



World beat

International Iraq suffers losses

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran said Tuesday its invasion force killed or wounded 1,500 Iraqi soldiers in fighting near Basra, provincial capital of southern Iraq. An Iranian missile exploded

in Baghdad, and the Iraqis said it killed civilians.

Iraq's communique claimed its troops repulsed an Iranian ground assault Thursday night outside Basra and left corpses of Iranian attackers "littering the battlefield."

The Baghdad government's official Iraqi News Agency

quoted a military source it did not name as saying Iranian claims of an advance toward Basra were "cheap lies."

Waite stays in Beirut

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite canceled his flight home to England on Tuesday to stay in Beirut for face-to-face negotiations with kidnappers of American hostages.

He scrubbed his midmorning departure plans after returning to his hotel from a late-night meeting with Islamic Jihad, sources close to him said.

"It looked like he has had a breakthrough," said one source, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "He will have further meetings with the captors."

National CIA incriminated

MIAMI (AP) — Two federal inmates say they flew arms to the Nicaraguan Contra rebels



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and drugs back to the United States with the knowledge of the CIA and the Drug Enforcement Administration. "It was guns down, cocaine back," one inmate said.

A spokeswoman for the CIA denied the charge Tuesday, as have a DEA spokesman and two top leaders of the Contras fighting Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government.

Jorge "George" Morales Garcia is scheduled for trial Monday on charges of smuggling 461 kilograms or 1,014 pounds of cocaine from Costa Rica to the Bahamas. Morales said he received some of his instructions on the guns-for-drugs trade from a CIA contact in Costa Rica.

Reagan adds input

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan was described Tuesday as helping to stitch together places and dates spelling out the Iran-Contra connection as his point-man on the furor declared "there is absolutely no stonewalling."

White House deputy press secretary Albert Brashear said Reagan has met twice with Chief of Staff Donald Regan for lengthy discussions touching on the president's recollection of events chronicling the clandestine sales of U.S. arms to Iran.

Alien rules proposed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Reagan administration on Tuesday proposed strict continuous-residency requirements for illegal aliens applying for amnesty, including one that would limit absences from this country in recent years to 30 days at a time.

The tentative residency rules are among a series of proposals being circulated for informal comment by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

New chief named

WASHINGTON (AP) — Smokey Bear is getting a new

boss.

R. Max Peterson, who has been chief of the Forest Service for more than seven years, will retire Feb. 2 and will be replaced by F. Dale Robertson, the associate chief since 1982. Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng announced Tuesday.

Robertson, 46, will be the agency's 12th chief since the Forest Service was established in 1905.

Regional

Governor criticized

PORTLAND (AP) — Portland black leader Ronnie Herndon intensified his criticism of Gov. Neil Goldschmidt on Tuesday by questioning his ability to lead the state.

Herndon repeated his accusation that Goldschmidt failed to live up to a campaign statement that he would confer with black leaders about policies and appointments.

"If he has forgotten his statement, it raises serious questions about his mental capacity to govern this state," Herndon said at a news conference.

'Net' plan reviewed

SALEM (AP) — The chairman of the Senate Revenue Committee on Tuesday said he thinks a plan to eliminate automatic tax levy growth would "take the gun away from the heads of the voters" and help avert school closings.

Sen. Rod Monroe, D-Portland, said such a proposal would combine elements of three separate plans being considered by the panel, including one backed by the state's largest business lobby.

He made the comments at a hearing on various "safety net" measures that would prevent schools from closing when they run short of money.

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