



World beat

International

Stark probe hits snags

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The chief of the American team probing Iraq's missile raid on the USS Stark said Wednesday the confidential joint investigation had hit a snag.

Rear Adm. David Rogers would not elaborate, but diplomatic sources said the hitch arose from Iraq's refusal to specify what weapons they have adapted their French-built Mirage jet fighters to carry.

Iraq says a single Mirage F-1 was involved in the May 17 attack on the Stark in the Persian Gulf that killed 37 sailors and wounded 21. U.S. Navy officials question how two missiles, one a surface-skimming Exocet, could hit the Stark if only one plane was involved.

National

Iran won't start war

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amid warnings from Congress of rising danger in the Persian Gulf, President Reagan said Wednesday he doubts Iran wants to trig-

ger a war with the United States because of the "inevitable consequence" it would suffer.

Reagan, in an interview, refused to say how far the United States would go to punish Iran if it attacked U.S. warships being assigned to protect Kuwaiti oil tankers in the gulf.

"I don't think that's a question that I should even attempt to answer," Reagan said. "We will defend ourselves."

He acknowledged that shore-based missiles in Iran could strike targets at sea, and said they present a separate problem from attacks by aircraft or ships.

Bakker refuted

FORT MILL, S.C. (AP) — The Rev. Jerry Falwell on Wednesday denied he hoodwinked fallen evangelist Jim Bakker into giving up the PTL ministry and in a biting attack said Bakker either has a terrible memory or is dishonest or emotionally ill.

"When you consider the condition this ministry is in, to say that Jerry Falwell and this board stole PTL on March 17 is like accusing someone of stealing the Titanic just after it hit the iceberg," the new PTL chairman said.

Falwell criticized the

severance demands of Bakker and his wife, Tammy Faye, for lifetime salaries of \$300,000 and \$100,000 respectively, saying, "I don't see any repentance there. I see greed, the self-centeredness, the avarice that brought them down."

"I did not choose Jerry Falwell to take over my ministry," Bakker told the ABC program "Nightline."

Archbishop restored

SEATTLE (AP) — The Vatican has agreed to restore full powers over the Seattle Archdiocese to liberal Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen, but a panel of U.S. prelates said Wednesday that doctrinal and liturgical "aberrations" must still be resolved.

Authority that the Vatican took from Hunthausen and gave to Bishop Donald Wuerl eight months ago will be ended and Wuerl will be transferred, said Russell Searce, Seattle Archdiocese spokesman, said Wednesday.

Hunthausen had been criticized by conservatives in the Roman Catholic church for his anti-nuclear stands. But the Vatican's action in curbing Hunthausen's authority had also caused controversy and criticism.

Regional

Research funded

DAVIS, Calif. (AP) — A fund to find alternatives to the use of animals in research has been established in the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California, the school announced Wednesday.

The school has been the target of demonstrations by animal rights activists. A building under construction was set on fire recently and authorities have blamed animal rights activists, but no arrests have been made.

The new fund will be used to generate research techniques and testing protocols that do not require use of animals, he said. Emphasis also will be placed upon developing substitutes for animals in instructional laboratories.

OSU Suspect cleared

CORVALLIS, Ore. (AP) — William A. Myers is no longer a suspect in the planting of a bomb at Oregon State University's computer center, Benton County District Attorney Pete Sandrock said Wednesday.

The 43-year-old Albany man

was accused of first-degree attempted arson after police disarmed a pipe bomb in a briefcase that was found Feb. 6 in the Milne Computer Center, where he was employed.

No charges ever were filed against Myers, however, and Sandrock said the Oregon State University police investigation had cleared him of any wrongdoing.

Film industry promoted

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — Hoping to lure more moviemakers to the state, the Oregon Senate approved a bill Wednesday to exempt from personal income taxes the wages earned by out-of-state film crews.

The Senate also passed bills to change the state motto and to create an income tax checkoff to provide money for programs to curb violence. All of the bills now go to the House.

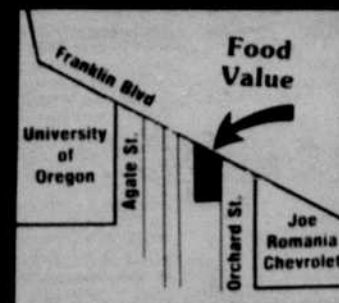
Backers of the bill dealing with taxes on wages earned by movie crews said the state needs to do everything possible to encourage film producers to shoot their movies in Oregon.

That's because movie making is an environmentally clean industry that can generate hundreds of thousands of dollars for the local economy, supporters said.

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