

LOVELAND, Colo. — Speaking to reporters for the first time, the pilot of a United Airlines jetliner that crashed on the outskirts of Portland, killing 10 persons, says he thought he had adequate fuel.

McBroom was interviewed in his home here by the Loveland Daily Reporter-Herald, which carried the story Tuesday.

"But when the engines started flaming out, I could no longer be sure I had enough fuel to make the airport," said Malburn "Buddy" McBroom, pilot of the United DC-8 that crashed Dec. 28.

McBroom said he chose the best spot he could for a crash landing. The plane, carrying 189 persons on a flight from Denver to Portland, demolished two empty houses and slammed into a grove of trees.

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II will meet privately with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko before leaving for Mexico later this month, Vatican sources reported Tuesday.

They said Soviet diplomats asked for a meeting during Gromyko's forthcoming visit to Italy. A foreign ministry spokesman said Gromyko's visit is tentatively set for Jan. 22-26.

SALEM — The Oregon Legislature should send a new request to Congress for a constitutional convention to mandate a balanced federal budget, Senate President Jason Boe said Tuesday.

The 1977 Legislature sent a joint memorial to Congress for such a convention. But Boe said the legal effect of the memorial has been questioned.

To make sure Oregon gets on the list of states calling for a convention to propose an anti-deficit amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Boe said, he wants to get a joint resolution passed.

SEATTLE — What if they gave a recession in 1979 and the Pacific Northwest didn't show up?

"We're not so sure we're going to have a recession here," says broker Stuart Sierer, a vice president of Wm. P. Harper & Son & Co.

"The Boeing backlog may do for us what the oil industry did for Houston during the last recession. Houston didn't even know a recession was going on," Sierer said.

If Sierer is right, Northwest companies and the people who buy their stock stand to enjoy a year of healthy gains.

Shah hands over property, orders release of prisoners

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Tuesday turned over the Iranian royal family's multi-million dollar personal property to a crown-sponsored foundation in an apparent bid to remove the taint of corruption from the dynasty. He also ordered the release of 266 prisoners.

The United States, in a policy shift, was reported in Washington to have informed the shah that only his temporary departure abroad would quell the violent protests shaking the country.

American officials, who asked not to be identified, said the U.S. view changed after it became apparent that the installation of a civilian government was not significantly easing the conflict.

Tehran, blanketed by the first snow of the season, experienced one of its calmest days in months, but at least six persons, including an army officer, were killed in anti-shah violence in the provinces.

Iran's state radio announced that the royal family's property was being transferred to the Pahlavi Foundation "for the use of religious, educational, social and welfare organizations organized by the people and run by them."

Palace sources said the properties included the shah's enormous domestic holdings in company stocks, banks, factories and land.

A diplomatic source viewed the

transfer of property as a "half-way step" toward fulfilling the shah's pledge to sever the royal family's ties with foundations and turn them over to a government agency.

The foundation, the diplomat said, had "done a lot of good things, such as financing scholarships for study abroad, but is has a

bad reputation as far as corruption in the family is concerned."

The shah's divestiture follows a previous royal decree, also last September, prohibiting members of his family from having business dealings with the government or from controlling charitable organizations.

Drugs proposal aims at prices

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal government proposed a model drug law Tuesday that would permit pharmacists to give consumers lower-priced generic drugs even if a physician had prescribed a more expensive brand-name product.

About ninety percent of the prescriptions written by physicians are for brand-name products, according to Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph Califano.

The Federal Trade Commission estimated that maximum use of the model law could save consumers \$400 million a year. That would amount to about \$1.80 for the average consumer, who spends \$32 a year on prescription drugs, and about twice that much for people over 65.

The Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, which represents most of the nation's big-name drug companies, said the proposal would "do little or nothing for consumer savings, while tending to erode physician prerogatives as well as high-quality standards and research efforts in the prescription drug industry."

The association termed publication of a list of equivalent drugs "dangerous."

FTC Chairman Michael Pertschuk, at a joint news conference with Califano, said the generic drugs listed by FDA as equivalent are "every bit as safe and therapeutic as brand name drugs."

He said physicians will continue to prescribe by brand name because "it's easier; it's quicker." But he predicted "an outbreak of competition" among pharmacists who would be encouraged by the model law to substitute cheaper drugs for more expensive ones.

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