

TUESDAY

August 21, 1990

ORANGE: Boards mull over another override to cover state cuts. Page 4.

GREENFIELD: Panel backs low-income apartment project. Page 3.

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Recorder

198th Year-No. 199

20 Pages

Greenfield, Massachusetts

SINCE 1792

WEATHER



This afternoon, cloudy, breezy and cool, near 70. Tonight, cloudy and cool, 55 to 60. Wednesday, sun and clouds, little warmer, in mid-70s. Details, Page 9.

Matt Natte, Sheffield School

40 CENTS

Egypt warns Saddam of war's cost

Iraq may have ballistic missiles in Kuwait; Americans urged to leave Jordan

The Associated Press

Egypt today urged Saddam Hussein to withdraw his troops from Kuwait or face a war "that will devour everything."

Egypt's Hosni Mubarak, who has rallied Arab opposition to the invasion, today urged Saddam to withdraw his forces from Kuwait.

In a statement read on state-owned TV and radio, Mubarak said he was making his appeal "in the name of everything sacred on our Arab soil ... in the name of Islam, the religion of peace ... in the name of Arab nationalism ... in the name of every man, woman and child on our Arab land."

"In the name of light, good and right, I appeal to President Saddam Hussein to save both man and entity in our Arab world from a destructive war that will devour everything," Mubarak said. "God only knows what the terrifying outcome will be if war begins, or how much damage there will be if the fire erupts, taking us backward into total darkness and loss."

Meanwhile Britain's prime minister said the West must strangle Iraq economically despite its threats against foreign hostages.

In London, Margaret Thatcher said she will not negotiate to secure the release of the British citizens detained by Iraq.

"As President Bush pointed out yesterday, Saddam Hussein is trying in his tactics to hide behind Western women and children and use them as human shields and use them as part of his negotiations," she said at a news conference.

She called for another U.N. resolution to authorize the use of military force to make the international embargo against Iraq work.

"That resolution must have teeth, if it's to be effective. And the more you are anxious for that to operate effectively, the more you must insist that you have the means to do that," she said.

President Bush planned to order thousands of military reservists into active duty as early as today to bolster U.S. forces depleted by the massive deployment of troops to protect Saudi Arabia from a possible Iraqi

See GULF Page 7



AP photo

Military police await some 200 airmen from F.E. Warren Air Force Base near Cheyenne, Wyo., to board transport planes bound for the Middle East.

Hostage tactic sets precedent

Combined sources

LONDON — The tactic of putting civilians in harm's way to deter at combat by Ger. Reservist many, Britain and the Viet Cong, but scholars say Saddam Hussein is the first modern leader to announce it as a tactic.

The Iraqi president said he would prevent more than 11,000 Westerners from leaving Iraq and Kuwait until the United States withdraws from the Persian Gulf and lifts the blockade against his country.

They will be deployed at strategic military and industrial points in Iraq to deter assault, Baghdad Radio said. Over the weekend Saddam said, "the presence of the foreigners with Iraqi families at vital targets might prevent an attack."

U.S. British and other forces have been massing in the gulf since Iraq

invaded Kuwait Aug. 2 and annexed it.

Adam Roberts, professor of international relations at Oxford University, said Hussein's public announcement was not only highly irregular, it was illegal in terms of the 1949 Geneva Convention IV on international rules in time of war. Iraq signed the convention.

Although the international force in Saudi Arabia is not at war with Iraq, the Westerners were detained as a result of Iraq's invasion.

Clause 28 of the convention reads: "The presence of protected persons may not be used to render certain points or areas immune from military operations." Protected persons in this context, Roberts said, means civilians, both local and foreign.

But he said there were several instances of countries using foreigners and civilians in this way. The most recent was during the Vietnam War.

Early in the war, he said, the communist Viet Cong insurgents in South See HOSTAGE Page 7

Greenfield seeks legal opinion on proposed mural

By MICHAEL TERAULT Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — The town attorney will research whether a mural planned for downtown is technically a sign and therefore subject to town zoning bylaws, selectmen decided in special meeting Monday.

If so, the mural as planned would not be automatically allowed because zoning restricts the size of signs.

The selectmen, some of whom have expressed dislike for the mural, instructed Town Attorney Edward P. Smith to research the zoning issue, although the town building inspector does not consider the mural to be a sign.

The selectmen instructed Smith to "expedite" an opinion, which he said he would complete "as soon as possible."

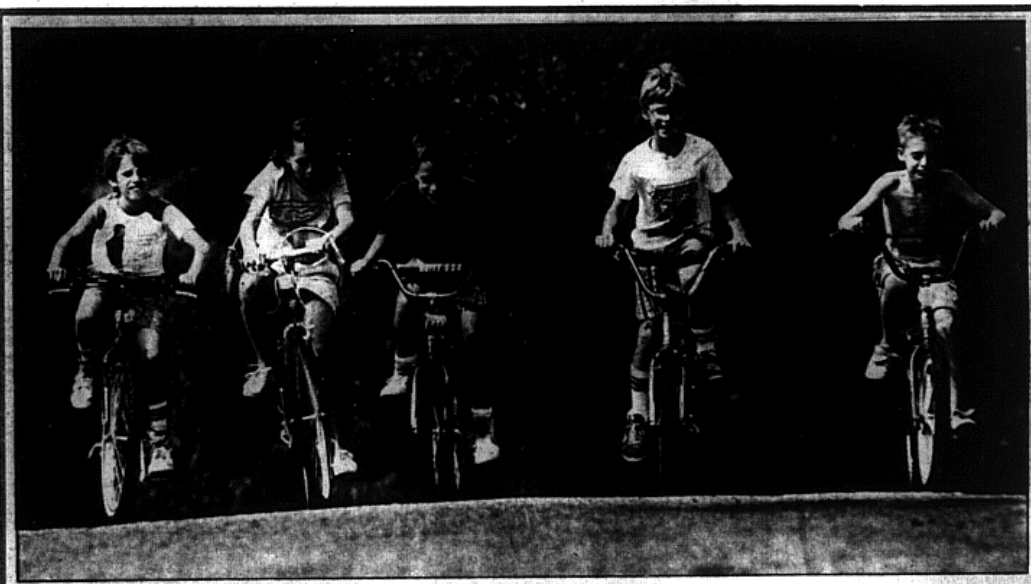
Timing is an issue because mural proponents have complained that delays could throw the project off schedule. The artist hired to do the mural, Janet Braun-Reinitz of Brooklyn, N.Y., arrived in Franklin

Town Manager Norman Thidemann said the building inspector's ruling will stand unless it is overturned by a formal opinion.

County last week.

Work on the mural was supposed to have started last week but has been held up by the selectmen's questions. The mural, intended to celebrate the history of Greenfield, is to be painted on the east wall of the Borofsky Block on Main Street, facing the Veterans Memorial Mall.

Smith said last week that he considers a mural a sign. And because the roughly 2,400-square-foot proposed mural would exceed the size limits allowed for signs in the zoning bylaws, he said the town Zoning Board of Appeals would have to is- See MURAL Page 10



Recorder/Paul France

Up and over

Conway children ride their bicycles over the crest of a hill on Sabins Road.

sue a special permit to allow the project.

Building Inspector Bruce Austin had previously ruled that the mural would not be a sign. Town Manager Norman E. Thidemann said last week that the town would allow Austin's determination to stand, since it had been issued before Smith gave his oral opinion.

Thidemann said Monday that Austin's ruling will continue to stand unless it is overturned by a formal, contradictory opinion rendered by Smith.

Generally, a ruling by the town attorney would supersede one by a town department head, Selectman John F. Merrigan said.

In response to a reporter's question, Thidemann acknowledged that if Smith were to rule that the mural is a sign, selectmen could then file for a court injunction to stop the mural or they could appeal the building inspector's decision to the zoning board.

Merrigan said the board would probably request that the proponents of the mural go before the zoning board for a special permit if Smith rules the mural is a sign. Asked what selectmen would do if the proponents refuse to do so and carry on with the mural, Merrigan said, "Draw your own conclusions."

At the very least, the selectmen could deny permission to set up scaffolding for the project in the right-of-way between the Borofsky Block and the Veterans Mall, Merrigan said.

Muralists' reaction

Project coordinator Rebekka Tippens of the Colrain-based Institute for Cultural Understanding said Monday she was unsure of their next step. She said she would consult with Braun-Reinitz to see where to go from here.

Volunteers helping with the project did not do any of the planned preparatory work for the mural over the weekend, such as setting up scaffolding, scraping paint and priming the wall, Tippens said. She said they called off those plans after learning Friday afternoon about the town's concerns about scaffolding.

"They (selectmen) wanted to put it back into the office where the initial objection was," Tippens said.

"I think everyone is embarrassed by the time and energy put into this (settling the zoning board issue)," Tippens said. "I'm completely dizzy going from office to office (in the town government)."

Braun-Reinitz said she had not anticipated so many problems with the project. "It was never anyone's intention to do something controversial. It was our intention to have a project where the whole community could work together on it," she said.

Plans call for visiting Soviet young people from Greenfield's "sister

city" of Mirgorod to join in the painting of the mural later this month.

A drawing of the proposed mural had been on display for several weeks in the Greenfield Public Library. The mural's design and color scheme were revised based on some of the suggestions and comments offered by people who viewed the drawing in the library.

Funding for the roughly \$3,500 project comes from the local Business Fund for the Arts and private donations, Tippens said. Because the Institute for Cultural Understanding does not yet have tax-exempt status, the Traprock Peace Center in Deerfield was asked to lend its name to the project so that people could make donations, Tippens said. Traprock has no other official connection with the project, she said.

At last week's selectmen's meeting, three board members criticized the placement of the mural on the building wall overlooking the Veterans Mall. But Merrigan reiterated Monday that the main issue was zoning.

"We are not talking about our opinions. We are talking about the bylaws of this town ... Personally, I have no problem with the mural. However, I do have a concern that the zoning bylaws of the town are enforced," Merrigan said.

Although Smith gave his opinion on the issue orally last week, Merrigan said the board's vote Monday was meant to get a formal, written opinion that would draw upon pertinent court cases.

Merrigan also cautioned that it should not be automatically assumed that Smith will rule that the mural is a sign. "His ruling may come back different, too," Merrigan said.

The issue is not clear-cut, as Town Planner Teri Anderson told Thidemann in an Aug. 17 memo.

Anderson said she was asked by Precinct 4 Councilor Cynthia G. Rothschild if a mural could be considered a sign under the town's zoning bylaws. "I told her that I would not consider it a sign because it is not an advertising device, but that there is one clause in the sign definition that is very vague and inclusive," Anderson wrote.

The clause to which she referred contained language defining a sign

as "any device designed to ... attract attention." Smith used that definition to justify his stated opinion on the mural last week.

In that same memo, Anderson said she was asked by Historical Commission Chairman Peter S. Miller for her opinion on the mural's design from a planning point of view. "I told him I had not seen the design, nor did I think it was appropriate for me to comment on the design based on my personal taste in art," Anderson wrote.

Scaffolding permission

Thidemann said last week that the mural proponents' plans to set up scaffolding on the right side of the alley along the building face would require the town's approval. The alley connects Main Street to the parking lot behind the police station.

In a memo to the town public works department that was also sent to selectmen, Police Chief David F. McCarthy conveyed his concerns about the safety of people on the scaffolding and the ability of cars to pass by the staging.

McCarthy warned of cars using the one-way entrance to the rear parking lot. "I do not believe that this proposal is totally safe, taking into consideration my experience with the driving public. They will be looking at the work being done and not always on the road or what is in front of them."

The chief recommended that on weekdays and Saturdays, no scaffolding be set up along the 22 feet of the mural at the south end of the building wall. He said he would recommend that they be allowed to work on that end of the mural only on Sundays, but only if the whole road is closed to traffic. McCarthy said mural proponents would need the selectmen's permission to do that.

The chief also recommended that the muralists place signs at the road entrance warning the public about the scaffolding and that people involved in the project stay clear of the roadway to the left of the scaffolding.

No date has been set for any action by selectmen on the scaffolding.

Forty-nine rescued from oil rig

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Forty-nine men jumped from a drifting, waterlogged oil rig into the stormy North Sea at dawn today and were rescued by Danish ships, navy and oil company spokesmen said.

The men wore survival suits when they plunged in 46 mph winds into waves of 26 to 33 feet. Lifeboats transferred them to two vessels bound for the western Danish port of Esbjerg.

The Danish navy said no one was injured among the 46 Norwegians, one Briton and two Dutch citizens.

Rescuers said the rig had begun to take on water and was in danger of capsizing.

Boarding · Grooming · Breeding
COUNTRY CLUB
 KENNEL S. INC.