

LOOKING SHARP — This alligator, a guest at the Lutz Children's Museum, was found walking along a road in South Windsor Thursday. Pat Feltham, the museum's animal curator, said the gator is about 1 1/2 feet long but could grow to 6 feet.

Patrick Flynn/Manchester Herald

Tiny gator snaps up love at Lutz Children's Museum

By Nancy Concelman
Manchester Herald

Pat Feltham, animal curator at the Lutz Children's Museum, found herself wrestling an alligator Thursday.

At only 1 1/2 feet long, the reptile wasn't too difficult to control, but in a few years he could grow to 6 feet, Feltham said.

The gator was spotted walking near the intersection of Foster and Strong roads in South Wind-

sor by a resident who called police, said Glenda Buananducci, a dispatcher for the South Windsor Police Department.

Robert Foss, animal control officer for the South Windsor Police Department, caught the reptile in a device used to trap skunks and called to see if the museum could take him. Buananducci said.

"We've had deer and the usual

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Manchester Herald

Friday, May 5, 1989

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North blasts prosecutors

Ex-aidé vows to 'fight hard'

By Pete Yost
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Blasting prosecutors and vowing to "fight hard, for as long as it takes," Oliver North says his conviction on three felonies in the Iran-Contra affair will eventually be overturned.

The first person to go on trial in the scandal that rocked the last two years of the Reagan administration, North lost his \$23,000-a-year Marine pension as soon as the jury delivered its verdict Thursday.

Ex-President Reagan, who successfully resisted a defense subpoena to testify at the trial, declined to comment after the man he once called a national hero was found guilty.

North was acquitted of nine of the 12 criminal charges against him and prosecutor John Keiser appeared less than satisfied with the decision.

Still, Keiser said, "Colonel North has been convicted of three very serious charges. The jury has spoken." North called it "a partial vindication."

North, to be sentenced June 23 by U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell, faces a maximum of 10 years in prison and \$750,000 in fines. As a first-time offender with an exemplary 20-year military career, North almost certainly will get penalties far less severe than that. Court appeals could take years.

The National Security Council's former "action officers" on Central America counterattacked less than two hours after walking out of the federal courthouse. He defiantly criticized the cost of pursuing him through the legal system and suggested the prosecution had overstepped the bounds of fairness.

"After more than two and a half years and over \$40 million of our taxpayers' money spent on investigations, congressional inquiries and now a special prosecutor who has likened me to Adolf Hitler, we now face many months and perhaps years of fighting the remaining charges," North said, reading from a statement.

"As a Marine, I was taught to fight and fight hard, for as long as it takes to prevail," he added. "We will continue this battle and with the support and prayers of the American people, we will be fully vindicated."

In closing arguments last month, Keiser said North and his former boss, national security adviser Robert McFarlane, "are following Adolf Hitler's old strategy. The victor will never be asked if he told the truth."

He did say 2,500 to 3,000 bowlers may have participated by the time the tournament ends June 4.

It's the first time Holiday Lanes, where several world records have been set since its opening in 1980, has served as host to the national event. The last time the national event was held in Connecticut was in 1985. It was held then at T-Bowl Lanes in Newington.

Despite the influx of bowlers, Urbanetti says she doesn't anticipate any parking problems.

"We've had pro and state tournaments in the past and never had a problem. We have a large area in back of the building for parking," she said.

Bowlers are expected from Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maryland and Washington, D.C. where most duckpin bowling centers are located. Whitman and Urbanetti said.

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Reginald Pinto/Manchester Herald

STILL ROLLING — Veteran Rocco Lupacchino of Manchester will be in the field when the 59th annual National Duckpin Bowling Congress Tournament opens play Saturday at Holiday Lanes.

Bowlers converge on town Saturday

By Len Auster
Manchester Herald

The 59th annual National Duckpin Bowling Congress annual tournament opens Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at Holiday Lanes on Spencer Street and continues for five consecutive weekends.

While opening day ceremonies are Saturday, Wilda Gorette and Clarence "Swede" Lavers, both of Stratford,

Evelyn Larochelle, former owner of Glastonbury Bowl, now retired and living in Florida, and Pat Rinaldi of Washington, D.C., are scheduled to be inducted into the NDBC's hall of fame tonight at the Hall of Fame banquet at the Ramada Inn in Wethersfield. The quartet will roll out the first balls on Saturday.

The schedule calls for bowling on Fridays from 6 p.m. to midnight, on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to midnight, and on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Scores are not accumulated.

Bowling is played in strings of three games each. The winning three-game total can be rolled the first weekend, or the last, or somewhere in between.

The bowling is on a handicap basis, which means that allowances are made to even out the competition.

"All the top bowlers will be here, but because of the handicap basis you don't have to have the best average to win," said John Urbanetti, Lane spokesperson.

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Louis Apter Carolyn Quinn Doti Dienst Betty Blake

Jury too tough on Ollie North, residents think

By Maureen Leavitt
Manchester Herald

Oliver North is innocent. That was the reaction from 10 out of 12 people polled on Main Street Thursday, who said that a federal jury erred when it found the lieutenant colonel guilty of three charges related to the Iran-Contra scandal.

Two others said the jury's three guilty verdicts on 12 charges against North were justified. One of those two thought the verdict was too lenient.

"Ollie North is innocent. He didn't do anything wrong. The guilty parties are Ronald Reagan, (John) Poindexter, William Casey, who might not even be dead, and (Robert) McFarlane," said London Jones, 20, of 87 Foster St.

Jones said he had written a paper on the North issue for school. He admitted he has strong convictions.

"All in all, he's innocent, without a doubt. He followed orders. He did what any soldier would have done," Jones said.

One woman said the charges against North should be dropped.

"I think he's been had," Betty Blake, of Avondale Road, said of the verdict's decision. "They used him."

A local businessman said North wasn't entirely without fault, but he is not a criminal. "He was following, really, the higher-ups," said Louis Apter, of 27 Gerard St. "He's protecting a few people but I don't condone his actions. He was not the criminal they make him

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Jury draw fine line in reaching decision

By Maureen Leavitt
Manchester Herald

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Jobless rate jumps to 5.3%

By John King
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Unemployment shot up 0.3 percent last month to 5.3 percent as job openings dropped to its lowest level in nearly three years, the government said today in a report confirming a slowdown in the economy.

The April jobless rate was the highest since January and moved civilian unemployment out of the more than 15-year low of 5.0 percent posted in March.

The Labor Department report

was likely to be greeted warmly by financial markets because analysts have said a rise in unemployment is the quickest way to ease wage inflation that has been pushing up overall inflation.

Still, some analysts immediately questioned whether the economy has slowed too much to orchestrate a "soft landing" without a recession.

The department's survey of business found the addition of 117,000 non-farm payroll jobs in April, the lowest number since the government reported a drop

of 82,000 positions in June 1986. The department also revised March payroll growth to 171,000, down from 180,000, in yet another sign of a slowing economy.

The slower job growth contrasts sharply with the average monthly payroll growth of 300,000 in the 12 months that ended in February.

The number of unemployed workers also increased in April after two months of decline, rising about 420,000 to 6.5 million, according to the Labor Department.

Williams told CBS News following deliberations that totaled 64 hours over 12 days.

North won't get his military pension back unless his conviction for altering and shredding

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NATION & WORLD

East Bloc links nuclear reductions to troop cut talks

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Warsaw Pact nations today pressed quarreling NATO allies to open talks on reducing tactical nuclear weapons in Europe and said such negotiations are tied to efforts to trim conventional forces.

Soviet and East German diplomats used today's resumption of East-West talks on conventional weapons to jump into the dispute within the NATO alliance over reducing short-range nuclear weapons.

West Germany and some European NATO members want superpower talks on reducing short-range nuclear weapons, but the United States and Britain oppose them because of the Soviet advantage in conventional weapons. Washington and London also want to modernize the short-range missiles.

East German Ambassador Klaus-Dieter Ernst insisted at today's resumption of conventional arms talks that the talks on reducing short-range nuclear weapons are vital to Germans.

"The shorter the range of the rockets, the more dead Germans," he told a news conference, referring to the fact that East and West Germans are most threatened by the short-range weapons.

The absence of parallel negotiations on nuclear weapons "would of course have negative effects" on the Vienna talks on conventional arms, he added.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, worried about the sliding popularity of his center-right government, supports talks with the Soviets on reducing short-range nuclear weapons and wants to postpone a decision on modernizing the weapons until after next year's elections.

Baker: 'U.S. to test Soviet Union again'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James A. Baker III, offering the broadest view yet of how the Bush administration will deal with the Soviet Union, says the United States plans to test Moscow "again and again" to see whether it will live up to its promises of reform.

"By testing Moscow across the board... we can see whether the 'new thinking' is real once we get beyond the slogans," Baker said in a speech on Thursday to the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Baker departs Monday for his first round of talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow.

At the May 10 and 11 session, they are expected to set a date for the resumption of negotiations to reduce long-range nuclear missiles and make preliminary arrangements for a summit between Gorbachev and President Bush.

The trip comes amid a dispute in the NATO alliance as the United States struggles with its allies about forging a strategy to deal with Gorbachev's arms control initiative.

A senior administration official, speaking with reporters about the speech on condition he not be identified, said Baker's speech Thursday was intended as a "conceptual framework" for the superpower relationship.

Baker said it isn't clear yet whether Gorbachev will be successful with his "perestroika," or "new thinking" on matters of democratization and reform.

And, he complained, much of the Soviet rhetoric doesn't match Soviet deeds.

As an example, he cited Soviet actions in Central America, "where the Soviets sent over \$500 million in aid to the Sandinistas last year."

Baker applauded moves such as the withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan and the agreement banning all U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe. But he complained about Soviet shipments of long-range bombers to Libya's Moammar Khadafi, Soviet military support of militant North Korea and the Soviet occupation of Japan's Northern Territories.

Taking note of Gorbachev's offers to make unilateral troop reductions and make cuts in his defense budget, Baker also said some 3,500 new Soviet tanks continue to roll off the production lines.

The secretary faulted the Soviets for failing to publish "a real defense budget," one that would allow an independent evaluation of Gorbachev's pledge to slash his military spending by 14 percent.

He complained that while there has been talk of a "common European home," the Berlin Wall still stands and the Brezhnev Doctrine, which affirms the right to send Soviet troops into other East European countries, has not been repealed.

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OLIVER L. NORTH cleared of lying to Congress

Bush denies using aid to get Contra support

By Merrill Horton
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush says he never told Honduras' president that U.S. aid would be linked to that country's support for the Nicaraguan rebels. And he dares skeptics to prove him wrong.

Confronting a pivotal Iran-Contra question head-on Thursday, Bush declared firmly there was no deal, "no quid pro quo."

Bush, who had refused to address the issue for weeks, did so moments before a federal jury announced it had convicted former White House aide Oliver North on three of 12 charges relating to the arms-and-money affair.

The president cited the ongoing North trial recently in refusing to talk about suggestions he played an intermediary's role as vice president in a purported Reagan administration plan to tie American assistance to the willingness of Latin American countries to help the Contras.

But on Thursday he was eager to take the question.

Speaking of a meeting he had with then-Honduran President Roberto Suazo in early 1985, Bush said: "The records of the meeting demonstrate there was no quid pro quo."

"The word of the president of the United States — George Bush — is, there was no quid pro quo. No implication, no quid pro quo, direct or indirect, from me to the president of Honduras on that visit."

"And for those who suggest there was the onus is on them... Thank you for asking that question."

Neither Bush nor White House aides would say whether he might grant North a pardon. Nor would the White House comment on the verdict.

Bush said on April 24 that he had not talked with anyone about whether he would pardon North and said any suggestions about what he would do were "stupid" and "idiotic." In the past, he had called North a hero and said he hoped the former Marine officer would be acquitted.

The question of Bush's role in a possible Reagan administration deal with Honduras was raised in documents presented at the North trial. The documents placed him at a meeting with Suazo in Honduras at a time when internal Reagan administration memos suggested a plan in which continuing U.S. aid to Latin American countries would be linked to assistance for the rebels.

The government "admitted for purposes of this trial" the facts in a main document, the 42-page stipulation introduced at the trial, although a State Department official subsequently said it presented a distorted picture of U.S. policy and actions in 1985 and 1986.

The document never asserted that Bush discussed a quid pro quo arrangement with Suazo. But it said he explained to the Hondurans that they were to receive a great deal more U.S. economic and other aid — aid that the document said was part of a deal approved by then-President Reagan.

North jury drew fine line in decision

By James Rowley
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The jury in Oliver L. North's Iran-Contra trial drew a fine distinction between lies told to keep a covert operation secret and falsehoods offered when the mission was being publicly exposed.

The jury dealt a setback to Iran-Contra prosecutors by clearing the former Marine lieutenant colonel of all charges that he lied to Congress when asked if he was secretly helping arm the Nicaraguan rebels.

North's claim that the verdict is a "partial vindication" has some credibility.

The jury rejected independent counsel Lawrence E. Walsh's contention that North was a liar and a thief but found him guilty of other misdeeds — accepting installation of a security system outside his home by an arms dealer and destroying official documents once the Iran-Contra affair was publicly known in November 1986.

"You can't say at this juncture that either side walked away with their theory intact," said Lawrence Barcella, a Washington criminal lawyer and a former federal prosecutor.

Lead prosecutor John Keener noted that North was convicted of three "serious felony charges," insisting that "the principle that no man is above the law has been vindicated."

"There is something there for everyone," Ben-Veniste said, accepting installation of a security system outside his home by arms dealer Richard V. Secord.

On this count, jurors appeared to hold North accountable because he admitted trying to cover up the gift by fabricating evidence, he said.

Again, the jury objected to the covering up, drawing a very careful distinction, he said.

"We have here an example of a very careful jury, certainly not a hanging jury, drawing a very careful distinction," he said.

The verdict, he added, undercuts "the elitist assumption that some have made that a group of not very well educated people who were ignorant of the Iran-Contra hearings somehow couldn't draw the lines required."

News Analysis

North jury drew fine line in decision

acting at the behest of the administration prior to the blowing of the cover on the entire operation in the fall of 1986," said Harvard University law professor Laurence Tribe.

"Once the cover was blown, his actions in aiding and abetting the obstruction of Congress and in shredding documents were, I think, quite properly deemed criminal."

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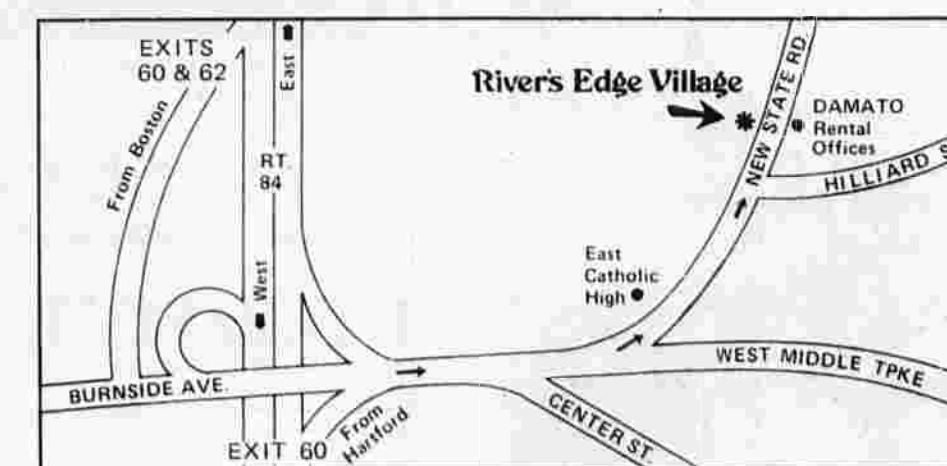
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1989

Goodbye to stern scolder

By Mike Feinsilber The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — His critics pictured Surgeon General C. Everett Koop as a national kook when he arrived in Washington, Nov. 2, as he prepares to leave, he has a reputation as a national scold.



C. EVERETT KOOP made people squirm

For seven years, Koop, the stern family doctor with an Amish farmer's beard, wagged a finger and preached good health practices in direct language that made people squirm.

He came to office under suspicion from liberals for his impassioned anti-abortion views, for calling women "rights" and for telling graduating high school seniors that motherhood completed the "whole vocation" of being a woman.

By the time he announced on Thursday that he will retire this summer, he had pacified liberals and gained a fresh set of critics among conservatives.

Urvashi Vaid, a spokesman for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said Koop helped educate the country by having "carved out a moderate, consensus position on AIDS."

But Koop's views antagonized such conservative activists as Phyllis Schlafly and March for Life leader Nellie Gray.

Mrs. Schlafly recoiled from Koop's "if-you-must-have-sex-use-condoms" views on AIDS and concluded that Koop had become indifferent to promiscuity.

Liberal Rep. Henry A. Waxman, D-Calif., chairman of the House subcommittee on health and the environment, said he had been dead wrong in 1981 when he said, "Dr. Koop scares me. He is a man of tremendous intolerance."

"One of the great surprises of the last eight years is how wrong I was," Waxman said Thursday. "If they could get the name of Koop, they ought to appoint him (as successor)."

And Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., a leader in the liberals' unsuccessful nine-month fight to block Koop's confirmation, said Koop had turned out to be "perhaps the best surgeon general ever."

The office gives its occupant the right to wear a uniform as head of the 7,200-member

Robot spacecraft on way to Venus

Shuttle crew attends to more routine tasks

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — The robot probe Magellan streaked across the solar system today at 25,000 mph on its way to Venus, and the astronauts who launched the spacecraft turned to more routine tasks aboard Atlantis.

Deployment of the probe from the shuttle's cargo bay Thursday night signaled a revival of an American planetary-science program that has been dormant since 1978.

"The spacecraft is performing just beautifully. All systems are operational and nominal. It couldn't be better," John Gerpheide, Magellan project manager, said a few hours after the probe was launched.

Atlantis' fiery blastoff Thursday afternoon followed a cliff-hanging, 59-minute wait that ground controllers and the five astronauts endured because of the fickle Florida weather. With just five minutes left in the shuttle's launch window, controllers found a hole in the clouds and Atlantis thundered into the sky at 2:47 p.m. EDT.

About six hours after the liftoff, Magellan was gently ejected from the shuttle's cargo bay and the \$550-million interplanetary mission began.

"At last check, all systems were working exceptionally well on Magellan," Mission Control commander Jeffrey Carr said early today.

The space shuttle also was performing well. During the rest of the mission, the astronauts will try to photograph lightning systems at night and attempt to grow crystals of indium by melting and then re-solidifying the material.

The crew members also will take other photographs of the Earth as well as test various systems on the orbiter. Another planned project includes taking saliva samples during the flight to determine how an anti-motion sickness drug is absorbed by the body in zero gravity.

Atlantis, in orbit 184 miles above the Earth, is scheduled to land Monday afternoon at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

"It was really a wonderful day for us, the beginning of the rebirth of the planetary program," Gerpheide said. "It's the beginning of a really grand set of missions which will last for quite a few years."

"While it's too early to tell about the major portion of Magellan's mission, we're pleased it's gone so well so far," Atlantis commander David Walker said when told Magellan had been launched on its journey.

Magellan was the first planetary craft deployed from a space shuttle.

The Magellan is moving at a rate of 25,000 mph, relative to Earth, meaning it travels about 416 miles in just sixty seconds. At its current rate, Magellan could get from Washington D.C. to New York in a minute and could fly coast-to-coast in about seven minutes.

But it will take the spacecraft 15 months to travel to Venus, the cloud-shrouded planet that is 158 million miles away. The probe will loop 1 1/2 times around the sun and travel 866 million miles before reaching its destination in August 1990.

Once in orbit above Venus, Magellan is to use its radar system to map up to 90 percent of the planet's surface. The high-resolution radar is expected to produce images of objects as small as a football field — 10 times the clarity of any previous pictures of Venus.

Venus, where the surface temperature is 900 degrees, has long intrigued scientists because it is close in size to the Earth but so different in many other ways. The sun beats the west because Venus rotates the opposite direction of Earth, and its rotation is so slow that a day there lasts 243 Earth days.

Magellan, named for the 16th-century Portuguese explorer, needed to be launched by May 28 or it would have had to wait two years for Earth and Venus to again be in a favorable alignment.

NATION & WORLD

Party chief calls for talks

BEIJING (AP) — Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang called for a dialogue with students in authorities' first public comment following historic pro-democracy rallies in Tiananmen Square, official media reported today.

Students marched by the tens of thousands to occupy the square Thursday and rally for more freedom. Some returned to class today to end a two-week boycott to student leaders at Beijing University refused to attend classes at the strike.

Zhao, in a speech made Thursday but reported today in the party organ People's Daily, said, "Now we need broad consultations and dialogue — dialogue with students, dialogue with workers, dialogue with intellectuals."

"If retaliation for every Palestinian martyred in Palestine they will kill and execute, not inside Palestine, five Americans or Britons or Frenchmen, they (Israelis) could not continue these wrongs," Raisanjanji was quoted as saying by the official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicaragua.

Thatcher marks anniversary

LONDON (AP) — Fresh from celebrating 10 years in power, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her governing Conservative Party were reported today to have suffered a surprise defeat in a special parliamentary election in Wales.

The Conservatives have held the mostly rural district of the Vale of Glamorgan for 38 years. But the British Broadcasting Corp. said its exit poll following Thursday's special election indicated a "massive" victory for the socialist Labor Party.

The poll gave Labor 51 percent of the vote, up 16 percent from the 1987 general election. It gave the Conservatives 33 percent of the vote, down 12 percent, and the two center parties a total of 5 percent, down from 17 percent.

Legislators pass budgets

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate and House leaders say they expect speedy completion of a compromise federal budget, now that both chambers have passed mirror-image \$1.2 trillion spending plans that cause little political pain.

Lawmakers on both sides of the Capitol approved fiscal 1990 budgets on Thursday, obediently consenting to proposals whose foundations were laid in talks last month between congressional leaders and Bush administration officials. With bipartisan amity that has been glaringly absent in most budget debates, the Senate adopted its plan 68-31, while the House signed off 263-157.

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Vice President Dan Quayle toured sludge-fouled beaches on his return from a 12-day Pacific tour, and said today Exxon must do more to clean up the devastation wrought by the nation's largest oil spill.

"It's going to be an enormous effort," Quayle said Thursday as he looked at a beach on hard hit Smith Island, an important haulout area for seals. Workers have been laboring for days to wash the beach clean.

Then at a news conference early today, Quayle said it appears Exxon believes its cleanup plan is adequate. "But I believe Exxon is going to have to do more than they think they're going to have to do," he said.

Plan calls for tolerance

WASHINGTON (AP) — Government should allow certain levels of toxic pollution in the air and drop the current goal of a total ban, says a draft developed by officials working on President Bush's clean air package.

"The zero tolerance level mandated under current law is suboptimal and if continued would be extremely costly, politically difficult and would threaten the shutdown of many plants in several industries from court mandates," says the document, a copy of which was obtained Thursday.

The draft document provides options for pollution control ranging from assessing health risks against industry costs, to setting standards for 125 pollution categories to leaving the whole matter up to the states.

Kidnappers free workers

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Unidentified kidnapers today held a West German relief worker in southern Lebanon after releasing two of his colleagues, said a guerrilla officer at a Palestinian refugee camp where they worked.

The officer said the kidnapping of the three West Germans were linked to the case of Mohammed Ali Hamadi, a Shiite Muslim on trial in Frankfurt, West Germany, on murder and air piracy charges. Hamadi is accused of participating in the hijacking of TWA Flight 847 in June 1985 in which U.S. Navy diver Robert Stethem was killed and 39 Americans were held hostage 17 days.

REAL ESTATE

RE/MAX advertisement for Barbara Whitney, listing various properties in Manchester, CT, including a 6-room Cape and a 4-bedroom Cape.

Sentry Real Estate Services advertisement listing properties in Coventry and Manchester, CT, including a 4-bedroom Cape and a 3-bedroom Cape.

D.W. FISH Commercial Investment Company advertisement listing properties in South Windsor and Manchester, CT, including a 3-bedroom Cape and a 4-bedroom Cape.

OPPORTUNITIES

U&R REALTY CO. advertisement for Robert D. Murdock, Realtor, listing a brand new 8 room U & R built Contemporary property.

Blanchard & Rossetto REAL ESTATE advertisement listing various properties in Manchester, CT, including a 4-bedroom Cape and a 3-bedroom Cape.

U&R REALTY CO. advertisement for Robert D. Murdock, Realtor, listing a very desirable 6 room Brick Ranch property.

Real Estate advertisement for Anne Miller, listing a 2 family investment property in Manchester, CT.

Jackson & Jackson Real Estate advertisement listing a brand new listing in Manchester, CT.

REALTHY WORLD advertisement listing a 3 bedroom Cape property in Manchester, CT.

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Feds tinker with flu vaccine to attack next winter's virus

ATLANTA (AP) — The nation's flu vaccine will have a new formula, designed to better attack the flu strains expected to hit the United States next winter.

Two of the three virus strains in the 1988-89 flu vaccine will be different from last year's flu shot, guarding against new strains of flu, the national Center for Disease Control said Thursday.

The reason: the three major types of flu virus show what researchers call "drift" from time to time, changing into different forms that prompt the development of slightly different vaccines to maintain the effectiveness of the flu shot.

Last year's vaccine targeted the Type A-H3N2 strain known as the Sichuan flu and the Type B

strain called the Victoria flu; next winter's shot will go after two new variations: the Shanghai flu and the Yamagata flu.

The third ingredient, designed to stop the Type B strain called the Taiwan flu, remains unchanged.

"The prediction is that these (strains) look like the likely ones to circulate next year," said Dr. Margaret Tipples, a CDC flu specialist.

Flu vaccine is especially recommended for people who are at high risk of serious problems if they get the flu, including heart and lung patients and elderly people.

The CDC's Immunization Practices Advisory Committee also recommends flu shots for nursing home residents, people with chronic diabetes or kidney dis-

ease, people with suppressed immune systems and young people on aspirin therapy, who might develop Reye's syndrome after a flu infection.

The CDC further recommends flu shots for anyone who simply wants to lessen the chance of getting influenza.

Flu season traditionally strikes during the cold weather months. The strains being recommended for the 1989-90 vaccine started to appear in the United States late last winter, and some are now being seen in the Southern Hemisphere, where the seasons are reversed.

"Those are actually strains that just started to pop up at the end of the (U.S.) flu season and are circulating now in other parts of the world," Tipples said.

Study: Breast cancer risk higher after 4 years of birth-control pill

LONDON (AP) — Young women who take birth-control pills for more than four years run a significantly higher risk of breast cancer, according to a study published today in a prestigious British medical journal.

Researchers were quoted in The Lancet as saying that among women 35 or younger, they found a 43 percent increase in the risk of breast cancer after four years of pill use and a 74 percent increase after eight years.

They called on doctors to tell women about the possible risks of breast cancer before they prescribe contraceptive pills, but they did not advocate avoiding oral contraceptives.

However, Clair Chilvers of the Institute of Cancer Research in London, one of the authors of the study, advised women to aim for the lowest-dose pill available and stay on it for the shortest possible time.

"Women who are not having intercourse should stop taking it," she said Thursday at a London news conference.

The study is the most comprehensive look at the pill and breast cancer ever undertaken in Britain and one of the largest in the world.

The researchers were quoted in the medical weekly as saying the risks of taking the pill had to be kept in perspective.

"Breast cancer is uncommon below age 36, the age group that was studied. Only one woman in 500 develops the disease before age 36, so even a 70 percent increase in risk would only put the chances of developing breast cancer by this age up to about one in 300," the researchers said.

Earlier studies on the relationship between the pill and breast cancer have conflicted. Last January, a U.S. Food and Drug Administration committee of experts declared that recent research on possible links between the pill and breast cancer was inconclusive.

The British study involved 755 British women under age 36 who were diagnosed as having breast cancer between the beginning of 1982 and the end of 1985, and an equal number of similar but cancer-free women.

The researchers, from Oxford University and two leading British cancer charities, said they still could not answer the "crucial question" of whether the increased risk persisted after age 36. They said they are undertaking a study on women ages 36 to 45 "to help resolve this vital issue."

"The most consistent interpretation of our results and those

from previous studies is perhaps that the excess risk is transient and diminishes or disappears at older ages," they said.

The researchers said their study included only those women with breast cancer who had the opportunity to use oral contraceptives from the start of their reproductive lives.

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