



World beat

International Dissidents freed

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet government has freed about 140 imprisoned dissidents and is considering pardoning about 140 more, a Soviet spokesman said Tuesday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said the government would like to see "fewer people behind bars and behind barbed wire."

The government plans to review the criminal code with the intention of softening some of the provision, although Gerasimov made no mention of an amnesty for those sentenced under laws prohibiting "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda."

War called crusade

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini declared Tuesday that Iran's long conflict with Iraq is a holy crusade and his fundamentalist regime will make "war until victory."

Khomeini said Iran was battling for a "divine cause" in the war, which began in September 1980 with an invasion by Iraq.

Iraq and Iran have intensified attacks on each other's cities with air raids, artillery and missiles recently. Thousands of civilians have been reported killed or wounded.

Tuesday's speech was the first public address by Khomeini since Nov. 20, when he condemned Iranian officials who wanted contact with the United States, a reference to the Iran-Contra arms deal.

National

Nicaragua blasted

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan denounced Nicaragua's government as a "communist totalitarian state" Tuesday and pledged to oppose efforts in Congress to cut off U.S. assistance to rebel forces in the Central American country.

Resignation Continued from Page 1

motion to fund was made and failed 4-2.

In response to allegations made by Randall that the IFC gives more money to progressive groups favored by the SPA, Mooney said USSA, a group she would consider

rilla forces when military aid to them was prohibited by law.

In a speech to an annual conference of American Legion leaders in Washington, Reagan said, "It is both in our national interest and consistent with our traditions as a free people to assist those brave souls who are struggling for freedom and national independence."

Reagan's Contra-aid policy has faced increasing resistance in Congress since disclosure that money from secret Iranian arms sales was diverted to guer-

Suicide attempted

WASHINGTON (AP) — Police authorities said there was no evidence of foul play in the Valium overdose of former National Security Adviser Robert C. McFarlane.

But an anonymous source close to the investigation said the police had determined McFarlane's ingestion of 25 to 30 tablets of Valium was an attempt to take his own life. The source also said police have learned of a letter McFarlane gave to his wife but do not know the contents.

The 49-year-old McFarlane, was rushed to the Bethesda Naval Hospital Monday morning, shortly before he was to testify before the presidential commission set up to investigate the National Security Council's role in the Iran arms-sale crisis.

He was listed in good condition Tuesday.

SDI talks increased

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan met Tuesday with his senior arms control advisers and decided to step up consultation with Congress and U.S. allies in the developing Strategic Defense Initiative program, administration sources said.

The White House session was held under strict secrecy. Participants were cautioned against divulging what went on.

"progressive," was given no funds by the IFC, while Tuesday the Masters in Business Administration Association, a more conservative group, was given funds, she said.

In addition, Mooney said Randall never talked to her

But the sources, demanding anonymity, said Reagan and his advisers had concluded the "Star Wars" program had reached the point where stepped-up consultations with members of Congress and the NATO allies should begin.

Regional Appointees OK'd

SALEM (AP) — The Oregon Senate unanimously confirmed two of Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's appointees.

Eugene lawyer Stan Long won Senate approval to head the Department of Commerce, replacing Fred Heard, whose resignation was sought by Goldschmidt. Long is a former deputy state attorney general.

The Senate also approved Goldschmidt's appointment of Portland lawyer Mark Dodson to the state Board of Higher Education.

Dodson headed Goldschmidt's transition team. He replaces Mildred Schwab on the Board of Higher Education, which oversees the state's system of public colleges and universities.

Schwab is now a Goldschmidt appointee to the Port of Portland Commission.

Equal hiring stressed

SALEM (AP) — Gov. Neil Goldschmidt warned state agency chiefs that their jobs will be at risk unless they are aggressive about hiring women and minorities.

"Bring me an all-white, all-male organization that is making decisions, and I will kick your fanny," Goldschmidt said during a brown-bag lunch with about 120 top department managers.

The governor said while he's uncertain about the number of women and minorities in state government, his impression is that the state could be doing a better job of meeting affirmative action goals.

about any of his concerns about the IFC.

Last spring when his term as IFC chairman was complete, another spot opened up on the committee, and he applied for appointment.

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