

No promises from allies on action against Iran

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Carter administration, still waiting for action to go with words of support for its new sanctions against Iran, says it will be the end of the week before it knows how many U.S. allies will join the boycott. So far, none have.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance met with ambassadors from two dozen countries Wednesday, and State Department spokesman David Passage said, "We have been talking with friendly countries and have been consulting with others. We would like to say that all of the replies have been supportive."

But four days after President Carter announced his new sanctions program, the administration has had no more success in eliciting specific promises of allied cooperation than it has had in freeing the 50 American hostages at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

Passage said it is too early to expect allied action and predicted responses by the end of the week. But there were indications any decisions in Europe might be weeks away.

The administration is hoping a broad program to punish Iran economically will make tougher action, possibly including a naval blockade or mining of Iran's oil ports, unnecessary.

Moslem militants at the embassy have threatened to kill their captives and burn the compound at the first sign of any U.S. military move against Iran. Passage said the administration still holds the Iranian government responsible for the hostages' safety, but Iranian Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh said it was doubtful the government could stop the militants from killing the Americans.

The administration is asking its allies to take "parallel steps" to match Carter's fourpoint program that included cutting diplomatic relations with Iran and an embargo on all trade except food and medicine.

"The suggestion was made that we should try to be as supportive as possible, but no specific proposals were made," said Canadian Ambassador Peter Towse, who was among the group of allied diplomats who met with Vance

for 45 minutes. "All of us will be reporting to our governments."

Towse noted that Canada closed its embassy in Tehran after engineering the escape of six Americans in February. "We're no longer importing Iranian oil and our trade is insignificant," he said, adding there was little more the Canadians could do to help.

Britain, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Denmark said they will delay any action until the nine-nation European Common Market reaches a unified position, and Italian Foreign Ministry sources said that might not come before late April.

In Japan, which imports about 10 percent of its oil from Iran, chief cabinet secretary Masayoshi Ito said the U.S. requests are "quite serious and grave."

Passage did not list the countries the U.S. is pressing for support, but in addition to the Common Market members and Japan, the administration is known to have asked Austria, Norway, Sweden, Australia and New Zealand to impose economic sanctions.

'Spies' say 'shocking things' in film made by Iran

(The Associated Press)

The Iranian government has allowed the United States another peek at a few of the 50 Americans held hostage at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, making a government-produced film available to U.S. media.

The film, which was broadcast late Wednesday in Iran, showed several hostages, whose identities could not be immediately determined, talking about their lives in captivity — now 159 days — their wishes for their families and friends and an insight into one hostage's thoughts about his religion.

Also today, The Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post published stories saying the film's narrator called two of the hostages "spies" and said "they are going to reveal some shocking things."

The newspapers said one of the hostages said the National Security Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency had used a supposedly secret warehouse to monitor communications in Iran and a photographic reconnaissance airplane before the embassy takeover on Nov. 4.

The newspapers also said that the two hostages referred to as spies, whose identities could not be determined, told of people being tortured by SAVAK, Iran's secret police during the rule of Shah Reza Mohammad Palavi, and of

being shown photos allegedly depicting U.S. congressmen "in the nude with the shah's sister and in shameful activities."

The newspapers reported that during the film, one of the hostages — described as in his early 20s, with short brown hair and wearing round, wire-frame glasses — said he was inside a secret warehouse in the embassy. He pulled

up a portion of the floor, the newspapers said, revealing six bundles of wire.

"This is a computer carpet," the hostage said, according to the newspapers. The computer, the newspapers quoted the hostage as saying, "used to work during the time of the shah."

Iranian ships sail into Gulf

(The Associated Press)

Iranian naval vessels left port and steamed out into the Persian Gulf today to "counter any aggression" from neighboring Iraq, Tehran Radio reported, as the two nations remained locked in a tense border showdown.

Some 25,000 Iranians expelled from Iraq have poured across the border into western Iranian provinces, Iranian officials reported.

Iran's army chief of staff, Gen. Mohammad Hadi Shadmehr, said the border region had been quiet since Wednesday evening, Tehran Radio reported.

He was quoted as saying there was fighting Wednesday in the Qasr-e-Shirin area in Kermanshah province, but only light arms were used.

The general denied a report late

Wednesday by the official Iranian news agency Pars that an Iranian jet fighters and helicopters had fought an air battle with Iraqi helicopters Wednesday. The report, broadcast by Iranian television, said no aircraft were shot down in the dogfight, which it said took place over the Iranian border town of Baveissi.

Independent verification of the report of the air clash or Shadmehr's denial could not be made. There were no battle reports from the Iraqi side.

Iraq's news agency reported that Iraqi security forces uncovered an Iranian-inspired plan for subversion. The report said members of an Iraqi extremist party confessed they met with Khomeini at the Iranian revolutionary leader's headquarters in Qom and agreed to a plan of "cooperation to carry out broad subversive acts in Iraq."

Reagan's speech in error on Viet veteran benefits

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP) — Ronald Reagan, in an apparent misstatement, says Vietnam veterans have not been eligible for GI Bill education benefits because there never was a formal declaration of war by the United States.

Campaigning across Texas and Nebraska on Wednesday, Reagan also was unable to offer cost estimates of some of his campaign proposals, such as proposed pay increases for members of the armed services.

At two campaign appearances, the former California governor told audiences the United States has failed to properly recognize Vietnam veterans. He said it was "disgraceful the manner in which we received back those who fought in Vietnam."

"Because it was not a declared war,

they're not even eligible for the GI Bill of Rights with regard to education or anything," Reagan said.

But in Washington, Veterans Administration spokesman Frank Hood noted that thousands of Vietnam veterans already have attended college on the GI Bill and said those who haven't remain fully eligible for educational benefits for 10 years after their separation from military service.

He acknowledged that a change in the law requires Vietnam veterans and thousands who served in the military subsequent to that war to claim whatever education benefits are due them by Dec. 31, 1989.

As for GI home loans, the other benefit most often used by veterans, Hood said Vietnam veterans "are eligible, and will be eligible, for the rest of



Ronald Reagan
... off the mark

their life."
"I don't know what he's talking about," Hood said of Reagan's remarks.



Tall job

The new 300-foot antenna tower for Dundee radio station WFLR and WFLR-FM rose higher and higher yesterday.

Kimberly Mersinger of Don Prescott Tower, Inc. of Vermont was high above the ground bolting sections together. The station had to stop operating yesterday because the current arced between the old tower and the new one — threatening to burn Mersinger's hands.

The old tower is about 165 feet. The new tower is expected to provide wider coverage and better reception.

WFLR hopes work will be completed on the tower Saturday so they can begin using it Saturday or Sunday. (Times photos by Maurice Dumas)

Olympic panel blamed for traffic snarl

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A Senate committee charged today that transportation problems at the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid were the result of "mismanagement and a greater interest in reducing costs than in having an effective system."

And the committee, which held hearings last month to investigate Olympic operations, put most of the blame squarely on the Lake Placid Olympic Organizing Committee rather than on the state government.

"State officials were repeatedly misled about the state of readiness of the transportation system for Olympic spectators," the committee's report said.

Thousands of spectators were left stranded for hours in freezing temperatures when the bus system that was supposed to transport them among the Olympic sites broke down in the first days of the Games.

Organizers blamed labor troubles, bus contractors and alleged inadequate help from the state Transportation Department for the problems. Most of the quirk were worked out by the end of the first week of the competition.

But the panel, the Senate Committee on Investigations, Taxation and Government Operations, said the Olympics "in the final analysis, was an event run for and by a private organization," the LPOOC.

It called for legislation to ensure that in the future, there will be tighter state

control of such mass events.

For example, it said, the law should give the state Transportation Department power to require that organizers of such events "develop adequate plans for safely transporting attendees, and have adequate managerial and financial resources to carry out such plans."

That implicitly accepted the argument of Transportation Commissioner William Hennessy, who said his department did not have enough legal power to take over the transportation plan from the LPOOC before the Games began.

The committee noted testimony from "several reliable witnesses" that Petr Spurney, the general manager of LPOOC, "showed a greater interest in reducing costs than in having an effective, operating system."

Spurney hired Rive Sud, a Canadian bus firm, to handle the transportation system. Some witnesses had suggested that even after the LPOOC began to

suspect that the firm would not do an adequate job, Spurney was reluctant to fire the company and hire another because the financially strapped organizers had already paid the firm \$400,000.

Sen. Roy Goodman, chairman of the committee, said that despite the failings the Olympics were a "remarkable achievement by the inhabitants of Lake Placid."

Goodman said when he began the investigation that his daughters had attended the Games and been stranded by the bus system.

Know some news?

Don't forget to call the Times. Be a news tipster and have a chance to win money for your tip. Call 789-3333 day or night or drop your tip off.

Weather Outlook

Chance of rain tonight, Friday morning

Chance of rain or drizzle tonight and Friday morning. Rain may be mixed with snow at times. Lows 35 to 40. Partial clearing Friday afternoon. Highs 50 to 55. (Complete details on Page 8)

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Still fighting, 35 years after V-J day

(Agence France-Presse)

MANILA, Philippines — Japanese searchers have found positive traces of a Japanese army sergeant believed to still be hiding out in Philippine forests 35 years after the Japanese surrender in World War II, reports said Friday.

The search team, headed by retired Capt. Isao Mayazawa, said they believed they had found the mountain hut where the straggler, believed to be Sgt. Fumio Nakahara of the intelligence unit of the defunct Japanese Imperial Army, lives.

The team, assisted by Philippine army detachments in the central Philippine island of Mindoro, said they left handwritten notes in Japanese in a small hut in a high mountain peak, asking the sergeant to surrender and return to his family.

The hut is on a rugged peak of Mount Halcon in

Oriental Mindoro, 100 miles south of Manila, near a cultural minority tribe village.

Mayazawa trekked seven days through thick forests and across rivers and deep ravines to find and bring back the straggler who he believes is his former classmate and comrade-in-arms during the last days of the Japanese occupation of the Philippines.

The search team said they had earlier confirmed the straggler's presence in Mindoro forests from members of the Mangyan tribe.

The team was said to have waited for him to return to his hut, but after a few days decided to retire temporarily, leaving the notes urging him to "give up and return home to Japan where his close relatives await him."

Mangyan tribesmen had told the team the man residing in the isolated hut near their village was

known to them as "Mondoka," whom they described as "chinky eyed, white skinned and well disciplined."

The hut was said to be quite different from an ordinary Filipino mountain hut in that it had two doors and was located at a vantage point to obtain a panoramic view of the surrounding terrain.

Searchers said the straggler appeared to have very good relations with most of the Mangyan tribesmen, who were generally tight-lipped about "Mondoka."

Some years ago, Hiroo Onoda, a lieutenant from the Japanese Imperial Army, came out of the Philippine forests after 30 years in hiding following the formal end of the war.

Onoda was located in Lubang town, another part of Mindoro province, also by a Japanese search team.

