

Troop issue remains unsettled

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top U.S. and Soviet officials held a surprise meeting Sunday as President Carter remained at Camp David working on a speech concerning the Russian brigade in Cuba.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin began their

meeting at 2 p.m. but State Department spokesman David Nall would give no indication of the purpose of the meeting or even which side had suggested it.

Nall said later the meeting lasted an hour and 24 minutes. "I can't give you any idea what they talked about," he said. "I

don't know."

President Carter announced that he would address the nation Monday at 9 p.m. EDT after negotiations with the Soviets apparently had broken down, with the Russians refusing to budge on Carter's insistence that they change the "status quo."

When Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko returned to Moscow last week after meeting in New York with Vance, he gave no indication whatever of softening the Soviet position.

The Soviets maintain that the brigade — which U.S. officials say has 2,000 to 3,000 soldiers, 40 tanks and artillery and armored personnel carriers — has been stationed in Cuba since the 1962 missile crisis with the full knowledge of previous American presidents.

In a news conference Friday, Cuban President Fidel Castro echoed the hard Soviet line and accused Carter of creating an artificial crisis.

Carter then huddled with 15 retired national security officials, including former secretaries of state Henry Kissinger, William Rogers and Dean Rusk. The president flew by helicopter to his mountaintop retreat Saturday afternoon accompanied by his wife, Rosalynn.

White House spokesman Dale Leibach said Sunday the president was spending the day working on his Monday night address. Leibach said he did not believe Carter had summoned any speech writers to Camp David, indicating he was going over a draft of the speech alone with his wife.

The Vance-Dobrynin meeting came as a surprise since no U.S.-Soviet meetings had been scheduled after Gromyko's departure. The State Department spokesman notified news agencies of the meeting only after it had begun.

making the news

From Associated Press Reports

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — National Guard troops supervised by nuclear experts stored 20 tons of seized radioactive tritium Sunday in a concrete bunker at an Army ammunition depot.

"That's it. We sealed up the bunker and are going home," said Darrell Warren of the Arizona Atomic Energy Commission. "There were no complications at all."

Gov. Bruce Babbitt ordered the tritium seized last week from the American Atomics Corp. plant in Tucson and brought here for temporary storage. State officials had said the plant was leaking radiation.

The tritium was moved Saturday inside a lead-lined steel box carried in a convoy across central Arizona. The box carried 38 drums that together held 6.8 million tiny steel tubes of tritium gas.

Warren said that what registered as a small leak of the gas Saturday night upon arrival "turned out to be a pocket of gas."

"It was gone before we got there this morning," he said. "We left it there overnight and found no more than a background reading."

Warren said it is not unusual for jostling during transport to produce such a gas pocket.

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court overturned a lower court order requiring Amtrak to continue running its New York-Kansas City train, the National Limited, after Sunday.

Chief Justice Warren Burger signed the order vacating a U.S. Appeals Court ruling that would have required Amtrak to continue operating the National Limited at least until Oct. 12.

The ruling does not affect four other trains whose future is being contested in other courts.

Amtrak had asked both the Supreme Court and a U.S. Court of Appeals on Sunday to issue an emergency order allowing the rail company to discontinue the National Limited.

Amtrak spokesman Jim Bryant said there would be no immediate appeal of another court order requiring passenger service to continue on three other jeopardized routes originating in Chicago and going to Seattle, Houston and Miami. And Amtrak issued orders Sunday night to train crews and its own employees to prepare to run those contested trains Monday.

The Amtrak spokesman said the petitions argued that the two Court of Appeals judges did not have the authority to issue the temporary restraining order because the order already had been refused by another judge.

BALBOA, Canal Zone — With beer, fireworks and official ceremonies, Americans bid a farewell and Panamanians a welcome Sunday to the Panama Canal Zone.

The American-Panamanian canal treaties signed in 1977 provided for the U.S. Canal Zone to become Panamanian territory at midnight Sunday.

The celebrations, said Panama's President Aristides Royo, mark "a day of jubilation and pride....The act of a people entering a portion of their territory that has been under foreign jurisdiction for seven long decades."

The United States will retain five military bases and run the canal itself until the year 2000, when all Americans are to be withdrawn.

Pope denounces terrorist activities

KNOCK, Ireland (AP) — Pope John Paul II took his peace pilgrimage to Ireland's most sacred shrine, in the bogs of County Mayo, on Sunday and in a forceful denunciation of terrorism declared, "Murder is murder, no matter what the motives or ends."

The pontiff called the Northern Ireland conflict "this great wound now afflicting our people" and appealed to the Virgin Mary to "cure and heal it."

"Mother, protect all of us and especially the youth of Ireland from being overcome by hostility and hatred," he said.

But it appeared the pope's pleas for peace were not persuading the mostly Catholic guerrillas in British-ruled Northern Ireland to put down their arms. A nationalist spokesman in Belfast said the "war of liberation" would continue.

Earlier Sunday, John Paul made a similar appeal for non-violence to some 250,000 cheering Irish youths gathered for a Mass at Galway's race track. But he made a broader appeal as well, telling the Catholic youth of the world that a "moral sickness" stalks society.

"How many young people have already warped their consciences and have substituted the true joy of life with drugs, sex, alcohol, vandalism and the empty pursuit of mere material possessions?" he

asked.

It was one of the most explicit denunciations yet by the 59-year-old Polish pontiff of the growing material concerns of Western consumer societies.

The pope's stop here produced the first security scare of his weekend visit. A man, reportedly shouting "Jesus!" ran out into an open area and toward the pope but was grabbed by two policemen several hundred feet from the papal altar. Police said he was an Englishman in his 30s, was not armed and was taken away for psychiatric examination.

On the second day of the pope's triumphal visit to Ireland — he flies Monday to Boston to begin a week-long U.S. tour — the weather turned wet and chilly. But it failed to dampen the spirits of an estimated 350,000 faithful gathered in a meadow in this western Irish town for the pope's open-air Mass.

A purple-robed bishop led a police band in Irish jigs as the vast crowd, thousands of whom had camped out overnight, sat under umbrellas waiting for the leader of the world's 700 million Roman Catholics.

The rain had stopped by the time the pontiff — 90 minutes behind schedule — came by helicopter from nearby Galway to celebrate the Mass with 200 cardinals, bishops and priests.

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