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Khomeini to Iran: fight U.S., Russia

By United Press International
In his most sweeping policy pronouncement since toppling the shah, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini exhorted his people Friday to spread their revolution abroad, fight both the Soviet Union and the United States with equal zeal and purge Iranian society of "intellectuals" contaminated by Western thought.

In what amounted to a sort of "state of the revolution" address marking the start of the Persian New Year, Khomeini took virtually every sector of his Islamic society to task, announcing plans to reform the army and the police, the government and the courts, the universities and the economy.

"We are fighting against international Communism just as we are fighting the Western world-devourers led by America and Israel and Zionism. My dear friends, you should know that the danger of the Communist powers is not less than that of America, and the danger of America is such that if we show the slightest negligence, we shall be destroyed," Khomeini said.

For every announcement there

was a denouncement — of the United States and the Soviet Union, of workers who strike for better wages, of people who complain and of university professors who have studied Western ideas or dare to teach anything but Islamic thought. Khomeini, joined by President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr who told the Soviet Union "to get out" of Afghanistan, touched on virtually every issue of concern to Iranians as they entered the New Year save one; he did not mention the 50 Americans held hostage in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran for the 139th day.

In Washington, State Department spokesman David Passages said Friday that despite the stalemate over the hostages, the United States had no intention of breaking relations with Iran "because we continue to see some purpose in the status quo."

Khomeini's address was delivered by his son, Seyyed Ahmad Khomeini, at a ceremony in Tehran's Behesht-e Zahra cemetery commemorating the "martyrs" of the revolution that toppled the shah in February of last year.

Bani-Sadr also spoke at the ceremony but focused his speech on the Soviet Union, which he told to "get out of Afghanistan... whether you like it or not."

"We cannot tolerate the presence of your armed forces in our neighborhood, we cannot see a Moslem nation under the occupation of foreign forces... we cannot tolerate such overt aggression. Consequently, whether you like it or not, you must get out of Afghanistan," Bani-Sadr said.

The president and the ayatollah apparently consulted one another on their speeches, having met at length on Friday to coordinate their pronouncements. Together, they represented the most comprehensive articulation of Iranian policy, foreign and domestic, since the February 1979 revolution.

On foreign policy, Khomeini declared the Soviet Union as much a threat to Islam as the United States, whose diplomats Iran has been holding hostage since Nov. 4.

Warning that Islam "in an enclosed environment faces defeat," Khomeini exhorted his followers to "try hard to export our revolution to the world."



Just the facts

School teacher Tom Bainbridge, left, stormed the panel of Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Metropolitan Edison representatives during public meeting in Elizabethtown, Pa., to demand an

answer to whether Three Mile Island plant would melt down if left unattended. Met Ed President Robert Arnold would not answer directly. (UPI)

Three-Mile Island woes mount as accident anniversary nears

MIDDLETOWN, Pa. (UPI) — The operators of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant, with the anniversary of the nation's worst commercial nuclear accident a week away, are confronted with hostile citizens, regulatory delays and continuing leaks of radiation. "It is not going to be easy for them," said John Collins, chief on-site official for the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as a steady rain drenched the darkened Susquehanna River Valley Friday.

"I never expect it to die down," he added. "I haven't seen any relaxation of public attitudes since the thing happened last March."

The Three Mile Island accident occurred March 28, 1979, when human and mechanical errors combined to precipitate a temporary breakdown in the vital water cooling system designed to prevent the uranium fuel core from melting and spewing deadly amounts of radiation into the atmosphere.

Collins said the most hostile citizen protests to date erupted at this week's public meetings to

outline proposals for venting into the atmosphere radioactive krypton now trapped inside the reactor containment building.

The NRC and the operating company, Metropolitan Edison Co., say the venting of 53,000 curies of radiation could be accomplished with insignificant effects on the public health.

"What right do you have to play God?" Fran Cain of Middletown asked Collins at a Wednesday night meeting, attended by more than 500 persons.

"We won't pay our taxes to the NRC. We've had enough and we're not going to take it anymore," shouted another protestor, Ann Sessa.

At a meeting Thursday evening, attended by 300 others, Thomas Bainbridge, said he had had enough technical explanations about Three Mile Island.

Frustrated, he jumped on the speakers' stage, shook his fist angrily at Met-Ed Vice President Robert C. Arnold, and demanded a "yes or no" answer on whether a nuclear catastrophe was possible.

Collins himself expressed frustration at the public's frustration, insisting that recent leaks of radiation had been blown out of proportion by the public information area.

"The public wants to be aware of every little perturbation that occurs. Then when the company does make the public aware, we spend the next three days trying to explain how insignificant it is," he said.

Met-Ed is impatient with regulatory delays. For example, it wants to restart the undamaged twin reactor at Three Mile Island, but the NRC has put the matter off at least another several months pending more reviews.

Met-Ed says it is sensitive to the public's concern in the matter.

"Everytime something happens, the people are worried. They should be concerned," said Sandy Polon, a spokesman. "It is up to them to decide whether it is safe or not."

The latest leak was reported by Met-Ed Thursday, and the company and the NRC said they still "have not put a finger on it." It was a very small leak, and possibly involved particulate contamination "kicked up" during efforts to clean up the nuclear plant, the company said.

Last month, two larger — but also insignificant, according to the NRC — leaks occurred. They occurred when a valve allowed some contamination in water to get into a non-secured area and then into the atmosphere.

Notice

Effective Monday, March 31, the Press-Republican will adjust the carrier home delivery price to \$1.15 per week.

It has been two years since the last carrier home delivery price adjustment. This, only our second price change since 1974, is necessary due to substantial increases in the price of newsprint from Canadian suppliers plus the rapidly rising costs of producing the newspaper. We were recently notified of our third newsprint price increase in just 13 months.

Press-Republican carriers will share in the price adjustment with an increased profit return per copy delivered.

Motor route prices will be adjusted starting with April charges. Our suggested newsstand price will remain at 25 cents per copy.

Budget cuts seen as likely to remain

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Several liberals said Friday they have little hope of restoring much of the \$16.2 billion in cuts the House Budget Committee has approved — most of it in social and other domestic programs.

Conservative and moderate Democrats aligned with Republicans for the first time in the five-year history of the House Budget Committee Thursday night to approve the cuts 18-6.

The \$611.8 billion budget the panel approved — \$16.2 billion lower than what President Carter proposed in January — would give the government a \$2 billion surplus in fiscal 1981. Six liberal Democrats voted against it.

The conservative victory was compounded when the panel approved a plan to use \$10.3 billion in revenues from Carter's new oil import fee to give Americans \$20 billion in tax cuts — if the final budget is balanced.

Carter, who will send his own detailed budget proposals to Congress shortly, told business leaders at the White House Friday the spending cuts recommended by the House Budget Committee "very closely parallel ours."

"We are closely working with the congressional leadership and the House Budget Committee," he said.

In the Thursday night session on Capitol Hill, the liberals' last hope collapsed when Rep. Robert Giaimo, D-Conn., the Budget Committee chairman, helped Republicans defeat a proposal by Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., to set up a \$500 million fund for cities hurt by elimination of state revenue sharing.

"What was clear is that he had to get some Republican votes, and he got them," said Rep. Paul Simon, D-Ill., who voted against the budget. He said the outcome of the two-day budget writing session was "really sad."

Rep. William Gray, D-Pa., said the budget spelled "disaster in human terms."

Both men said the Budget Committee was the last place some of the domestic money might have been restored. But Obey, who exchanged angry words with Giaimo over the 12-12 defeat of his aid-to-cities amendment, vowed after the meeting to carry his fight to the House floor.

Simon said Republicans, who traditionally vote against the budget to protest high spending, would help pass the bill on the House floor.

The committee will send the measure to the House for action next week.



Stands firm

Members of the Congressional Joint Economic Committee failed this week to convince the head of the nation's central bank, Paul Volcker, that a tax cut would benefit America by cutting production and reducing inflation. (UPI)

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Antidraft activists old and new, mobilizing as "the anti-war movement of the 1980s," gathered in the nation's capital Friday to protest President Carter's draft registration proposal.

Organizers of MAD — the National Mobilization Against the Draft — hoped to draw as many as 10,000 people to an evening candlelight vigil outside the White House.

They also planned a mass rally on Capitol Hill Saturday with a host of

1960s anti-war figures taking part. Police said up to 25,000 may participate.

"This is not the culmination, but the beginning of the antiwar movement of the 1980s," said Duane Shank of the Committee Against

Registration and the Draft. "If necessary it will go on from here and, if necessary, will grow from here."

Shank compared the protest to the early days of the Vietnam War protest rallies in the mid-1960s.

Alleged Mafia chief gunned down in car

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) — Angelo Bruno, reputed Mafia kingpin, was shot and killed Friday night as he sat in a parked car in South Philadelphia, police reported.

Police said Bruno was shot about 9:50 p.m. Authorities had no further details immediately.

Good morning!

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