

Imelda hoping to return home with Marcos' body

HONOLULU (AP) — Imelda Marcos said Saturday she plans to return to Manila this week with the body of former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos.

Marcos, speaking at a news conference on the second anniversary of her husband's death in exile, seemed confident she would be able to take his body home to the Philippines on Friday. She briefly prayed at Marcos' crypt as supporters, tourists and the news media looked on.

But Franklin Drilon, spokesman for President Corazon Aquino, said the government will suspend landing rights of any airliner carrying Marcos' body to the Philippines without permission.

Sources in Manila said Friday that the U.S. government did not plan to renew a prohibition on airliners leaving Hawaii with Marcos' body, but there has been no official announcement on whether the ban will be extended.

Marcos' lawyer, James Linn, has said he doesn't want the former Philippine first lady to return until December, after Philippine parties choose their candidates for the May presidential election.

"I don't think she can get a fair trial in the Philippines," Linn said at the news conference on Saturday. "She would be better advised to return after Aquino is out of office."

Marcos said she requested an extension of an entry permit from Aquino's government, but has received no answer. The permit expires Saturday.

"If they do not extend the permit, other plans must be made," Linn said.

In July, the Philippine government lifted its five-year ban on members of the Marcos family, who left the country during the 1986 "people power revolution" that toppled the former strongman and propelled Aquino into office.



Pumping blood

Registered nurse Joan Schrouder takes blood from University senior Katrin Stavig Friday afternoon at the Phi Gamma Delta House as part of the Lane Memorial Blood Mobile Drive.

Photo by Jane Ballin

Whales beach themselves at Cape Cod

TRURO, Mass. (AP) — Rescuers pushed and pulled 18 stranded pilot whales off a Cape Cod beach Sunday, returning the animals to sea at high tide. All the whales apparently survived.

The whales apparently were from a different pod than a group that went ashore nearby earlier this month, an expert said.

Coordinators said Sunday's rescue effort at Fisher Beach in Truro went smoothly and the whales were offshore by mid-afternoon.

"It was pretty miraculous, getting them off the beach today," said David DeKing, director of the Center for Coastal Studies in Provincetown, which coordinated the rescue.

"By the time they were driven out to deep water they looked pretty good," DeKing said Sunday night. "They were swimming and diving and doing all the things they're supposed to do."

Rescuers said they were able to mobilize even before the whales beached themselves because residents reported seeing the animals moving unusually close to land Sunday morning.

Also, the whales ran aground in shallow water rather than coming completely ashore, making it easier for rescuers to move them as the tide rose. The whales "never had a chance to get high and dry and cooked," said Charles Mayo, a whale specialist at the coastal center.

Pilot whales measure up to 20 feet long and weigh between 2,000 and 4,000 pounds. Once beached, their bulk can crush their internal organs. Whale blubber, which insulates the animals from cold in the sea, causes them to overheat on land.

Kathy Shorr, also of the Center for Coastal Studies, said the whales were from a different pod than a group that became stranded on Sept. 11 in Wellfleet, about five miles away. Volunteers returned 25 of those whales to the sea, but four other whales died.

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