National/International

Bomb explodes in London at British Airways office

LONDON (AP) - A pre-dawn bomb blast damaged a British Airways office and other stores on London's busiest shopping street Thursday, spraying glass into the street and igniting a fire. One passer-by was treated for shock.

American Airlines and American Express both have counters in the office, but Scotland Yard spokesman Philip Powell said British Airways appeared to be the target.

"If it had gone off after 9, a.m., for instance, there would have been an awful lot of people about and injuries to people would have been quite horrendous because there were large pieces of glass littering the streets." Powell said.

Deputy Home Secretary Giles Shaw told the House of Commons there was no information linking the blast with Libya, which has vowed revenge against Britain and the United States for the U.S. air raid on Libyan cities April 15. Britain approved the use of U.S. planes based in England for the raid.

Scotland Yard said a number of callers telephoned police and news media to claim responsibility for the bombing, but the Yard refused to give details of the calls.

Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, said it received calls from the Scottish National Liberation Army, which is campaigning for an independent Scotland, and the Angry Brigade, an anarchist group that said it planted the bomb "in retaliation for Britain's involvement in the American bombing of Libya."

Cmdr. George Churchill-Coleman, head of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch. refused to describe the bomb in detail, saying only that it was "fairly big" and caused "fairly considerable" damage. News reports said it was hidden among bags of garbage outside the airline office.

Oxford Street was closed for seven hours while police searched for possible additional bombs. Victoria Station. the busiest in London; also was evacuated briefly Thursday morning because of a bomb scare that turned out to be a hoax, police said.

When police reopened Oxford Street around noon. crowds thronged in, saying they weren't afraid of another bomb.

Habib suggests a potential compromise with Nicaragua

WASHINGTON (AP) - A potential compromise between the Reagan administration and the Sadinista leadership of Nicaragua is emerging which would end U.S. support for the Contra guerrillas in exchange for guarantees of peaceful behavior by the Sandinistas, several congressman said Thursday.

Lawmakers and other officials said they are encouraged that a such a compromise is even being discussed, and they credited presidential envoy Philip Habib as pointing

Habib, they said, spelled out the potential for resolution of the problem in an April 11 letter, which drew little attention at the time.

Such a potential compromise is only in the formative stages, and the attitudes of President Reagan and the Sandinistas are not known. As recently as Wednesday, for instance. Reagan pledged his full support to the Contras, whom he calls "freedom-fighters,"

But in the April 11 letter, Habib said the administration interprets existing peace proposals by the so-called Contadora nations "as requiring a cessation of support to irregular forces and/or insurrectional movements from the date of signature.'

The United States would "support and abide by a comprehensive, verifiable and simultaneous implementation of an agreement fulfilling the objectives of the Contadora. peace effort. Habib's letter said, as long as Nicaragua also supports and abides by such an

Habib sent the letter to Reps. Jim Slattery. D-Kan.; Michael Barnes, D-Md., and Bill Richardson, D-N.M. at their request following a meeting they held with him in early April. This happened after the three congressmen returned from observing a Contadora meeting in Panama City.

The objectives of the Contadora countries - Panama, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia - would require free elections in Nicaragua and what one congressional staff aide called 'some democratization' by the leftist government. The aide, who insisted on anonymity. said the Marxist-Leninists among Nicaragua's leadership won't want to do that, but their choice will be between peace or continued

In turn, the administration would agree to end aid to the Contras simultaneous with Nicaragua's signing of the agreement, which would be arranged by the Contadora group of Latin American countries.

The Contadora process also would establish a verification procedure for deter-mining compliance with the agreement, which could be signed as early as June 6 - if all sides agreed

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said on April 13 the Nicaraguans would sign an agreement on June 6 if the administration agreed to terminate Contra aid.





WEEKEND TREATS

banana · walnut • bacon • pecan • strawberry : in addition to our regular breakfast specialties



open Saturday, from 8:30 a.m. open Sunday Brunch from 10 a.m.

1646 E. 19th • 344-3422

Botha declares 'era of freedom

IOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) -President P.W. Botha said Thursday that lifting pass laws for blacks means "a new era of freedom" for this troubled land, but critics claim a tough new security law undercuts the reform.

On Wednesday the white government suspended enforcement of laws restricting the movements of blacks and introduced legislation to repeal them, but also proposed giving police greater powers in designated unrest areas

Leaders of the United Democratic Front, the coalition against apartheid; said the proposed security law will give the law and order minister "almost dictatorial powers" and urged blacks to form self-defense committées.

Botha said in a full-page advertisement published in several major newspapers that his government had confounded its detractors by delivering on a pledge to abolish the pass laws.

The hated regulations, officially called influx control: have been cornerstones of apartheid. They severely restrict where blacks can travel. live and work

Botha's new policy will allow blacks to live wherever they can find an approved site, but residential areas still will be segregated. Rural blacks still may not be able to move to the cities because little housing is available in urban black

"The pass laws have gone," Botha said. "The prisons are emptied of the victims of this unhappy system. No South African will ever suffer the indignity of arrest for a pass offense again.

Murphy Morobe, spokesman for the United Democratic Front, said those praising the initiative "must remember that these repealed laws have already broken up families, led to the the deaths of thousands of blacks and cost untold misery to millions of disenfranchised Africans.

the WEEKEND WONDER

at THE PIZZA ANSWER!! 1432 Orchard • Eugene



687-8600 • 1432 Orchard, Eugene

Coke, Diet Coke or Sprite

NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)

Afghan rebel commanders said Thursday that Soviet and Afghan warplanes were killing and maiming hundreds of their men in nonstop raids on rebel positions in southeastern Afghanistan.

A senior commander called it the heaviest aerial bombardment in the seven-year Moslem insurgency against the communist Afghan government and said it was the first use of largescale night raids in that area.

Rahim Wardak said about 10,000 troops were advancing behind the air cover, with tank and artillery support, against makeshift rebel positions in Paktia province near the Pakistani border. Insurgent leaders acknowledged Wednesday that Soviet commandos had captured and destroyed the main rebel base at Zhawar.

Afghan rebels being heavily bombarded

"This is the worst fighting we've ever seen. The air attacks are terrible." Wardak, a top commander of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan. told The Associated Press.

Wardak, who returned from Paktia on Thursday, said Soviet

and Afghan Su-22 jet bombers and MiG-21 and MiG-23 fighterbombers were dropping 500-pound bombs on rebels who had no air defenses.

Another guerrilla commander just back from Paktia, who insisted on anonymity, said he had seen attacking squadrons of up to 30 planes.

Fighting was fiercest Thursday around the governmentheld town of Khost. Wardak reported. He said jets were hitting rebel positions in the surrounding hills and his men anticipated new ground attacks.

******************************* Valentine's STUDENT SUMMER FARES

Oslo..... \$799 Bangkok....... \$1013 London......5689 Singapore \$705 Tokyo \$710 Paris \$867 Hong Kong.....\$838 Frankfurt \$769

Details at Valentine's Campus Travel Center EMU or call 687-8456

small prices

Paul's Bicycle Shop 2480 Alder
342-6155