



world beat

Contra-aid bill nears vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — On the eve of a final vote, Republican and Democratic senators held an all-day negotiating session at the White House on Monday but failed to reach any compromise over U.S. aid to contra guerrillas fighting the leftist government in Nicaragua.

"We're still not there. We don't have consensus. We don't have an agreement," Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole of Kansas announced outside the White House at 7 p.m.

Dole said the Republicans and Democrats would study each others' proposals overnight, and resume talks in the morning "to see if we can still work out something."

"It's obvious we are not going to reach full agreement tonight," said Senate Minority Leader Robert Byrd of West Virginia.

He said he and Dole "are going to sit back" and work on a motion to suspend the rules today to permit "even an amendment" on the issue.

Byrd said the Democrats want a cease fire bet-

ween the contras and the Nicaraguan government, and they want it to be monitored. Byrd said they also recommend a resumption of bilateral talks, as well as \$14 million in humanitarian aid — food and clothing.

"There are a number of areas where there isn't any disagreement at all," said Dole. "In fact, the president has recommended a cease-fire. There is no problem about getting back to discussions with the Nicaraguan government."

"We do have a difference of opinion on whether the Nicaraguan government ought to talk to the contras. We believe they should, others think that's not necessary," Dole said.

He said another area of disagreement is on who will deliver the supplies — "whether it should be the CIA or some other agency."

Dole said the Republicans believe that the CIA "is the best delivery system" and that monitoring should be by the National Security Agency.

Explosion hurts eight

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — A Sunday explosion ripped apart a U.S. military helicopter parked at an airport in northern Honduras, injuring eight American crew members, a U.S. Embassy spokesperson said Monday.

One man suffering serious back injuries was flown to a U.S. military hospital in Panama, but the other seven were only slightly injured, said embassy spokesperson Arthur Skop.

The speaker did not give any reason for the explosion, which occurred in a CH-47 helicopter taking part in the joint U.S.-Honduran exercises known as Big Pine III.

Skop also said divers had found the body of one of two U.S. Air Force fliers who disappeared last week after their A0-37 fighter-bomber crashed while on a training mission in northern Honduras. He did not identify the body.

An embassy spokesman had said earlier Monday that four American crew members had been in the helicopter when it exploded in the northern city of San Pedro Sula, and two were being flown by helicopter to Panama for treatment.

But Skop said eight were in the craft when it exploded, and only one was evacuated to Panama. He said the previous erroneous report was due to deficient communications.

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Pat Gillis trial set for May 20

SALEM (AP) — A Marion County Circuit Court judge refused Monday to dismiss a charge against former state Rep. Pat Gillis of Portland for allegedly lying about his educational background.

Judge Val Sloper ruled on a series of pre-trial motions, setting a May 20 trial date and making no immediate decision on a request to change the trial site to a county outside the Willamette Valley.

In asking for a dismissal of the charge against Gillis, Blackman said Gillis had voluntarily testified before the grand jury that subsequently indicted him.

Blackman also argued that the trial should be moved out of the Willamette Valley because heavy publicity about the case would make it difficult to find an impartial jury. Sloper said he would rule on that issue later.

Gillis, 24, was indicted by a grand jury in March for falsely claiming in the Voters' Pamphlet that he has a master's degree from Lewis and Clark College in Portland. A Republican, he was recalled by his district's voters on March 26.

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