Yeltsin Appoints Himself Acting Defense Minister

MOSCOW

Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Monday established a Defense Ministry and named himself acting defense minister, paving the way for the creation of a Russian armed forces and the final dissolution of the Red Army, the Soviet institution of the Soviet Union.

Yeltsin, returning from a two-week vacation, signed a decree establishing the Russian Defense Ministry after the Bolsheviks abolished the war's military years ago, according to Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Shakhrai.

Yeltsin advisors stressed that Russia will continue to participate in a joint military structure with other former Soviet republics, both for defense and cooperation on the war against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in the Central U.S. Once the front sinks to our borders, they added, it will be a joint battle with other countries.

In a joint press conference here, an investigator with a non-governmental organization said the new Russian armed forces will be a major step forward in the fight against ISIS in the region.

Yeltsin also signed a decree creating a new government agency for the defense ministry, which will be responsible for coordinating the work of the armed forces with other countries.

South Africa Preparers For Apartheid Vote

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

In a final push for today's crucial referendum, South Africa's leaders are calling for a massive turnout to ensure a victory for the cause of apartheid.

President Frederick W. de Klerk, who has vowed to resign if he loses, said in an open letter to South Africans that a "no" vote would "lead to a dead-end of division and destruction."

The vote in question - whether to amend the constitution to give blacks the right to govern themselves in their own separate lands - is expected to be close, with many analysts predicting a narrow margin.

Investigators Claim Part Of Earhart’s Plane Found

WASHINGTON

The search for Amelia Earhart's missing plane is gaining momentum as investigators claim they have found part of it.

The discovery, made during a recent search of the South Pacific, has raised hopes that the famous aviator's disappearance may have been solved.

In a related development, White House spokesperson Martin Fitzwater said the president's aides were "looking for a check" and "looking for a check" to determine whether any of the president's staff had disposed of items related to the case.

In 1937, Miss Earhart and her navigator disappeared during their attempt to circle the globe. Since then, many have claimed to have seen or heard of the missing plane, but the mystery remains unsolved.

Weatherr Winter Is Not Over Yet

By Michael C. Morgan

While it may appear to many that winter weather is past us, don't be fooled. In fact, all the forecasts suggest that the worst winter weather is yet to come.

The National Weather Service has issued a winter storm warning for the local area on Thursday, predicting snowfall of up to 6 inches. The forecast also calls for temperatures in the teens and wind chill factors of 10-20 degrees below zero.

Primaries Continue in the Midwest

As Clinton and Bush Pick Up Steam

By Jules Witcover

Voters in Michigan and Illinois go to the polls today in Democratic and Republican primaries that are expected to have a major impact on the party nominations for President Bush and Gov. Jim Thompson.

In Michigan, the Democratic Party is divided into two factions - supporters of former California Gov. Jerry Brown and supporters of Sen. Bob Dole.

In Illinois, the Democratic Party is split between supporters of President Clinton and supporters of Sen. Bob Dole.

In both states, the race is expected to be close, with both candidates trying to capitalize on their strengths.

In Michigan, Clinton is expected to benefit from her strong showing in Iowa, where she won handily.

In Illinois, Bush is expected to benefit from his strong showing in Iowa, where he won handily.

The victory will give Bush a clear path to the nomination, while Clinton's loss will make it more difficult for her to catch up.

Prospector Announces Probe Into Congressional Overdrafts

WASHINGTON

In a dramatic move, the prospector has announced a probe into possible wrongdoing by members of Congress.

The prospector, who has been investigating Congress for several months, said he has evidence of improper behavior by some members.

The prospector has been accused of collecting evidence through improper means, including wiretapping and bugging.

He has promised to release his findings in the coming weeks.

People are outraged by it," Bush said. "They're outraged and watching it unfold. It's an institutional thing. I'm not jumping on the bandwagon. I'm not going to do it. I'm going to sit this one out."