15 demonstrators arrested in Lagomarsino office sit-in

As Rep. Robert J. Lagomarsino, R-Santa Barbara-Ventura, joined congressional colleagues and voted to restore aid to rebels in Nicaragua, 15 South Coast residents were arrested and booked into the county jail Wednesday after they peacefully occupied his Santa Barbara office. The demonstrators, who oppose the resumption of aid, were led away in handcuffs by police after they refused to leave Lagomarsino's downtown office after it was closed about 2 p.m.

Police said the demonstrators were arrested on suspicion of trespassing after they disregarded repeated requests by Lagomarsino's staff and Lt. Mike Elia to leave the office. They also declined the opportunity to be issued a misdemeanor trespassing citation if they left the area willingly.

The protesters, who ranged in age from 18 to 76, were cited for trespassing, then booked into county jail and released, jail officials said. They have been ordered to be arraigned in South Coast Municipal Court July 24.

The office occupation was preceded by a noontime rally in De la Guerra Plaza and a march to Lagomarsino's office by about 50 people, who jammed inside the tiny office. Frederick David Hempel, 25, of Santa Barbara, read a statement signed by the protesters, in opposition to resumption of aid to the counterrevolutionary (contras) rebels fighting the leftist Nicaraguan government.

Police were called to the scene after the demonstrators refused to leave the office unless given another opportunity to outline their position by telephone to Lagomarsino.

Those arrested locally have signed the national "Pledge of Resistance," vowing acts of civil disobedience if the U.S. government bombs or invades Nicaragua or "escalates its intervention in Central America."

Reagan vows to veto any tax-hike bid

BLOOMFIELD, N.J. (AP) — President Reagan, saying the present federal tax system is "ready for the ash heap of history," today vetoed a tax attempt to turn his tax simplification plan into a tax increase.

In an address delivered to an audience estimated at 10,000 in front of the town hall of this northern New Jersey industrial city, Reagan also defended his plan against critics who say it would hurt people in high-tax states.

"We all know our current tax system is ready for the ash heap of history," Reagan said.

There are foes

"But tax reform is not without its foes. There are those who won't oppose it outright, but who'll try to muddle and daze it to death. Others will use any false argument they can, any scare tactic to cloud the truth and raise confusion."
House approval of aid to Contras triggers protests

By Robert Parry
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan is praising House approval of $177 million in non-lethal aid to Nicaraguan rebels as a vote to help "safeguard our own national interests." But some Democrats call it a step toward war.

The House vote triggered national protests and more than 1,000 arrests.

In a dramatic turnaround, the House approved the Contra aid Wednesday and refused to extend a ban on use of U.S. funds to support military actions against the leftist Sandinista government.

The vote was 235-183, with 15 Republicans adding their voices to those of 173 Democrats who opposed the move. The Contra bill came up for a second vote after a new provision was added that would have kept the aid out of Nicaragua.

Reagan vows to veto any tax-hike bid

BLOOMFIELD, N.J. (AP) — President Reagan, saying the present federal tax system is "ready for the ash heap of history," today vowed to veto any attempt to turn his tax simplification plan into a tax increase.

In an address delivered to a cheering crowd of thousands in this New Jersey industrial city, Reagan also defended his plan against critics who say it would hurt people in high-tax states.

"We all know our current tax system is ready for the ash heap of history," Reagan said.

There are foes

"But tax reform is not without its foes. There are those who won't oppose it outright, but who'll try to nagle and dinge it to death. Others will use any false argument they can, any scare tactic to cloud the truth and raise confusion."

"You know, some people are talking about turning tax reform into a tax increase," the president said. "Well, let me tell you: I have a veto pen ready for anyone who tries it."

Vice President George Bush joins House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. in applauding Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at today's joint session of Congress.

Man guilty of murdering his girlfriend

SANTA MARIA — Ernest Vincent Martinez of Los Angeles was convicted Wednesday of first-degree murder of the proposed victim. "The tactic of dumping us so
Guilty plea entered in draft resist case

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Draft resister David Wayne changed his plea to guilty today, and a judge set July 29 to sentence him for failing to register for the draft.

"I plead guilty, your honor," Wayne told U.S. District Terry Hatter Jr. "I did not register for the draft, your honor.

Wayne, 24, who faces up to a $10,000 fine and five years in prison, said no plea bargain was entered into.

The Pasadena resident, dressed in a suit and with his blond, waist-length hair in a ponytail, kept his hands clasped in front of him during his five-minute appearance before the judge.

Wayne was charged by a federal grand jury in July 1982 with one count of failing to register for the military selective service in 1980.

In March he lost a major U.S. Supreme Court battle against draft registration. He remains free on $5,000 bond.

On Wednesday, he had told reporters he was considering changing his plea to guilty.

"I feel all the defenses I believe in have been considered. Now that the Supreme Court has ruled against selective prosecution, there are no other defenses I could raise that I believe in," he said.

Wayne remains free on $5,000 bond.

‘Had a stupid affair,’ spy suspect testifies

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former FBI agent Richard W. Miller explained for the first time his secret sexual liaison with a Russian woman accused of stealing classified U.S. documents and admitted the affair was "a stupid thing to do."

But he said he never suspected it might involve espionage.

Miller, 48, the only FBI agent ever accused of espionage, testified Wednesday at the trial of Swetlana Ogorodnikov, 35, and her husband, Nikolay, 54, that he plunged into the affair in spite of warnings from other FBI agents to "proceed with a yellow light of caution."

Miller had a catch in his voice as he identified his one-time lover in the U.S. District courtroom.

Mrs. Ogorodnikov and her husband are in the seventh week of their espionage trial. Miller faces a trial later. All three face life sentences.

Miller said he met Mrs. Ogorodnikov on May 24, 1984, after she telephoned the FBI, spoke to him and said she had information that might be useful to the agency. They met for lunch and she seemed distraught, he said. "I got the impression she just wanted somebody's shoulder to cry on."

Under questioning by a prosecutor, Miller said Mrs. Ogorodnikov went to him but told him she was upset because her husband had been ordered to go to the Soviet Union and work for a Soviet intelligence service.

"She was absolutely petrified," he recalled. "I tried to console her, and told her, 'You really don't have to go.'"

Contras aid vote triggers wave of protests

Continued from Page A-1

Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. of Massachusetts. "It's hard to turn the president down when he gives you a real sales pitch.

Reagan pulled off the victory by holding the loyalty of all but a few Republicans and winning over many conservatives and Southern Democrats. The House approved the Republican plan for $27 million in food, medicine, clothing, transportation and other "humanitarian aid" on a 248-184 vote.

The House action followed last week's Senate approval of $38 million in non-lethal aid to the Contra rebels, but the two versions are attached to different bills and will require additional votes before the funds can be sent.

Afghan rebels hold sit-ins and die-ins at several buildings and congressional offices in at least 15 states and the District of Columbia. More than 1,000 were arrested.

"It came down to a level of frustration," said Marie Nord, one of 15 people arrested Wednesday at the Colorado Springs office of U.S. Rep. Ken Kramer. "We feel our representatives are not listening and we're registering a very strong opposition."

The demonstrations coincided with the House's 248-184 vote in favor of the aid plan backed by President Reagan. The Senate last week approved $27 million in additional nonmilitary aid to rebels opposed to the government.

About 63,000 Americans have signed a "Pledge of Resistance" vowing to show by civil disobedience if necessary that opposition to President Reagan's Central American policy.

The arrests spanned the nation. Seven people were arrested in Juneau, Alaska, for refusing to end a sit-in at a federal building; 35 were booked in Bangor, Maine; 15 in Indianapolis; 57 in Buffalo, N.Y.; 32 in Albany, N.Y., Burlington, Vt., St. Louis, Mo., and San Francisco, Calif.

Fourteen people turned out in Jasper, Ga., in what Mayor Lee Newton said was the first demonstration on a national issue ever in the town of 2,000.

"President Reagan better start worrying if votes are now happening in places like Jasper, Ga.," said Elizabeth Cheatham, one of the organizers of the protest.

Fashion Basics Sale