

U.S. contradicts Iran, denies agreement made

WASHINGTON (AP) — Although the United States and Iran appear to have narrowed their differences on ending the hostage crisis, the State Department Wednesday denied that any agreement in principle to end the 14-month stalemate has been achieved.

Earlier, one official, who asked not to be identified, said agreement has been reached

on some "basic principles" and that Iran is prepared to revise its demand that the United States provide \$24 billion

At a news briefing Wednesday, State Department spokesman John Trattner said an exchange of messages between U.S. and Iranian officials "indicates the process aimed at release of our hostages is continuing."

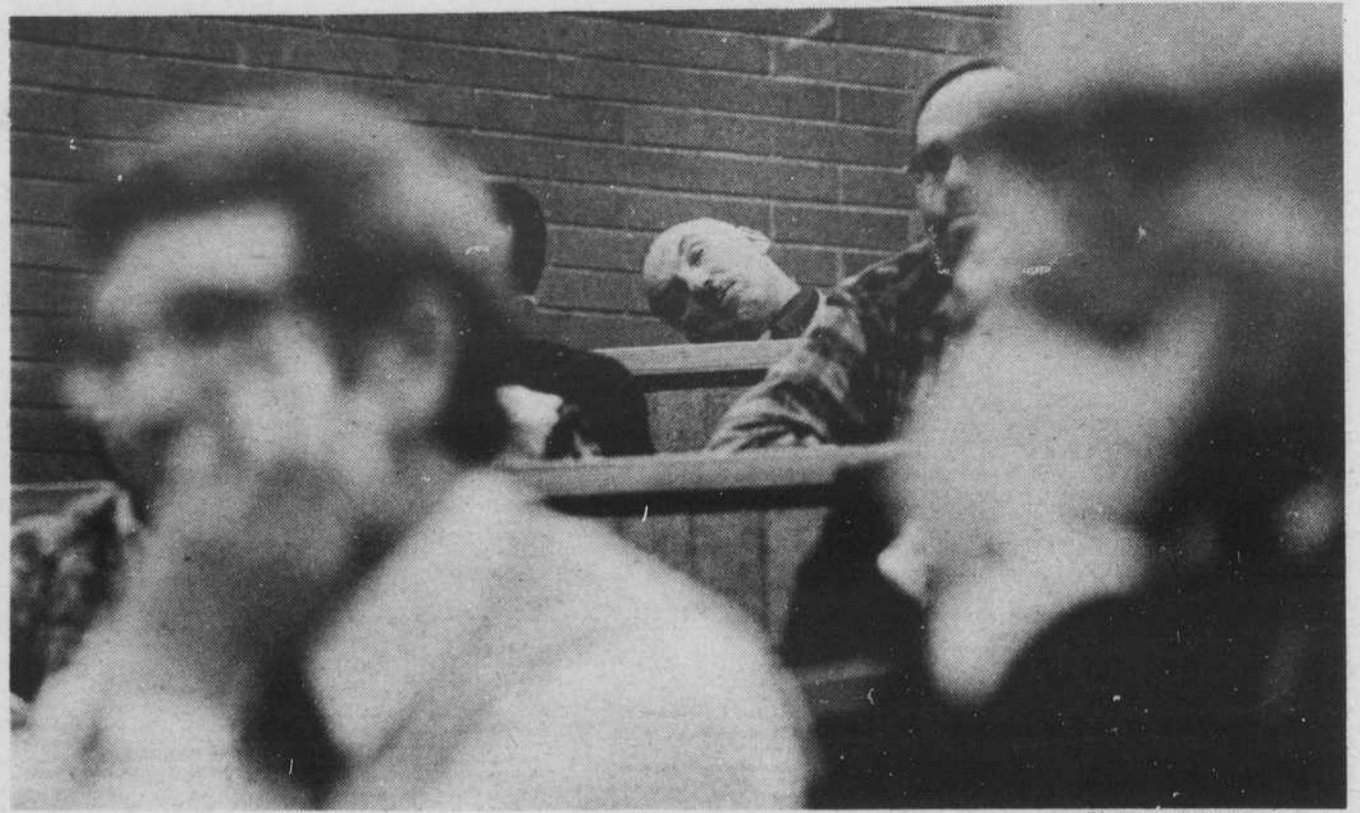


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Back to work

The first day of classes took its toll on students and faculty alike. At least one member of the University Senate grabbed a few winks at the group's Wednesday meeting.

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McConnaughey's other motion recommended that the University Administration lower each person's pay by the same percent before laying off anyone during financial emergencies.

McConnaughey called layoffs of this nature inequitable.

"It's a real wrong for someone who is making a good living to tell someone doing satisfactory work, but not a good living, to give up this living entirely," McConnaughey said. "I feel that anyone who is doing a good job has just as much right to job security as anyone."

"All of us should be willing to make some sort of sacrifice."

McConnaughey added that his motion "would make the University more attractive to newcomers and would increase the morale of those in the lower ranks."

Olum objected to the motion, saying it is "against the law to cut everyone's salary" in the way the motion suggests.

In addition, "It lets the Legislature off the hook," he said. "They'd just love to see us lower everyone's salary by 5 percent. They've always thought we could go on with less."

He added that the University Administration doesn't treat layoffs and financial emergencies lightly.

"We're going to make hard decisions," Olum said. "It's not an arbitrary matter."

Senate members defeated the motion by a vote of 27-1 with 2 abstentions.

In other business, Senate members approved Biology Prof. James Weston's resolution commending Olum on his budget work.

Senate members also approved chemistry department head Robert Mazo's motion supporting the National Academy of Sciences proposal to change federal regulations in the Office of Management and Budget that require faculty members to report "unnecessary" information and information that's "none of their business."

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