

Military retirement reform urged

WASHINGTON (AP) — A presidential commission Monday urged an end to 20-year retirements and "double-dipping" for the next generation of military personnel.

President Carter received the report saying he agrees that there are "serious defects" in the military retirement system. He said he would try to send a bill to Congress by January to correct them.

The report by the President's Commission on Military Compensation urged a new system of old-age pensions and deferred pay to replace the present military retirement system.

It also urged some increases in military allowances, and said the net effect would be to cut projected retirement costs by one-

third, beginning around the end of the century.

Under the present retirement system military personnel may draw a pension of half their basic pay after 20 years service, beginning immediately and continuing for life, with inflation adjustments. On the average, officers retire at age 43 and enlisted personnel at 39.

The cost of this pension system is now \$10 billion a year, and is expected to grow to \$30 billion in the next 20 years, the commission said. It eats up eight percent of the entire Pentagon budget.

The proposal also would prohibit those who retire from getting federal pension checks while working in the federal Civil Service, a practice known as double-dipping.

"The current system can no longer be justified," commission chairman Charles Zwick said in a statement to Carter. "These awesome economic facts, plus the relatively young people receiving retirement payments, have corroded the credibility of military retirement in the minds of many Americans."

The commission's recommendations would have no effect on persons already retired, reservists or on those already in uniform, provided they have served at least four years. The panel said the government has an obligation to continue the present 20-year retirement system for those who re-enlisted believing they were working toward such a pension.

Under the proposal, those who join milit-

ary service in the future, or who have served less than four years, would earn credits toward a pension modeled after the Civil Service system.

It would allow them to retire with an immediate pension at age 55 after 30 years of service. Those with 20 years service could begin drawing a pension at age 60, instead of immediately on retirement as under the present system. It would also allow a pension with as little as 10 years service, half the present minimum, although payments would not begin until age 62.

The recommendations would also set up a deferred compensation available to those who serve at least 10 years.

World at a glance

Baron's body found in dump

ANTWERP, Belgium — Searchers alerted by an anonymous telephone tip found the body of kidnapped multimillionaire Baron Charles-Victor Bracht under a pile of garbage in a village dump Monday. Authorities said he had been dead since shortly after he was abducted a month ago.

Crown Prosecutor Julien van Hoeylandt said the family of the 63-year-old businessman never paid a ransom — it was believed the kidnappers demanded about \$2 million.

Drug center admits Betty

LONG BEACH, Calif. — Former first lady Betty Ford was admitted to the alcohol and drug rehabilitation center of Long Beach Naval Hospital Monday for treatment of what officials described as a "problem with medication."

Ford, who has suffered for several years from arthritis, said in a prepared statement, "It's an insidious thing and I mean to rid myself of its damaging effects."

"She has developed a dependence she is trying to overcome," said Dr. James Zimble, acting commanding officer of the hospital. He denied that Ford, 60, was in any way addicted to drugs.

Military files charges

MANILA, Philippines — The military filed charges of illegal assembly, incitement and sedition today against hundreds of demonstrators arrested in a march protesting alleged fraud in last week's National Assembly elections.

Official reports of the number arrested varied from a police estimate of 553 to a report of 577 from the Philippine Constabulary.

Man views life from different perspective

NEW YORK (AP) — Thomas Kay stood on his head Saturday on the top of his pyramid in Manhattan, but the city said that this was neither the time nor place, and arrested him.

Tommy, as he is called by friends and family, is a 23-year-old yoga and solar energy enthusiast. Friday, Tommy climbed atop of a 40-foot pyramid tower built by him and friends on the roof of a Soho building in lower Manhattan to promote and advertise solar

energy.

Kay said he was going to spend 30 days on the tower, where he would eat, sleep, exercise and smoke marijuana to dramatize his belief in solar energy and mark May 3 as Sun Day.

A neighbor in an adjacent building became disturbed at the sight of Kay, perched high up there, entwined like a pretzel in a yoga position. The resident summoned police. When they arrived, Kay was standing on his head.

Transkei to sever ties

UMTATA, Transkei (AP) — Transkei, South Africa's first independent tribal homeland, said Monday that it was breaking diplomatic relations with its creator and would press a "struggle for liberation" toward black rule in white-governed South Africa.

Transkei's independence is recognized only by South Africa, which plans under its policy of racial separation to consign its 19 million blacks to nine scattered homelands. Opponents of apartheid say the existence of Transkei helps perpetuate the dominance of South Africa by its 4.5 million whites.

Transkei Prime Minister Kaiser Matanzima, announcing the rup-

Parents seek end to child's life support

MICHIGAN CITY, Ind. (AP) — The parents of 15-year-old Andra Rubinelli — convinced that their comatose daughter is legally dead — went to court Monday seeking permission to disconnect her respirator so they can hold the funeral they have planned.

"We believe her dead. It's grotesque. The face is distorted, her hand swollen," said Peter Rubinelli, father of the high school sophomore who was stricken by a rare blood disease. He said the movement in her hospital room is the beeper that monitors the machine that keeps her heart beating.

All the arrangements have been made for the funeral, said Andra's mother, Joan. She said Andra — one of six children — will be buried in the peach-colored formal she made for a high school prom last year. A long-time family friend, Donald Query of Warsaw, Ind., will deliver the funeral discourse.

ture in a speech to parliament here, said his government "can no longer take it."

"We have been compelled to join the liberatory movements and claim the whole of South Africa as belonging to blacks and whites, with blacks controlling the majority. We are going to propagate majority rule in southern Africa. From now henceforth this will be the fundamental policy of our struggle for liberation."

Matanzima said he would recall Transkei's ambassador and consuls and eject the South African ambassador by April 30.

There was no immediate reaction from the South African government.

Matanzima predicted not only a

confrontation between Transkei and South Africa but a "bloody struggle" between black and white South Africans.

Other black states in southern Africa — including Tanzania, Zambia, and Mozambique — harbor nationalist guerrillas training for combat against the governments of South Africa and Rhodesia.

Matanzima asserted the break in relations was forced on him by South Africa's "contemptuous and brutal" rejection of his government's claim to East Griqualand, along Transkei's northern border. If incorporated, the territory would unite Transkei's main part with a separate chunk isolated inside South Africa.

RESERVE A LIFE AFTER COLLEGE.

Enhance your civilian career as an officer in the Army Reserves or the Army National Guard.

You'll get extra income, immediate management experience and community involvement.

How? Through Army ROTC leadership and management training. To reserve your life after college

CALL:

686-3102

**ARMY ROTC.
THE TWO-YEAR PROGRAM.**

EMU Food Service 95c BREAKFAST

2 EGGS

Hashbrowns

Toast & Coffee

The Cafeteria Grill

Open 7:00 am Mon-Fri

