storm Celia threatens Mexico's Pacific coast

A tropical storm churning off Mexico's Pacific coast threatened to

bring flash floods and mud slides to the country's mountainous west, U.S. and Mexican meteorologists said Friday. Tropical Storm Celia dumped torrential rains and winds on the states of Guerrero, Jalisco and Colima from its position 206 miles southwest of the beach resort town of Puerto Vallarta. "The heavy rains could produce life-threatening flash floods and mud slides in mountainous areas," the U.S. National Weather Service in Miami said. Meteorologists estimated the storm would increase in strength within the next 24 hours as it moved west-northwest at nearly 10 miles per hour. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555121594-9b6>

Human Interest

*** Clinton says he is 'luckiest person' on earth

President Clinton spent a sentimental day Saturday talking with longtime Democratic supporters, dismissing his critics and declaring himself the "luckiest person in the world." Far from the legal and political battles that dominate events in Washington, Clinton enjoyed being the favorite son of Arkansas - a native who had returned to the warmth of friends and old neighbors. "I've been the luckiest person in the world, the American people have continued to support me in the face of unprecedented attacks," Clinton said Saturday at a fundraiser for state Democratic candidates. He attributed his still high popularity ratings to the fact "we actually had a plan. We had ideas

... and the results were good." See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555137573-7e6>

*** Spoiled surprise for Charles upsets princes

A spokesperson said the teenage sons of Prince Charles were upset and their father sad Sunday after British newspaper torpedoed the boys' plans to surprise Charles with a 50th birthday party. A spokesperson for the heir to the British throne said the birthday party would go ahead anyway, but Princes William and Harry were "terribly disappointed" that the surprise had leaked out and landed in the national headlines. The Sunday Mirror said William, 16, and Harry, 13, will star in a comedy play at the party for Charles, alongside Oscar-winning British actress Emma Thompson and comic actor Stephen Fry, who wrote the script. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555146486-90c>

*** Body thought to be Tabarly found off Irish coast

A French fishing vessel pick up a body believed to be drowned French sailing legend Eric Tabarly off the coast of Ireland Friday and the body is awaiting identification, Irish police said Saturday. Tabarly, 66, a national hero in France for his transatlantic racing exploits, fell overboard from his century-old yacht Pen Duick off the coast of Wales a month ago. He was awarded a posthumous Legion of Honor following the accident. Police in southwestern Waterford County said fishermen brought a male body thought to be that of Tabarly in

Friday. They found the body in waters midway between Ireland and Wales. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555133713-4f7>

*** Pickett's Charge resurfaces in courtroom battle

A descendant of Confederate Gen. George Pickett has charged into court to stop the sale of his great-great-granddaddy's possessions to a Civil War museum in Harrisburg. George Edward Pickett the 5th, a North Carolina contractor, says he was hoodwinked into selling a trunkload of family memorabilia for \$87,500 to an appraiser who then turned around and let the National Civil War Museum have the same artifacts for \$870,000. The younger Pickett has since filed suit in Philadelphia to get the belongings back, saying he thought he had been dealing directly with the museum all along. Gen. Pickett was the officer famed for leading the ill-fated Pickett's Charge against Union lines during the Battle of Gettysburg July 3, 1863. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555153321-df9>

*** Grounded European flyer cools heels in Vietnam

A European barred from leaving Vietnam after officials decreed he landed his kit-built aircraft illegally said Monday he had no idea when he could resume his journey from Spain to the U.S. Michel Gordillo, who has Spanish and French citizenship, also said he had not been allowed to see his light aircraft or been given a report on its condition. Gordillo said he believed the propeller-driven plane,

which weighs a mere 1,430 pounds, had been left uncovered at Ho Chi Minh City airport where he landed last Thursday. "I'm still stuck here. I was told this morning the authorities think I will not be able to leave before Wednesday," Gordillo said. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555153256-ce4>

*** 'Wedding of year' unites Kazakhs, Kyrgyz

The eldest son of Kyrgyzstan's President Askar Akayev married the youngest daughter of Kazakh leader Nursultan Nazarbayev Sunday in a ceremony their fathers said would boost ties between the two former Soviet republics. Central Asia's "wedding of the year" between Kyrgyzstan's Aidar and Kazakhstan's Aliya has revived a regional tradition of cementing political relations with family ones. "Let the Kyrgyz and Kazakh peoples be together forever and let their states prosper forever," said Nazarbayev, pronouncing a toast during the wedding ceremony by the shore of the picturesque Issyk Kul lake tucked amid the Kyrgyz mountains. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2555145324-2f9>

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===== ATTACHMENT 1

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ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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RFC-822-headers:

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id <01IZLYPQACHS006SRO@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for crowley_m@a1.eop.gov; Mon,
20 Jul 1998 03:56:56 EDT

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with ESMTP id <01IZLYPNTNZK006ZDV@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for crowley_m@a1.eop.gov; Mon,

20 Jul 1998 03:56:52 -0400 (EDT)

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by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-10 #29131)

with ESMTP id <01IZLYOXTDOA001M7H@STORM.EOP.GOV> for crowley_m@a1.eop.gov;
Mon, 20 Jul 1998 03:56:19 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from sender06.lodo.in.infobeat.com (news-errors@mx.lodo.infobeat.com)

by sender06.lodo.in.infobeat.com

(version 3.34, queueup copyright InfoBeat Inc. 1998)

with stdio id EOPA1AAAKN11153; Mon, 20 Jul 1998 01:55:47 -0600 (MDT)

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**Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System
[EMAIL] and Tape Restoration Project [Email]**

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies a responsive email, already made available within another collection.

Collection: 2019-0156-F

Bucket: Default

Creation Date: 1998-07-21

Subject: News - Morning Edition @ 01/23/98

Creator: news-errors news-errors+1.0.0.crowley_m#a1.eop.gov@mx.lodo.infobeat.com@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN]

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: DBALLENGER (DBALLENGER@PANCANAL.COM@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-SEP-1998 16:11:00.00

SUBJECT: Clarifying Info on PCC Vessel Accident Claim transfer

TO: andrew w. kleine (andrew w. kleine@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

TO: Jerry Fischer (DOJ)

CC: Andrew Kleine (OMB)

RE: PCC Office of Transition Administration (OTA) and vessel
accident claims

Jerry:

Per our recent conversations, we had agreed that an agency clarification of some issues might be helpful in alleviating some apparent confusion regarding the legal and fiscal framework under which post-1999 wrap-up functions will take place. Note in the message that our Deputy Administrator will be in town mid-September if you think a meeting will be constructive. We will also appreciate any other suggestions for other meetings, conference calls, etc. to put to rest any issues that could impede our concluding a good agreement.

At the risk of repeating what is below, I am hopeful that the following can narrow the issues of what is possible under our legal restrictions

and distinguish those from discussions on differences in amounts or costs, which we feel confident can be resolved relatively readily.

Thanks, David

1. The Panama Canal Commission (PCC) is a wholly owned US Government corporation, established by 22 USC 3611, and charged with carrying out the responsibilities of this country under the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977 to manage, operate and maintain the Panama Canal. In performing those functions, PCC operates from the revolving fund established in 22 USC 3712. The 1977 Treaty terminates at noon on December 31, 1999, at which time the United States will transfer the Canal enterprise to Panama, in operating condition and free of liens and debts. Pursuant to 22 USC 3714a, a dissolution fund has been established to pay the costs and liabilities associated with dissolution of PCC, including the cost of a small office within the agency charged with closing out the affairs of PCC.

2. Pursuant to 22 USC 3771-72, PCC adjusts and pays claims for damage to vessels sustained at the Canal due to the negligence of the agency's employees. Under 22 3775-76, settlements and judgments for vessel damage are payable only out of moneys allotted for the maintenance and operation of the Canal. These moneys are drawn from amounts accrued for the payment of such liabilities in the agency's revolving fund.

3. The section 3712 revolving fund will cease to function when the

agency ceases to manage, operate and maintain the Canal on December 31, 1999. At that time, amounts in the fund will have been (a) transferred to other departments and agencies of the US Government (or, in a few instances, to private entities) that are assisting in the windup of PCC affairs*, or (b) placed into the section 3714a dissolution fund. This dissolution fund can remain available as late as October 1, 2004, but the agency now estimates that its dissolution office will complete the largely ministerial tasks assigned to it within a year, i.e., by the end of 1999. At that point, any amounts remaining in the 3714a fund are, pursuant to the terms of that section, to be paid into the general fund of the Treasury.

4. The estimated liability amount for vessel accident claims is a dynamic figure, one that is continually adjusted as estimates are refined. The estimated liability amount stands today at \$16.3 million, and covers 72 accidents (claims and anticipated claims). PCC experience over many years is that it disposes of vessel accident claims for an average of approximately 60 percent of the amount claimed. Moreover, our estimated liabilities average almost 20 percent more than the amounts paid out in settlements and judgments. Under the proposal that the administration of PCC vessel claims pending on December 31, 1999 be assumed by the Department of Justice (DOJ), the amount in the estimated liability account of the revolving fund on that date would be transferred into the fund designated by DOJ. As noted earlier, all other amounts in the revolving fund would be transferred to other entities or into the section 3714a revolving fund as of that same date, December 31, 1999.

5. One element of the section 3714a dissolution fund is the administrative costs associated with bringing to conclusion the vessel-accident claims pending on December 31, 1999. That cost figure is currently under discussion between PCC and DOJ officials. While PCC has a reasonably accurate estimate of the costs it would incur in disposing of these cases, it understands that those costs may differ to some extent from those which DOJ could reasonably expect to incur to accomplish the same work. Accordingly, open, cordial and candid discussions designed to reach a common figure for that item are underway, and PCC officials are optimistic that these talks will succeed. When an agreed-upon cost figure is reached, that amount will also be transferred from PCC into the fund designated by DOJ.

6. I hope that this paper serves to clarify the situation, at least as we see it. If there are questions concerning the foregoing, we would be pleased to try and answer them. In that regard, the agency's Deputy Administrator, Joseph Cornelison will be in Washington, D.C. on Canal business in mid-September and again in mid-October, and he would be available on either occasion to meet with DOJ officials on any aspect of this important undertaking.

* Three examples are worth noting here.

First, the PCC funds a program administered by the Department of Labor (DOL) to pay death and disability benefits under the Federal

Employees Compensation Act to all U.S. citizen workers and to those Panamanians hired prior to October 1, 1979 injured on the job, and their surviving dependents. PCC contributions to that DOL fund are based on actuarial studies, the last of which was prepared by a consultant in March 1998. As a result of that study, the PCC and DOL have agreed that the targeted fund balance on December 31, 1999 will be \$82.9 million; the PCC will deposit the final \$2.3 million of that amount into the DOL fund during FY '99.

Second, non-US citizen employees of the Canal who retired prior to October 1958 receive benefits under a special retirement regime and medical care plan. This year, the PCC awarded contracts to a private insurance company to administer both plans, beginning immediately and, of course, extending well past December 31, 1999. Payments made by the PCC under those contracts were \$2.6 million for retirement benefits and \$14.2 million for medical care.

Finally, the PCC is currently negotiating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Board of Contract Appeals to assume responsibility for contract claims and appeals pending against the agency on December 31, 1999. When agreement is reached on an appropriate amount for our estimated liabilities in the procurement field and the anticipated cost of administering that program, the PCC will be transferring those funds to the Board.

John L. Haines, Jr.

General Counsel

272-7511

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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id <01J1KJ8P7S8W006CYN@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for kleine_a@al.eop.gov; Tue,

8 Sep 1998 16:20:22 EDT

Received: from Storm.EOP.GOV by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)

with ESMTP id <01J1KJ8MVE1S0071S1@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for kleine_a@al.eop.gov; Tue,

08 Sep 1998 16:20:18 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from pccras.pccexch.pancanal.com ([208.143.148.34])

by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-12 #29131)

with ESMTP id <01J1KJ80ZG9A0007XH@STORM.EOP.GOV> for kleine_a@al.eop.gov; Tue,

08 Sep 1998 16:19:51 -0400 (EDT)

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: owner-decisions-outgoing (owner-decisions-outgoing@listserv.gao.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:16-SEP-1998 08:33:00.00

SUBJECT: Newly Issued CG Decisions

TO: Brian T. Fisher (Brian T. Fisher@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joseph G. Pipan (Joseph G. Pipan@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
September 16, 1998

The General Accounting Office (GAO) today issued the following
Decisions and Opinions of the Comptroller General:

Bid Protest Decisions:

- Chant Engineering Company, Inc., B-279049; B-279049.2, April 30, 1998
<http://www.gao.gov/decisions/bidpro/2790492.htm>

Chant Engineering Company, Inc. protests the award of a contract to Rexroth Corporation under request for proposals (RFP) No. CNC-82163-LM-29, issued by the Panama Canal Commission for hydraulic power systems to operate miter gates. Chant asserts that the evaluation and rejection of its proposal were unreasonable.

We deny the protests.

- Teledyne-Commodore, LLC, B-278408.3, September 15, 1998

<http://www.gao.gov/decisions/bidpro/2784083.htm>

Teledyne-Commodore, LLC protests the issuance of task orders to General Atomics, Burns and Roe Enterprises, Inc., and Parsons Infrastructure and Tech Group/Allied Signal by the Department of the Army, to proceed with the technology demonstration phase of the Assembled Chemical Weapon Assessment (ACWA) Program under indefinite-quantity, indefinite-delivery, multiple award contracts awarded under request for proposals (RFP) No.

DAAM01-97-R-0031.\1 The Army issued the RFP for identification of technologies other...

We dismiss the protest.

These decisions are now available from GAO's World Wide Web site in both HTML and PDF versions at the indicated URLs (.pdf extension for PDF version). They have also been sent to the U.S. Government Printing Office for addition to the Comptroller General Decisions

GPO Access WAIS database.===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
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16 Sep 1998 10:35:17 -0400 (EDT)

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16 Sep 1998 10:34:44 -0400 (EDT)

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id IAA04336 for decisions-outgoing; Wed, 16 Sep 1998 08:38:05 -0400

Received: from www.gao.gov (www.gao.gov [161.203.16.2])
by listserv.gao.gov (8.8.8/8.8.8) with SMTP id IAA04332 for
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Received: by www.gao.gov (5.x/SMI-SVR4) id AA06020; Wed,
16 Sep 1998 08:33:44 -0400

Precedence: bulk

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: ballenger (ballenger@erols.com@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:23-SEP-1998 16:03:00.00

SUBJECT: Contact at DOJ

TO: andrew w. kleine (andrew w. kleine@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Per our discussion, Jerry Fischer is the person who should be able to

tell you about DOJ's previous look into the question of whether what we

are trying to do could be done by a memorandum of understanding or

whether it would require something more. His phone number is 616-4090.

Thanks -

David Ballenger

General Attorney and Assistant to the Secretary for Congressional

Affairs

Panama Canal Commission

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Phone : (202) 634-6441

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e-mail : dballenger@pancanal.com OR ballenger@erols.com===== ATTACHMENT 1

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from conversion.pmdf.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)

id <01J25H1WB9DS00C0AE@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for kleine_a@a1.eop.gov; Wed,

23 Sep 1998 16:04:13 EDT

Received: from Storm.EOP.GOV by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)

with ESMTP id <01J25H1U35I800C4LY@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for kleine_a@a1.eop.gov; Wed,

23 Sep 1998 16:04:10 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from smtp1.erols.com ([207.172.3.234])

by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-12 #29131)

with ESMTP id <01J25H19OE9Q00070W@STORM.EOP.GOV> for kleine_a@a1.eop.gov; Wed,

23 Sep 1998 16:03:47 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from erols.com

(207-172-181-44.s267.tnt20.brd.erols.com [207.172.181.44])

by smtp1.erols.com (8.8.8/8.8.5) with ESMTP id QAA21848; Wed,

23 Sep 1998 16:03:20 -0400 (EDT)

X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.05 [en] (Win95; I)

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: ekunene (ekunene@tda.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-OCT-1998 12:30:00.00

SUBJECT: TDA's October 23rd Pipeline/Calendar

TO: David W. Rejeski (David W. Rejeski@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Attached is the latest version of TDA's Pipeline/Calendar. If you have any problems, please let me know.

Evangelina===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from conversion.pmdf.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)
id <01J3FDMR09VK005UCX@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for REJESKI_D@a1.eop.gov; Mon,
26 Oct 1998 12:43:04 EST

Received: from Storm.EOP.GOV by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)
with ESMTP id <01J3FDMJK35S005L2N@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for REJESKI_D@a1.eop.gov; Mon,

26 Oct 1998 12:42:52 -0500 (EST)

Received: from mail.tda.gov ([207.87.158.2])
by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-12 #29131)
with ESMTP id <01J3FDLTR7Y0004K0D@STORM.EOP.GOV> for REJESKI_D@a1.eop.gov;
Mon, 26 Oct 1998 12:42:19 -0500 (EST)

Received: from [192.168.48.98] (192.168.48.98)
by mail.tda.gov (WorldMail 1.3.122); Mon, 26 Oct 1998 12:25:18 -0500

X-Sender: ekunene@192.168.48.13

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 2 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

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%/=Evangelina's HD:Applications:Microsoft Word 6:Templates:NormalThe following p

projects have been identified by TDA as good prospects for U.S. exports. Many are being assessed by TDA as good prospects for U.S. exports. Many are being assessed by TDA-funded Definitional Missions or Desk Studies and New Projects

The following projects have been identified by TDA as good prospects for U.S. exports. Many are being assessed by TDA-funded Definitional Missions or Desk Studies.

Small firms that are interested in competing for a contract to conduct a Definitional Mission can access TDA's DM Hotline at (703) 875-7447. Solicitations over \$25,000 are published in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD).

In addition, small or minority U.S. firms that wish to be included in TDA's consultant database and considered for future Desk Study solicitations should contact TDA's Contract Office.

Upon completion of these assessments, many of these projects will be approved for a TDA-funded feasibility study. U.S. engineering and construction firms can use this information as a "heads up" on future feasibility study bidding opportunities, which will be announced in the CBD. Suppliers and manufacturers should continue to monitor these projects for possible future sales. Note: items marked with an asterisk (*) are new listings for this section.

Panama

Transportation
TDA is funding a Definitional Mission to Panama to look at project opportunities relating to the operations of the Panama Canal.

Status: James R. McCarville was selected to perform the mission. A final report is expected to be available by early November.

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: owner-drctalk (owner-drctalk@drcnet.org@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-DEC-1998 19:20:00.00

SUBJECT: Americas: Weekly News Update #462, 12/6/98

TO: David B. Des Roches (David B. Des Roches@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Please note, edited for this list. fl.

>

> WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE ON THE AMERICAS

> ISSUE #462, DECEMBER 6, 1998

> NICARAGUA SOLIDARITY NETWORK OF GREATER NEW YORK

>339 LAFAYETTE ST., NEW YORK, NY 10012 (212) 674-9499

>

>>2. US Military Seeks New Bases in Latin America

>*2. US MILITARY SEEKS NEW BASES IN LATIN AMERICA

>

>US officials revealed on Dec. 1 that the US has begun talks with

>several countries in Central and South America to find new bases

>of operation for US military forces stationed in Panama. Under

>the terms of the Panama Canal Treaties, signed in 1977 by US

>president Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos, US

>forces must be fully withdrawn from Panama by Dec. 31, 1999.

>Preliminary discussions are now said to be underway to find

>airfields to substitute Howard Air Force Base in Panama, which

>the US must shut down on May 1, 1999. Nearly half of the 4,000 US

>troops remaining in Panama are stationed at Howard, and fighters,

> tankers and surveillance jets pass through the base on some
> 15,000 missions a year.

>

> The Pentagon has already held talks with Honduras, Peru and
> Ecuador about the possibility of allowing small numbers of
> surveillance aircraft, like AWACs, to use existing airfields in
> those countries, according to senior defense officials who spoke
> to the New York Times "on condition on anonymity because of
> diplomatic sensitivities inherent in America's military presence
> in the region," in the words of the Times. [NYT 12/2/98]

>

> On Dec. 4, US Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) spokesperson Raul
> Duany confirmed that the US is seeking accords with countries in
> the Caribbean and Central and South America to gain access to
> commercial or military airstrips to provide maintenance for its
> planes on detection and pursuit missions against drug
> traffickers. [El Nuevo Herald 12/5/98 from EFE]

>

> Without naming specific countries, Pentagon spokesperson Ken
> Bacon also confirmed that the Pentagon is seeking access to new
> bases in the Caribbean, Central America and the Andean region of
> South America. "I believe that there are many benefits to
> continuing our military presence in the region," said Bacon. "We
> trust that other countries will appreciate those benefits and
> that we will be able to negotiate the access that we need." [La
> Republica (Peru) 12/4/98, quotes retranslated from Spanish]

>

>US Secretary of Defense William Cohen said at a news conference
>on Dec. 1 that he had discussed the issue with representatives of
>a number of countries gathered in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia
>for a hemispheric meeting of defense ministers. The defense
>ministers of 33 countries of the Americas met from Nov. 30 to
>Dec. 2 to discuss the war on drugs, international terrorism and
>illegal arms trafficking. The historic colonial city of Cartagena
>de Indias was put under tight military control for the duration
>of the ministerial summit, which followed up on similar meetings
>held in the US in 1995 [see Update #291] and Argentina in 1996.
>[LR 11/30/98 from AFP]

>

>"What we are looking for are forward operating locations that
>could be of assistance in surveying the territory to prevent the
>transfer of narcotics," said Cohen. USSOUTHCOM Commander Gen.
>Charles Wilhelm said the US is likely to need two or three
>forward bases soon to come close to replicating the range of
>flights now launched from Panama. "We need to be close to the
>regions where we need to operate," said Wilhelm in an interview,
>though he declined to identify prospective sites. "We're not
>interested in building air bases," Wilhelm insisted. "We're
>interested in air bases where we can get jet aid, where we can
>arrange accommodations for air crews. Perhaps we can lease a
>little hangar space."

>

>"For the most part," explained Wilhelm, "Latin Americans don't
>want larger numbers of North Americans in their countries. They

>don't want armored brigades. They don't want fighter wings on
>their airfields, around their towns and villages."

>

>Peter Romero, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American
>Affairs, said the Clinton administration still hopes to establish
>a larger base, anchored by a multinational center against anti-
>narcotics trafficking. [NYT 12/2/98] A Notimex article published
>by New Jersey's new Spanish-language daily Hoy reports that the
>US has been desperately seeking a new host country for the
>Multilateral Anti-Drug Center (CMA) since Panama rejected the
>project [see Updates #440, 456]. Unnamed "official sources" cited
>by Notimex say that Cohen is now negotiating with Colombia, the
>Dominican Republic and Guatemala to accept the CMA. [Hoy 11/30/98
>from Notimex]

>

>Responding to media reports that the CMA might be established in
>Puerto Rico, USSOUTHCOM spokesperson Duany insisted that the US
>is no longer pursuing its plans for the multilateral anti-
>narcotics base. "What is known as the Multilateral Anti-Drug
>Center is not going to be established in Panama, or in Puerto
>Rico or in any other country," said Duany.

>

>Duany noted that the US Southern Army and the Southern Special
>Operations Command--both subcomponents of USSOUTHCOM--will be
>moved with some 1,400 personnel to Puerto Rico in June 1999.
>"These two organizations are dedicated to supporting anti-drug
>missions, but this is not an additional center or anti-drug

>base," Duany emphasized. USSOUTHCOM moved its headquarters from
>Panama to Miami in the fall of 1997 [see Updates #386, 392, 403,
>415]. [El Nuevo Herald 12/5/98 from EFE, quotes retranslated from
>Spanish]
>
>Negotiations to establish the CMA in Panama "faltered in
>September over the Americans' insistence that the United States
>still be able to mount other military operations from the base,
>not just those involving drugs," according to the New York Times.
>[NYT 12/2/98]

>Weekly News Update on the Americas * Nicaragua Solidarity Network of NY
>339 Lafayette St, New York, NY 10012 * 212-674-9499 fax: 212-674-9139
><http://home.earthlink.net/~dbwilson/wnuhome.html> * wnu@igc.apc.org

"If drug abuse is a disease, then drug war is a crime."

***===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from conversion.pmdf.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)
id <01J53W24YYUO008L95@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for desroches_d@a1.eop.gov; Tue,
8 Dec 1998 20:17:30 EST

Received: from Storm.EOP.GOV by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)
with ESMTP id <01J53W213X2800BG06@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for desroches_d@a1.eop.gov;
Tue, 08 Dec 1998 20:17:24 -0500 (EST)

Received: from www.drikka.net ([209.235.14.254])
by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-12 #29131)
with ESMTP id <01J53W188862000I4J@STORM.EOP.GOV> for desroches_d@a1.eop.gov;
Tue, 08 Dec 1998 20:16:47 -0500 (EST)

Received: (from server@localhost) by www.drikka.net (8.9.1/8.6.9)
id UAA18093; Tue, 08 Dec 1998 20:16:12 -0500 (EST)

Received: (from drcnet@localhost) by www.drikka.net (8.9.1/8.6.9)
id UAA17148 for server; Tue, 08 Dec 1998 20:13:57 -0500 (EST)

Received: from inetarena.com (inetarena.com [206.129.216.1])
by www.drikka.net (8.9.1/8.6.9) with ESMTP id UAA17145 for
<drctalk@drcnet.org>; Tue, 08 Dec 1998 20:13:56 -0500 (EST)

Received: from AAL (pm4-163.inetarena.com [206.129.216.163])
by inetarena.com (8.8.5/8.8.5) with SMTP id RAA03466; Tue,
08 Dec 1998 17:13:31 -0800

X-Sender: AAL@InetArena.com

X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Light Version 3.0.6 (32)

X-Listprocessor-version: 8.2.08 -- ListProc(tm) by CREN

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: ekunene (ekunene@tda.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-DEC-1998 15:17:00.00

SUBJECT: TDA's December 18th Pipeline/Calendar

TO: David W. Rejeski (David W. Rejeski@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Happy Holiday,

Attached is the latest version of the Pipeline/Calendar. Have a nice weekend.

Evangel===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:
RFC-822-headers:
Received: from conversion.pmdf.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)
id <01J5HMYRFZRK009DUM@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for REJESKI_D@a1.eop.gov; Fri,
18 Dec 1998 16:28:38 EST
Received: from storm.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)
with ESMTP id <01J5HMYF4L7400BCOG@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for REJESKI_D@a1.eop.gov; Fri,
18 Dec 1998 16:28:27 -0500 (EST)
Received: from emailserver.tda.gov ([207.87.158.2])
by EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.2-29 #34437) with ESMTP id <01J5HMXNU5P00003AJ@EOP.GOV>
for REJESKI_D@a1.eop.gov; Fri, 18 Dec 1998 16:27:42 -0500 (EST)
Received: from [192.168.48.98] (192.168.48.98)
by emailserver.tda.gov (Worldmail 1.3.167); Fri, 18 Dec 1998 16:10:13 -0500
X-Sender: ekunene@192.168.48.13

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 2 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:
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!"#\$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\]^_`abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz{|}~R F*CompObj\WordDocumentObjectPool**
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%/=Evangel's HD:Applications:Microsoft Word 6:Templates:NormalThe following p

projects have been identified by TDA as good prospects for U.S. exports. Many are being assessed by TDA-funded Definitional Missions, Desk Studies and New Projects.

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In addition, small or minority U.S. firms that wish to be included in TDA's consultant database and considered for future Desk Study solicitations should contact TDA's Contract Office.

Upon completion of these assessments, many of these projects will be approved for a TDA-funded feasibility study. U.S. engineering and construction firms can use this information as a "heads up" on future feasibility study bidding opportunities, which will be announced in the CBD. Suppliers and manufacturers should continue to monitor these projects for possible future sales. Note: items marked with an asterisk (*) are new listings for this section.

Completed Definitional Missions and Desk Studies

The following TDA-funded Definitional Mission and Desk Study reports recently have been received by TDA.

These reports contain information on the nature of the project; its priority to the host government; its likely total cost; the likelihood of project financing; the need for a feasibility study; the scope of work for the study; U.S. export potential; and the U.S. companies that could compete in procurement of goods and services for the project.

Many of the projects described in the final reports will be approved for a TDA-funded feasibility study. U.S. engineering and construction firms can use this information as a "heads up" on future feasibility study bidding opportunities, which will be announced in the Commerce Business Daily. Suppliers and manufacturers can use these reports for basic market information and to discover potential projects with sales opportunities for their specific products.

These reports are available free of charge from the TDA library by calling (703) 875-4357. Note: items marked with an asterisk (*) are new listings for this section.

* Panama

Panama - Canal Transportation (DM)

TDA funded a Definitional Mission to Panama to look at project opportunities relating to the operations of the Panama Canal. Co

Country: Panama
TDA No: 98-50043A
Prepared by: James R. McCarville
Document
Date: 10/1/98

===== END ATTACHMENT 2 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: owner-drctalk (owner-drctalk@drcnet.org@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:22-DEC-1998 00:36:00.00

SUBJECT: Americas: Weekly News Update #464, 12/20/98

TO: David B. Des Roches (David B. Des Roches@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Note: edited for this list. fl.

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE ON THE AMERICAS

> ISSUE #464, DECEMBER 20, 1998

> NICARAGUA SOLIDARITY NETWORK OF GREATER NEW YORK

>339 LAFAYETTE ST., NEW YORK, NY 10012 (212) 674-9499

>

>1. Colombian Army Bombs Civilians

>3. US Priest Exposes SOA Link to Operation Condor

>4. Honduran Ex-Army Officer Returns to Face Trial

>5. US Military Central America Hurricane Relief Questioned

>12. In Other News: Noriega...

>

>*1. COLOMBIAN ARMY BOMBS CIVILIANS

>

>On Dec. 13 and 14 the Colombian army fired bombs or rockets at

>civilians in the village of Santo Domingo in Tame municipality,

>Arauca department, near the border with Venezuela, killing as

>many as 27 people, nearly all of them civilians. "Four bombs were

>dropped, said Gloria Gomez, head of the independent Regional

>Committee For Human Rights in Arauca. "We have 14 people
>confirmed dead. The information we have is that 13 other bodies
>are still lying on the road and it has been impossible to recover
>them because the fighting is still continuing," she added. Gomez
>said 25 people were injured and some 200 of the village's 300
>residents had fled their homes. Survivors said the aircraft
>attacked them as they ran out of their homes to a nearby road
>with their hands in the air to show they were non-combatants. The
>dead included at least five children; three of them were between
>five and seven years old. "The army is directly responsible for
>these deaths as a result of the bombardment it carried out," said
>Tame mayor Luis Ramon Marquez. A witness confirmed to the Caracol
>radio network that the bombs had fallen in the middle of the
>village.

>

>Army and air force chiefs denied they had bombed Santo Domingo
>but conceded that an unspecified number of military planes and
>helicopters had strafed the area and fired off at least six
>rockets. "Fourteen civilians, five of them children, were killed
>according to data given to us by the Red Cross and Human Rights
>prosecutor...and I have lost two soldiers," said regional army
>commander Gen. Luis Barbosa, head of the army's 18th Brigade.
>Barbosa accused the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)
>rebels of using villagers as "human shields" to cover their
>retreat.

>

>Air force commander Gen. Hector Fabio Velasco told a news

>conference on Dec. 14 that a fleet of US-made Blackhawk UH-60
>helicopters and planes had unleashed at least six rockets at the
>rebel force but denied any direct strike on the village. "We
>didn't fire at the civilian population," said Velasco. "We fired
>at the hillside to repel an attack from the ground."

>

>The area is close to the Cano Limon oil field, one of the largest
>in Colombia, which is operated by US-based multinational
>Occidental Petroleum Corp. and produces some 152,000 barrels of
>crude per day. [Reuter 12/14/98, 12/15/98; email message from
>Comision Justicia, Paz Familia Franciscana de Colombia]

>

>Speaking at a military academy on Dec. 15, President Andres
>Pastrana Arango appeared to criticize the military's actions in
>Arauca when he said that security forces "cannot respond to
>barbarism with barbarism" in their fight against rebels and
>paramilitary groups. "Even if the enemies of the state and
>society torture, massacre and use arms and methods prohibited by
>civilization, the men society and the state has charged with
>defending them cannot respond with the same methods," said
>Pastrana, without referring directly to the bombardment.

>

>Almudena Mazarrasa, the representative in Colombia of the United
>Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, said on Dec. 15 that
>the UN will investigate the Santo Domingo incident. [Associated
>Press 12/15/98] Defense Minister Rodrigo Lloreda announced that
>the government will investigate "whether in Arauca there were

>excesses on the part of the Armed Forces." Lloreda said that
>there will also be an investigation to verify whether those
>killed and wounded were rebels.

>

>The Central Executive Committee of the Colombian Communist Party
>(PCC) reports that the majority of the victims of the bomb attack
>were PCC members. While other sources say that troops were
>engaged in combat with rebels in Santo Domingo when the
>bombardment took place, the PCC charges that the combat was some
>40 kilometers away. Sources in Tame reported on Dec. 14 that the
>death toll had risen to 27: six soldiers and 21 civilians,
>including five children. [PCC messages, undated, posted on
>Internet; Informativo Bolivariano 12/15/98]

>

>On Dec. 14, Pastrana and FARC leader Manuel Marulanda agreed to
>meet on Jan. 7 in southern Colombia to begin seriously discussing
>the agenda for negotiations on ending the country's long-running
>internal conflict. [AP 12/15/98; Hoy (NJ) 12/15/98 from AP] Most
>of the government's troops were withdrawn from five
>municipalities covering 42,000 square kilometers in southern
>Colombia by Nov. 7 in preparation for the talks [see Update
>#459], but the peace process had been stalled while the FARC
>demanded the withdrawal of a remaining unit, the
>counterinsurgency and anti-drug unit known as the Cazadores
>(Hunters) Battalion. The stalemate was broken when the government
>finally agreed to withdraw the Cazadores; as a compromise, the
>FARC will not control the battalion's base, which will be used to

>house the government's negotiators and the arbitrators and
>observers during the talks. Pastrana's security will be handled
>by his personal guards. [El Diario-La Prensa (NY) 12/18/98 from
>AFP]

>

>*3. US PRIEST EXPOSES SOA LINK TO OPERATION CONDOR

>

>On Dec. 15, US Maryknoll priest Roy Bourgeois gave Spanish judge
>Baltasar Garzon--the judge who requested Pinochet's extradition
>from London--a list of Latin American military officers who
>attended the US Army School of the Americas (SOA). At least eight
>of those on the list have been linked to cases of disappearances
>being looked into by Garzon in his investigation into Operation
>Condor, a coordination pact between South American dictators for
>the arrest, and sometimes execution, of dissidents. Bourgeois
>also gave Garzon another list of military officers allegedly
>involved in repression in Chile, Bolivia and Argentina in the
>1970s. Bourgeois told Garzon about the serious human rights
>violations he witnessed in Bolivia, while living and working as a
>missionary and visiting political prisoners under the regime of
>then-dictator Hugo Banzer Suarez, an SOA graduate. Banzer is
>again Bolivia's head of state; the country's Congress elected him
>president in August 1997 after he won 22.3% of the popular vote--
>more than any of the other candidates--in elections on June 1
>that year [see Updates #384, 392, 393]. [El Diario-La Prensa
>12/16/98 from EFE]

>

>The Buenos Aires left-leaning daily Clarin notes that former
>Argentine dictators Leopoldo Galtieri and Roberto Viola are among
>the more than 1,000 Argentine military officers who appear on the
>list of SOA graduates. At a date close to the 1976 coup d'etat in
>Argentina, officers and junior officers of the Argentine army and
>some Navy officers received courses at SOA in urban and rural
>counterinsurgency, urban counter-guerrilla operations,
>psychological operations, intelligence and military
>interrogation.

>

>"Pinochet and the other dictators couldn't have committed their
>crimes without the military and economic support of the US. My
>country is responsible for those deeds by having collaborated
>with weapons, millions of dollars, the action of the CIA [Central
>Intelligence Agency] and the preparation that the School of the
>Americas offered to the repressive forces," Bourgeois told Clarin
>after a press conference. [Clarin 12/16/98]

>

>*4. HONDURAN EX-ARMY OFFICER RETURNS TO FACE TRIAL

>

>Honduran retired army captain Billy Fernando Joya Amendola
>returned to Honduras from Spain on Dec. 15 and surrendered to
>Honduran authorities. Joya, the former technical chief of the
>notorious US- and Argentine-trained counterintelligence unit
>Battalion 3-16, then testified for two hours before Judge Rita
>Nunez of the First Criminal Court. After his testimony, Joya was
>handed over to the First Infantry Battalion to be held in

>detention. Joya was charged along with nine other officers on
>July 25, 1995, with the illegal arrest, torture and attempted
>murder of six university students in March 1982 [see Updates
>#299, 301, 302]. Joya fled Honduras after a warrant was issued
>for his arrest on Nov. 17, 1995, ordering him to testify in the
>case. In August 1998, after word got out that Joya was living in
>Spain, the Honduran foreign ministry barred all its consular
>offices from renewing Joya's passport, which had expired in April
>[see Update #445].

>

>Joya is also accused of the 1982 assault and torture of
>journalist Oscar Reyes Baca, former director of the Journalism
>School, who was held in prison for six months. Baca now lives in
>Washington; he has said he is willing to return to Honduras to
>testify against Joya. Testifying in court again on Dec. 17, Joya
>admitted to participating in the arrest of the six students, but
>said he did not know whether they were tortured or if anyone
>tried to kill them. He would not say who ordered the arrest of
>the three pairs of siblings: Milton and Marlen Jimenez Puerto;
>Guillermo and Edwin Dagoberto Lopez Lone; and Gilda Maria and Ana
>Suyapa Rivera Sierra.

>

>Joya's arrival at the Toncontin airport was met with a
>demonstration by members of the Committee of Relatives of the
>Detained and Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH), who carried signs
>demanding that Joya and other military officers be tried for
>human rights violations.

>

>Joya arrived in Honduras the day after a Dec. 14 decision by the
>First Appeals Court that three amnesty measures approved in 1987,
>1990 and 1991 apply to all members of all the Honduran Armed
>Forces, active or retired, who were linked to or accused of human
>rights violations. The measure would extend amnesty to Joya and
>at least 12 other fugitive military officers. The court ruling
>may be ratified, annulled or modified within 20 days by the
>Supreme Court of Justice. If the Supreme Court ratifies the
>decision, Human Rights Commissioner Leo Valladares Lanza has
>pledged to challenge the ruling in international courts.

>

>The amnesty would benefit Joya and nine other military officers
>charged in the case of the students: former National
>Investigations Department (DNI) chief Col. Juan Blas Salazar;
>Col. Juan Evangelista Lopez Grijalva, the chief of military
>intelligence who was in charge of spying on leftists during the
>1980s; Col. Amilcar Zelaya, a former member of the ruling
>military junta; Col. Alexander Hernandez; retired major Santos
>Manuel de Jesus Trejo; Col. Julio Cesar Funez Alvarez; Col. Juan
>Ramon Pena Paz; Col. Roberto Arnaldo Erazo Paz; and Maj. Jorge
>Antonio Padilla Torres. Hernandez was expected to appear in court
>on Dec. 18; most of the others remain fugitives. There are a
>total of 26 Honduran military officers currently facing charges
>for human rights violations during the 1980s. Zelaya and Lopez
>both studied at the US army School of the Americas (SOA).

>

>Joya insisted that his arrival in Honduras had no connection to
>the appeals court decision on amnesty. He said his return to
>Honduras had been planned for months, and that he only learned
>the news about the amnesty on Dec. 14 when he was already at the
>airport in Barajas, Spain. [La Prensa (Honduras) 12/15/98,
>12/16/98, 12/18/98; La Nacion (Costa Rica) 12/16/98 from AFP,
>12/15/98 from AP; El Diario-La Prensa 12/15/98 from EFE; El Nuevo
>Herald (Miami) 12/18/98 from EFE]

>

>The Dec. 14 court decision on amnesty came a day after Honduran
>armed forces commander-in-chief Gen. Mario Hung Pacheco announced
>that some of the young military officers were unhappy with recent
>changes in the military high command. Hung said that about 18
>officers had rejected the promotion of Col. Rodolfo Interiano
>Portillo as army chief and of Col. Eugenio Romero Euceda as army
>chief of staff. Since Hung was appointed to the top armed forces
>post in 1996, the Honduran legislature has stripped the military
>of its autonomy and immunity. The legislature also eliminated
>Hung's post; he will not be replaced when he completes his three-
>year term in January 1999. [ED-LP 12/14/98 from AP]

>

>*5. US MILITARY CENTRAL AMERICA HURRICANE RELIEF QUESTIONED

>

>Many Honduran victims of Hurricane Mitch, which devastated much
>of Central America at the end of October, are unable to receive
>relief supplies because the US military has prioritized
>operations against Iraq, according to New York Times

>metropolitan-area columnist David Gonzalez. New York-area
>residents donated thousands of pounds of supplies after the
>hurricane struck. New York state officials offered to transport
>the material to Honduras on planes belonging to the state's
>National Guard. But the Pentagon failed to authorize the flights
>in November, and the planes have since been put on hold in case
>they are needed for operations in the Persian Gulf. Some 20,000
>pounds are waiting in New Jersey warehouses; similar problems are
>reported in Los Angeles and Miami. [NYT 12/16/98]

>

>In an editorial in US weekly magazine The Nation, Irish Times
>correspondent Elaine Lafferty suggests that the US military's
>interest in hurricane relief for Honduras has less to do with
>Honduran victims than with a need to establish new bases as the
>US prepares to remove forces from Panama in compliance with the
>1977 Panama Canal treaty [see Update #462]. Even before Mitch,
>the US sharply increased military and police assistance to
>Honduras, from \$843,000 in 1997 to a projected \$2.954 million in
>1998. But the Honduran Constitution does not allow a permanent
>foreign military presence, and the US's two current bases are
>only permitted by "an informal agreement," according to Lafferty.

>

>"So along came a hurricane called Opportunity," Lafferty writes.
>While visiting Honduras on Nov. 16, Hillary Rodham Clinton, wife
>of US president Bill Clinton, announced that the number of US
>troops in the region would quadruple from 1,300 to 5,600 in
>response to the disaster. "In the two weeks after Mitch,"

>Lafferty says, "more than a few people noticed that the [US] Army
>was busy building housing--not for the homeless but for incoming
>soldiers." A US captain was overheard on the phone in
>Tegucigalpa's Hotel Maya telling his superior: "Sir, I'd have to
>say this is the most successful publicity operation this command
>has ever had."

>

>Lafferty notes that the Honduran government's official figures
>for the death toll were initially inflated and had to be reduced
>by 1,350 on Dec. 1. Honduras blames a local governor, who denies
>that she gave the government any figures at all. [Nation
>12/28/98] The official death toll for Honduras is now 5,567, with
>a total 9,071 for the region. [Washington Post 12/2/98]

>

>

>*12. IN OTHER NEWS...

>

> On Dec. 8, former Panamanian leader
>Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega asked US federal judge William
>Hoeveler to reduce his 40-year prison sentence in return for the
>help he gave US intelligence efforts in Latin America while he
>was in power in the 1980s. Noriega was sentenced in July 1992 for
>money-laundering and drug trafficking; he is seeking a reduction
>of his sentence to no more than 15 years and a chance to return
>to Panama. Testimony on behalf of Noriega was given by Donald
>Winters, former Panama bureau chief of the Central Intelligence
>Agency (CIA); by Arthur Davis, a retired US ambassador to Panama;

>and by Matias Farias, a retired Air Force colonel who worked at
>the US Southern Command, now an adviser on Latin American
>affairs. They called Noriega's work with the US crucial to US
>foreign policy objectives in Latin America. [La Prensa (Panama)
>12/9/98; NYT 12/9/98 from AP] Several protests were scheduled for
>Dec. 20 to commemorate the ninth anniversary of the invasion in
>which the US military removed Noriega from power. [La Republica
>(Peru) 12/20/98 from AFP]

>

>END

>

>=====

>Weekly News Update on the Americas * Nicaragua Solidarity Network of NY

>339 Lafayette St, New York, NY 10012 * 212-674-9499 fax: 212-674-9139

><http://home.earthlink.net/~dbwilson/wnuhome.html> * wnu@igc.apc.org

>=====

>

"If drug abuse is a===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

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22 Dec 1998 01:08:15 EST

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with ESMTP id <01J5MBYY7UK000CQ41@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for desroches_d@a1.eop.gov;
Tue, 22 Dec 1998 01:08:07 -0500 (EST)

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by EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.2-29 #34437) with ESMTP id <01J5MBYRO0LE0009AA@EOP.GOV>
for desroches_d@a1.eop.gov; Tue, 22 Dec 1998 01:07:56 -0500 (EST)

Received: (from server@localhost) by www.drikka.net (8.9.1/8.6.9)
id BAA06040; Tue, 22 Dec 1998 01:07:44 -0500 (EST)

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id AAA01664 for server; Tue, 22 Dec 1998 00:57:12 -0500 (EST)

Received: from inetarena.com (inetarena.com [206.129.216.1])
by www.drikka.net (8.9.1/8.6.9) with ESMTP id AAA01655 for
<Drctalk@drcnet.org>; Tue, 22 Dec 1998 00:57:09 -0500 (EST)

Received: from AAL (pm4-152.inetarena.com [206.129.216.152])
by inetarena.com (8.8.5/8.8.5) with SMTP id VAA15292; Mon,
21 Dec 1998 21:56:44 -0800

X-Sender: AAL@InetArena.com

X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Light Version 3.0.6 (32)

X-Listprocessor-version: 8.2.08 -- ListProc(tm) by CREN

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: mnolan01 (mnolan01@sprynet.com@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:29-DEC-1998 21:47:00.00

SUBJECT: RAINFOREST and MARINE BIOLOGY WORKSHOPS

TO: Diane R. Montgomery (Diane R. Montgomery@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

RAINFOREST and MARINE BIOLOGY WORKSHOPS

After reviewing the brief program descriptions outlined below, please
consider offering these opportunities to Students, Faculty and
Staff....our
brochure and detailed itineraries are available upon request. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike Nolan

Rainforest and Reef Conservation Fund 501 (c)(3) non-profit

29 Prospect NE Suite #8

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 USA

Phone/Fax: (616) 776-5928/E-mail: rainforest@mail.org

*During 1998 our Workshops included participants from 40 states, 4
Canadian Provinces, England, South Africa, Australia and Brazil. Forty
three universities were represented by faculty and students, along

science professionals, high school groups and lay people with an interest in natural history and other topics covered in our programs.

For 1999 we presently have groups from Penn State, Purdue, University of Maine, College of New Jersey, Muhlenberg College of Pennsylvania, Calvin College of Michigan and a number of junior colleges and high schools.

*Sites: Belize, Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama, Ecuador, Peru and southeast Alaska

*Workshops are field oriented and focus on natural history, rainforest and marine ecology, conservation, land management, medicinal uses of native plants, local cultures, archaeology and geology

*Instruction features local Biologists and naturalist Guides

*Proceeds go to sponsoring organization in each country and help support valuable education/conservation projects

*Three Undergraduate or Graduate credits in the Natural Sciences or Education are available for attending through Aquinas College of Grand Rapids, Michigan (www.aquinas.edu)

*Workshops are sponsored by the Rainforest and Reef Conservation Fund, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation based in Grand Rapids, Michigan USA

BELIZE

Length: 14 Days/13 Nights

Cost: \$980.00 per person

Host/Course Coordinator: Belize Tropical Education Center/Tony Garel,
Belize City, Belize

Topics Covered:

- *Tropical Moist Forest Ecology
- *Marine Ecology
- *Mayan Archaeology
- *Garifuna Culture

Highlights:

- *Community Baboon Sanctuary
- *Chan Chich Lodge and surrounding tropical moist forest
- *Rio Bravo Conservation and Management Area
- *Chaa Creek Natural History Center and Blue Morpho Butterfly Farm
- *Ix Chel Farm and Panti Medicinal Plant Trail
- *Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary and Jaguar Preserve
- *Garifuna drumming and dancing
- *Mayan site of Xunantunich
- *South Water Caye
- *Great Barrier Reef of Belize and nearby marine ecosystems including,
grass beds, patch reefs, mangroves
- *Sea bird rookeries

COSTA RICA

Length: 12 Days/11 Nights

Cost: \$850.00 per person

Host/Course Coordinator: Juan Pablo Bello Carranza, Las Juntas, Costa Rica

Topics Covered:

- *Tropical Rainforest and Dry Forest Ecology
- *Conservation and Land Management
- *Geology/Volcanoes

Highlights:

- *Monteverde Cloudforest Reserve
- *International Children's Rainforest Reserve
- *Santa Elena Cloudforest Reserve
- *Arenal Volcano
- *Palo Verde National Park
- *Tempisque River trip
- *Santa Rosa National Park
- *Costa Rican cattle and dairy ranch
- *Abangares gold mines, Ecological Museum and Butterfly Garden
- *Reforestation project along banks of the Abangares River
- *Mist-netting and study of vampire bats
- *Evening presentations on local cultures, medicinal uses of rainforest

plants, sustainable uses of forests and Costa Rican history

*Post-Course extensions to Corcovado and Tortuguero National Parks

HONDURAS

Length: 14 Days/13 Nights

Cost: \$765.00 per person

Host/Course Coordinator: REHDES/Jerry Haylock, La Ceiba, Honduras

Topics Covered:

*Tropical Rainforest and Marine Ecology

*Conservation and Land Management

*Mayan Archaeology

*Garifuna Culture

Highlights:

*Mayan site of Copan

*Village of Tela and traditional Garifuna music and dance

*Lancetilla Botanical Garden and Research Center

*Jeannette Kawas National Park

*Cuero and Salado Wildlife Refuge

*Pico Bonito National Park

*Bay Island of Utila

*Marine ecosystems, including coral reefs, mangroves and tidal pools

*Evening presentations on conservation, rainforest and marine ecology

*Butterfly Farm and Museum

*White-Water Rafting on the Canjeval River

*Post-Course extension to La Mosquitia and the Rio Platanos Biosphere Reserve

PANAMA

Length: 14 Days/13 Nights

Cost: \$1100.00 per person

Host/Course Coordinator: Win Rice, Panama City, Panama

Topics Covered:

*Tropical Rainforest and Marine Ecology

*Conservation and Land Management

*Geology/Volcanoes

*Indian Cultures

*R.O.P.E.

Highlights:

*Chagres National Park

*R.O.P.E. Course

*Mist-netting and study of birds and bats

*White-water rafting on the Piedres and Chagres Rivers

*Embera Indian village of Parara Puru

*Panama Viejo (old Panama City), colonial city and modern-day Panama

City

- *Panama Canal

- *El Cano Archaeological Park

- *Bastimentos National Park and the Bocas del Toro Archipelago

- *Marine ecosystems including, mangroves, grass beds and coral reefs

- *Gnobe and Bugle Indian cultures

- *La Fortuna Nature Reserve

- *Highland mountain village of Boquete

- *Baru Volcano and National Park

- *Orchid, fruit and coffee plantations

- *Evening presentations on tropical medicine/jungle first-aid and orchids

of Panama

- *Post-Course partial and complete Panama Canal transits

ECUADOR

Length: 14 Days/13 Nights

Cost: \$1050.00 per person

Host/Course Coordinator: Jatun Sacha Foundation/Dr. Michael McColm,

Ph.D., Quito, Ecuador

Topics Covered:

- *Tropical Rainforest Ecology

- *Biodiversity

- *Conservation and Land Management

*Quichua Indian Culture

Highlights:

*Quito

*Andes Mountain Range

*Alpine and cloudforest ecosystems

*Jatun Sacha Biological Station and surrounding tropical rainforest

*Plant Conservation Center

*Solo experience in the rainforest

*Animal Rehabilitation Center

*Local Shaman's nursery, home visit and "cleansing" demonstration

*Quichua Indian village of Capirona

*Avenue of the Volcanoes

*Highland Indians and villages of Ecuador

*Banos

*Evening presentations on a variety of rainforest and conservation

topics

*Post-Course extension to the Gal pagos Islands and/or Cuzco and the

Lost City of the Incas-Machu Picchu

PERU

Length: 15 Days/14 Nights

Cost: \$1145.00 per person

Host/Course Coordinator: Dr. Paul Beaver, Ph.D., Indian Shores, Florida

Topics Covered:

- *Tropical Rainforest Ecology
- *Biodiversity
- *Conservation and Land Management
- *Indian Culture

Highlights:

- *Amazon River
- *Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo Biological Reserve-included by Audubon Magazine on its , list of top 50 ecologically based tour destinations in the world (Sep/Oct 1998)
- *Fourteen primate species
- *Evening cruise on the Tahuayo River
- *Pink freshwater dolphins of Charro Lake
- *Caiman Lake
- *Jungle community of Santa Ana
- *Giant lilypads of Barbasco Lake
- *Local Shaman "good luck-good health" ceremony
- *Rainforest canopy experience
- *Camping on the interior of the Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo Reserve
- *Local Indian village market
- *Post-Course extension to the Gal pagos Islands and/or Cuzco and the Lost City of the Incas-Machu Picchu

SOUTHEAST ALASKA

Length: 14 Days/13 Nights

Cost: \$995.00

Host/Course Coordinator: David Berg, Petersburg, Alaska

Topics Covered:

- *Temperate Rainforest and Marine Ecology
- *Conservation and Land Management
- *Marine Mammals
- *Geology/Glaciers/Volcanoes
- *Indian Cultures
- *Russian History

Highlights:

- *White-water rafting on the Sauk River in Washington state
- *Cascade Mountain Range
- *Inside Passage of southeast Alaska
- *Wrangell
- *Petroglyph Beach
- *Petersburg
- *Sea kayaking
- *Whale watching in Frederick Sound
- *LeConte glacier
- *Camping in temperate rainforest
- *Starrigavan Bay estuary and near-shore tide pools
- *Harbor Mountain-Gavan Hill Trail hike and camp

- *Mount Edgecumbe hike and camp
- *Tlingit Native dancing and cultural experience
- *Sitka Historical Park
- *Sheldon Jackson Museum and its , collection of Native artifacts
- *Sage Science Center and fish hatchery
- *Sitka Raptor Rehabilitation Center

CONTACT US FOR DETAILED WORKSHOP ITINERARIES

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Rainforest and Reef Conservation Fund 501(c)(3) non-profit

29 Prospect NE Suite #8 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 USA

Phone: (616) 776-5928/Fax: (616) 776-5931/E-Mail: rainforest@mail.org

WORKSHOP DATES 1999*

Number Course by order of preference with #1 being your first choice.

Spaces are filled on a first-come first-serve basis. Please be aware that Courses are popular and may fill quickly. It is recommended that you register as early as possible.

BELIZE: 14 D/13 N Jun 15-28_____ Jul 13-26_____ Aug 3-16_____

COSTA RICA: 12 D/11 N Jun 14-25_____ Jul 12-23_____ Aug 9-20_____

HONDURAS: 14 D/13 N Jun 10-23_____ Jul 8-21_____ Aug 5-18_____

PANAMA: 14 D/13 N Jun 12-25____ Jul 10-23____ Aug 7-20____

ECUADOR: 14 D/13 N Jun 17-30____ Jul 15-28____ Aug 4-17____

PERU**: 15 D/14 N Jun 26-Jul 10____ Jul 10-24____ Jul 24-Aug 7____

**Our Peru Workshop can be offered to individuals and groups on most
Saturdays throughout the year.

SE ALASKA: 14 D/13 N Jun 17-30____ Jul 4-17____ Jul 18-31____

*Other dates throughout the year are available upon request

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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29 Dec 1998 20:50:09 EST

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with ESMTP id <01J5X9AUYYCW00DAZG@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for MONTGOMERY_D@a1.eop.gov;
Tue, 29 Dec 1998 20:50:06 -0500 (EST)

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by EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.2-29 #34437) with ESMTP id <01J5X9A6SQBO000PF0@EOP.GOV>
for MONTGOMERY_D@a1.eop.gov; Tue, 29 Dec 1998 20:49:34 -0500 (EST)

Received: from sprynet.com (chi-qbu-nvc-vty41.as.wcom.net [209.154.106.41])
by m8.sprynet.com (8.8.5/8.8.5) with SMTP id RAA25116 for
<MONTGOMERY_D@a1.eop.gov>; Tue, 29 Dec 1998 17:49:28 -0800 (PST)

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	From Owner-wp-forum@West-Point.org to David Des Roches Re: WP-forum: 'Love Child' & Politics (3 pages)	01/11/1999	Personal Misfile

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Tape Restoration Project [Email]
Default ([Panama Canal])
OA/Box Number: 1100000

FOLDER TITLE:

[07/20/1998 - 05/21/1999]

2019-0153-F

jn648

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: owner-wp-forum (owner-wp-forum@West-Point.Org@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:11-JAN-1999 23:12:00.00

SUBJECT: wp-forum: Panama Canal

TO: David B. Des Roches (David B. Des Roches@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

In a message dated 1/11/99 10:52:42 PM Eastern Standard Time,

rjsinnem@mailbox.syr.edu writes:

<< Giving away the Panama Canal was probably the biggie, though; followed closely by general "toothlessness" in foreign policy (e.g. Afghanistan, Iran).

>>

Bob,

Did you see the story in Monday's Washington Times? "Canal is no longer crucial to U.S. national security"

The article goes on to say that the single irreplaceable base in Panama is the

Jungle Operations Training Battalion (JOTB) at Fort Sherman. Gen. Barry McCaffrey, former head of the U.S. Southern Command when it was stationed in

Panama and currently the U.S. drug czar, agreed. "Unequivocally I state that

it is too bad that the United States did not forge a partnership with

Panama

that would have lasted another 50 years -- with a continued U.S. military presence," he said. But, "We don't have vital national security interests in Panama."

Who remembers the mantra of the JOTC instructors: "The jungle is neither your friend or your enemy!"

"A man, a plan, a canal, Panama" (Still my favorite!)

Fred Black

*** WP-FORUM post by: BLACK Frederick Honorary 612040 <fredb48301@aol.com>

"Promoting dialogue among the sons and daughters of West Point"

If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, send a message to wp-forum-off@west-point.org

Be sure to participate in the AOG Program of Support survey at:
<http://www.west-point.org/service/survey/aog98>

Sir! The Days!

Sir, there are 64 and a butt days until Founders Day! (19990316)

Sir, there are 355 and a butt days until until the shroud of mystery lifts

on the effects of y2k! (20000101)

--

Need a book? Buy it through WP-ORG and help us at the same time.

http://www.west-point.org/amazon_associate.html

Help the Long Gray Line. Take the AOG Active-Duty Support Program Survey

<http://www.west-point.org/service/survey/aog98/>

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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11 Jan 1999 23:24:48 EST

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with ESMTP id <01J6FKHYS2HC002H4W@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for desroches_d@a1.eop.gov;
Mon, 11 Jan 1999 23:24:40 -0500 (EST)

Received: from westpoint.west-point.org ([208.2.110.12])

by EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.2-29 #34437) with ESMTP id <01J6FKH8WYH0001RKR@EOP.GOV>
for desroches_d@a1.eop.gov; Mon, 11 Jan 1999 23:24:05 -0500 (EST)

Received: from localhost (daemon@localhost) by westpoint.west-point.org

(8.9.1/8.9.1) with SMTP id WAA28532; Mon, 11 Jan 1999 22:11:44 -0600 (CST)

Received: by west-point.org (bulk_mailer v1.9); Mon, 11 Jan 1999 22:10:19 -0600

Received: (from root@localhost) by westpoint.west-point.org (8.9.1/8.9.1)

id WAA28505 for wp-forum-outgoing; Mon, 11 Jan 1999 22:10:17 -0600 (CST)

X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 214

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President
and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of
personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed
of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C.
2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of
an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial
information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of
personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement
purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of
financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information
concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: MCPOLAND.FRAN (MCPOLAND.FRAN@epamail.epa.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 26-APR-1999 10:43:00.00

SUBJECT: Greenwire 04/23/99 <http://www.cloakroom.com> -Forwarded

TO: David W. Rejeski (David W. Rejeski@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ: UNKNOWN

TEXT:

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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with ESMTP id <0FAS00IXCQN4QI@epamail.epa.gov> for

mcpoland-fran@dcsmtpl.wictok7.epa.gov; Mon, 26 Apr 1999 08:28:18 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from mailgatew.usps.gov (mailgatew.usps.gov [56.224.3.225])

by gk-west.usps.gov (8.8.8/8.8.8) with ESMTP id FAA18581; Mon,

26 Apr 1999 05:29:01 -0700 (PDT)

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by mailgatew.usps.gov (8.8.8/8.8.8) with SMTP id LAA29357; Mon,

26 Apr 1999 11:53:01 +0000 (GMT)

Received: by EMAIL.USPS.GOV (Soft-Switch LMS 3.1.1)

with snapi via SSWHUB id 0033000005114767; Mon, 26 Apr 1999 07:51:30 -0500

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ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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id <01JAHN8X4Z8G000994@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for rejeski_D@a1.eop.gov; Mon,

26 Apr 1999 12:59:20 EST

Received: from storm.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-9 #29131)

with ESMTP id <01JAHN8TDOGW001UWK@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for rejeski_D@a1.eop.gov; Mon,

26 Apr 1999 12:59:15 -0500 (EST)

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by EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.2-29 #34437) with ESMTP id <01JAHN7W3F6Y001IEQ@EOP.GOV>

for rejeski_D@a1.eop.gov; Mon, 26 Apr 1999 12:58:38 -0500 (EST)

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with ESMTP id <0FAT001IH23V1N@epamail.epa.gov> for rejeski_D@a1.eop.gov; Mon,

26 Apr 1999 12:36:31 -0400 (EDT)

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with SMTP id <0FAT002WK23ZUM@epamail.epa.gov> for rejeski_D@a1.eop.gov; Mon,

26 Apr 1999 12:36:02 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from RTPMAINHUB-Message_Server by RT-MAIL2.RTP.EPA.GOV with
Novell_GroupWise; Mon, 26 Apr 1999 11:44:03 -0400
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 4.1

===== END ATTACHMENT 2 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 3 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

From: MFANNING@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY

*To: AMARTI11@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
*To: ASCALA1@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
*To: BSHRIVER@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
*To: CLUFT@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
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*To: LPerry01@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
*To: MMILLE31@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
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*To: NVAROUTS@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
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*To: RLEVINSO@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
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*To: TWADDEL1@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY

*To: WMCKINNE@email.usps.gov@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
*To: MCPOLAND.FRAN@EPAMAIL.EPA.GOV@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
*To: ericmc@tteam.com@INET@EOPMRX@LNGTWY
Date: 4/26/99 7:51am
Subject: Greenwire 04/23/99 <http://www.cloakroom.com>

----- Forwarded -----

From: greenmain-owner@njdc.com at INTERNET
Date: 4/23/99 12:49PM -0400
To: MIKE FANNING at WADC035L
Subject: Greenwire 04/23/99 <http://www.cloakroom.com>

===== END ATTACHMENT 3 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 4 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

National Journal's GREENWIRE
The Environmental News Daily

=====

Friday, April 23, 1999

Greenwire is also available on the Web at
<http://www.cloakroom.com>. The Web version, available only to
Greenwire subscribers, includes hot-links to the complete text of
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===== SPOTLIGHT =====

FEDS GIVE ON WIPP

The Department of Energy has complied with a New Mexico order
to provide testing information on a shipment of transuranic waste
to be sent to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

The DOE sent 7,000 pages of data and five boxes of videotapes
to the state's Environment Department. The department plans to
review the documentation to determine whether a shipment of waste
from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory
contains state-regulated hazardous chemicals and metals. (#1)

===== TOP NEWS =====

CLEANUP DUTY

Greenwire rounds up continuing Earth Day media coverage. (#2)

COME AND GET IT

USDA announces \$200M for clean water projects in US and Puerto

Rico. (#3)

BEACH PARTY

House approves bill to set national standards for beach water quality and to provide grants for state testing programs. (#10)

I'M JUST A BILL

DOE Secretary Bill Richardson announces \$1.5M in grants to boost US exports of energy-efficient products. (#15)

SHAKE AND MOVE

Greenwire rounds up the latest comings, goings and awards in the environmental community. (#26)

===== QUOTE OF THE DAY =====

"Americans deserve to see their national parks in all their splendor, and the steps we are announcing today will ensure they can."

-- VP Al Gore, announcing new air-quality plans for national parks. (#8)

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GREENWIRE PEOPLE

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===== FACT OF THE DAY =====

There are a total of 1,202 final and 72 proposed Superfund sites in the US, according to the US EPA. (#6)

===== SPOTLIGHT STORY =====

*1 WIPP: DOE SENDS REQUESTED TESTING DATA TO NEW MEXICO

The Department of Energy has complied with a New Mexico order to provide testing information on a transuranic waste shipment sent to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (Greenwire, Apr. 22).

The DOE sent 7,000 pages of data and five boxes of videotapes to the state's Environment Department. The department plans to review the documentation to determine whether a shipment of waste from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory contains state-regulated hazardous chemicals and metals.

A "tersely worded" letter from the DOE "said New Mexico's demands for more testing are dangerous, expensive and creating delays." The state wants confirmation of the waste's content because the DOE has provided "conflicting information" about the Idaho shipment in the past (Coleman/Hoffman, Albuquerque Journal, Apr. 22).

===== SOCIETY AND POLITICS =====

*2 EARTH DAY: RESOLUTION INTRODUCED; DAY-AFTER ROUNDUP

Sens. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) and John Chafee (R-RI) introduced a joint resolution yesterday that would permanently recognize Earth Day on Apr. 22.

Although Earth Day has been celebrated in the US since 1970 and is celebrated by 140 countries, Congress must pass a resolution each year to formally recognize the day (Bingaman/Chafee release, Apr. 22). Chafee was also one of 39 New England recipients of the US EPA's annual Environmental Merit

Awards, which were given out an Earth Day ceremony in Boston yesterday (Marion Davis, Providence Journal-Bulletin, Apr. 23).

OTHER NEWS IN THE STATES

MICHIGAN: Reps. Liz Brater (D) and Laura Baird (D) introduced six environmental bills "that would address environmental problems to observe Earth Day." Brater "said the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has not put enough resources into making sure state laws governing water and air pollution, hazardous waste and wetlands use are being followed" (AP/Detroit News, Apr. 23).

MONTANA: A coalition of conservation groups, including the Montana Wildlife Federation and Yellowstone Basin Group of the Sierra Club, observed Earth Day in Billings "by celebrating the close of the Montana Legislature," which adjourned on Apr. 21. According to Mary Fitzpatrick, chair of the Yellowstone Valley Citizens Council, environmental groups wanted to call attention to the corporate influence in the state legislature, efforts to cut citizens out of the public process and challenges to environmental protection (Clair Johnson, Billings Gazette, Apr. 23).

BUSINESS, GROUP OFFERINGS

Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition: The group will unveil Internet maps that document "extensive pollution throughout Silicon Valley" which include EPA Cumulative Exposure Information data. The maps are accessible at www.svtc.org/svtchome.htm (Group release, Apr. 22).

Starbucks: "Just in time for Earth Day," the coffee company has "quietly slipped a new organic coffee into its spring lineup." The coffee is grown in Costa Rica without the use of pesticides or chemically enhanced fertilizers and is certified as organic by the Costa Rica-based Eco-Logica (Robert Marshall Wells, Seattle Times, Apr. 22).

Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining: The board will honor mining companies Barrick Resources (USA) Inc. and Mountain Coal Company LLC, and Doug Jensen, former environmental manager of the Goldstrike Mine in Southern Utah, with its Earth Day awards at an Apr. 28 ceremony in Salt Lake City Salt Lake Tribune, Apr. 22).

TV GUIDE: EARTH DAY COVERAGE ON CNN'S "INSIDE POLITICS"

CNN's Judy Woodruff: "The presidential candidate who has spoken out most often on global warming took advantage of today's Earth Day observance to again stress environmental issues. VP Gore traveled to the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia to announce new regulations to improve air quality over federal parks. But Gore's effort to be the environmental candidate is already drawing criticism."

CNN correspondent Marcia Walton: "Grabbing for the green vote is nothing particularly new. ... But a year and a half before Al Gore's expected try for the presidency, some of his critics are already lining up to throw the book at him: his own book, 'Earth In The Balance.' It was a 1992 bestseller that helped shaped Gore's rise to the Vice Presidency, and forever cast his image as the nation's most prominent environmentalist."

Competitive Enterprise Institute's Fred Smith: "That book is a book by a radical individual. It's a book that expresses

almost a religious fervor that somehow environmental values have to be placed above economic opportunities for poorer communities."

Walton continues: "And Gore's potential rivals for the White House are taking aim as well. ... Republicans say grassroots opposition to big government, including strong environmental laws, helped them capture Congress in 1994. Some GOP candidates might take the same approach in 2000. The political arm of the environmental movement though, thinks that would be a big mistake."

League of Conservation Voters' Deb Callahan: "This is an issue that Americans care very deeply about. We know that people assume their elected officials are doing the right thing on the environment. When they find out they are actually not pro-environment, that moves voters" ("Inside Politics," CNN, Apr. 22).

AND OF COURSE, OPINIONS

New York Post: "The warm and fuzzy image that the media [have] painted of Earth Day ... does much to conceal the extremist agenda of most of the movement itself" (Apr. 22).

Brett Hulsey, a Dane County [WI] supervisor representing the west side of Madison, in an op-ed for the Madison Capital Times: "This Earth Day, it is important to remember the words of farmer and author Wendell Berry, 'What we each do is of ultimate importance'" (Apr. 22).

Portland Oregonian associate editor David Reinhard, in an op-ed for the paper: "... Cheering the gains made over the last decades and the benefits of economic growth and technology allows for a more nuanced and market-based -- and less bureaucratic -- approach to our environmental (noncrisis-level) problems. That would involve actually celebrating this Earth Day rather than booking passage on this annual guilt trip or brooding about the evils of sport utility vehicles" (Apr. 22).

S. Fred Singer, president of the Fairfax, VA-based Science and Environmental Policy Project, in an op-ed for the Washington Times: "Today, after the nation spent tens of billions or perhaps hundreds, the environment is in great shape. ... But we now have lots of environmental organizations, whose existence depends on creating new fears" (Apr. 23).

House Resources Chair Don Young (R-AK): "Unfortunately, some people and organizations have transformed 'Earth Day' into a partisan political event designed to distort the true goals and accomplishments of the Republican Congress. The House Resources Committee has an exceptional common-sense conservation record that I'm proud to highlight on 'Earth Day'" (Young release, Apr. 22).

===== AIR AND WATER POLLUTION =====

*3 CLEAN WATER: USDA PROMISES MONEY FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

The Department of Agriculture is promising more than \$200 million for clean water improvements in rural areas of 44 states and Puerto Rico.

About \$155 million would come in the form of USDA loans and

grants, with the remainder provided by other public and private sources. The money will primarily pay for improvements to substandard wastewater systems, which often pollute drinking water, rivers and streams (AP/San Francisco Chronicle/Examiner online, Apr. 23).

*4 CLEAN WATER II: AL TO LEARN HOW TO SPOT INFRACTIONS

A state-federal task force has begun discussing ways to train police in 11 Alabama cities and two counties to look for construction-site runoff, "a growing source of pollution in Alabama's coastal waters."

The Gulf Coast Civil Environmental Task Force plans to have the "runoff patrol" trained by summer to "scour subdivisions and other developments in burgeoning coastal communities" for construction site violations, such as improperly installed fences that fail to prevent silt and other pollutants from washing into Mobile Bay. Violators could face federal lawsuits to stop their projects or be hit with criminal charges (Jennifer Ordonez, Wall Street Journal online [Southeast edition], Apr. 21).

CORPS "ROUTINELY" VIOLATES WATER LAW -- REPORT

The US Army Corps of Engineers "routinely violates the Clean Water Act it is responsible for enforcing" on its own civil works and military construction projects in Alaska, according to a report from the Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility.

Jeff Ruch, PEER executive director: "Because its funding, political power and bureaucratic muscle all flow from its construction side rather than from its regulatory side, the Corps' environmental program is like the proverbial tail trying to wag a very big dog" (PEER release, Apr. 20).

Meanwhile, the Corps said on Apr. 19 it will inspect five dams along the polluted Woonasquatucket River in Rhode Island, after a visual inspection showed three needed "immediate repairs."

Rep. Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) and Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI) said they support the inspections "out of fear that the small dams are the only things preventing dioxin-tainted sediment from spreading downstream." Earlier this year, the US EPA found high levels of potentially carcinogenic dioxins in some of the river's sediment in North Providence (Gina Chon, AP/Boston Globe, Apr. 19).

*5 OIL SPILLS: MORE OIL LEAKS FROM NEW CARISSA; MORE

Thousands of gallons of oil remain on board the New Carissa, which is still grounded in Coos Bay, OR.

The Coast Guard found the oil while drilling a hole in a starboard ballast tank. The cost of cleaning up the spill has topped \$20 million (Brent Hunsberger, Portland Oregonian, Apr. 21).

Meanwhile, the oil industry is supporting a proposal to station a rescue tug at Neah Bay on a trial basis. The proposal, backed by Washington state Senate Agriculture and Ecology Chairwoman Karen Fraser (D), would use tax money already paid by the industry to station the tug, which would be useful in the event any large ship runs into trouble (Hal Spencer, AP/Portland

===== WASTES AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES =====

***6 SUPERFUND: NEW LISTINGS DUE OUT TODAY**

The US EPA has proposed adding 13 sites to the Superfund list today. Currently there are a total of 72 proposed and 1,202 final Superfund sites.

The proposal will include the Hanlin-Allied-Olin site in Moundsville, WV, which the agency first proposed in October 1995. Public comments will be accepted for 60 days (EPA release, Apr. 22).

***7 URANIUM: UT, CA REPS CALL FOR REMOVAL OF MINE TAILINGS**

Congressmen from two states have introduced bills to remove 10.5 million tons of radioactive tailings from Atlas Corp.'s uranium mine on the Colorado River near Moab, UT (Salt Lake Tribune, Apr. 23).

Atlas Corp. has proposed the "much cheaper" alternative of capping the tailings on site, but a recent finding that uranium is leaking into the Colorado River at 530 times the federal radiation limit has prompted calls for removal of the wastes (Greenwire, Mar. 25).

Rep. Chris Cannon's (R-UT) bill, unveiled yesterday, would transfer jurisdiction of the Atlas site from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which supports the capping plan, to the Energy Department, which is "more inclined to find ways of moving the tailings." Reps. George Miller and Bob Filner, both D-CA, have introduced a similar bill due to concerns over contamination of the Colorado, which supplies much of California's water supply (Lee Davidson, Salt Lake Deseret News, Apr. 23).

===== NATURAL RESOURCES =====

***8 NATIONAL PARKS: GORE'S CLEAN AIR PLAN GETS MIXED REVIEWS**

VP Al Gore's announcement yesterday of a new federal goal of clearing the haze of air pollution now found over many national parks got mixed reviews.

"Americans deserve to see their national parks in all their splendor and the steps we are announcing today will ensure they can," said Gore (Tyler Whitley, Richmond Times-Dispatch). But "specific plans for cleaning the air are not due for at least four years" (James Rainey, Los Angeles Times). And "many believe the steady reduction of urban pollution needed to meet federal health-based standards will be enough to meet the visibility objectives," according to Bill Edmonds of PacifiCorp (Jim Woolf, Salt Lake Tribune).

A New York Times editorial writes that "the industries most affected by the new rules -- the utilities and the automobile companies -- are no happier with this program than with the Administration's previous efforts to clamp down on air pollution." And a Boston Globe editorial calls the plan a "compromise." The paper: "Neither environmentalists nor industry is enthusiastic about it, but both can live with it."

The Washington Post reports that Gore "used the occasion of Earth Day to shore up support from environmentalists" who have recently criticized his environmental record (Greenwire, Apr. 21) (Craig Timberg). To read more about the new "regional haze" rule, click here. (All cites Apr. 23 unless noted.)

*9 CONSERVATION: OPPOSITION VOICED TO BILLS; MORE

Strong opposition is being voiced for the first time in the Senate to both Democrat and Republican bills that would funnel \$2 billion in outer continental shelf (OCS) oil and gas royalties to states or the federal government for conservation programs (Greenwire, Feb. 24).

At a Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing this week, fiscal conservatives and rural senators voiced concerns ranging from funding to too much federal ownership in the West (Brody Mullins, CongressDaily, Apr. 21).

Sen. Frank Murkowski, who is sponsoring a bill that would give royalties to the states, says the states that support OCS development have "unavoidable impacts" and "deserve some financial assistance" (Murkowski release, Apr. 20). The Western Governors Assn. has endorsed the approach of sharing the funds with states (Western Governors' Report, Apr. 1999 issue).

Meanwhile, Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) plans to propose a bill that would dedicate \$500 million a year in OCS royalties to a special fund to preserve national parks. The new fund would finance projects like land acquisition, construction and grants to state or local governments, including \$150 million annually for Everglades land acquisition from 2000 through 2015 (Scott Sonner, Las Vegas Sun, Apr. 19). A Las Vegas Sun editorial calls on Congress to pass the legislation "to help preserve these natural treasures that are such an important part of this nation's heritage" (Apr. 21).

ROUNDUP OF OPINIONS ON OCS CONSERVATION BILL

Here is the latest roundup on news related to the conservation bills:

Boston Globe: "The irony is that some groups oppose offshore drilling and do not want support of full funding to be seen as an endorsement of expanded oil development" (Apr. 7).

Wilderness Society Newsletter: "Unfortunately, Congress has been violating the spirit of this fund for years by diverting its money to other uses" (Spring 1999 issue).

Joel Connelly of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer: "[Rep.] Don Young (R-AK) has not turned into one of the 'squishies ... on the environment. He's acting out of self-interest. Alaska would get nearly \$150 million a year under his bill" (Apr. 12).

Myron Ebell, of Arlington, VA-based Frontiers of Freedom in an Anchorage Daily News op-ed: "The massive expansion of government land ownership contained in the Young/Murkowski bill is simply too high a price to pay for any benefits it may provide to Alaska" (Apr. 3).

Jerry Taylor of the Cato Institute: "About \$1 billion of land would probably be bought annually under the act, quadrupling the amount of money Congress presently spends on land acquisition and relieving environmentalists of ever having to worry about the

appropriation process again. There are a whole host of reasons why going on a land-buying spree is a bad idea" (Cato release, Apr. 12).

***10 BEACHES: HOUSE APPROVES WATER QUALITY BILL**

The House unanimously approved a bill yesterday to set national standards for beach water quality and provide grants for state testing programs (H. Josef Hebert, AP/Philadelphia Inquirer/others, Apr. 23).

California legislators led the push for Rep. Brian Bilbray's (R-CA) Beaches Environmental Assessment, Cleanup and Health Act (BEACH) due to ongoing concerns over the lack of uniform ocean water testing standards (Greenwire, Apr. 9).

The bill would require the US EPA to work with state and local governments to develop a minimum standard for water quality at beaches and make \$150 million available to encourage testing programs and public notification of beach health hazards (Richard Simon, Los Angeles Times, Apr. 23).

EPA RELEASES STRATEGY FOR PROTECTING PUBLIC AT BEACHES

Meanwhile, the EPA has released a multi-year strategy to help states and localities protect the public health in recreational waters. Planned actions include annual National Beach Health Surveys, consistent management of recreational water quality programs and improved monitoring science (EPA release, Apr. 22).

***11 UTAH WILDERNESS: BILL INTRODUCED TO DESIGNATE 9M ACRES**

Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) introduced a bill yesterday to designate 9.1 million acres of public land in Utah as wilderness.

The Red Rock Wilderness Act has 11 co-sponsors, an increase from the seven who backed a similar bill last year (Jim Woolf, Salt Lake Tribune, Apr. 23). Wilderness Society President William Meadows praised the bill as a "historic moment to preserve Utah's wilderness. ... We commend Senator Durbin and the bill's cosponsors for their leadership and hope that the rest of the Senate will support this bill" (Group release, Apr. 22).

A Boston Globe editorial said designation of lands in Utah "should be extended to other areas in need of a shield against desecration" (Apr. 20).

Meanwhile, the Utah Wilderness Coalition is opposing the placement of "water catchments," or basins that capture and hold rainwater for the benefit of birds and mammals, in public lands in Utah. The group is concerned that the inclusion of basins in the lands "could be used to kill or degrade its wilderness proposal" (Brent Israelsen, Salt Lake Tribune, Apr. 23).

PUBLIC MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR WILDERNESS DESIGNATIONS

Four meetings are being held in Southern Utah over the next several days to discuss whether areas selected by the Bureau of Land Management should be designated as Wilderness Study Areas.

The BLM inventory identified 2.6 million acres with 136 inventory areas "believed to contain wilderness characteristics of being without roads, in a natural state, and providing opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation." The bureau will next study potential impacts of

Wilderness Study Area designation so that it can determine which lands should receive interim protection (Salt Lake Deseret News, Apr. 20).

*12 SALMON: CITY, METRO DEBATE FISH RECOVERY RESPONSIBILITY

In Portland, OR, city officials and the Metro Policy Advisory Committee are fighting over who should take the lead in restoring habitat for threatened salmon and steelhead trout.

Washington County officials want counties and cities to be in charge, while other governments appear split between the two positions. The dispute results from the city's request to an advisory committee of local governments to declare the fish issue "a matter of metropolitan concern." City Commissioner Charlie Hales: "Local efforts aren't sufficient to do what [the National Marine Fisheries Service] will require us to do" (R. Gregory Nokes, Portland, Oregonian, Apr. 17).

Meanwhile, Oregon wildlife officials may seek limits for the first time on the Ross Island Sand & Gravel Co. mining operation on Ross Island in the Willamette River. Three weeks ago, wildlife officials discovered that the island's lagoon was a "haunt" for endangered chinook salmon and steelhead trout (Brent Walth, Portland Oregonian, Apr. 22).

TRAWLING FOR SALMON OPINIONS IN THE NORTHWEST

In a Seattle Times op-ed, Washington Forest Protection Assn. Pres. Cassie Phillips writes: "The Forest & Fish Agreement will provide Washington with the greatest level of forest and stream protection of any state in the country" (Apr. 19).

And a Tacoma News Tribune editorial: "If farmers helped develop a state [salmon] recovery plan, as the timber industry did, they'd have considerable input. ... However, if farmers block a state plan, all bets are off" (Apr. 19).

*13 GREAT SALT LAKE: GROUPS URGE REGIONAL MANAGEMENT EFFORT

A coalition of Utah environmental groups wants the state to "stop treating the Great Salt Lake as an isolated pool of brine" and recognize it as an ecosystem stretching from Utah County to Wyoming.

The groups say that by adopting "a watershed-based management approach," the state could better assess regional affects on the lake. Robert Adler of the U. of Utah: "If you want to ask hard questions -- like what happens if we dam the Bear River -- you really need to work on an interstate level."

Adler said a good example of what the state should be doing is the Chesapeake Bay cleanup program, where the states, local governments and federal regulators created a commission that linked upstream management decisions to downstream pollution, "and is reviving the bay's renowned shellfish industry."

Currently the Utah Dept. of Natural Resources doesn't have the authority to implement such a concept on its own. The Utah Legislature would have to give the department the authority or create a commission with Idaho and Wyoming, said Jim Springer, spokesman for the DNR's Great Salt Lake planning project (Brandon Loomis, Salt Lake Tribune, Apr. 18).

***14 SPECIES: TX LAWMAKERS URGE CAVE PROTECTION COMPROMISE**

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) and four Texas Representatives have asked the US Fish and Wildlife Service to work with a local conservation alliance trying to voluntarily protect the ecosystems of Texas caves.

The caves in Bexar County, TX, are home to nine "tiny creatures" proposed for endangered species listing. Five spiders, three beetles and a harvestman, commonly known as a daddy longlegs, were proposed for listing four months ago after "years of unsuccessful efforts to work out voluntary conservation agreements." All of the species are found only in Bexar County (Jerry Needham, San Antonio Express-News, Apr. 23).

The Cave Protection Alliance of Bexar County, which includes private, corporate and public landowners, government agencies and nonprofit groups, has financed "tens of thousands of dollars" in research regarding the cave species. Most who attended a meeting earlier this week favor voluntary efforts over the "command and control techniques" of the Endangered Species Act (Jerry Needham, San Antonio Express-News, Apr. 21).

===== BUSINESS AND THE ECONOMY =====

***15 RENEWABLE ENERGY: DOE GIVES \$\$ TO PROJECTS IN US, ABROAD**

At a UN event marking Earth Day, Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson announced grants totaling \$1.5 million aimed at boosting US exports of energy-efficient products.

The funds will support 10 international projects in Russia, Ukraine, China and several Latin American countries (DOE release, Apr. 22). Richardson said another grant would go to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Assn., but he gave no further details.

The secretary said that "over time" the US must make "a transition to clean, renewable energy choices." He continued: "The way we heat and cool our homes and workplaces, power our industries and fuel our vehicles produces 85% of the greenhouse gases the US pumps into the environment. These gases, in turn, contribute to climate change."

Richardson said the Clinton administration will launch a five-year plan later this year to promote wind energy (Reuters/PlanetArk, Apr. 23).

***16 GENETIC ENGINEERING: MONSANTO BACKS DOWN ON MARKETING**

St. Louis-based Monsanto Co. announced yesterday it would not market a controversial new gene technology until studies examine the environmental, economic and social effects.

The company's "terminator technology," believed to be several years from the market, is a seed-sterilization method that would prevent genetically modified seeds from being used for free. A UN scientific and technology panel under the Convention of Biological Diversity is studying these technologies, but it is "unclear" what steps Monsanto must take to gain worldwide acceptance of its technology development. A company statement: "We believe that the concerns about gene protection technologies should be heard and carefully considered before any decisions are made to commercialize them" (Bill Lambrecht, St. Louis Post-

Dispatch, Apr. 23).

***17 GREEN BUSINESS: FORD TO TRACK CARS FOR GERMAN LAW**

To meet German regulations for keeping recycling records of car parts, Ford Motor Co. is hiring Irvine, CA-based CenTor Software to create a database that will track all the materials in every part of a Ford car.

Ford needs the information to comply with new German regulations, pushed by that country's Green Party, stipulating that all companies selling cars in Germany must provide detailed records of each vehicle's composition so that entire automobiles can be recycled (James Flanigan, Los Angeles Times, Apr. 14).

===== **ACROSS THE NATION** =====

***18 NEW YORK: LAWMAKERS PREPARE BILL TO STOP EMISSIONS TRADE**

New York lawmakers are preparing legislation that would keep companies based in the state from selling their federal pollution credits in upwind states, where they could be used to generate emissions that could cause acid rain in New York.

A similar bill that was more stringent failed to pass the full state Senate in 1997 (Greenwire, 6/27/97).

Under the measure, utilities that choose to sell their emissions credits in DE, IL, IN, KY, MD, MI, NC, NJ, OH, PA, TN, VA, WV or WI would be fined for the value of the transaction. Each credit can sell for between \$100 and \$140.

In 1997, New York utilities owned 200,000 extra emissions credits because the state's emissions standards are stricter than federal ones.

A coalition of environmental groups has voiced its support for the bill (AP/Boston Globe online, Apr. 22).

***19 PACIFIC ISLANDS: MARIANAS OFFICIALS ASK FOR ENV SURVEY**

Officials in the US Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) have asked for an "extensive" environmental assessment of a coral reef area that may have been damaged by U.S. military bombing practices.

Farallon de Medinilla, an active volcanic island north of Saipan, is one of the Western Pacific's biggest depositories of coral reef. The island has been used for bombing and target practice under a lease agreement between the US and CNMI. The US is required to restore and rehabilitate the island, and the Navy has reassured CNMI in the past that it is taking precautions to prevent damaging the island and surrounding reef.

But "CNMI officials are unconvinced," and are lobbying for a "comprehensive survey" to determine whether the Defense Department should stop using the island for military exercises (Aldwin R. Fajardo, Agence France-Presse/Washington Times, Apr. 23).

HIGH CANCER RATES IN MARSHALL ISLANDS

A recent comparative study in the journal Cancer shows that residents of the Marshall Islands, which were used by the US for above-ground nuclear tests after World War II, suffer cancer at rates "much higher" than US rates. The cancers are linked to

fallout from the tests, which required the temporary relocation of many islanders in the 1950s. And in 1985, all 400 residents of radioactive Rongelap Atoll moved to nearby Kwajalein Atoll, where they remain. The first phase of a \$40-million rehabilitation and resettlement effort for Rongelap is now underway (Giff Johnson, Agence France-Presse/Washington Times, Apr. 23).

*20 OREGON: PORTLAND CONSIDERS REDUCING SEWAGE CONTROL

Portland, OR, could shift \$90 million into restoring the Willamette River's tributary streams by allowing more sewer overflows into the river, according to a Bureau of Environmental Services report.

The report recommends reducing overflows by 85% instead of 94%, the figure required by a 1994 agreement with the state. But city task force members said they would need more information about the environmental benefits of protecting tributaries before altering sewage overflow controls on the \$500 million project. Task force chairman Bill Hutchison: "Sewage in the river will never be a good thing."

But Portland Commissioner Erik Stern favors allowing more overflows in return for projects that improve streams. Stern: "I'm simply asking, 'What's the best use of the money?'"

The task force is expected to forward recommendations to the City Council in June (Scott Learn, Portland Oregonian, Apr. 22).

===== WORLDVIEW =====

*21 HAZARDOUS WASTE: BASEL CONVENTION TALKS MAKE PROGRESS

A two-week series of UN-sponsored negotiations on the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes concludes in Geneva today, "after making significant advances on all major items."

According to the UN Environment Program (UNEP), one of the meetings approved draft text on liability and compensation in cases of damage resulting from transboundary movements of hazardous wastes. Final agreement on this protocol would make the Basel Convention, which governs the international waste trade, "the first global environmental agreement to include a liability and compensation regime."

Separately, a working group approved draft guidelines for managing plastics, tires and medical wastes. The group also made progress on "hazard characterization," or developing indicators for use in evaluating the risks of hazardous wastes. And they discussed the issue of shipbreaking, which can expose workers to toxic substances and unsafe working conditions.

The third meeting discussed the problem of illegal traffic in hazardous waste and the need to develop better monitoring, compliance and enforcement systems through Interpol, the World Customs Organization and other methods.

Officials hope to finalize these interim decisions at the fifth Conference of Parties to the Basel Convention, being held in Basel, Switzerland, from Dec. 6-10.

Official documents and other materials are available at <http://www.unep.ch/basel/> (UNEP release, Apr. 23).

***22 UN: SUSTAINABLE COMMISSION MEETING CONTINUES TODAY**

As the annual meeting of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) continues today, government ministers and other leaders are set to sign the UN Environment Program's International Declaration on Cleaner Production.

The declaration outlines a set of principles for raising awareness and implementation of cleaner production practices. Since its launch by UNEP in South Korea in October 1998, the declaration has attracted more than 1,800 signatories, including 19 national governments and many international business and other associations. At least 10 more countries are expected to add their support during the event in New York today.

Also at the event, Canadian Environment Minister Christine Stewart is expected to announce that her government will host UNEP's Sixth High-Level Cleaner Production Conference in 2000.

Jacqueline Aloisi de Larderel, director of UNEP's Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, said her office will soon launch an Internet Web site with news, background information and successful case studies about cleaner production (UNEP release, Apr 22).

'GREEN INTERPOL' PROPOSED

During the "high-level" segment of the meeting yesterday, the Netherlands' environment minister, Jan Pronk, proposed creating a "Green Interpol" to handle the investigation, policing and prosecution of environmental criminals. Pronk added that he had raised the idea during the February meeting of UNEP's board and "several countries have expressed interest in it." But the meeting's chair "commented that he could see some of the delegates shaking their heads" (Jack Freeman, Earth Times, Apr. 23).

***23 DAMS: ENVIROS RAP PROJECTS IN LAOS, SOUTH KOREA**

An "ambitious dam-building program" in Laos risks "environmental and economic catastrophe," according to a "scathing" report by the US-based International Rivers Network. The report demands an urgent reconsideration of the program by Laos and its UN, World Bank and Asian Development Bank advisers.

The group says it found "fundamental problems" at six sites, "including doubtful financial viability" and uncontrolled logging. And while the largest of the planned dams -- Nam Theun Two -- may not even proceed, "a Lao military company has already logged more than one million cubic meters of ancient yellow pine" in the proposed catchment area.

The group says the Nakai Plateau, an area to be flooded, "borders some of the last untouched rainforests in Indochina -- home to nomadic tribespeople whose languages have yet to be studied, as well as extremely rare mammal species."

The study concludes: "It is irresponsible of the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank to be pushing ahead with the funding of individual hydroelectric power projects as 'aid'" (Greg Torode, Hong Kong South China Morning Post, Apr. 21).

A SIMILAR CALL IN SOUTH KOREA

Separately, in letters to the South Korean government, seven

international environmental groups are protesting the construction of the Tonggang Dam, the Korean Federation of Environmental Movement announced on Apr. 21. According to the US-based Sierra Club, the dam will flood an important ecosystem that meets several criteria of the international Ramsar Convention on wetlands of international importance.

Some of the other groups sending letters were Greenpeace China, Friends of the Earth, Worldwatch Institute and International Rivers Network (Korea Times, Apr. 22).

***24 US-PANAMA: MINISTER ORDERS US TO CLEAN UP CANAL SITES**

The US must clean up all contaminated areas of the Panama Canal zone before turning the canal over to Panama on December 31, Panama Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter says.

The US must clear undetonated explosives and radioactive materials from the firing ranges and remove "all of the objects which represent a threat to human life," Ritter says. Panama officials will review whether the cleanup is adequate.

The US has been cleaning the Sherman, Nuevo Emperador, Balboa West and Pina firing ranges for three years. US Army Colonel David Hunt said recently that 98% of the firing ranges would be cleaned of contaminants (Agence France-Presse, Apr. 18).

***25 MOZAMBIQUE: PARLIAMENT PASSES NATURAL RESOURCES LAW**

The parliament of Mozambique unanimously approved a bill to update the country's laws on flora and fauna on Apr. 19. During the debate, legislators emphasized the need to protect the country's forests and prevent foreigners from "entering the country illegally to raid Mozambican resources." Deputies also warned of the dangers that come with deforestation, such as desertification and the resulting loss of biodiversity.

Another point of "general consensus" was "the need to involve local communities in the sustainable management of natural resources." Deputy Agriculture Minister Helder Muteia noted that the rural community is especially dependent on natural resources for food and firewood (Panafrican News Agency, Apr. 20).

The bill envisions the creation of local councils to which many responsibilities, including reforestation and restocking areas with wildlife, may be delegated. It also would prohibit logging licenses to foreign companies unless they agree to process the timber in Mozambique.

Muteia has also "declared war" on the traditional practice of clearing the bush by burning it (Panafrican News Agency, Apr. 19).

===== GREENWIRE PEOPLE =====

***26 ENVIRONMENTAL MOVERS AND SHAKERS:**

Greenwire rounds up the latest news of people in the environmental policy arena:

FEDERAL

BLM: Utah Director Bill Lamb retired this month after 36 years with the Bureau of Land Management (Jerry Spangler, Salt

Lake Deseret News, Apr. 18).

DOE: Energy Secretary Bill Richardson plans to name Ines Triay as manager of the DOE's Carlsbad Area office, where she would be responsible for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. Triay has been at the Environmental Science and Waste Technology Group at the Los Alamos National Laboratory since 1994 (DOE release, Apr. 16).

Meanwhile, the Senate has unanimously approved the nomination of Bob Gee to become assistant secretary for fossil energy at the DOE (Greenwire, 3/26). Gee has been acting in the position since last December (Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources release, Apr. 20).

DOI: Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt has appointed David J. Hayes as acting deputy secretary of the Interior. Hayes currently serves as Counselor to the Interior Secretary (DOI release, Apr. 21).

EPA: Administrator Carol Browner has appointed Francis X. Lyons as the EPA's administrator for Region V, effective May 3. Region V is headquartered in Chicago and serves seven midwestern states (EPA release, Apr. 20).

USFS: The Forest Service's Colorado supervisor, Rick Cables, has been named regional forester for Alaska. Cables will oversee the Tongass and Chugach National Forests (Anchorage Daily News, Apr. 20).

STATES

Florida: Long-time environmental policy advisor Estus Whitfield has announced he will retire after three decades of advising Florida governors (Julie Hauserman, St. Petersburg Times, Apr. 19).

ORGANIZATIONS

Alabama Environmental Council: Alabama's oldest environmental group has chosen Diane Scanland, previously director of the Denver Rescue Mission, to be its executive director (Val Walton, Birmingham News, Apr. 19).

International Finance Corporation: Pres. James D. Wolfensohn has appointed Meg Taylor, chairwoman of Conservation Melanesia and a World Wildlife Fund board member, as the first Compliance Advisor/Ombudsman for the IFC and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (IFC release, Apr. 19).

AWARDS

Canon USA Inc.: Canon has awarded its National Park Partnership Award in Environmental Conservation to the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area and Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District for their work in restoring the Paige-Bar Watershed in Northern California (Canon USA Inc. release, Apr. 21).

Christa McAuliffe Fellowship: An environmental science teacher from New Hampshire, Shirley Griffin, won this year's federally funded Christa McAuliffe memorial fellowship (AP/Concord Monitor, Apr. 16).

Conservation Medal: George Rabb, director and zoo keeper at the Brookfield [IL] Zoo for the past 43 years, will receive the Conservation Medal from the Zoological Society of San Diego on Apr. 30 for his work in ecological preservation (Chicago Tribune,

Apr. 20).

EPA: US EPA Region VI has recognized four Texas companies for pollution reductions made through participation in the Energy Star Buildings Partnership. Affiliated Computer Services in Dallas; Compaq Computers in Houston; Dell Computers in Round Rock; and Texas Health Science Center in Houston are the latest companies to reach the "highest level" of the Energy Star program (EPA release, Apr. 19).

NOAA: Sea Grant researchers Bruce Miller, Brian Schatz and Sean Casey from Hawaii, and Walter "Skip" Hartman from New York have been presented with 1999 NOAA Environmental Hero Awards (National Sea Grant College release, Apr. 20).

President's Council on Sustainable Development: The Council and Renew America have awarded the National Award for Sustainability for Community Participation to the Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement. EASI was recognized for its Senior Environment Corps program, which involves older adults in hands-on environmental activities (EASI release, Apr. 19).

OBITUARIES

Walter "Skip" Walsh, an environmental protection specialist with the EPA, died Apr. 18 from injuries sustained when he was struck by a car on his daily bicycle commute to work. He was 41 (Washington Post, Apr. 21).

===== THE KICKER =====

CRASH TEST SALMON

Engineers at the Alden Research Laboratory are getting ready to test-drive "Flubber, a rubbery replica of a young salmon packed with wires and sensors." The fake fish will be used to measure how salmon are "jostled, scraped and even killed on their treacherous journey" through the McNary hydropower dam on the Washington-Oregon border (AP/Tucson Arizona Daily Star, Apr. 22).

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J.S. Mill

FEATURE ARTICLE

DPF Conference "Best Ever"

by Mark Greer

The Drug Policy Foundation Conference in Bethesda MD last week was by far the best I ever attended. This impression may be partly due to the fact that it seemed to me that the accolades for Internet activism were coming from many and varied sources and that for the first time it seemed that a good percentage of the attendees were cognizant of the impact that electronic communications has meant and will mean to the future of reform.

I was also very happy to see a first ever plenary session on Internet communications. While I realize that electronic communications is only one of a very wide range of valuable activities that the reform movement uses to move us towards our objectives, I had the impression that a very large percentage of those at the conference had come to realize that this new tool offers a real boon to reform in the areas of inter-group communication and coordination, building a more cohesive and organized reform movement, information dissemination, and media outreach and activism.

Hearty Congratulations to DPF for this excellent conference.

WEEKLY NEWS IN REVIEW

Note:

We took last week off for the DPF Meeting, therefore this issue of the Weekly covers articles collected by Newshawks and archived by our editors for two weeks (May 4 thru May 18).

Domestic News- Policy

COMMENT: (1)

An intelligent and highly personalized look at America's drug policy by a young writer who had himself used mood altering drugs therapeutically appeared in the May Harper's Magazine. It offered further evidence that America's drug policy no longer has much to do with drugs or their effects.

(1) AMERICA'S ALTERED STATES

When Does Legal Relief Of Pain Become Illegal Pursuit Of Pleasure?

Fear and suspicion, secrecy and shame, the yearning for pleasure, and the wish to avoid men in blue uniforms. This is (in rough, incomplete terms) an emotional report from the front. The drug wars - which, having spanned more than eight decades, require the plural - are palpable in New York City. The mayor blends propaganda, brute force, and guerrilla tactics, dispatching undercover cops to call "smoke, smoke" and "bud, bud" - and to arrest those who answer.

[snip]

Here we come to the truth about the line and how it is maintained. With rare exceptions, everything we know about legal drugs comes from research sponsored by the pharmaceutical industry. Naturally, this work emphasizes the benefits and downplays the accompanying risks. On the other hand, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, which funds more than 85 percent of the world's health research on illegal drugs, emphasizes the dangers and all but ignores potential benefits.

[snip]

A black market spawns violence, thievery, and illnesses - all can be blamed on the demon drugs. For a reminder, we need only go to the movies (in which drug dealers are the stock villains). Or watch Cops, in which, one by one, the bedraggled junkies, fearsome crack dealers, and hapless dope smokers are led away in chains.

[snip]

We believe that lashing at the illegal drug user will purify us. We try to separate the "evil" from the "good" of drugs, what we love and what we fear about them, to enforce a drug-free America with handcuffs and jail cells while legal drugs grow in popularity and variety. But we cannot separate the inseparable. We know the truth about ourselves. It is time to begin living with that horror, and that blessing.

Pubdate: May 1999

Source: Harper's Magazine

Contact: letters@harpers.org

Web: <http://www.harpers.org>

Author: Joshua Wolf Shenk

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n480.a03.html> (Part 1)

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n482.a07.html> (Part 2)

===

COMMENT: (2-3)

Traditionally, except for mavericks like Molly Ivins, Texas newspapers are tough on drugs- precisely why the decidedly non-traditional stances taken in these op-eds from the Houston Chronicle and the Dallas Morning News respectively, are important straws in the wind.

===

(2) DRUG ABUSE FIGHT COULD USE CASH FIX

Almost Everywhere Drugs Go, Money Follows

Money is why farmers produce plants to be processed into illegal drugs instead of cultivating crops of less-profitable food or fiber. Money is the motivation driving drug dealers. Stealing for money to buy drugs is behind that big percentage of crime attributed to substance abusers.

Fighting drugs is but the flip side of the same coin. Seizing assets from suspects in drug cases has proved quite lucrative for law enforcement agencies. This is on top of the vast sums of public money the government continues pouring into its so-called drug war year after year, despite an appalling lack of progress to show for it.

Even when it comes to treatment of drug abusers, some high-cost private facilities have gleaned great profits by keeping drug abusers until their insurance coverage is exhausted and then releasing them.

[snip]

Pubdate: Sun, 09 May 1999

Source: Houston Chronicle (TX)

Copyright: 1999 Houston Chronicle

Contact: viewpoints@chron.com

Website: <http://www.chron.com/>

Forum: <http://www.chron.com/content/hcitalk/index.html>

Author: THOM MARSHALL

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n491.a08.html>

==

(3) LEGALIZING DRUGS CAN HELP US GET CONTROL

The struggle against drug trafficking and drug addiction never has received wholehearted support from our body politic.

Educators, industrialists, physicians and religious leaders probably are more opposed to the use of life-impairing drugs than are most families, which cherish the illusion that narcotics never will reach them.

[snip]

One thing is certain: The drug business won't evaporate by wishing and hoping. It will dry up when the business no longer is profitable.

If the public wants alternative methods of regulation to those brought forth by the groups that advocate the legalization of drugs, let those ideas be discussed and debated.

[snip]

Pubdate: Tue, 11 May 1999

Source: Dallas Morning News (TX)

Copyright: 1999 The Dallas Morning News

Contact: letterstoeditor@dallasnews.com

Website: <http://www.dallasnews.com/>

Forum: <http://forums.dallasnews.com:81/webx>

Author: Stanley Marcus

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n499.a04.html>

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COMMENT: (4-5)

The prohibitionists weren't idle- the DEA opened a small museum in DC; the way one British columnist dutifully reported its revisionist propaganda must have warmed the heart of its curator, designated DEA "Historian," Jill Jonnes.

In the Caribbean and elsewhere, the impending loss of Panama as an "anti-drug" base has the US checking out numerous potential replacements. No doubt we'll find someone willing to work for the Yankee dollar.

==

(4) DRUG MUSEUM'S SHINING EXAMPLE OF DECADENCE

By Hugo Gurdon in Pentagon City

THE most telling exhibits in America's newest museum are burnt and bent teaspoons, stained rags, used soda bottles and a diamond-encrusted Colt 45.

They expose the sordid, deadly reality and phoney glamour of their subject, which is drugs. Gathered in glass display cases are the paraphernalia of America's century-long battle for and against the right to "get high" - bongs, psychedelic posters, liquorice rolling papers, Tommy guns and grenades.

The Drug Enforcement Administration museum, which opened its doors to the public on Tuesday, lays bare the willful self-delusion of the 1960s and 1970s, when Baby Boomers swept aside a mass of historical evidence and argued that drugs were intrinsic to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, rather than the low road to ruin.

[snip]

Pubdate: 13 May 1999

Source: Daily Telegraph (UK)

Copyright: of Telegraph Group Limited 1999

Contact: dtletters@telegraph.co.uk

Website: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/>

Author: Hugo Gurdon

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n511.a03.html>

(5) U.S. MILITARY OPENS NEW ANTIDRUG BASES

Curacao, Aruba, Ecuador, possibly Costa Rica, replace Panama

Ecuador and the Dutch Caribbean islands of Curacao and Aruba are the new front lines in the U.S. military's war on drugs, the result of the American troop withdrawal from Panama under the 1977 Panama Canal treaties.

"We started counter drug air operations effective May 1 from all three sites," Raul Duany, spokesman for the Miami-based U.S. Southern Command, said Wednesday. That was the day that airfield operations ended at Howard Air Force Base in Panama, the previous base for counter drug surveillance flights. Howard is to be turned over to Panama on Nov. 1.

[snip]

Pubdate: Fri, 07May 1999

Source: Miami Herald (FL)

Copyright: 1999 The Miami Herald

Contact: heralded@herald.com

Address: One Herald Plaza, Miami FL 33132-1693

Fax: (305) 376-8950

Website: <http://www.herald.com/>

Forum: <http://krwebx.infi.net/webxmulti/cgi-bin/WebX?mherald>

Author: Don Bohning, Herald Staff Writer

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n496.a03.html>

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COMMENT: (6)

Needle exchange is the other national issue (besides medical Cannabis) behind which drug reformers can muster a majority of voters. The strong probability that newly-elected Governor Davis would sign a needle exchange bill makes its passage by the legislature especially important.

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(6) ASSEMBLY PASSES NEEDLE EXCHANGE BILL

SACRAMENTO, May 13 (UPI) - Previously vetoed legislation that would authorize needle exchange programs to slow the spread of AIDS and other infectious diseases has advanced to the California Senate.

The Assembly passed the bill by Assembly woman Kerry Mazzoni, D-San Rafael, today with two votes to spare over objections that it would condone illegal drug use.

[snip]

Pubdate: Thu, 13 May 1999

Source: United Press International

Copyright: 1999 United Press International

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n506.a11.html>

Law Enforcement & Prisons

COMMENT: (7-10)

A hallmark of drug prohibition is its unfairness. To the extent the policy fails to achieve announced goals, it becomes more oppressive- injuring more people- and thus recruiting new reformers. That college students are beginning to experience this unfairness is good news for us; they are far more likely than politically voiceless inner city youths to organize and raise a fuss .

Another unfair aspect of our drug policy receiving increased attention from the print media is its easily appreciated racism. This scrutiny was evidenced by two important articles in the New York Times and the Baltimore Sun.

The Anderson Valley Advertiser is hardly in their class as a

newspaper, but it reports drug issues accurately- as it did in revealing the shocking lengths to which the DEA will go for a conviction.

==

(7) STUDENTS FIGHT BAN ON COLLEGE FUNDS FOR DRUG OFFENDERS

Opposition is growing on college campuses to a provision of the Higher Education Act that withholds federal financial aid from students convicted of selling or possessing drugs.

Congress passed the provision in the fall to send a message to young drug users, but opponents say that it denies money to troubled students when they need it most to turn their lives around, that it fails to address drug intervention and education, and that it ignores other types of criminal behavior.

[snip]

Pubdate: Sun, 16 May 1999

Source: Chicago Tribune (IL)

Copyright: 1999 Chicago Tribune Company

Contact: tribletter@aol.com

Website: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/>

Forum: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/interact/boards/>

Author: Carol Lewis

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n516.a03.html>

(8) WHY SOME GET BUSTED AND SOME GO FREE

Drug arrests on the 10 o'clock news tend to show inner-city blacks and Latinos being led away in handcuffs. But Federal health statistics show only slight differences in the rates of drug use for whites and people of color -- and define the typical drug addict as a white male in his 20's who lives in a suburb where drug busts almost never happen.

[snip]

Pubdate: Mon, 10 May 1999

Source: New York Times (NY)

Copyright: 1999 The New York Times Company

Section: Editorial

Contact: letters@nytimes.com

Website: <http://www.nytimes.com/>

Forum: <http://www10.nytimes.com/comment/>

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n495.a04.html>

(9) UNEQUAL JUSTICE

Although the American criminal justice system has a long history of racial bias, the United States is only now starting to take an honest look at the problem.

THANKS TO the New York police force, Abner Louima and Amadou Diallo have become household names. Thanks to state police in New Jersey, Maryland and elsewhere, "Driving While Black" has entered the general lexicon. For the moment, the nation seems to be taking seriously the issue of racial bias in the criminal justice system. It's about time.

[snip]

Source: Baltimore Sun (MD)

Copyright: 1999 by The Baltimore Sun, a Times Mirror Newspaper.

Contact: letters@baltsun.com

Website: <http://www.sunspot.net/>

Forum: <http://www.sunspot.net/cgi-bin/ultbb/Ultimate.cgi?actionintro>

Author: David Cole

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n517.a02.html>

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(10) DALTON HEARING IN SAN FRANCISCO

MONDAY, MAY 17 at 8 am Redwood Valley resident John Dalton will get a full evidentiary hearing on Outrageous Government Conduct at the Federal Courthouse on Golden Gate Avenue in San Francisco. Judge Susan

Illston has ordered the unprecedented hearing to explore the conduct of the Drug Enforcement Administration agents who busted Dalton two years ago on a variety of charges related to marijuana production. In their zeal to bust Dalton, DEA Special Agent Mark Nelson stepped way over the line of acceptable law enforcement practices; he seduced Dalton's mentally ill wife, telling her she was a special agent of the DEA.

[snip]

Pubdate: 12 May 1999

Source: Anderson Valley Advertiser (CA)

Copyright: Anderson Valley Advertiser

Contact: ava@pacific.net

Tele: 707-895-3016

Fax: 707-895-3355

Author: Mark Heimann

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n517.a03.html>

Cannabis & Hemp

COMMENT: (11-12)

Anyone who has lived in California since November, 1996 understands that winning at the ballot box is the easy part; what's hard is

providing legal Cannabis to bona-fide patients; two articles from states with new initiatives explain why. Alaska's (state) Senator Leman would make an excellent target the next time he runs for office.

Hemp agriculture is making a bid in California along with several other states. That the bus driver tested positive for cannabinoids will be trumpeted by prohibitionists who won't understand that it only confirms that testing is a complete waste of public funds and says nothing about the role his use might have played in the accident.

(11) BILL CURBS MEDICAL MARIJUANA

SENATE OKS POT LIMIT, MANDATORY REGISTRY

JUNEAU - The state Senate passed a bill Thursday placing new limits on the medical marijuana law voters adopted last fall.

"I assure members that this does not repeal the law," the bill's sponsor, Sen. Loren Leman, said. "It makes it work."

[snip]

Pubdate: Fri, 14 May 1999

Source: Anchorage Daily News (AK)

Copyright: 1999 The Anchorage Daily News

Contact: letters@adn.com

Website: <http://www.adn.com/>

Author: LIZ RUSKIN, Daily News reporter

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n514.a08.html>

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(12) MARIJUANA LAW IS PROVING TO BE A PAIN

Sufferers who want to try Oregon's new program find it hard to get a doctor's approval or the drug

[snip]

But she's run into two big problems:

She can't find a doctor who'll approve marijuana as a treatment.

The law requires a doctor's permission for a patient to join the program.

She doesn't have any idea where to get marijuana.

[snip]

Pubdate: Fri, May 07 1999

Source: Oregonian, The (OR)

Copyright: 1999 The Oregonian

Contact: letters@news.oregonian.com

Address: 1320 SW Broadway, Portland, OR 97201

Fax: 503-294-4193

Website: <http://www.oregonlive.com/>

Forum: <http://forums.oregonlive.com/>

Author: Patrick O'Neill, The Oregonian staff

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n484.a08.html>

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(13) HEMP'S BACKERS TRY FOR A COMEBACK

Legalization Sought For Cousin Of Pot

In California these days there is the hemp movement and the other hemp movement -- this second one backing the kind you can't smoke or bake into brownies for an altered state.

[snip]

Pubdate: Sun, 09 May 1999

Source: San Francisco Examiner (CA)

Copyright: 1999 San Francisco Examiner

Contact: letters@examiner.com

Website: <http://www.examiner.com/>

Forum: <http://examiner.com/cgi-bin/WebX>

Author: Katherine Seligman OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n490.a05.html>

(14) BUS DRIVER HAD BEEN FIRED FOR DRUGS

NEW ORLEANS (AP) The driver of a charter bus that crashed and killed 22 people was fired from bus companies in 1996 and 1989 after testing positive for marijuana four times, authorities said Thursday.

A federal investigator also confirmed a report that Frank Bedell, 46, tested positive for marijuana when he was hospitalized Sunday after the bus veered off a highway and plunged into an embankment.

[snip]

Pubdate: Thu, 13 May 1999

Source: Associated Press

Copyright: 1999 Associated Press

Author: Alan Sayre, Associated Press Writer

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n507.a09.html>

International News

COMMENT: (15-20)

Internationally, a thriving global heroin trade (downplayed in the US) is producing record numbers of overdose deaths and sparking bitter disputes throughout the English-speaking world. Amazingly, advocates of "tough on drugs" policies hold up the US experience as a model to be emulated!

The item from the Times is public health opinion offered by a UK constable who blames needle exchange for the increase in heroin use; it's as irresponsible and scurrilous as anything ever penned by McCzar. The second article from the Independent, details the size of the UK heroin problem and the degree to which it is out of "control."

Canada and Australia have no better handle on heroin, despite intense debate. Both are in the grip of stubbornly prohibitionist governments. Harm reduction measures, while strenuously opposed, are generally more available than in most locations in the US.

In a non-heroin item, an unusual decision by a Canadian judge may pressure Health Minister Alan Rock into finally doing something he's avoided for months- taking an identifiable position on the medical use of Cannabis. Then again, given Mr. Rock's demonstrated evasive skills- it may not.

==

In 1998, three pharmacies on the fringes of Aberdeen distributed more than 120,000 hypodermic syringes to people who were injecting illicit drugs. It is a common and rising statistic throughout the UK's big cities.

[snip]

Much of the support for NEPs in North America and the UK appears to be based on anecdotal evidence and the use of statistics, which have been demonstrated to be unreliable. What is of great concern is that after 12 years there has been no official assessment of this "act of faith" when there has been a concomitant rise in drug use.

[snip]

Pubdate: 9 May 1999

Source: Sunday Times (UK)

Copyright: 1999 Times Newspapers Ltd.

Contact: editor@sunday-times.co.uk

Website: <http://www.sunday-times.co.uk/>

Author: Ian Oliver, former chief constable of Grampian Police

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n493.a07.html>

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THE POLICE and MI5 have identified 30 drug gangs who are controlling the distribution of heroin throughout Britain and Ireland. Detectives also believe there is a new threat from the South American drug barons, notably from Colombia, who are planning to ship large quantities of heroin into Europe for the first time.

[snip]

Pubdate: Thu, 13 May 1999

Source: Independent, The (UK)

Copyright: 1999 Independent Newspapers (UK) Ltd.

Contact: letters@independent.co.uk

Address: 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL

Website: <http://www.independent.co.uk/>

Author: Jason Bennetto, Crime Correspondent

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n511.a10.html>

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(17) AT WAR OVER DRUGS

Most have lost children to drugs, but this does not give them a common cause. In fact, as these parents prepare for next week's drug summit, the battle lines are being dug even deeper. DEBORAH SNOW reports.

TO AN outsider there seems so much to unite them. They are the

battle-scarred veterans of the "war" against illicit drugs, the parents who've been through the unutterable pain of losing a child to addiction, or drug-related death. A club, one of them says, that "you'd never want to join". Having endured it, you ask yourself, how could they not have a common cause?

[snip]

Pubdate: Thu, 06 May 1999

Source: Cairns Post, The (Australia)

Contact: letters@cairnspost.com.au

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n503.a01.html>

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(18) AUSTRALIA: EDITORIAL: DRUG BLINDNESS

DESPITE their claims to the contrary, it is short-sighted politicians and religious tub-thumpers like the Rev Fred Nile who are turning the law into a joke, not the organisers of Sydney's illegal heroin shooting gallery.

When the law is so completely at odds with reality and has proved impossible to enforce successfully, it is time to change it - not to keep trying to ram it down people's throats.

[snip]

Pubdate: Thu, 06 May 1999

Source: Cairns Post, The (Australia)

Contact: letters@cairnspost.com.au

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n503.a01.html>

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(19) CANADA: SOCIETY IS COMMITTING GENOCIDE AGAINST INTRAVENOUS DRUG USERS

Society is committing genocide against intravenous drug users and everybody knows it, delegates at the eighth annual Canadian conference on HIV/AIDS research were told Tuesday in Victoria.

"The government has the means to stop it and they are not doing anything about it," Dr. Martin Schechter told the conference's closing session.

"If someone from Mars landed here, they'd say this is social murder. It's going to get very grim."

[snip]

Pubdate: Wed, 05 May 1999

Source: Victoria Times-Colonist (Canada)

Contact: timesc@interlink.bc.ca

Author: Louise Dickson

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n478.a02.html>

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(20) CANADA: SICK CAN APPLY FOR MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA

For the first time in Canada, the federal government has set up a process for sick and terminally ill people to apply for the right to use marijuana without fear of being prosecuted.

But the guidelines, unveiled yesterday, are already being called seriously flawed because those who sell pot to sick people can still be charged as illegal traffickers.

"It's unfair. It's just patently unfair," Mr. Justice Harry LaForme said yesterday after a senior government official presented the new guidelines in Ontario's Superior Court.

[snip]

"One gets the impression," LaForme remarked, that Ottawa has reached even this point "kicking and screaming."

As part of the application process, Ottawa has now asked Wakeford to name his marijuana supplier.

[snip]

Source: The Toronto Star (Canada)

Pubdate: Friday, May 7, 1999

Contact: lettertoed@thestar.com

Authors: Barbara Turnbull and Tracey Tyler, Staff reporters

URL: <http://www.mapinc.org/drugnews/v99.n486.a01.html>

HOT OFF THE 'NET

Thanks to Gary Stork for this heads up:

Major news out of UC Irvine -- Cannabis may help combat schizophrenia.

Related article at the web page below.

There is also an on-line poll "Should Marijuana be legalized for medical purposes" at the URL below. As is usually the case in all on-line polls the reform perspective dominates with a whopping 87% Yes vote

<http://home.digitalcity.com/orangecounty/opinion/main.dci?page=marijuan#article>

=====

Eric Sterling writes:

I am forwarding the URL for Sam Smith's Progressive Review. I suggest adding it to your bookmark or favorite places list or subscribing to his email newsletter.

<http://emporium.turnpike.net/P/ProRev/index.html>

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"If all mankind minus one, were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person, than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind" - J.S. Mill -

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