

Rizzo criticizes 'Carter people' for suit against city's police

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Two of the city's mayoral candidates have joined out-going Mayor Frank Rizzo in criticizing an unprecedented federal police brutality suit — but each has a different reason.

The Justice Department filed suit Monday alleging that Rizzo and 19 other top city officials condoned widespread police brutality which was "arbitrary, unreasonable or shocking to the conscience," especially in contacts with blacks and Hispanics.

The law suit could result in severe cuts in federal aid to the city.

Rizzo, who leaves office in January, told a news conference Monday that the suit was politically motivated — attempting to appeal to minority voters who once supported President Carter.

Rizzo, a policeman for 28 years and police commissioner for four years before becoming mayor, described the Carter administration as "a group of people who are desperate and trying to regroup."

Republican mayoral candidate David W. Marston, a former U.S. Attorney, said the suit lumped "the vast majority of law-abiding police officers ... with those who are guilty, and I believe that is wrong."

And William J. Green, the Democratic candidate for mayor, said he would have preferred that the action would have been delayed to give the next mayor a chance to institute changes in the department.

After two terms, Rizzo is not eligible for another term.

There are 8,855 officers and 890 civilians employed by the nation's fourth-largest city. The government suit said an average of 1,100 brutality complaints are filed

against the department each year.

Assistant Attorney General Drew S. Days III told a news conference in Washington that within 45 days, the city could lose federal money it receives through the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, revenue sharing and the Public Works Employment Act.

Department officials said that in the last 10 years Philadelphia, had received \$10.2 million from the LEAA, \$42.7 million in revenue sharing funds and \$2.5 million in public works employment funds.

Days, head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, said other federal police-brutality investigations are under way in Houston, Memphis, Tenn., and Mobile, Ala.

Others criticizing the suit included Police Commissioner Joseph O'Neill, who was named as a defendant, and Pat Stark, national president of the Fraternal Order of Police.

But Hilda Silverman, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union in Philadelphia, supported the government, saying the suit "indicates a recognition of the magnitude of the problem and extent to which that problem has been created and sustained by the people at the top."

Alphonso Deal, who retired in November after spending 25 years as a Philadelphia policeman, said the suit was a "long time coming."

If I am so happy that they (the Justice Department) realize the real culprits are the mayor and the police commissioner and others at the top," said Deal, who now works full-time for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.



Mayor Frank Rizzo calls federal charges "howlath" (UPI photo)

Lewis announces his candidacy for Senate

By HARRY STOFFER
Intelligence Harrisburg Bureau

HARRISBURG — State Sen. Ed Craig Lewis, D, 6, of Feasterville scheduled for this morning a press conference at which the chief subject was almost certainly going to be his formal announcement of his candidacy for the U.S. Senate.

Lewis, 25, an attorney who is serving his second term in the state Senate, has been tending the ground work for a federal campaign for at least the past nine months.

He had said on several occasions he would not make a formal announcement until the state Senate's Ethics and Official Conduct Committee, which he chairs, concluded its investigation into possible payoffs in the Senate Appropriations Committee. (Story on Page 16)

The end of that investigation was signaled Monday morning with a press conference on the issuance of a report by Lewis and the committee vice chairman, Sen.



STATE SEN. CRAIG LEWIS
John Stauffer, R-19, of Phoenixville. They said that at least 39 people were paid more than \$355,000 from

1973 to 1977 for doing little, if any, Senate work.

They said there were another 25 employees about whom they could not be sure. That is, the ethics committee was unable to determine whether the 25 did any work to earn the \$75,000 in Appropriations Committee pay they received.

None of the suspect employees were named, Lewis said, because his committee pledged confidentiality to Federal Bureau of Investigation information and promised that only those people receiving hearings would be publicized.

Lewis said his committee believes hearings would be a waste of money, but the information collected by the committee has been turned over to Attorney General Edward G. "Pete" Blester, also of Bucks County, for possible legal action.

Lewis said he believes the Senate has made reforms to prevent similar abuses from happening again.

Former Appropriations Committee Chairman Henry J. "Buddy" Cianfrani, D, of Philadelphia is in federal prison for offenses, including mail fraud, that occurred during the period that was investigated by the Lewis committee.

As for today's press conference, Lewis said it would cover subjects related to next year's elections in addition to his announcement.

According to Lewis, he began laying the groundwork for his candidacy last December when he and "a group of advisors" formed a kind of strategy. He began meeting with political leaders from around the state in January to get "a feel for what they are looking for in a U.S. Senator" and to plan fund-raising. In April, he filed his intentions with the Federal Elections Commission in Washington.

Although many names have been mentioned as possible candidates for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Richard S. Schweiker of Worcester, Montgomery County, Lewis will be the first Democrat to officially enter the race.

Another state senator from Bucks, Edward L. Howard, R-10, of Doylestown, announced three weeks ago the formation of a committee to determine whether he should seek the federal position.

Estimates of the cost of a U.S. Senate campaign hover around \$15 million.

The World

500,000 plan march to Pakistan

NEW DELHI, India (UPI) — India reinforced its border with Bangladesh today to stop nearly a half-million of Bangladesh's Bihar Muslims from embarking on a planned 1,500-mile march to Pakistan, which they call their homeland.

It was unclear whether the refugees would try to break the blockade and make the long trek from a country that has refused to let them leave, to a country that may not want them by any way, to a country that says it will not let allow itself to be used as a "human corridor."

Bangladesh police have dispersed the Biharis wherever they tried to assemble to prepare for the long march, which was to have begun with 20,000 people crossing into India from the northern district of Dinajpur.

A Bengali government source said the refugees appeared to have put off their march Monday.

Still, Indian officials were taking no chances. They said they had ordered 3,500 more paramilitary troops to the border, which is already under guard by several hundred Indian police. Army troops are on alert.

No suspects in assassination attempt

BEIRUT, Lebanon (UPI) — Iraqi authorities are not saying who they suspect tried to assassinate their ambassador to Lebanon with machine guns and grenades, but the possibilities are as varied as Iraq's many internal and external intrigues.

Ambassador Abdel Hussein Muslem, who was slightly injured when his car was raked by fire from machine guns and rocket-propelled grenade Monday, said, "I accuse no side ... because the investigation will uncover the criminals."

Gunmen Monday ambushed a car carrying Muslem, his driver and a bodyguard as it approached the Iraqi embassy on the outskirts of Beirut.

The three men were rushed to a nearby hospital, and an Iraqi embassy official later said, "Thank God his (the ambassador's) injuries are not serious."

In an official statement, the Iraqi embassy in Beirut made no mention of who they thought was responsible for the attack.

But diplomatic observers said the assassination attempt was probably tied to Iraq's many conflicts, both internal and with its neighbors.

President Saddam Hussein, who assumed power last month, ordered a purge of top Iraqi officials and executed 21 of them on Aug. 5.

Iraq is also involved in an increasingly acrimonious dispute with Iran over alleged discrimination against Shiite Muslims.

The Nation

Oil spill to quell hurricanes?

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — There might be an unanticipated benefit from the slicks of runaway Mexican crude oil threatening the Texas coast — they've put the lid on the sea during the hurricane season, says a scientist battling the spill.

"There is some credibility to the opinion that the amount of oil out there will have some effect on either the development of a hurricane in the oil zone or the strength of a hurricane that might pass over the area," said John Robinson of the NOAA, who coordinates the government task force.

The world's largest oil spill, from a Mexican offshore well that blew out June 3, covers literally thousands of square miles in the Gulf of Mexico from a wellhead in the Gulf of Campeche more than 500 miles northward to Corpus Christi. The well has been spewing thousands of barrels of oil into the Gulf daily.

Meanwhile, the Texas coast, which hasn't had a serious hurricane in almost a decade, is in the middle of the hurricane season.

Robinson said the coating of oil appears to settle wave motion at sea and suppress evaporation.

"In theory, it suppresses the moisture and heat flow the hurricane needs to drive itself," he said. "It literally puts a lid on it."

Two charged with murdering refugees

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Two men have been accused of murder in the deaths of six persons — five of them children — who were forced into deep water from a boat loaded with Haitian refugees being smuggled into the United States, authorities say.

The captain had a shotgun and ordered everyone overboard," Marie Ange Toussaint, 27, one of 11 survivors, said Monday. "He took my purse which had \$1,000 and pushed us over the side" about a quarter mile from shore.

James K. Knowles, 35, of Tarpon Bay, the Bahamas, and Jeffrey Robert Hastings, 29, of Hypoluxo, Fla., each was charged with six counts of first-degree murder.

The men are being held in lieu of bond — \$90,000 for Knowles and \$60,000 for Hastings.

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The State

I-95 to open by Labor Day

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — One of the last closed sections of the Maine-to-Florida Interstate 95 is expected to be open by Labor Day as a result of an agreement that settles questions about fumes and noise.

"There is no impediment to the opening of I-95," U.S. District Court Judge Clifford Smith announced Monday after a neighborhood group that had fought six years for environmental protections gave its approval for a 2 1/2-mile stretch of the superhighway to open.

The \$300 million stretch of highway had been completed last March, but its opening was delayed by a 1975 court order that upheld demands of the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition for sound barriers and covers over certain portions of the road.

The state Transportation Department wanted the highway open as soon as possible, and had been negotiating with the city and the coalition.

On Friday a group of residents from a blue-collar neighborhood in northeast Philadelphia staged a rush hour protest, hooting horns and tying up traffic, to call attention to their needs.

The residents claimed the highway would make it easier for them to commute to places of employment in south Philadelphia, and they criticized the "elitist" Society Hill residents for blocking the project.

The agreement approved Monday was basically the same as one agreed to and then rejected by the coalition last week.

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People in the News

BERNARD POMERANCE, author of the hit Broadway play "The Elephant Man" is suing MEL BROOKS for the comedian's use of the title in a new movie.

In the complaint filed Monday in U.S. District Court New York, Pomerance claimed Brooks' use of the title creates confusion in the public mind, misappropriates the reputation and good will of the play's author and producers, and dilutes the property rights of the award-winning stage drama.

Both the Pomerance play and the Brooks movie are based on the real-life story of a Victorian freak, John Merrick. However, the complaint says the movie is completely unrelated to the play in script and production.

The play's producers, Richmond Crinkley, Elizabeth McCann and Nelle Nugent, filed the complaint, agreeing with Pomerance that they did not object to the Brooks movie, but only to the use of the title "The Elephant Man."



MEL BROOKS ERIC ESTRADA

will appear in every episode of the program this fall, said executive producer Cy Chermak.

"Erik will be in every episode with me," Chermak said Monday. "We wouldn't make any without him, but we will film them when he's ready to work."

Estrada, 30, was in stable condition Monday at UCLA Medical Center, the actor, who was boosted to teen-idol status when the program debuted two years ago, broke his sternum, three ribs and his right wrist when his police motorcycle crashed during filming last week.

"We're going to create a situation in which Erik's character (Frank "Ponch" Poncherello) has an accident," Chermak said. "As Erik recuperates, the character will recuperate on the screen," said Chermak. "When Erik is well enough we will film him in the hospital."

But, said Chermak, Estrada's accident will not be televised.

Teen-age film star BROOKE SHIELDS was released from a hospital here after being stricken by bronchitis and influenza, a movie spokesman said.

Miss Shields was due back on location in Fiji today to continue shooting the movie, "Blue Lagoon," but the spokesman said the 14-year-old actress's return could be delayed.

Statistically speaking, Miss America should be a small-town lass who draws raves in her swimsuit, plays the piano or sings, and has measurements of 35.60, 23.40, 35.55.

Delegates to the 139th annual American Statistical Association meeting turned from pondering productivity, the economy in the 1980s, weather modification, and mathematical research, to analyzing today's beauty queens.

Two statisticians from Northern Illinois University — GEORGE MILLER and CHIPEI TSENG — issued a 17-page report entitled "The Anatomy of Miss America."

The report was released by the association Monday, but was to be formally delivered today.

Although they provided data on the famed pageant from 1959 to 1978, Miller and Tseung would not forecast exactly what the new Miss America — to be crowned next month in Atlantic City, N.J., will be like.

"Clearly a talented participant must win the swimsuit contest to have much of a chance for the higher ranks," they said.

On the Light Side

ZEPHYR COVE, Nev. (AP) — Hoping to keep its image clean if not necessarily green, the U.S. Forest Service is getting out of the gambling business.

The Forest Service earlier bought a 410-acre resort here, complete with a number of slot machines operated by a concessionaire. Now the federal agency has decided the slots are "not appropriate to the National Forest Service's family-type recreation."

One-arm bandits are still easy to find at Lake Tahoe, just three miles away.