

From Associated Press reports

Military recruits outscore civilians

WASHINGTON

Young blacks and women scored slightly less than half as well as whites on mathematical and reading tests given by the armed forces to a national sample of young people, Pentagon sources said Sunday.

But white, black and Hispanic recruits also given the test all scored higher than their civilian counterparts, the sources said.

The tests were given to determine whether the military ser-

vices were filling the all-volunteer forces with below-average or representative people.

It was not a measure of natural intelligence or learning potential, but was designed to assess what a person has learned and to measure his or her capability to be trained as a soldier, said the sources, who asked not to be identified.

In the sample of civilians, young whites scored an average of 56 percent on the math and reading sections, young blacks scored an average of 24 percent and young Hispanics scored an average of 31 percent.

Among recruits, however, whites scored 58 percent, blacks scored 33 percent and Hispanics scored 41 percent.

The Pentagon study, reported in Sunday editions of the Washington Post, was commissioned in 1979.

Alaskan salmon may be infected

SEATTLE

Four laboratory mice injected with liquid from damaged cans of Alaska salmon have been under observation at the regional Food and Drug Administration headquarters, as millions of cans of the fish are being tracked down.

A 27-year-old Belgian man died of botulism on Feb. 6, apparently after eating salmon from a can produced at the New England Fish Co.-Fidalgo cannery in Ketchikan, Alaska.

The mice were injected on Friday with a liquid extracted from tins found in a Seattle warehouse. The cans found in Seattle were marked with the same code and were punctured in the same way as the 7-ounce tin blamed in the death of the Belgian.

Susan Hutchcroft, an FDA spokeswoman, said Sunday the laboratory mice would be monitored for 72 hours.

The tests were ordered in the wake of a huge recall of Alaska canned salmon that was ordered by the FDA.

The key distinguishing feature is a marking "KK13," "HK13," "RK13," "CK13," or "MK13" on the top line of a two-line code stamped on lids of the cans.

Sunday to devalue the Belgian franc by 8.5 percent and the Danish krone by 3 percent, according to the governor of the Dutch Central Bank.

The Belgians had sought a 12 percent devaluation and the Danes a devaluation of 7 percent, but they were considered unreasonably high by all of the other delegations, according to a Common Market source who asked not to be identified.

Both countries had applied for the devaluations to make their export products cheaper abroad and therefore more competitive.

Belgium's unemployment rate of more than 13 percent is the highest in the Common Market, and earlier Sunday the government froze wages and prices until May 31 in a move to revive the flagging economy.

Premier Wilfried Martens said the devaluation of the Belgian franc is part of a move to breathe new life into the Belgian economy, which suffers from record public spending and borrowing.

In Copenhagen, Danish Prime Minister Anker Joergensen said the 3 percent devaluation would bring some improvement in his country's ability to compete abroad, but he admitted he was disappointed the 7 percent devaluation had not been approved.

system companies.

"A structure had to be arranged so that we could talk about it, staffing, pensions, labor relations," said Andrew Smith, PNB president. "All of those things will be impacted by how we arrange the companies."

Although presented in the form of a "planning model," Smith said it was likely the form final divestiture would take.

"It wasn't done lightly," he added.

Smith said the operating companies would retain their own identities and serve the same territories as they do now. PNB serves customers in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

The regional company would take the place of American Telephone & Telegraph, Smith said, although details still have to be worked out on what services the regional company might provide.

Watt proposes new moratorium

WASHINGTON

Interior Secretary James Watt, in what appeared to be a major policy reversal, said Sunday that the Reagan administration wants a moratorium on drilling and mining in wilderness areas until the end of the century.

Catching environmentalists off guard, Watt said the administration would propose legislation this week to amend the 1964 Wilderness Act to protect the 80 million acres of land from developers until the year 2000.

Under the present law, the land would be permanently off limits for exploration and development after Dec. 31, 1983. But Watt said the nation's "vulnerability to a natural resources attack or war" requires a new look in 2000.

Watt, speaking on NBC's "Meet the Press" program, said the legislation will include a provision that would allow a president, with the consent of Congress, to withdraw whatever acreage might be required to meet "a national need" for oil, natural gas, strategic minerals or timber.

Belgians, Danes devalue currency

BRUSSELS, Belgium

European Economic Community finance ministers agreed

PNB may merge after AT&T breakup

SEATTLE

Under a planning model for the breakup of the nationwide Bell system, Pacific Northwest Bell would become part of a regional corporation including two other Bell operating companies.

PNB would be combined with Mountain States Telephone and Northwest Bell Telephone to form one of seven operating companies.

The regional firm would be independent from the other Bell

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Oregon Daily Emerald Production
typesetting layout design
Monday, February 22, 1982