

Embassy rigged to blow up, Iranians warn

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Islamic militants said Tuesday they have rigged the U.S. Embassy to blow up on command, and the Iranian armed forces went on alert as Tehran seethed with rumors of an impending U.S. attack and warnings that American agents were plotting to infiltrate the embassy.

The U.N. Security Council met for only 16 minutes at its headquarters in New York in response to Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim's urgent call for a session on the crisis. The

meeting was limited to two speakers — Waldheim and Council Pres. Sergio Palacios de Vizzio of Bolivia — and the session then adjourned until 9 p.m. EST Saturday when Iran's acting Foreign Minister Abolhassan Bani Sadr is expected to be present.

Waldheim appealed to the United States and Iran "to avoid any action which could inflame" the situation over the holding of 49 American hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. Palacios de Vizzio reiterated an

appeal to Iran he made on behalf of the 15-member Council on Nov. 9, asking for the immediate release of the hostages.

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, convinced the United States had the council on its side, rejected in advance any decision it might make as "dictated" by Washington.

And in Washington, White House press secretary Jody Powell announced Pres. Carter would hold a news conference in the White House at 9 p.m. EST

Wednesday because "The president felt the American people deserve an opportunity to hear from him."

Khomeini also raised anew the prospect that the 49 American hostages who have been held for 25 days will be put on trial as "spies."

At New York Hospital, exiled Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi underwent an operation in which doctors removed a gallstone from his bile duct.

A hospital spokeswoman said the shah would remain under observation for a few days. But it was believed the deposed monarch would probably be able to return to his exile home in Mexico after that.

The militants issued a statement Tuesday saying they had planted mines throughout the embassy compound and their supporters should not try to enter the area.

The militants said they were especially concerned about provocations Thursday and Friday, the emotional Moslem holy days of Tasua and Ashura, when devout Moslems here whip or cut themselves to sig-

nify their willingness to become martyrs.

The militants had hinted previously they were rigging explosives to kill all the hostages if the United States launched a military action to rescue them.

Paratroopers were seen at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport flying off in U.S.-made transports to an unknown destination. Local newspapers said the Iranian navy "started defensive operations" in the Persian Gulf, and the airspace over Qum, Khomeini's headquarters city 120 miles south of Tehran, had been closed.

The Carter administration indicated last week it might respond militarily if any of the hostages are harmed. A carrier task force headed by the USS Midway has been in the Arabian Sea south of Iran for almost two weeks.

LTD tables income tax plan

By MARIAN GREEN
Of the Emerald

Lane Transit District tabled approval of an income tax funding plan Tuesday because of a lack of information about the proposal.

Ordinance 19 — the income tax — would apply to all residents within the LTD district. Unlike previous transit district taxes, it would tax individuals not corporations.

The tax would be applied to taxable income per \$10,000 as

shown on Oregon tax return statements. If approved, the tax would go into effect on January 1, 1980.

Board chairer Ken Kohnen said that an income tax would broaden LTDs revenue base, be flexible and progressive, while ensuring that everyone in the district would pay for the services.

Voters should be able to have a say on the tax, said Glenn Randall, LTD board member. Presently there is no provision to let voters voice their opinions

on LTD proposals, he said.

The LTD should submit the income tax proposal to the voters because it will have a better chance of passing with broader community support, said Randall. Lack of voter input would be bad publicity, he said.

But the board postponed approval of the tax because of lack of information on the tax rate and the voter referral plan.

The board also postponed decision on territorial boundaries — Ordinance 17 — until its next meeting. The ordinance would limit the transit district territorial boundaries to LTD service areas only instead of all of Lane County.

Also discussed was a marketing survey about the bus services. The research corporation conducted interviews with 400 people to find out how the public rates the bus service.

According to the survey, advertising increased ridership approximately 25 to 30 percent between July and October. The increased ridership could result in a crunch of bus users and not enough buses to provide the services.

Final approval of the purchase of 22 new buses was postponed until the board's December meeting.

The LTD board members did approve a grant application for bus shelters. For the grant — a federal funding grant — LTD would be fund 20 percent of the shelters and the federal government 80 percent.

The sites that would receive shelters are: Veneta, Junction City, Coburg, Dexter, Lowell, Pleasant Hill, Vida, Leaburg, Blue River and Waltherville.

Profs express opinions in Tuesday night class

The political science lecture series, "U.S. at the Crossroads," provides students with an opportunity to hear from many speakers on current United States problems.

The class is "a chance for a student to hear from every member of the department on topics they are very familiar with," says Lawrence Pierce, chair of the political science department.

The 400-level class meets Tuesday nights, with two lectures featured each week. A few of the topics covered this term included Salt II, the American presidency and government bureaucracy. The class has scheduled opposing lectures as "Social Dilemma Logic and the American Environment" presented by John Orbell, and "What Dilemma? A solution to Pollution," by Prof. William Mitchell.

Orbell, political science professor, says he enjoys the opportunity to air views in a

teaching atmosphere. Professors prepare a great deal for their presentation because "it's the only opportunity that exists for students to see all the faculty members talking about their own reflections on social problems," he says, adding that it is a one-shot deal for professors to present themselves to future students.

Mark Harrington, says the class' introductory function is to provide potential political science majors a glimpse at professors' teaching style. But he says the class is prohibitive to freshmen because it is a 400-level class.

Pierce says he is aware of the grade-level problem. "We'd like to teach it each fall... and possibly we'll offer it at a lower level in spring term and gear lectures on a little more introductory level so we can introduce more professors to the undeclared students and freshmen."

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