



World Beat

International

Monkey orbits globe

MOSCOW (AP) — Monkey business aboard an orbiting menagerie is forcing Soviet scientists to consider curtailing a mission to study the effects of weightlessness, Soviet news reports said Wednesday.

A report by the Soviet news agency Tass said Yerosha, one of two monkeys aboard the space capsule, had freed a paw and apparently taken a nametag off the hat that is fixed to his head.

Flight controllers were working with Yerosha's backup in simulators to see what kind of trouble the lively monkey could get into during the rest of the 12-day mission, which blasted off Sept. 29.

Soviet researchers say the mission is eighth in a series to study the effects of weightlessness on animals. Little is known about its causes or cures, Yevgeny Ilyin, project director, said before the mission began.

Reports prior to blastoff said that also on board would be 10 white rats, insects, and organisms as small as paramecia. The second monkey, much larger and less active than Yerosha, is named Drema.

Ortega rebuts Reagan

NEW YORK (AP) — President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, countering President Reagan, said Wednesday his leftist government is committed to an "authentic democratic process" and will never pose a threat to U.S. security.

Ortega, here for an address Thursday to the United Nations General Assembly, also said his government is introducing legislation to improve the climate for foreign private investment in Nicaragua.

In a speech prepared for delivery Wednesday to a local business group and in remarks Tuesday night to American reporters, Ortega sought to rebut Reagan administration claims that the Sandinista government is dedicated to spreading Marxism throughout Central America.

Ortega told the Young Presidents Club, an organization of business executives, that

the "foundations for an authentic democratic process are being laid in Nicaragua."

Beyond that, he said, Nicaragua "never has and never will pose a threat to the security of the United States," and he accused the Reagan administration of imperiling Nicaragua's security through its backing of the Contra rebels.

National

Contra aid sought

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan, warning he won't be fooled by Sandinista "facades of freedom," asked Congress on Wednesday to approve \$270 million in Contra aid as an insurance policy for peace in Nicaragua.

Reagan, in a toughly worded address to the Organization of American States, lauded recent steps taken toward peace under a regional accord.

But he also said the pact is "only a beginning" and described a series of steps the leftist Sandinista government in Managua must take in order to assure that U.S. military aid to the Contra rebels ends.

"Full, free and fair elections and the open society that alone can make them possible, including full human rights and expulsion of all Soviet and Cuban forces — these must be the bedrock of conditions upon which any further agreement with the Sandinistas is built," Reagan said.

Although House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas, has said Reagan has little chance of obtaining renewed military aid, the president lectured Congress against abandoning the Contras after supporting them in the past.

Baptist director dies

ATLANTA (AP) — A director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board collapsed and

died of a heart attack Wednesday after asking the board to withdraw a statement saying Baptists opposed women ministers.

Beth McGhee, 61, of Tucson, Ariz., urged the board to withdraw what she called "a very divisive statement," which said most Southern Baptist churches oppose women as ministers.

When she finished, another director began to reply. Mrs. McGhee sat down and then went into convulsions. She was taken by ambulance to Crawford Long Hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

Friends said Mrs. McGhee came from her Arizona home specifically to try to influence the board's statement on women pastors.

"She had very strong convictions about things, and she felt with those convictions, she had to state them," said Lula Walker, a director from Beaverton, Ore. "She was a person who believed that the Lord died for women, too."

Panel accuses judge

WASHINGTON (AP) — A special panel of U.S. District Judge Alcee L. Hastings' fellow judges charged in a report released Wednesday that Hastings "attempted to corruptly use his office for personal gain" and recommended that the House consider impeaching him.

The 381-page report of an investigation by a five-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals concluded there was "clear and convincing evidence" that the Miami jurist conspired to solicit a \$150,000 bribe from two convicted racketeers in exchange for a promise of lenient sentences.

The panel also charged that in an effort to conceal the conspiracy, Hastings gave false testimony and fabricated

evidence at his highly publicized trial in Miami in 1983, which resulted in his acquittal.

William A. Borders Jr., a prominent Washington lawyer and close Hastings friend, was convicted at a separate trial in 1982 of conspiring to arrange the alleged bribe from convicted racketeers Frank and Tom

Romano.

Hastings, who was nominated by President Carter in 1979 to be Florida's first black federal judge, flew here from Miami on Wednesday to pick up his own copy of the report. He insisted again that he had done nothing wrong.

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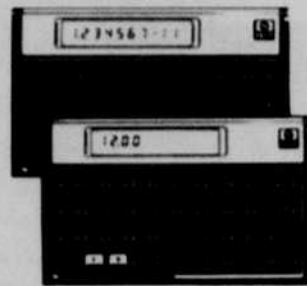
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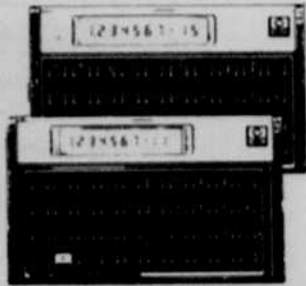
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